

# Horton Kirby and South Darent Parish Council Newsletter March 2022



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

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The office is open Monday and Friday 9.00am to 12.30pm

**Queen's Jubilee Celebration**  
**Thursday 2nd June 2022**  
**Heathside - Behind Village Hall**

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

All welcome to come along

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

# USEFUL CONTACTS

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

Report a non-urgent crime or incident online at:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

**Sevenoaks District Council** - 01732 227000 <https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/>

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

**Dartford Borough Council** – 01322 343434 <https://www.dartford.gov.uk/>

Fly tipping in Roman Villa Road (outside our boundary)

<https://www.dartford.gov.uk/do-it-online/report-it-online>

**Kent Highways** - 03000 418181 (Emergency out of hours 03000 419191)

Anything that may cause accident or injury, Kent Highways online

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

Roads, potholes, streetlights, pavements, drains, traffic lights

**Environment Agency** - 03708 506 506

For any problems with the river, (although often issues are the responsibility of landowners either side of the river)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency>

**Citizens Advice** – 0808 278 7810

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/north-west-kent/contact-us/>

**Thames Water** <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/emergencies>

**Devon Road Surgery** – 01322 862121

# Message from Cllr Peter Rushbrook

## Chair HKSD Parish Council

Dear Residents

With January gone we can start looking forward to some better weather and a chance to get outside and enjoy our villages and everything they have to offer. Lots of work has been going on around our green spaces of which we are now moving forward to register them all into the “Fields in Trust scheme” which will safeguard their future against any change so that we and families can all enjoy these most vital green spaces. Take a look on their website to see how many other field and parks are in the same scheme around us <https://www.fieldsintrust.org/>

As mentioned in my last letter that was posted on the notice boards the council have been looking into EV points for owners of electric cars, two points in the village hall and at Westminster Field have had the main cabinets and bases put in and we are just waiting for the charging points themselves to be installed.

We have managed to limit the precept increase this year to 2% which means that a Band D tax household will be paying £83.59 per year, which works out to £1.60 per week . This is a tiny increase of £1.54 per year or .029p per week.

Plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee are well on the way and I would like to thank Cllr Stewart and the working party for taking on this mammoth task. The Parish Council will be hosting an event on Thursday 2nd June, the first bank holiday of the long weekend, culminating with the lighting of the beacon at 9.45pm.

To finish I would like to remind everyone that you are all welcome to come to the Parish council meetings held on the first Monday of every month, and if you would like to put your name down to volunteer for any of the work days, then please drop a message to us.

Look after yourselves and stay safe.

Kind regards, Cllr Peter Rushbrook, Chairman HKSDPC

# **Report from the Halls Committee**

It is good to report that some sort of normality is returning and that many of our regular hirers have reopened since lockdown has eased and both halls are now being used once again. There is a wide range of activities taking place , including a variety of keep fit/exercise classes, sporting activities (Kung Fu , Martial Arts & Table Tennis clubs) and groups for young people including Riverside Nursery, Heartbeeps and Sutton at Hone Brownies. The regular village societies have also returned.

By the time that this newsletter is published the floor in the Village Hall will have had its annual scrub and polish and the alterations to storage in the Jubilee Hall will have been completed. The table & chair storage area in the Jubilee Hall has become the secure home for the storage of office documents and files while the chair/table storage has moved to the other alcove. WiFi is in the process of being installed, the internal fire doors are being checked and both a lighting and a fire risk survey are booked. The Green Room continues to be used for the storage of equipment by our regular hirers.

However, after much deliberation, the Halls Committee has had to increase the hire charges for both halls. This is the first increase for several years but with escalating running costs such as cleaning, maintenance and heating/lighting there really was no other option. The higher charges for the halls is the only way to keep the parish precept down for 2022-2023. The new rates will come in from 1st April this year.

**Terry Moyle - Halls Committee Chair**

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

The working party has been making fantastic ground with the Lower Paddock in order to prepare it for the sowing of the wild flower seeds in the spring. The bulbs have emerged and once they are in full bloom will make an amazing display at the woodland entrance.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed that all its' owned land is to be registered with the Fields In Trust and that enforces our vision of protecting our green spaces against development and, incorporating the Lower Paddock, Top Paddock and the river path to form part of a longer walk with the aid of signage, which the Parish Council is seeking funding for.

If you would like to help with this amazing project to enhance the villages that you live in, then the working party currently meets every Saturday morning at the Holmesdale Road entrance to the Lower Paddock from 10am. More volunteers would be greatly welcomed.

Wild flower seeds will also be sown along the path in Westminster Field to enhance the visual impact when the Cherry Trees are in bloom.

We will also be planting four silver birches in Papermill Green to replace the loss of the sycamore tree and planting saplings received from the Woodland Trust to form hedges in the Lower Paddock, Top Paddock and Allotments.

Repairs to the trim trail at Heathside are in progress, starting with the Burma Bridge.

There are many projects that we have on-going and when they have been finalised we can provide you with another update.

**James Stewart – ROS Chair**

# Village Hall Rental Prices for 5th April 2022 to 31st March 2023

	Village Hall	Jubilee Hall	Parish Room
<b>Mon-Thurs</b>			
<b>Day (9-5)</b>	<b>£18</b>	<b>£15</b>	<b>£10</b>
<b>Evening (6-12)</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£17</b>	<b>£10</b>
<b>Friday</b>			
<b>Day (9-5)</b>	<b>£18</b>	<b>£15</b>	<b>£10</b>
<b>Evening (6-12)</b>	<b>£25</b>	<b>£18</b>	<b>£12</b>
<b>Weekend</b>			
<b>Day (9-5)</b>	<b>£25</b>	<b>£18</b>	<b>£12</b>
<b>Evening (6-12)</b>	<b>£27</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£12</b>
<b>Bank Holiday</b>			
<b>Day (9-5)</b>	<b>£27</b>	<b>£25</b>	<b>£15</b>
<b>Evening (6-12)</b>	<b>£37</b>	<b>£30</b>	<b>£15</b>

# Parish Council Precept

## **What is a Precept?**

The Precept is a tax that Parish Council's charge their local electors to meet their budget requirements. Parish Councils do not receive any direct funding from central government and rely on their Precept plus any other income they generate from services or facilities they provide. The Parish Council Precept is part of the Council Tax and is collected from local electors via their Council Tax payments.

**How is it Calculated?** The Precept requirement is the difference between the Parish Council's estimated income and its anticipated spending requirements for the financial year (its budget). The financial year runs from 1st April to 31st March. The Parish Council needs to agree a budget before it can set its Precept and both must be agreed by the full Parish Council. When calculating the Precept, the Parish Council takes into consideration: current year's spending levels - for ongoing services for which it is responsible e.g. recreation facilities, lighting, cemeteries, insurance and cost of the Parish Office, costs of any additional spending plans or projects, provision for contingencies and reserves, levels of anticipated income – from services for which it is responsible e.g. rental income, allotment fees, burial fees, grants.

Once a Precept has been approved by the Parish Council, they inform SDC and it is then added to residents Council Tax bills. SDC pays the Precept to the Parish Council in two instalments (Apr and Sept).

**The 2022/23 budget as prepared by the Responsible Financial Officer and reviewed by the committees and members was ratified. The Precept request for this period shall be £106,829.**

**HORTON KIRBY & SOUTH DARENTH PARKING NEEDS SURVEY**

**The Parish Council is aware of many issues involved with village parking. To help us represent you effectively at District and County levels we would ask for your help in providing this information.**

**Thank you**

1. Which village do you live in?

HK    SD

Which road?

2. Does your property have its own parking space?

Y    N    If

yes how many? \_\_\_\_\_

or other off-road parking

Y    N

3. How many vehicles do you have?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Can you access on-street parking?

Yes / Always / Occasionally / No

5. If you use the street, how close can you park to home?

1-15m/15-25m/25m+

6. If you have visitors where do they park?

My property / on-street

7. Do you think there is more space available?

Y    N

8. If your answer to 7 was yes; where would you suggest?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. How often do you have difficulty parking at home?

Never / occasionally / often / always

Are there specific days that you have most issues with parking?

None / weekdays / weekends

Are there specific times that are worse?

Early morning to midday / midday to 5pm / 5pm to    midnight

10. Would you approve of enforceable restrictions?

Y    N

**Please tear this out and after completion please put through the Clerk’s office letterbox. Thank you**



The Nation celebrates the Queen's Jubilee

# Jubilation

THURSDAY JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> 2022



Bringing the community together  
on Heathside\* for a

## Picnic in the park

1pm to 9.45pm

Sponsored by the Parish Council



- Inflatables
- Traditional family competitions
- Baking competition
- Prizes
- Food outlets
- Bar
- Live music from 5pm
- National Anthem and Beacon lighting at 9.45pm

For the whole family, bring blankets, picnic chairs, hampers, children, pets.

It's an extra Bank Holiday so get the chance to meet old friends, make new ones and join in the fun. Come and go as you please during the day.



\* Behind the village hall South Darenth



# Safer in Kent

News from Matthew Scott: Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner

## Kent PCC budget plan launched

Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott has today launched his budget, to make the force fit for the future and protect the service residents of Kent say they want.

Thanks to a combination of council tax payer support and extra funding from the Government's Uplift Programme, police officer numbers have risen by 788 since 2016. Kent will soon have 3970 officers, with a further 185 to be recruited by March 2023.

The county now has specialist teams working in both urban and rural communities, a dedicated squad to reduce burglary and another to tackle drug dealing gangs. These teams are producing results and the Commissioner wants to build on their success.

As part of the budget Kent will receive £230.5 million from central government, but in real terms this is still a decrease of 16.6% since 2010/11. To cover some of that shortfall the Commissioner is proposing to increase the local council tax police precept by just 84 pence per month, or £10 a year for an average Band D property. Savings of over £8 million will still need to be made across the Force. The Budget will be voted on by Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel early next month.

Matthew Scott says,

*"If the first phase of my plan was to rebuild, the next phase is to make the Force fit for the future. I'm proud to have delivered an additional 788 police officers to Kent and I'm asking for your support to help us grow and invest further."*

*The Budget I announce today will include dealing with unprecedented inflationary challenges, funding for*

*185 more Police Officers and the support required to deliver this. Investment will begin in police stations in Maidstone, Sittingbourne, Folkestone, Tonbridge and further investment in Ashford. A new digital evidence system that will allow dash cam uploads. And there will be a further expansion of our cadet programmes.*

*To deliver this, I have had to make hard decisions. And I appreciate that times are tough. But in return for this plan, I am asking you to pay just short of 84 pence per month more in your council tax. £10.00 for the whole year. We will also need to make further efficiencies to deliver a balanced budget, which will be tough, but will be done in a managed way.*

*We are turning a corner. Numbers are rising. Outcomes are improving. Crime is falling.*

*I hope you can support me in this task again."*

If you have any comments, please get in touch before Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan at: [haveyoursay@kent.police.uk](mailto:haveyoursay@kent.police.uk)



The Budget plan will be voted on by Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

In the recent Police and Crime Plan Survey, 82% of respondents agreed with the Commissioner's priorities for Kent Police.

Last year Kent had the 8<sup>th</sup> lowest police precept rate in the country.

If this budget is approved a Band D house would pay £228.15 a year for the police.

# **St Mary's Horton Kirby, Parish church for South Darenth, Southdowns and Horton Kirby and part of the Darent Valley Benefice with St John's Sutton-at-Hone and St Margaret's Darenth**



You may have missed the star shining out over the parish from the top of the church tower over the last two Christmases: it has kindly been hosted by The Bull pub instead while works to restore a flagpole and weathervane to the top of St Mary's tower have been progressed. It is always and inevitably a lengthy process to undertake works on a Grade II\* listed building and at such height. But now a new and lighter weathervane and flagpole have been installed, the culmination of invested time, labour and expertise. Grateful thanks to all who have made this possible, especially to Malcolm and Linda Green and to Anne Williams, and to those who have worked on the building with great care and attention.

Sunday services continue at 10am, alternately at St Mary's and at St Margaret's Darenth for the time being. A new(ish) project has been the re-introduction of a regular Junior Church (think Sunday School but with parents and children sharing the session together); this takes place every Sunday at 10am in the church hall at St Margaret's Darenth. If you would like to develop regular participation in the life of a church community with your young children, this is a really engaging and stress-free way to do it! The sessions run for an hour with some free play and space to get to know each other, plus games, activities and Christian teaching. Currently the age range of children attending is twelve months to around eight years old.

By the time this newsletter is distributed, Mothering Sunday, Holy Week and Easter will not be too far off. If you are interested in being kept in touch with events run at the churches, the easiest way is to join the mailing list: below is a QR code which can be scanned with a smartphone/tablet to take you to the subscription page. Or otherwise email Revd Emma who will gladly add you to the mailing list.

It's also worth following the church on Facebook, if that is the kind of thing that you do! The page is at [www.facebook.com/darentvalleybenefice](http://www.facebook.com/darentvalleybenefice) and St Mary's also has its own page at [www.facebook.com/stmaryshortonkirby](http://www.facebook.com/stmaryshortonkirby)

If computers aren't your thing, then Revd Emma can be contacted on the phone number below.

After a Covid-induced quieter spell on church fundraising events, 2022 will hopefully hold more opportunity. To run events, which not only raise vital funds for the church but are also sociable, community-building occasions, we are always glad of input and support from a wide range of people; if you enjoy making a difference and could be involved in raising funds for the continued ministry and maintenance of St Mary's, we would be glad to hear from you. Thank you also to everyone who participated in the Christmas raffle, which raised an impressive £1275.16 for the three churches of our benefice.

Wishing you a blessed 2022 as we look forward to brighter evenings, warmer days and all the new growth of spring; may the hard edges of our hearts be thawed and the life that we share flourish and be beautiful.

Revd Emma

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

**07563 276794**

**Churchwarden: Anne Williams (01322 862551)**



scan the QR code to be taken to the church mailing list subscription page

# HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



L H S meetings are held in the Jubilee Hall starting at 8pm (bi-monthly). All visitors (£2) are welcome as are new members (£7 annually). Refreshments are served after the meeting and there is a raffle with 4-5 prizes. Our publications are available from the Parish Office which is open on Monday and Friday mornings.

Meetings for 2022 are

- 14th March 2022 - Mary Smith - A Schoolgirl's War
- 16th May 2022 - Martin Heard - Artists of World War 1
- 11th July 2022 - Steve Hookins - Bits that don't fit
- 12th September 2022 - Melanie Gibson-Barton - Murder, Madness, Mayhem in the Belgian Royal family
- 14th November 2022 - AGM and food

Publications include

- A Walking Tour of Horton Kirby and South Darenth £1
- Images of Horton Kirby Paper Mills £5
- Memories of Horton Kirby Schools £2
- Never Such Innocence (Sutton at Hone & Hawley in the First World War) £4
- Our Peace was won by the Men who Fell (HK & SD in First World War) £5
- Horton Kirby & South Darenth – Yesterday and Today £15

**Further information from Terry Moyle (Chairman)**  
**07939581572 or [terrymoyle74@gmail.com](mailto:terrymoyle74@gmail.com)**



# **Scouts**

## **Horton Kirby**



**1st Horton Kirby Scout Group - meet at the Horton Kirby Scout Hut,  
Horton Road, DA4 9BS**

**We help change lives by offering 4 to 18-year-old children and young adults fun and challenging activities, unique experiences, everyday adventure and the chance to help others so that we make a positive impact in the community.**

**Squirrels: (age 4-5) Mondays 16:15 - 17:15 [firsthksquirrels@yahoo.com](mailto:firsthksquirrels@yahoo.com)**

**Beavers: (age 6-8) Tuesdays 17:45 -19:00 [hkbeavers@ymail.com](mailto:hkbeavers@ymail.com)**

**Cubs: (age 8-10.5) Mondays 18:00 - 19:30 [hkcubs@ymail.com](mailto:hkcubs@ymail.com)**

**Scouts:(age 10.5-14) Wednesday 19:15 - 20:45 [hkscouts@ymail.com](mailto:hkscouts@ymail.com)**

**Explorers: (age 14-18) Fridays 19:00 - 21:00 [hkexplorers@ymail.com](mailto:hkexplorers@ymail.com)**

**There are spaces available in most groups for boys and girls**

**If any adults would like to help out there are always vacancies for volunteers, please get in touch or come down and see us**



# Sevenoaks - Farningham, Horton Kirby and South Darenth

**Most commonly reported crimes during December 2021**

**Violence and sexual offences - 13**

**Criminal damage and arson - 5**

**Other theft - 3**

**Anti Social behaviour - 2**

**Local policing teams are groups of officers dedicated to serving the community. Teams are made up of officers based in the area, supported by additional officers from the wider area.**

**Teams work closely with local authorities, organisations, partners and residents to decide policing priorities. This helps teams find long-term solutions to local problems.**

**Inspector: Mark Stubberfield**

**Sergeant: Phillip Comben**

**PCSO: Arran Ostridge**

**PCSO: Lauren Bruce**

# Welcome to Glyn Hughes new Parish Councillor

The Horton Kirby and South Darenth Parish Council are pleased to announce that Glyn Hughes has been co-opted as a new Parish Councillor at the Parish Council meeting on Monday 7th February 2022.

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My Community Voice is a messaging service that helps Kent residents, businesses, and community groups to keep in touch with their local policing teams. The service sends updates about your local area directly from the police officers themselves. My Community Voice is more than just a messaging service; it allows you to reply to the alerts sent, share information and tell the police about the issues affecting you. Kent Police are committed to engaging with communities to increase trust and confidence and to help protect people from harm. Police, partners and the public working together can build resilient and safe communities, and both reduce and prevent crime. You will be able to play an active part in police appeals as well as keeping updated on what is happening in your local area.

<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/>





The Southern Golden Retriever Society

## **CHARITY FUN DAY**

*for dogs and their owners at*

**HORTON KIRBY & SOUTH DARENTH  
VILLAGE HALL**

**and Heathside Field**

**Horton Road, South Darenth, Kent, DA4 9AZ**

***from 11.30 am***

# ***Sunday 29th May 2022***

*Lots of Fun Classes for Golden Retrievers starting at 12.30pm  
followed by a class for all other breeds.*

*Any dog can 'Have-a-Go' at a number of fun activities including Agility,  
Three Dummy Retrieve, a Scurry, Temptation Alley,  
and Gundog exercises*

*Do well in four activities and win a rosette and Certificate of Merit*

*Watch the parade of Rescue Dogs and hear the moving stories of how  
they were lovingly re-homed by Southern Golden Retriever Rescue.*

*Trade stalls, Bric-a-Brac, Grand Raffle, Flower stall,*

*Feet and Tail trims for Goldens,*

*Tasty BBQ food and kitchen refreshments.*

*Stalls for Medical Detection Dogs*

*and Southern Golden Retriever Rescue*

*Vet on site to give advice (tbc)*

## ***PLUS***

***a performance of their 2022 Crufts routine  
by the sixteen strong***

## ***Southern Golden Retriever Society Display Team***

*for further information contact David Wimsett at [david-wimsett1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:david-wimsett1@hotmail.co.uk)*

*Proceeds will be divided between the charities Medical Detection Dogs  
and Southern Golden Retriever Rescue*

**Horton Kirby**



**& South Darenth**

As we go into a New Year with the pandemic still affecting our lives, the HK and SD WI have managed to get everything back to normal - which is super positive going forward.

So far, we have met every month in the Village Hall and enjoyed listening to interesting speakers.

Unfortunately, we have lost a few members in the last couple of years, however, we are really pleased that we have already gained some lovely new members who are already enjoying many of our activities. We hope to soon be back to 40 members.

We have planned a varied programme for the next year, with interesting speakers, varied activities and outings. Some of us are going on holiday to Weymouth at the end of May, which we are really looking forward to. Our regular book clubs and walking groups are now back to normal and we have just started a cinema group too.

We are a small W.I. group and meet on the third Thursday of every month. The ethos of our party is the friendship and support we share together. As well as the mental positivity the social gatherings bring to our well-being in these unprecedented times.

Meetings start at 7.30 pm at Horton Kirby & South Darenth village hall. The annual fee is £44, just £3.37 per month.

We welcome new members. The first two visits are free!

**Contact Linda Homer on 01322 863960 / 07484 207046**

**Email [HortonKirbySouthDarenth@wkfwi.org.uk](mailto:HortonKirbySouthDarenth@wkfwi.org.uk) for more details**



**Patron** Her Majesty the Queen

**Branch Number** BR1973

**The Royal British Legion  
South Darenth Branch  
The Royal British Legion  
Devon Road  
South Darenth  
Kent  
DA4 9AB**



### **Live On – to the memory of the fallen and the future of the living**

The Royal British Legion are supporting members of the armed forces and their families in times of need. If you would be interested in joining the South Darenth Branch of the Royal British Legion and offering your support, this can be done either by calling 0800 3077 773 (Free Phone) or on line at,

[www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/things-to-do/membership/become-a-member](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/things-to-do/membership/become-a-member).

We are based at Devon Road South Darenth, where we hold numerous events and Member's meetings throughout the year, so for as little as £18 per year, you can help our Veterans and make new friends.

#### **Here is a brief list of the events we have planned up to beginning of May**

Bingo 4<sup>th</sup> Feb and every fortnight on a Friday at 19.30.

Book Swap and Coffee Morning, 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 11.00 to 12.30.

Our next Quiz dates are 19<sup>th</sup> March and 24<sup>th</sup> April. Maximum of 8 in a team and £4 per person entry. 19.00 for 19.30 start.

Our annual Race Night is being held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March 19.00 for 19.30 start.

We will be holding an Easter Event on 16<sup>th</sup> April. Times to be confirmed via posters around the village and via social media.

We will again be holding our annual plant sale on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 to 13.00

#### **All events held at the hall unless otherwise stated.**

Branch meetings are held several times a year when members, and non-members, are welcome to join the committee for tea and cakes.

If you are interested in attending any of our events or would like a full itinerary or to hire the hall, for functions or business, please contact Linda Copper on 01322 864945 or [lindacopper@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lindacopper@hotmail.co.uk)

# LIVE ON



## Our Green Valley

The Darent is 21 miles long. It starts in Westerham and finishes in the Thames near Dartford.

Much has been written on the Darent and today I Googled The Darent River Preservation Society. There is a wealth of information on this site.

This spring, we intend to complete our walk from start to finish and cover the 21 miles. A health check you could say. So far we have walked from Westerham to Shoreham. There is no complete path and on occasions we have had to divert onto roads then back onto the riverside. We have met many ramblers on occasions. It's a popular walk. There are plans to improve the path including repairs to the path in this Parish. It's muddy with potholes at the moment.

### NORTH VERSUS SOUTH KENT

Recently, there has been more rain in South Kent than North Kent and the data bears this out. The Darent has had normal flow since autumn began. As expected it was low in summer 2021 but nothing alarming. Recharge to the aquifer at the moment - end of January- is less than than it should be. It's too early to say what the result will be, but January 2022 has been much drier than expected. Rain please.

### THE WIDER PICTURE

To prevent water shortage in the years ahead, plans are being drawn up for the benefit of South East England. When housing expansion goes ahead coupled with climate change, now is the time for action.

1. It has been proposed to link the River Severn with the Thames via a new pipeline or restore an existing canal.
2. Transfer Thames Water to Southern Water using existing arrangements or new ones.
3. Water transfer from the Midlands to the South East using the existing Grand Union Canal.

So, there is much going on in the background. Also, Thames Water - our supplier- has been instructed to reduce leaks. 20% is lost. This is much too high. To reduce this will take some time but it has to be done. Some of the pipework dates back to Victorian times.

As I mentioned in my last report the Aquifer Storage and Recovery project in our Parish is being tested and data collected. It is the most advanced project in the UK. An underground reservoir. This coupled with the measures listed above puts the South East in a good position to deal with what lies ahead.

**Malcolm Dunn, Darent River Preservation Society**



# Horton Kirby Cricket Club

As the days get longer, and slowly warmer members of the Cricket Club are looking forward to the new season.

We run three Senior sides, a Saturday first, and two Sunday sides. We are being very proactive in trying to reform a Saturday second eleven.

The Saturday First plays in the Kent Village Cricket League. They have been promoted to Division 2 for 2022, having won Div.3 in 2021, and Div.4 in 2019,

The Sunday First play a mixture of League and friendlies finishing mid-table in 2021. The Sunday Second is a mixture of older and younger members playing social friendlies.

We have a lovely ground and clubhouse with a bar, and ample parking to enjoy the cricket.

Nets are attended in the winter and start outdoors at the ground in April.

An active colts section is on the increase any age from 5 to 16 outdoor nets Sunday mornings and Monday evenings. Fliers are currently being sent out to all the Schools in the area.

The Club runs a '100 Club' to raise funds to constantly keep improving facilities, at £5 per month and a chance to win £100. We welcome anyone or Company that may wish to sponsor us.

So if you or your children are interested in joining no matter what level your ability, or just as a social member, we are a family friendly club and you will be most welcome.

You can follow us on Twitter :- Horton Kirby cc.

Facebook page is:- Horton Kirby cricket Club

Instagram is the same as Twitter.

Or in the first instance for more details contact our Chairman

**Darren Chambers on 07909530931**

email [darrenchambers1@live.com](mailto:darrenchambers1@live.com)



# KATE'S PERFORMING ARTS!



## **TUESDAY THEATRE CLUB:**

A fun class incorporating dance, singing and acting!

## **WEDNESDAY DANCE CLUB:**

A lively dance class helping to build confidence and improve fitness!

**HORTON KIRBY & SOUTH  
DARENTH VILLAGE HALL**

3.45pm-4.45pm  
Only £5 per week

**BOYS & GIRLS AGES**

**5-11**

**Make friends!**

**Have fun!**

**Improve self-esteem**



Kate has been teaching happily for 18 years, she is fully qualified and DBS checked

**KATE: 0796 2203222 [kateweller4@hotmail.com](mailto:kateweller4@hotmail.com)**

## **Sevenoaks District Council has agreed to trial a new Sunday market in Swanley**

The six-month trial will see a broad mix of market traders, including those selling local food and drink, farmers' market produce and traditional market goods.

The current Wednesday market is run on behalf of the Council by Bray Associates who will be taking on the responsibility of the Sunday trial as well.

Bray Associates and the Council will keep a close eye on the new market to ensure its smooth running.

Cabinet Member for Cleaner and Greener, Cllr Margot McArthur, says: "The market in Swanley has always been hugely popular with residents and visitors alike so we are delighted to give a Sunday market a trial.

"A new Sunday market will bring a lot of new business into the town, benefitting many other shops and businesses. As the market becomes more established, we hope to include more local traders, craft producers and opportunities for young entrepreneurial traders too."

The Sunday market will take place in Swanley High Street, by Swanley Square.

The decision was made at the Council's Cabinet meeting on 13 January 2022.

# The New Monday Club

Mondays 1.45pm to 3pm

A friendly parent and baby/toddler group

Craft activities, baby area, singing, tea and cake!

Horton Kirby and South Darenth Village Hall

£4 per family per session

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## Cardio Sculpt

Mondays 9.45am to 10.45am

In the Jubilee Hall, Horton Road

£6 per class

1 full hour of cardio and toning

Own weights and mats needed

Contact Sam 07956511215





# **DANCE CLASSES**

**For boys and girls, 6 months to 5 years**

**Fridays at Jubilee Hall, Horton Road**

**10.00am - Teeny Toes - 6 months to walking**

**10.45am - Toddle Toes - walking to 2.5 years**

**11.00am - Tots Toes - 2.5 years to 5 years**

**For more information please email  
[hayley@tappytoes.com](mailto:hayley@tappytoes.com) or call 01474 318029**

# 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

When:

Wednesday match night  
evenings

Where:

The Village Hall, Horton Kirby

Contact:

Chris Mitchell - 01322 556642

or

Mike Tyler - 020 8300 2491



**the**  
**ODDfELLOWS** SINCE 1810  
*making friends, helping people*

## **Thursday Friends**

**British Legion Hall, Devon Road, South Darenth, DA4 9AB**

**2nd Thursday of every month – 8pm**

**We are a friendly group that enjoys chat, games, talks, quizzes, music evenings and outings and would love you to come and join us**

**No need to book, but if we know you are coming, we can look out for you and welcome you**

**Cost: £2 including refreshments, Oddfellows members free**

**For further information please contact Jane 01322 663706,  
[jane.parkin@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:jane.parkin@oddfellows.co.uk)**

**In South Darenth and beyond the Oddfellows help our members get more enjoyment out of life, see our website for full details [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)**

# YOGA CLASS



**A Revitalising & Relaxing Yoga Class**

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

**Tuesday 10.30am – 11.30am  
£24 for 4 sessions or £7 'drop in'. (exact change needed)  
Bring a blanket and a yoga mat!**

**Contact details:  
northkentyoga@gmail.com  
www.redbridgeyoga.co.uk**



*'It's all so magical!'*

*Imogen Coleman*

## Baby Sensory

Precious Early Learning for Babies



*'Time and time again  
you just go 'WOW!'*

*Lisa Earley*

## Toddler Sense

Life's an Adventure



Available  
from  
0 - 13 months.



Available  
from  
13 months  
- 5 years.

## Baby Sensory

Our multi-award winning classes will introduce you and your baby to a world of sensory delights, where you can relax, spend quality time with each other and enjoy meeting other new parents.

Classes run in Vigo,  
Gravesend & Stone/Dartford

Contact us on

**07494276028** or email  
[nwkent@babysensory.co.uk](mailto:nwkent@babysensory.co.uk)



## Toddler Sense

It's time for Toddler Sense. A place where structured play goes hand in hand with imagination, the freedom to explore and adventure!

Classes run in Gravesend &  
Stone/Dartford

Contact us on

**07709838528** or email  
[nwkent@toddlersense.co.uk](mailto:nwkent@toddlersense.co.uk)



[www.babysensory.com](http://www.babysensory.com)

[www.toddlersense.com](http://www.toddlersense.com)



*We've done the research; so you can enjoy the fun...*



# Recent Planning Decisions

<b>21/02408/HOUSE</b> 60 East Hill South Darenth Kent DA4 9AW	Construction of two side dormers with roof lights (amended)	GRANTED
<b>21/02457/FUL</b> Former Fire Station New Road South Darenth Kent DA4 9AT	The application is for temporary use as a hand car wash facility	REFUSED
<b>21/02105/HOUSE</b> 15 Millstone Close South Darenth KENT DA4 9BJ	First floor rear extension	GRANTED
<b>21/02647/HOUSE</b> 5 School Lane Horton Kirby Kent DA4 9DQ	Erection of a two storey extension to the side.	GRANTED
<b>21/02578/FUL</b> The Lock Up Garages Lombard Street Horton Kirby Kent DA4 9DF	Change of use to car park for public and community use	GRANTED
<b>21/02662/HOUSE</b> 72 East Hill South Darenth Kent DA4 9AW	First floor rear extension	GRANTED
<b>21/02105/HOUSE</b> 15 Millstone Close South Darenth Kent DA4 9BJ	First floor rear extension	GRANTED
<b>21/02577/FUL</b> The Lock Up Garages Lombard Street Horton Kirby Kent DA4 9DF	Demolition of existing garages and erection of two x 3 bed dwellings together with landscaping and parking.	REFUSED
<b>21/02787/HOUSE</b> 95 Shrubbery Road South Darenth Kent DA4 9AP	Proposal of a single storey front facing extension, new driveway and formation of vehicular access.	GRANTED
<b>21/03002/PAE</b> Sunnyside Holmesdale Hill South Darenth Kent DA4 9DN	Prior notification of a single storey rear extension which extends 5.47m beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling house with a maximum height of 2.7m and eaves height of 2.7m.	PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED
<b>21/03663/FUL</b> Land North West of Canada Farm Canada Farm Road South Darenth DA4 9LA	Conversion of an existing barn into a new 4 bedroom dwelling with associated parking, amenity space and landscaping	AWAITING DECISION

<b>21/02567/FUL</b> Former South Darenth Fire Station New Road South Darenth Kent DA4 9AT	Redevelopment of former South Darenth fire station to provide a two storey building with additional accommodation in the roof space comprising 6 x two bedroom and 2 x one bedroom apartments together with 8 car parking spaces, ancillary refuse and bike stores.	AWAITING DECISION
<b>21/03117/CONVAR</b> The Darent Wax Company Ltd. Unit 1, Horton Kirby Trading Estate Station Road South Darenth Kent DA4 9AP	Variation of condition 2 (chiller operating hours) of 20/03461/FUL with amendment to read: “ The proposed chiller and ventilation duct units will not be in operation other than at those times within accordance with the approved working hours of the premises set out with condition no. 8 of planning permission reference SE/78/1152.”	REFUSED
<b>21/03267/HOUSE</b> 40 School Lane Horton Kirby Kent DA4 9DQ	First floor rear extensions with roof lights	GRANTED
<b>21/02408/HOUSE</b> 60 East Hill South Darenth Kent DA4 9AW	Construction of side dormer with roof lights	GRANTED
<b>21/02495/FUL</b> Waverley, The Street Horton Kirby Kent DA4 9BY	Construction of new stables and sand school (amended)	WITHDRAWN
<b>21/03566/HOUSE</b> The Chase 87 Shrubby Road, South Darenth Kent DA4 9AP	Single storey extension, raising of the roof to incorporate a second floor, erection of side extension with demolition of part of existing integral garage	GRANTED
<b>21/03511/FUL</b> 45 Esparto Way South Darenth Kent DA4 9LN	Change of use from a mixed or composite live/work unit to 1 No. 1 bed flat the ground floor (45B) and a 1 No. 2 bed flat at the first floor (45A) together with the retention of a secondary access into the ground floor flat	AWAITING DECISION
<b>21/03572/HOUSE</b> 59 Shrubby Road South Darenth Kent DA4 9AP	Demolition of existing single storey rear extension with erection of two storey rear extension with roof lantern	GRANTED
<b>21/04245/HOUSE</b> 49 Saxon Place Horton Kirby Kent DA4 9JQ	Proposed extension to the existing roof to allow for the construction of a first floor box room and bathroom and ground floor entrance porch	AWAITING DECISION

# **Parish Council Information**

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

## **Parish Councillors**

Chair: Peter Rushbrook – [cllrPCR@hotmail.com](mailto:cllrPCR@hotmail.com)

Vice Chair: Roger House - 01322 862724

Ian Blackamore - 01322 864024

Glyn Hughes - 07584 659097

Dawn Mitchell - 07910 312710

Terry Moyle - 07939 581572

Christine Page - 01322 864776

Mike Stead – 07985 938323

James Stewart – 07805 063821

## **District Councillors**

Philip McGarvey Tel: 07803 121830 [cllr.mcgarvey@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mcgarvey@sevenoaks.gov.uk)

Brian Carroll Tel: 07968391247 [cllr.carroll@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.carroll@sevenoaks.gov.uk)

## **County Councillor**

Roger Gough Tel: 01959 525109 [roger.gough@kent.gov.uk](mailto:roger.gough@kent.gov.uk)

## **Member of Parliament**

Laura Trott Tel: 0207 219 3000 [laura.trott.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:laura.trott.mp@parliament.uk)