

# **Horton Kirby and South Darenth Parish Council Newsletter July 2018**



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

Parish 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

**Free Family Picnic and Inflatable Day  
SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
Westminster Field – gate opens at 1pm**

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

# **Horton Kirby and South Darent Parish Council Chairman Report**

During the last 12 months, the Parish Council has provided the community with a new playground that has been positively received and enjoyed by all those who use it.

Although this appears to be the only large tangible improvement this year, there are several other projects being discussed to further enhance Heathside and Westminster Field. These include the provision of much needed toilets at Heathside and the possibility of upgrading the pavilion at Westminster Field. These are big projects and we will be exploring funding opportunities this year.

On a smaller, but no less important, scale the Village Hall has been internally decorated and the toilets are due to be refurbished later this year.

A new cleaning contract for both halls was successfully tendered and awarded for the next three years.

Although the typical British Summer regrettably led to the short notice cancellation of our picnic and inflatables day last July, the firework display was a huge success and the recent St George's Day event was well received by those who attended.

This year's picnic and inflatable day will go ahead on 15<sup>th</sup> July, with the annual firework display firmly in the diary for 4<sup>th</sup> November.

Our trusty bands of volunteers have completed litter picks, river and woodland maintenance days and our newsletter delivery throughout the villages.

Additional bulb planting to expand the Spring display was carried out last Autumn.

I would personally like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who volunteer their time to support the various local groups. In particular, Saxon Place Residents Association led by Dave Holland, who enabled a new picnic bench to be built and installed by the young people of Saxon Place for the benefit of all those who use the playground there.

The Parish Council has made its annual grants to the following;

The Befrienders Group - for provision of a Christmas dinner

The Local History Society - for production of a new book about the impact of the First World War on the villages

The South Darenth Football Club - for goals and training nets

Saxon Place Residents Association - for safety equipment in their workshop

I am certain that all of us at the Parish Council would like to express our appreciation to Heather and Dawn in the office who work tirelessly behind the scenes to facilitate everything the Parish Council achieves.

The Parish Council have been consulted on nearly 60 planning applications, resulting in 32 decisions within the last year, this figure is double the previous year's total, and particular thanks to Roger and Peter for a lot of the legwork, advice and recommendations.

The Parish Council has a new website which has a planning link feature so everyone can track what applications are being considered by Sevenoaks District Council within the Parish.

We would like to thank Keith for his daily commitment to his duties at Westminster Field and elsewhere in the villages. Thanks to Philip McGarvey from SDC and Roger Gough from KCC for their dedication, support and guidance for our community.

I would like to acknowledge the work that Colin has done as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council over the past couple of years, and would like to welcome Peter to the role.

Last, but by no means least, thank you to all the Parish Councillors for their commitment and hard work over the last year. Thank you

*Cllr Blackamore, Chairman of the Parish Council delivered his report at the Annual Parish Meeting, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018*

**Kent County Councillor Roger Gough's report to**  
**Horton Kirby and South Darenth Parish Council**  
**Annual Parish Meeting, 14 May 2018**

Things have changed a little since last year. Because of boundary changes that came into effect at the County Council elections of May last year, Horton Kirby and South Darenth is now part (at the northern end) of the new County Council Division of Sevenoaks North and Darent Valley. This is a large, rural and banana-shaped Division – the second biggest in the County by electors per County Councillor – which runs from Swanley Village to Seal Chart, and it is my privilege to represent it.

I also serve as Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, overseeing the Council's work with schools, Early Years, children's social services, youth services and much else.

Highways issues always make up much of my work as a local Member, and that has as always been the case in this Parish over the last year. With money ever tighter – in particular, with social services making ever greater demands on the budget and so putting pressure on areas such as Highways – it is fair to say that the approach taken is inevitably cautious and more restrictive (for example, tighter adherence to Department of Transport guidance) than was the case in the past. This certainly applies in areas such as yellow lines and interactive signs; projects that I would have had supported in previous years are much tougher now. But we try to press on.

During this year we installed bollards outside Millen Court to tackle thoughtless and anti-social parking there, notably when there are big events going on in Westminster Field; they were installed in November.

There have long been concerns about speeds on the A225, and I am pleased to say that, linked to planned reductions in the speed limit on parts of the A20, we are looking to bring down the speed limit to 50mph all the way along the A225 from the edge of Farningham to Sutton at Hone.

We have tried to make progress on the difficult junction of Bull Hill and Horton Road, though there is currently a very sharp difference of view between the Highways Engineer and the Parish Council on the way forward.

The recent severe weather was of course a big test for Kent Highways. Their focus was on keeping primary routes open; these are, as the name implies, quite major roads for which the County Council is responsible, such as the A225. Secondary routes will often get attention too, but on this occasion the pressures of continuous cold and recurring snowfalls on the primaries meant that efforts were focused on them. Clearly this raises problems for people living on more peripheral roads, and it is something that I will always seek to help through salt bins, deployment of hand salting crews and the like – but there is little scope for deflecting Kent Highways from their core mission when conditions are very severe.

The heavy snowfall has, of course, also worsened the pothole position. Each year, in the spring, KCC puts together various funding sources for the ‘Find and Fix’ campaign, also known as the pothole blitz. In the last financial year, some £5.2 million was committed, and we covered the equivalent of 18 Wembley pitches, or 117,000 square metres. However, in January we were already seeing 4,000 pothole enquiries – the highest level since the floods of January 2014 – and that was before the Beast from the East. Recently we have been running at some 1,400 notifications per week. The Leader of the County Council, Paul Carter, announced in our February budget debate, that a further £2 million is being released, with more likely to follow.

Our current pothole budget for 2018-19 comes to £7.5 million. Since 1 March, we have filled in more than 16,600 potholes, some 1,821 of them in Sevenoaks District, and carried out 25,000 square metres of patching (for multiple potholes), almost 4,000 square metres of that in Sevenoaks.

Less directly under the control of Highways, parents of students at the Dartford Grammar Schools have been raising concerns about the operation of the Arriva 414 bus. KCC’s leverage here is limited, since this is a commercial, not a subsidised or commissioned route; however, give our importance to Arriva, we are always able

and willing to take up such issues (for example, during the last year I took up concerns on the implications of timetable changes on this route for Southdowns). Our head of Public Transport, Phil Lightowler, is at my request taking this up at a senior level within Arriva.

With regard to Education, the County Council faces growing pressures on secondary school places as the increased number of children in primary school moves into the secondary phase. On National Offer Day last month, we were able to meet some 80% of families first preferences, and over 95% of families secured one of their preferences – broadly in line with last year, in spite of a significantly larger cohort. Nonetheless, numbers are forecast to continue to grow and so we are looking to school expansions such as Trinity in Sevenoaks and secondary schools in Wilmington.

Earlier this month we saw National Offer Day for Reception Year in our primary schools. We have expanded primary schools – probably the closest to the Parish was Hextable – significantly in recent years to meet rising numbers, and as a consequence of that we have this year been able to offer almost 90% of families their first choice of school. Almost 98% have been offered one of their preferences, and the number of those ‘allocated’ a place – in other words, who have been offered a school that was not one of their choices – is at a record low. One side effect, however, is that on offer day there were significant surplus places at the village school.

The County Council has recently set its budget. Over recent years, with government grants declining and with ever-growing pressures on social services budgets, both for children and for older and vulnerable adults, we have had to realise savings by now of the order of £600 million. In the budget, we have raised council tax by 5%. This is clearly something that we undertook very reluctantly, but the recent example of what has happened in Northamptonshire makes it very clear what the financial risks are now facing local authorities and County Councils in particular.



# **District Councillor's report**

## **Cllr Philip McGarvey - for April 2018**

Since the end of my year of Office as Chairman of SDC two years ago, I have been one of the two Deputy Cabinet members on a new Economic & Community Development committee. It is a helpful all-embracing role because as well as reaching out to new and existing local businesses, we strive to promote Sevenoaks District for our residents and as a place to visit, or in which to work. While we cannot make Broadband go faster or get the trains & buses to run on time, we know a man who does. So we liaise & encourage, and get the right people talking to each other – and this also applies across SDC committees and officers.

On top of that I again had a few tricky planning applications to look at, and sometimes help residents who had objections to make sure their sound objections are based on, and phrased within, the constraints of Planning Law. So this has met with a mixture of successes and failures.

It is not appropriate at this kind of Annual Parish meeting to go into specifics on particular sites, but you are aware that two in Horton Kirby in particular (and two in West Kingsdown) continue to tax our busy Enforcement Officers at SDC, though the processes – the remedies - can appear to be so very slow. Please remember that the Officers are almost as frustrated as you are, but I need to encourage them to keep you and the Parish Clerks (and me) better informed in future.

With SDC's Local Plan expected to be released for Consultation within a few months from now, it is maybe prudent to remind ourselves of the importance we put on preserving our Green Belt (SD is 93% MGB), and just what are the 5 purposes of including any land in Green Belt:

- to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas
- to prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another
- to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment
- to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns
- to assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land

Every single one of the MGB plots in SDC passed at least one test (and one is enough), and although some of them only scraped through, a pass is still a pass, so our MGB plots are still safe from development.

Another point of interest is the Listing of Community Assets, though we do not have any CA's listed within our Parish (yet). Rather than try to define or describe what a Community Asset is – because that is something that is usually in the eye of the beholder, such as the Parish Council – it might be helpful to explain what a Community Asset being Listed actually achieves:

- Most importantly, a Listed Asset cannot be sold without first allowing local community groups (including charities and Parish Councils) the opportunity to bid for it first when it is going on sale.
- This policy delays the open-market sale for 6 months (to give a local group time to get together and/or raise funds), but apart from the 6-month window, the local group has no other rights (nor discounts or preferential rates etc).
- If a sale of a Local Asset takes place without having gone through this process of it first being made available for offer to any local group(s), then the sale will be void in Law.
- The Listing of a Community Asset does not restrict who it can then be sold to on the open market, nor for what – and any subsequent change of use, or building alterations, would still have to go through the Planning Application process in the usual way.

And that's pretty much it. Some of the 24 listed CA's within SDC in the 5 years since this started are Hextable Scout Hut and Chipstead Lakes!

In conclusion, yes, this is a 2-seat ward, but my fellow District Cllr has been unavailable for most of the past year or so, so you have had to put up with just me pretty much on my own, and for that I apologise, but I hope to have this resolved in 2019.

Again I thank Parish Councillors and Clerks for their contributions to the Council and to the villages, and for their support and patience with me. And I thank our supportive residents too.

*Cllr Philip McGarvey 4/18*

# Presentations to Volunteers at the Annual Parish Meeting 2018

The Chairman and the Vice Chairman presented framed certificates and chocolates to the following volunteers to publically thank them for their hard work in making the villages a better place to live. George King, Bridie King, Alfie Jenner, Tillie Jenner, Taylor Orsmond, Harvey Price, Ronnie Sparrowe, Alfie Nicholls, John Friend. They were warmly applauded as they collected their certificates.

*Cllr Stewart said 'As Chairman for the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee, I would like to thank all of the young people who contributed to the bench that you see in these pictures. It is truly inspiring that you all gave up your time to fabricate and construct, with the guidance of Dave Holland, a very well made bench. We hope that it will also influence other younger members of our villages to take pride in where they live and contribute to the community in a positive way. You should all feel immensely proud of what you have achieved, as are we.'*



A framed special certificate from Kent Association of Local Councils, signed by the High Sheriff of Kent, was presented by the Chairman and the Vice Chairman to Peter Flewin. He was nominated for many years of practical support to local clubs and events in the community, being an example of good neighbourliness to many, offering transport and help. A wonderful resource of local history and a founding member of the Local History Society that has been active for 24 years. Cllr Page spoke of Peter's many years of service in the Royal British Legion, St Mary's Church fundraising and dealing with the welsh choir visits, organising and helping at fetes with sound equipment and barn dances. He has always been helpful to those who have needed it with shopping or lifts continuing in recent years and now at aged 88. It was a great honour for the Parish Council to recognise Peter in this way. Peter responded that he was proud and surprised to receive the award; he had always tried to 'do his bit' for the villages and thanked the Parish Council and everyone for the award.



# **Report from the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee**

On behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr Roger House in partnership with Freshair Fitness completed an application to the National Lottery for funding toward an outdoor gym and, we are delighted to share the fantastic news that we have been successful in our bid. The new equipment will be installed in a semi-circle next to the recently installed play area at Heathside in the next couple of months. Installation in this way enables group or individual training, while parents can exercise and keep an eye on their children at the same time.

Below are the items that will be installed:



We will be removing the wooden trim trail as and when it has been identified as being beyond economical repair. The last inspection report suggested that the bridge was at this stage due to the fraying ropes and this will be removed soon.

The gates at Heathside and the picnic area in Westminster Field require a tougher surface due to the high footfall that they receive. This will be resolved in the coming weeks to ensure that these areas can continue to be enjoyed by all.

We are looking at more robust furniture for the picnic area at Westminster Field and at Heathside. This will be to replace the tables that have been damaged due to careless use.

Finally, by the time you read this there will have been a river day on 30<sup>th</sup> June with North West Kent Countryside Partnership where concentration will be on removing the invasive Himalayan Balsam and any other work identified on the day.

**James Stewart – ROS Chairman**

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

**Two of our Explorer Scouts have been chosen to represent our Scout District of Swanley at the World Scout Jamboree in North America in July 2019. They have to raise £1,500 each and they are arranging various fundraising events during the summer. Your support would be very much appreciated.**

**The four sections of our Scout Group are looking forward to a very active summer season with camps and outings arranged.**

**If you would be interested in your child joining our Group, please contact the number below for details.**

**We are looking for more adult help particularly in our Beaver Section whose ages range from 6 to 8 years old. If you would be interested in working with that age group, please contact me on the number below.**

**Many thanks – Barbara Bradley -01322 862005 –  
bradleyforgelane@btopenworld.com**

# **Free Family Picnic and Inflatable Day**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Gate opens at 1pm**

**Westminster Field**

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

**Bring the whole family to  
Westminster Field for a free  
bouncing day**

**There will be refreshments to buy  
including a bar and BBQ**

**Bring a blanket and a picnic and enjoy a  
day by the river**

# River Wardens

The Department of the Environment have a River Warden scheme to help keep villagers informed of impending river level problems and to keep the authorities aware of any river related matters than need attention. Brian Carroll has recently joined the Horton Kirby team, with particular responsibility for the river from Frank's Lane to the bridge at the Paper Mill

More wardens are needed. We are three at the moment and the DoE would like us to be a team of six. Warden's work relates to information and assistance tasks only and will not involve volunteers in and physical work on the river. Free training is provided at a half day meeting

If you are interested or would like to chat about volunteering give Brian a call on 07968 391 247

## IS THE RIVER YOUR NEIGHBOUR?

If you are lucky enough to have property that is very close to the river you may be interested to know there is a wealth of information on your rights and duties on

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse#owners-your-responsibilities>

As summer sees gardens needing work please do not be tempted to throw garden or other waste into the river.



## **News from the Village Hall and Jubilee Hall**

The halls continue to attract more and more bookings.

We are pleased to say that the repainting of the Village Hall is now completed and that the Jubilee Hall will be redecorated over the summer.

The hanging baskets will be refilled with summer bedding plants from Mills Nursery and, at a future date, parking lines may be introduced into the Village Hall car park.

The next big project is the refurbishment of the toilets in the Village Hall – the wall tiles will be removed and replaced with either new larger wall tiles or with polycarbonate wall covering. The flooring will be of the homogenous/hermetic type to ensure easier and more hygienic cleaning.

The Saturday hire prices have been amended – Village Hall £22 per hour and Jubilee Hall £17 per hour. These amended prices do not show the discount/concession for local hirers.

If you wish to book either of the Village Halls please do contact the Parish office.

Thank you

Terry Moyle

Chairman of Halls Committee

## **Southern Golden Retriever Society Fun Day**

As the organiser of the Annual SGRS Fun Day, I must say I was a little anxious about moving the event to a new venue at Horton Kirby and South Darenth Village Hall and Heathside. However, it turned out to be special in many ways. First, the weather forecast had promised thunder and rain on Sunday 27th May - it was hot and sunny! Second, I was worried that people wouldn't turn up to the new venue - we had record numbers! And finally I was worried about how much we would raise for our charities, Medical Detection Dogs and Southern Golden Retriever Rescue, - It was a record £2450! So from my point of view it couldn't have been better!

One of the biggest fund raising activities this year was the plant stall. The SGRS had lost its usual plant stall organiser for the day, but into the breach stepped local resident Pat Ashley who galvanised local support to raise a fantastic £367. Thank you, Pat.

I would say that we had well over one hundred and twenty Golden Retrievers come along, with their owners, to take part in the many fun classes and 'have-a-Go' activities laid on for the dogs. And it was nice as well to meet many local residents with their dogs and seeing them taking part in these activities. So a big thanks to the local doggy community for giving us very welcome support.

After a parade of the Society's Rescue Dogs, which always brings a tear to the eye when you hear their rescue stories, the sixteen Golden Retrievers in the Southern Golden Retriever Society Display Team performed their 'Crufts' routine. The four

Steeplechase heats and final were also fun to watch and hopefully some of you had winning tickets!

Parking at these events has always been a problem but, this time, The Horton Kirby Bowls Club came up trumps by allowing the SGRS to use their nice large carpark. If we can hold our Fun Day at Heathside next year, we'll fit in with the Bowls Club fixture list just to get use of the car park! The space was an essential need on the day.

And finally, a big thank you to Heather and Dawn, the Parish Council staff, who were very helpful in ensuring that the use of the Jubilee and Village Halls met our requirements.

David Wimsett.

SGRS Fun Day Organiser



## WEST KENT PULMONARY FIBROSIS SUPPORT GROUP

# Have you been diagnosed with Pulmonary Fibrosis?

The newly founded West Kent Pulmonary Fibrosis Support Group is based in Swanley and is being set up for anyone who is affected by pulmonary fibrosis including family, friends and carers. The aim of the group is to provide support and information regarding the condition and an opportunity for you to meet other people with similar problems.

If you live anywhere in West Kent or SE London and would like to attend our meetings, please contact Dee or Roger Bryan in the first instance.

We meet at:

**The Elim Christian Centre, Cherry Avenue, Swanley BR8 7DX**

### Meetings and topics

**Monday, 30th April  
2.00 - 4.00 pm**

Steve Jones, chair of "Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis" and Laura Bygrave the regional support group co-ordinator will attend the meeting to give a talk about how the charity is working to support patients affected by pulmonary fibrosis across the UK and how they can help you.

**Subsequent meetings will be held on the last Monday of alternate months.**

**Meetings at the Elim Centre:**

**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> June, Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> October and December: date to be decided.  
(Subject to confirmation)**

Meetings at the Elim Centre include a fund-raising raffle (with donated prizes, please) and light refreshments. You are very welcome to contact Dee and Roger if you would like any further information. The venue is served by bus route 429 from Dartford, West Kingsdown, Swanley Town Centre and Swanley station. Parking is limited on-site otherwise available on the road nearby. *All are welcome - patients and carers alike!*

### Contacts:

Dee Bryan	Tel: 07775 616769	email: <a href="mailto:deebryan@me.com">deebryan@me.com</a>
Roger Bryan	Tel: 07470 201703	email: <a href="mailto:roger.bryan@me.com">roger.bryan@me.com</a>



**Action for  
Pulmonary  
Fibrosis**

## Report from Darent River Preservation Society

Following a very dry winter 2016/17 the Darent struggled through 2017. By September / October very low flow and volume was observed. It was touch and go whether the augmentation pumps would be switched on to boost the river and preserve aquatic life.

Flow and volume greatly improved due to increased rainfall from Christmas 2017 until now, May 2018. March and April were particularly wet.

We are now in a very good position to get through 2018 without low flow problems in the Darent and our neighbouring River Cray. Domestic water restrictions look unlikely also - even if we have a hot dry summer. It is worth mentioning that the pumping station at Horton Kirby is only operating at 50% of capacity. There have been cut backs at other pumping stations in the Darent Valley in recent years. All to the benefit of the Darent. Reduced abstraction was the main objective of the Darent Action Plan in the early 90's.

All reservoirs in Kent are now 100% full. Bewl Reserve was in crisis at the start of 2018 as it was only a third full. Bewl as you will gather is a major water resource for this region.

Below ground, the aquifer is near normal for this time of year. 70% of domestic water supply comes from the aquifer and this is good news.

Thames Water supplies 10 million homes in London and the Thames Valley - including us.

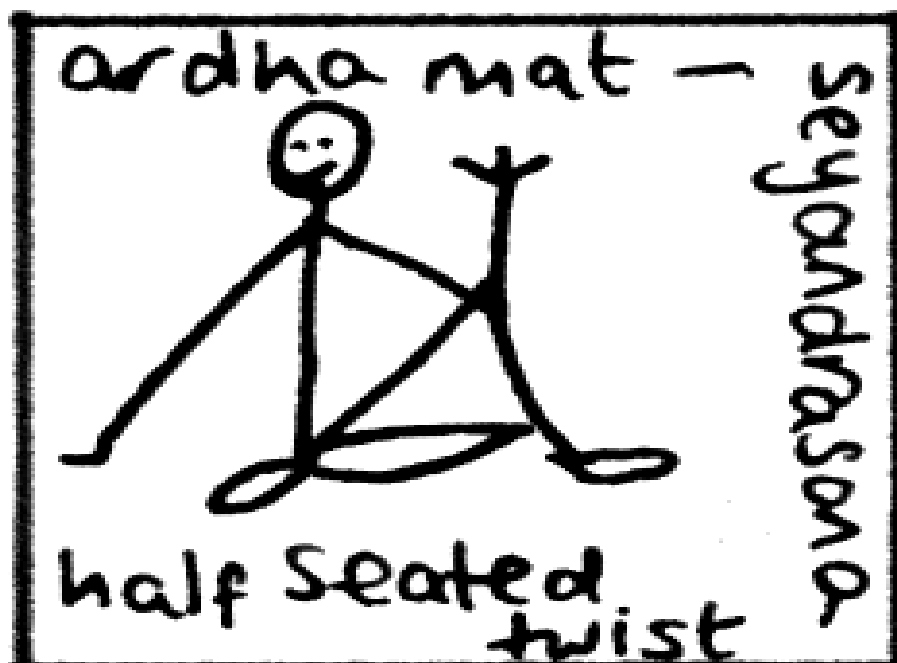
The South East is one of the driest regions and plans are under consideration to improve future water supplies to customers. A revolutionary plan on the table at the moment is to transfer water from the River Severn to the South East. A new reservoir in Oxfordshire has been under consideration for many years also.

Projected population growth in South East England, climate change and drier winters will impact on water resources and will require such measures to be implemented.

A de-salination plant at Beckton, South East London, went into operation in 2010 to meet demand. This is a step in the right direction. Other countries and a few holiday islands have had to build de-salination plants for the same reason.

The Darent River Preservation Society, in conjunction with Thames Water, Environment Agency, South East River Trust and the North West Countryside Partnership will be monitoring the situation closely. Delay is no longer an option.

Malcom Dunn



## **A Revitalising & Relaxing Yoga Class**

**Jubilee Hall, Horton Road, South Darenth, Kent,  
DA4 9AX**

**Tuesday 10.30am – 11.45am**

**Drop in class - pay as you go - £6 per class**

**Bring a blanket for the relaxation you can borrow  
a mat until you get one of your own.**

**Contact details:**

**M: 07794045520**

**E: [redbridgeyoga@gmail.com](mailto:redbridgeyoga@gmail.com)**

**W: [www.redbridgeyoga.co.uk](http://www.redbridgeyoga.co.uk)**



# Home Blooms

Flowers for  
special  
occasions

Flower arrangements

Celebrations

Gifts

Fresh Flowers

Artificial Flowers



I work from home so my costs are kept to a minimum. Prices vary depending on the arrangement, size and flowers.

Can deliver locally if unable to collect in person

Delivery charge may differ according to the location

Based in South Darenth near Dartford

Please feel free to contact me via mobile or email to discuss your needs

Email: [homebloom@outlook.com](mailto:homebloom@outlook.com)

Mobile: 07958035466

You can also contact me via Facebook and Instagram under Home Blooms



**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

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

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

15<sup>th</sup> July  
12<sup>th</sup> August

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..... a barbecue*





# Darent Valley Lions Club

## Open Garden



**2pm – 5pm Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August**

**Forge House**

**Forge Lane**

**Horton Kirby DA4 9DR**

**Admission £4.00**

**In Aid of the Ellenor Hospice at Northfleet**

**Teas – Pimms – Raffle – Plants**

***Free Parking at local school - DA4 9BN***



Darent Valley Lions



# Grand Fete

**SATURDAY  
7TH JULY 2018**

**HEATHSIDE  
SOUTH DARENTH  
DA4 9AX**

**12 NOON - 4.30PM**

***100 Classic Vehicles***

**Beer Tent   *Reptiles*   Kango Jumps**

**Punch & Judy   BBQ**

**Swing and Country Singer**

**James Parliament of Owls**

**Teas   *Face Painting*   Pick-a-Pot**

**Tombola Raffles   Candy Floss**

***Dog Show***

**Assault Course & Slide**

**Round-a-Bout   Bottle Stall**

**Children's Games   Archery**

**Entry £3 - Children £1**

**Contact - Barbara Bradley 01322 862005**



**THE SOUTH DARENTH & HORTON KIRBY**

# **DOG SHOW**



**AT THE  
DARENT VALLEY LIONS GRAND FETE**

**SATURDAY 7TH JULY 2018**

**BRING YOUR DOG TO COMPETE FOR FUN  
(3PM IN THE MAIN ARENA)**

## **PROGRAMME OF CLASSES**

- 1. DOG WITH THE MOST APPEALING EYES | 2. BEST JUNIOR HANDLER (AGED UNDER 13 YEARS) | 3. BEST RESCUE DOG**
- 4. BEST 6 LEGS (DOG AND HANDLER)**
- 5. DOG THE JUDGES WOULD MOST LIKE TO TAKE HOME**

Cost to enter each class: £1 per class. Registration from 1.30 pm

You may wish to enter your dog in more than one class. Anyone can enter, **ALL DOGS WELCOME**

Judge Alison Glover (from Kent Greyhound Trust) Barbara Bradley

HEATHSIDE, South Darenth, DA4 9BG Contact- 01322 862005



# St Mary the Virgin, Horton Kirby, DA4 9BN.



**Vicar: Revd. Emma Young 01322 227153**  
**Churchwarden: Anne Williams 01322 862551**

**Revd. Emma is looking forward to meeting you all and will be happy to discuss arrangements for a wedding, a baptism or a funeral with you, her contact details are:**

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 continue to be as listed below and venues for Weeks 4 and 5 will be advertised on the Darent Valley Benefice website details below:

Week 1	St Mary's	10.00 am Holy Communion
Week 2	St Margaret's	10.00 am Holy Communion
Week 3	St John's	10.00 am Holy Communion
Week 4	(venue rotates)	8.30 am Holy Communion (1662) 10.00 am Family Praise
Week 5	(venue rotates)	10.00 am Café Communion*

*\*This is a family friendly communion service with refreshments available for the first part of the service and after the service, lots of singing and explanations on what each part of the communion service represents.*

Variations in services may occur at Christmas, Easter, Harvest or Remembrance and 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 on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/darentvalleybenefice/>

## St Mary the Virgin Horton Kirby



### Dates for your diary:

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

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

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September **Flower Festival at St Mary's**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2pm Messy Church at Sutton Court, Sutton at Hone.

Saturday 8th September 10.00am - 4.00pm - 'Dartford Heritage Saturday' for anyone who wishes to visit and enjoy the history of our ancient building; this coincides with the 'Ride and Stride' sponsored bike ride and walk in aid of the Friends of Kent Churches. Why not join in and raise funds for churches in Kent including St Mary's.

Saturday, 15th September, Farningham Old Boys' service *this annual service will take place at 2.30 pm followed by tea at Southdowns. All are welcome to attend.*

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October *A talk entitled 'Churchill: Journalist, author (Statesman)' given by Stephen de Winton*

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November Remembrance Sunday *The service begins at 10.30am but please arrive early to ensure you have a seat as the service is always well attended.*

## St Mary the Virgin Horton Kirby



### **Churchyard:**

We all value our beautiful villages and St Mary's Parochial Church Council members are keeping a close eye on the churchyard. Periodically dead flowers, plants and broken vases may be removed in order to keep our churchyard safe and looking at its best. If you wish to find out more about the Diocese of Rochester Churchyard Regulations details can be found in the church porch and by following this link:

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

The services form the central part in our parish life but there are other events for you, the parishioners, to join in with and the regular ones are listed below.

### **Please join us for any of the following benefice activities:**

#### **Messy Church**

We meet on the second Saturday in the month at Sutton Court, Main Road, Sutton at Hone at 2.00pm (except August). All are welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult. Craft is an integral part of the Messy Church programme and is planned around a biblical theme. The charge per child is £2.00 which includes tea. For further information please contact Anne Johnson 01474 853442 or find us at 'Messy Church at MJM' on Facebook. The churchwarden will be happy to discuss Messy Church with you.

#### **Tea or coffee and a chat**

Just a reminder that the church is open on a Tuesday afternoon in term time offering you tea, coffee, cake and somewhere to chat together with friends. The church is open between 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

#### **St Mary's cream teas**

Cream teas will once again be served in church on Sunday afternoons throughout July and August, from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm in St Mary's.

**All proceeds will go to the upkeep of St Mary's.**

## St Mary the Virgin Horton Kirby



**Thank you for your help and support with all these events and the fundraising must continue!** The five yearly repair schedule has to be completed and **we need your help to make this happen.** 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 to do this.

Thank you for supporting the talks in St Mary's during the past year. The programme of talks will begin on Saturday 6th October 2018 (details above) and continue in spring 2019. Details will appear on the Darent Valley Benefice website and the village noticeboards.

Messy Church was in evidence at the HKSD Parish Council St George's Day celebration on 21st April. The Messy Church team provided craft activities for families to share together and the children had great fun trying on a set of armour.

Thank you to those who attended "The Parish in Pictures 1900 - 1960's Exhibition" held in May in St Mary's Lady Chapel. Many people came and shared their memories from the past over a cup of tea.

If you have any ideas for fundraising or are part of a group which might wish to use the church for a regular donation please contact the Vicar to discuss your ideas in the first instance.

Anne Williams  
Churchwarden.





If you are recently retired or need 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 afternoons, 1.45-4.00pm.



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 afternoon (1.45-4pm). Bowls are available but you will need *soft shoes with no heels or patterned tread*.

**For further information contact:**

**Brian Lelliott on 01322 864884**

*email: [brian.elliott@btinternet.com](mailto:brian.elliott@btinternet.com)*



# HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



**Further information from Terry Moyle  
(LHS Chairman) 07939 581572**

**[trenoweth@btinternet.com](mailto:trenoweth@btinternet.com)**

- \* Meetings held in the Jubilee Hall, Horton Road starting at 8pm
- \* All visitors welcome (£2 admission)
- \* Annual membership - £7 or £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
- \* Publications include A Walking Tour of Horton Kirby and South Darenth £1 Farningham Road Station £5 Images of Horton Kirby Paper Mills £5 Memories of Horton Kirby Schools £2 Sinking the Link £5 Never Such Innocence (Sutton at Hone & Hawley in the Great War £4)
- \* The Society hopes to launch its new book “Horton Kirby and South Darenth 1914-1918” in the Autumn Speakers for remainder of 2018  
9 July – 1917 Bombs on Kent (Alex Ferris) 10 September – Development of South Darenth before 1900 (Malcolm Scott) 12 November – Short AGM, launch of 1WW Book and Cheese and Wine Talks for 2019 include “Woolwich Women at War” “The Romance of London’s River through the eyes of the artists” “The Kaiser’s War” “Lost Empires – the last days of Music Hall and variety”



## **SOUTH DARENTH FC**

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

**NEW Senior Team** We are starting a new senior side in the Sevenoaks league and training will start first sat in July at Westminster field, everyone is welcome or call Mick Burroughs 07957356320 for further details

**U16's South Darenth** this season have once again had a great season, last season they gained promotion to the next division working extremely hard to achieve..This season we knew it was going to be tough but they surpassed all expectations by gaining promotion to the B league. All the boys get on in training and on match day even socialising together away from football. This has been a hard season for the lads especially in GCSE year. All the boys should be congratulated on a fantastic team effort roll on next season. Lyndon Tow, U16 Manager

**U14's South Darenth** had a difficult season following the departure of quite a few keys players. However, they stuck together and with some new players joining managed to stay in the C division of the Selkent league. If your child is interested in joining the team next season please contact the manager Danny Pedley on [danny.pedley@gmail.com](mailto:danny.pedley@gmail.com)

**U9's** have had an exciting and challenging season after being promoted to the Selkent B League at Christmas. We ended our season by going on tour to Alton Towers - competing against teams from all over the UK and Ireland. We fought hard in the tournament and won our play off final on penalties. Our medals were presented to the boys by Liverpool Legend Phil Thompson! We are currently looking for a new goalkeeper to join an amazing group of committed players and strengthen our team for our forthcoming under 10s season. For a trial, please contact Rob Divers on 07969125128.

**U7's** have just got a new manager and are looking forward to playing at U8 next season. Still have a busy summer ahead with training and tournaments. We are always looking for players (boys or girls) to come and join the team. We train at Heathside recreational ground on Saturday mornings from 11am till 12. If you would like more information regarding training or joining the team please call Steve Carter on 07794 562364

**Mini soccer** South Darenth FC are now running a football 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.



## **Tuesdays at the British Legion Hall, Devon Rd**

Come journey down the rabbit hole and fall in love with our world  
of imagination.

Awakens babies senses

Help to develop muscle tone

Encourages language development

Helps develop physical coordination

Help develop 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)

Our award winning classes across Dartford, Gravesend and Swanley

**9.30am**

### **Happy House**

Toddlers-4yrs  
& siblings

**10.30am**

### **Baby Beeps**

Babies sitting to toddling

**11.45am**

### **Baby Bells**

Babies from 6 weeks to  
sitting

# **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

Contact Ben and Gwen on 01322 862443

## **HORTON KIRBY & SOUTH DARENTH WOMENS INSTITUTE**

More ladies always welcome to join our friendly group!  
Meeting the third Thursday of every month at the Village Hall from 7.30pm. Over 18's only I am afraid – age must have some privileges!

At our monthly meetings we enjoy a variety of speakers and activities as well as a cup of tea. Coming up we have speakers on; Wrinkles don't Matter, Auctions and Probate, Sloe Seduction, Music Halls, Local History as well as flower arranging, a summer buffet and crafts for Christmas. In addition we have a knit & natter group, a walking group, a craft group, two book groups as well as theatre trips, outings and lunches. So plenty to choose from.

If you would like to come along and give it a try (you get two free visits before you join) either turn up on the night or contact Pauline Rowley on 01322 869556 or email [pauline@the-rowleys.co.uk](mailto:pauline@the-rowleys.co.uk)



Dixon's Stage Academy is a theatre company offering professional training in acting, singing and dance for children aged 5 –16 years.

All teaching is delivered by professionals currently working in the industry.

To help us to maintain our high-quality programmes, we limit our classes to a maximum of 20 students..

We offer a fantastic opportunity for confidence-building and personal development, whilst also delivering cutting edge teaching and technique, straight from the West End.

"Schools run by people like Pete and Rachel don't come along very often. It's a chance for young people to develop amazing life skills whilst getting to work with people from in and around the industry - an opportunity not to be missed!" - Oliver Savile (Fiyero, Wicked)



**WWW.DIXONSSTAGEACADEMY.CO.UK**

**LAUNCHING SEPTEMBER 2018**

# Recent Planning Decisions

SE/17/03897/LBCALT & SE/17/03896/HOUSE Whitefields, Dean Bottom, South Darenth,	Demolition of existing single storey rear extension, link addition, bedroom 3, attached store, outbuilding and garage/utility area. Erection of a part single part two storey side extension. Erection of a single storey side and rear extension. Erection of a new detached garage	GRANTED
SE/18/00192/HOUSE Pemba The Street Horton Kirby	Demolition of existing out-building, extension to existing detached garage. Erection of part two storey/part single storey side/rear extension, two storey extension to front elevation with open porch, plus single storey side extension. Alterations to existing roof to incorporate five dormers to the side elevations	AMMENDED
SE/17/03980/FUL Holmesdale Works, Holmesdale Road, SD	Demolition of existing light industrial/office building and subsequent residential development comprising of 2no. two bedroom house and 5no. three bedroom house with associated access and parking.	WITHDRAWN
SE/18/00020/LDCEX Turners The Corner Shop 14 Turners Place, East Hill	The Lawful use of the building as a café	GRANTED
SE/17/03997/LBCALT Horton Kirby Paper Mills	Temporary protective netting	GRANTED
KCC/SE/0007/2018 Court Lodge Farm, Stack Road, Horton Kirby DA4	Construction and operation of an Agricultural Waste Digester and ancillary infrastructure	GRANTED with CONDITIONS
SE/18/00550/MMA Hill Farm, Franks Lane Horton Kirby	Minor material amendment to application SE/17/03801/FUL for the conversion of agricultural barn to 6no two bedroom dwellings to change dwellings 2-5 from 2 no bedroom units to 3no bedroom units	APPEAL ALLOWED
SE/18/00618/LDCEX Oakview Stud Farm Lombard Street HK DA4	Certificate of Existing Lawful Development in respect to the continued use of land for B8 storage	REFUSED
SE/18/00192/HOUSE Pemba The Street Horton Kirby, DA4 9BY	Demolition of existing out-building, extension to existing detached garage. Erection of part storey/part single storey/rear extension, extension to front elevation with open porch, plus single storey side extension. Alterations to existing roof to incorporate dormers and rooflights to all elevations.	GRANTED
SE/18/00691/FUL 91 Saxon Place, HK DA4	Demolition of garage. Erection of three bedroom new dwelling house. Solar panels. Extension of existing vehicle crossover	REFUSED
SE/18/00699/FUL 85 New Road South Darenth DA4 9AT	Demolish existing garage and the erection of a 2 bedroom attached house and single storey side extension to an existing property to enable the covered walkway to rear. Canopy porch to front.	GRANTED
SE/18/00688/HOUSE 68 East Hill, SD DA4	Demolition of front masonry wall and erection of new wall and steps to form new driveway	GRANTED
SE/18/00845/HOUSE 4 Russell Terrace, Lombard Street HK	Demolition of existing single storey extension to rear and erection of single storey extension.	GRANTED
SE/18/00855/HOUSE Whitefields, Dean Bottom South Darenth DA4 9JX	Demolition of existing single storey rear extension, link addition, bedroom 3, attached store, outbuildings and garage/utility area. Erection of a part single part two storey side extension. Construct a single storey extension to the rear of the thatched part of property, construct a barn to the side and rear, construct a glazed link between the barn and the single storey extension and construct a double detached garage with extended driveway.	GRANTED
SE/18/00445/HOUSE 63 East Hill, SD	Dropped kerb and new vehicular access	WITHDRAWN
SE/18/01206/HOUSE 18 The Grange, SD DDA4	Demolition of fence. Erection of a double storey side extension and single storey rear extension.	DECISION AWAITED
SE/18/00618/LDCEX Oakview Stud Farm Lombard Street, HK DA4	Certificate of Existing Lawful Development in respect to the continued use of land for B8 storage	REFUSED
SE/18/01060/WTPO Traffic Island North of the Lodge Franks Lane, HK	Various works and removal of various trees.	REFUSED
SE/18/01512/HOUSE 62 East Hill SD	Erection of a single storey rear extension	DECISION AWAITED

# 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: Peter Rushbrook – [cllrpcr@hotmail.com](mailto:cllrpcr@hotmail.com)

Roger House - 01322 862724

Dawn Mitchell - 07910 312710

Terry Moyle - 07939 581572

Christine Page - 01322 864776

Mike Stead – 07985 938323

James Stewart – 07805 063821

Colin Willson - 07387 589791

## **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](mailto:Ingsonly2@gmail.com)

## **County Councillor**

Roger Gough

Tel: 01959 525109

Email: [roger.gough@kent.gov.uk](mailto:roger.gough@kent.gov.uk)

## **Member of Parliament**

Michael Fallon

Tel: 0207 219 6482

Email: [michael.fallon.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:michael.fallon.mp@parliament.uk)