

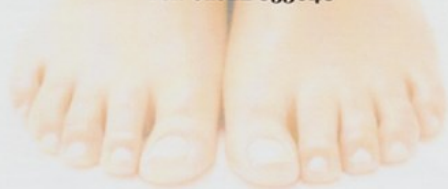
October 2021

**Network
Harrietsham's Village
Magazine**

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Harrietsham Fish Scheme Who's Who

Fish Scheme-Helping Hands

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Network Magazine November 2021 deadlines

Fri 1 October 2021 12 noon advertising deadline for November Network

Fri 1 October 2021 12 noon copy deadline for November Network

In addition to printing the magazine and distributing it to all homes in the village, Network is uploaded to our website by the 1st of each month.

Please send advertising contributions to advertising manager's address above.

Please send copy to: **editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org**.

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Village Diary

Just a reminder that a Diary has been placed in the Post Office for anyone to put in any events which may happen in the village.

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From the Editor

Hello everyone,

This month's front cover by Marta Wave is inspired by the glowing autumn colours that we will soon enjoy.

Hopefully, as the autumn replaces summer we will see an increase in local activities. At the moment, we are still a little short of these and so I have deferred resuming the day to day calendar for at least another month. Instead everything is shown in the Diary on page 25.

If you are organising any activities, or would like to share a report on a recent event you have held, please email me editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org. I would love to hear from you if you are starting something new.

This month we feature an article by Revd Millie Hart on the subject of 'Our Covid Journey So Far', a brief overview of what we have endured.

We also feature details of a trip to Ireland, see page 27, which is being organised by Marjorie Darby and which is open to all Harrietsham residents. There are limited spaces available so get in quickly!

Stay safe and have a great month.

Jan - Editor

Please remember to email any photographs, articles of interest about Harrietsham, or recipes etc. that could be considered for inclusion to:

E-mail: editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org

Visit our website: www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

Whilst every effort is made to include as wide a variety of information as possible each month, the editor reserves the right not to publish, or to edit, any item. The editor's decision is final. Responsibility for the information and views set out in articles and notices in this publication lies entirely with the authors.

Letters sent anonymously will not be considered. Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the officers or committee of the Fish Scheme.

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Front Cover Photo by **Marta Wave** from Pexels

Harrietsham Network

Harrietsham Gardening Society



We are now , hopefully, out of the worst and are getting back to some form of normality following the Covid pandemic.

Unfortunately, we were unable to have our Annual Show in the Village Hall and it will be next year before we are able to have it again. We did, however, manage to stage the potato weigh-in for the heaviest crop from one single potato. Once again Audrey Joy was the winner with an enormous crop weighing in at 10lbs.

We also had a competition for the largest onion grown in a pot. This was won by Kevin Harlock.

By the time you read this we will already have had the September meeting on the 27th. Our next meeting will be Tuesday 19th October 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We are unable at this stage to tell you who the speaker will be.

The good news is that we are able to hold our meetings on the third Tuesday of every month as we have in the past.

David Oversby - Chairman

Harrietsham History Society



On Monday 4 October following the lifting of restrictions on groups meeting indoors and the re-opening of the village hall we will be holding our first meeting this year. All our previous plans for meetings and speakers unfortunately had to be cancelled so we are virtually having to start again with planning for the future. There will not be a speaker on this occasion, but we will be providing information on a few very interesting talks which we are considering for 2022.

Non-members are welcome to come along if you are interested in finding out more about our society and Harrietsham village history.

Please note for the time being refreshments will not be provided at meetings.

Peter Brown

Harrietsham Craft Groups



Good News!

We are now ready to move back to meeting at a Hall for our crafting meetings. Knit, Crochet and Natter will be meeting at Harrietsham Village Hall on the third Monday of each month between 2-4pm and Craft and Chat will be held at Lenham Community Centre. There will be two meetings of Craft and Chat each month – the second Wednesday and the last Saturday between 1.30 – 5pm except for December's Saturday meeting which will be Christmas Day! The Saturday meetings will be held in the James Hatch Suite – a large, bright and airy hall - but up a flight of stairs so, if you have a problem with stairs, you might want to attend the Wednesday meetings which will be held in the Osborne Room.

Details of the October meetings are below and anyone is very welcome to attend but please contact me first so that I have an idea of numbers. New members are always welcome. Obviously, if you have any symptoms that may be related to Covid, we would ask that you don't attend and we encourage people to do a rapid lateral flow test before attending. These can be ordered free of charge in quantities of seven at a time from here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

Craft and Chat

The October meetings of Craft and Chat will take place on Wednesday 13 October and Saturday 30 October at Lenham Community Centre between 1.30pm-5pm. We will be continuing with our bead embroidery. Those who started bead embroidered cuffs can continue with them if not finished and there will be the option of another project – a bead embroidered monogram suitable for framing (photo on page 36). This would make a nice gift to hang in a new baby's nursery or for someone special. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to join in with one of these projects, please contact me for more details. Alternatively, bring along your own projects and join in on the chat. Fees are £3 to go towards the hire of the hall, tea, coffee and cake.

Knit, Crochet and Natter

The October meeting of Knit, Crochet and Natter will be held on Monday 18 October between 2-4pm at Harrietsham Village Hall. Bring along your projects or come along and learn how to knit or crochet. Are you stuck on a project and need advice on your knitting or crochet? Bring it along. There will usually be someone who can help. Fees are £3 to help towards the cost of the hall, tea, coffee and cake.

Any queries related to the above groups, please contact me on 01622 851885

Hazel Roots

Harrietsham Network

Harrietsham in Bloom



Having had a very disappointing August weatherwise, it is now time to remove the geraniums from planters and put in bulbs and polyanthus for winter and spring. This is a huge task and we are thankful to everyone who helps us. We are always looking for volunteers and if you would like to join us please contact our chairman for further details.

Our AGM will be held on 15 October at 7.30pm in the Booth Hall. Please come along and support us.

Our thanks to our sponsors and villagers who donate via the collecting tins. Any enquiries to Andrew Rogers (Chair) 859352.

Audrey Joy

Harrietsham Wives Group



After an interval of over 18 months the Wives Group was very pleased to be able to meet up again at the beginning of September. Unfortunately, despite weeks of negotiating, we were not able to secure our previous spot in the Village Hall but we have been lucky that the newly re-furbished Scout Hut was available for our use. We will continue to hold our meetings there for the foreseeable future.

It was a lively meeting, no speaker. but plenty to talk about! Although we had not met up for many months most of us had kept in contact during the pandemic and we were able to compare notes and exchange news. We are never short of things to talk about!

Our meetings will carry on during October and November when we will meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm for 7.30pm. They will be informal 'member led' evenings. Our meeting in December has always traditionally been an outing to enjoy a Christmas meal and we are still hoping that this will be possible.

We would welcome any new members who would like to join us – not necessarily 'Wives' but all women of whatever age. We look forward to seeing some new faces. Contact details are on page 21.

Katherin Daking

Harrietsham Village Hall

I am sorry to tell you, although some of you may already know, that John Morgan, our Hall Caretaker for over 28 years, has sadly passed away. He was taken to St Thomas's hospital in London and after only a few short weeks, died on 21 August from heart and kidney problems. John's enormous wealth of knowledge and contacts gained over the years will be greatly missed by us all, a very sad loss.

Hall news - we opened up the hall at the beginning of September and many clubs have already booked their space in the diary together with one-off bookings too. NHS are still with us, booking BOOSTER jabs from now until the end of the year. Wait to be called but please don't miss out, it is still very important for all of us to keep safe and well.

I am still disgusted that some person thought that doing an oil change in the hall car park was a good idea, creating a leak spillage over a large area of block paving running into the foliage. And to add insult to injury then proceeding to dump the remainder in the used cardboard that I've been trying to get taken away by the Borough Council for over 7 weeks creating another spillage on the path. The hall car park is PRIVATE and for use of the hirers of the hall ONLY, now it's an unsightly mess.

Take care everyone,

Steve Brown - Chairman





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Harrietsham Network

Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Club.

Thursday 5 August, "B-Day", at last, we were returning to Harrietsham Village Hall to bowl again on home ground. This was our first roll-up in the hall since Covid stopped us in our tracks. To celebrate the day, Barbara French had baked a Strawberry Sponge cake and a Raspberry Sponge cake for us to enjoy with our halftime cup of tea.



Our first day back did not get off to a good start, here we were, everyone keen to get on the mats and start bowling again. But... disaster struck! Our mats are stored on electrically operated rollers, and would you believe it, they would not work. A little investigation followed, and it was discovered that trying the kettle plugged into the wall socket (the inspirational idea of Ken Leach) gave the result that there was no power to the socket. Our first day back and we could not bowl with the mats stuck on the rollers. "At least we have the sponge cakes to eat" was one remark that was heard. A phone call to the Village Hall Chairman brought him to our rescue, power was restored, the rollers worked and we were soon set up to start bowling.

It was good to see the members supporting our return to bowling. They had all missed the activity and social interaction of friendly rivalry, the being together that this game brings. Now all that remains is that we will hopefully return to the Village Hall at the beginning of October for Monday afternoon roll-ups and then we will finally be bringing bowls home to Harrietsham.

Phil Gooda - Chairman

Maidstone Camera Club

At our first event of the new season, members enjoyed a fascinating presentation, via Zoom, of monochrome photos of the Industrial North of England as it used to be in the days of factory chimneys.



We are looking forward to a full and varied programme available over Zoom for the full 2021-22 season. We can also, Covid regulations permitting, look forward to in-hall meetings once again. These will include the Zoom presentations and will also allow members to socialise once more. The club will come out of lockdown as a hybrid events organiser!

October's programme includes photography based talks on 'The Way We Were' and the intriguingly titled 'Reality is Over-rated', an opportunity to see some of the members' best photographs on competition night and some outdoor photography opportunities.

New members are very welcome and more details can be found at <https://maidstonecameraclub.org.uk/>

Letter to Harrietsham

The Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent has been using your facilities and countryside for 35 years for their annual “North Downs Walk” but we have never been so grateful as we are this year. Your village hall has been a staunch supporter for the past 20 years (and we are already booked in for next year’s walk on 12 June 2022) but were unable to accommodate us this year due to being used for Covid vaccinations.

Instead, we turned to the Parish Council and the Church and both turned up trumps.

The Parish Council allowed us to use Glebe Field not only as the carpark but also as the start/finish point of the walk. They were also particularly helpful in being able to reassure us about possible road closures and 2 councillors even turned out of bed to open the field and then interrupted their Sunday afternoon to come and close up.

The Church made their facilities (water, toilet, tables, chairs etc) available to us (thank you to your church wardens), but more particularly, Angela and her team provided the most delicious home-made cakes and hot teas and coffees to our very grateful 250+ walkers and volunteers – you will recall that Sunday 8 August was hardly a typical summer day (rainy, windy and cold). We had lots of wonderful comments on the day and one walker phoned our chairman on Sunday evening to say “please thank the people at the church; tea and cakes was a lovely touch at the end of the walk.”

Thank you Harrietsham from all at the Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent. We look forward to seeing you all next year.

Parish Council Hedge Cutting Scheme

Final Reminder

The annual hedge cutting scheme will be taking place during the week commencing Monday 1 November 2021. If residents would like to be included, could they please email the Parish Clerk (harrietshampc@aol.com).

Please note that, even if you are a regular user of the scheme, you do still need to confirm you wish to be included this year.

Mrs Amanda Broadhurst
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For details of services see p.23

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St Peter's Roman Catholic Church

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Weekday Mass generally
Monday and Tuesday 7pm and Friday
10am
Holydays Mass 10am and 8pm

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McCabe www.pathwayschurch.org.uk
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For all church services please see
information on page 23 or contact your
own church for up to date information.

Len Valley Benefice August 2021



Everybody is welcome

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31

Sunday 3 October

- 9.30 am** Lenham: Breakfast Church
- 9.30 am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
- 9.30 am** Ulcombe: **Harvest** Creative Service
- 11.00 am** Harrietsham: Family-friendly Morning Worship *with Baptism*
- 11.00 am** Lenham: Holy Communion

Wednesday 6 October

- 9.30 am** Lenham: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

Sunday 10 October

- 9.30 am** Harrietsham: Holy Communion
- 11.00 am** Lenham: **Harvest** Holy Communion
- 11.00 am** Ulcombe: Holy Communion
- 3.30 pm** Boughton Malherbe: **Harvest** Choral Evensong

Lenham: Breakfast Church will be joining the market on this day.

Sunday 17 October

- 8.00 am** Lenham: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
- 9.30 am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion
- 9.30 am** Harrietsham: **Harvest** Holy Communion
- 9.30 am** Lenham: Breakfast Church
- 11.00 am** Lenham: Morning Worship *with Baptism*
- 11.00 am** Ulcombe: Holy Communion

Sunday 24 October

- 11.00 am Benefice Holy Communion at Harrietsham**

Sunday 31 October

- 9.30 am** Lenham: Shortened spoken Holy Communion
- 11.00 am** Boughton Malherbe: Creative Service
- 11.00 am** Harrietsham: Creative Service
- 11.00 am** Lenham: Creative Service
- 11.00 am** Ulcombe: Creative Service

Harrietsham Network

Local Directory A-Ha

Art Classes (Drawing/Painting Improvers)

Tutor Helen Easter 03000 412222/
www.helenbeeken.co.uk

Beaver Scouts

Leader Duncan Keenan 07768 926654

Bell Ringers

Captain Ken Leach 01622 851173

Captain Graham Cuthbert 01795 886365

Bible Reading Fellowship

Co-ordinator Mrs J Bevan 01622 859310

Booth and Baldwin Charity

Secretary email boothandbaldwin@hotmail.co.uk

Brownie Guides

Brown Owl Louise Ayres 07590 037693

Community Support

PCSO John Boyd 101

Conservative Association

Faversham Office 01622 758053

Countryways Quilters

And Stitchers Pamela Gillard 01233 879507

Craft and Chat/Crafternoon/

Knit Crochet and Natter Hazel Roots 01622 851885

Cricket Club

Chairman Mr A Hubble 01622 859692

Cub Scouts

Leader Mrs A Seales 01622 859829

Explorer Scouts

Leader Mark Horlock 07789 226516

Family History

Enquiries Mr F Long 01622 850863

Flower Guild

Parish Church Mrs R Long 01622 850863

Friends of St. John the Baptist Church

Chairperson Audrey Joy 01622 850806

Gardening Society

Chairman Mr David Oversby 01622 859674

Girl Guides

Leader Kate Davies 07971 254029/beaukate@btinternet.com

Golf – Bill's Round for Charity

Secretary Mr T Grimes 01622 850632

Harrietsham Academy of Ballet

Organiser Deborah Nankivell 07775 716714

Harrietsham in Bloom

Chairman Mr A Rogers 01622 859352

Harrietsham Social Club

Secretary Jed Stone 07759 8771198/whipacres2@g.mail.com

Harrietsham History Society

Chairman Mr P Brown 01622 851075

Local Directory He-Z

Health Walks

Organiser Ms M Darby 01622 850657

Helpers

Chairman Mr T Sams 01622 859412

Karate Club

Organiser Mr Lewin Tuckwell 07812 089304

Kent Community Warden Mr M Sherwood 07977 981993

Kent Messenger

“Your Local Pages”

Village correspondent Charlotte Lingard miss_lingard@hotmail.com

Lenham and Harrietsham Youth Hub

Contact Katie at KCC 01622 755044

Liberal Democrat Assoc. Mr David Naghi 07970 626829

PTFA (Harrietsham School)

Chairman James Reed harrietshamptfa@gmail.com

Pre-school Susan Taylor 07897821399harrietshampreschool
manager@gmail.com

Rainbows

Leader Kate Davies 07971254029/beaukate@btinternet.com

Royal British Legion

Branch Chairman Mr Barry Wood 850702/barry.wood1112@outlook.com

Safari Supper

Organiser Mr R Bevan 859310

Scouts

Group leader Mr E Seales 859829

Leader Mr N Still 880139

Short Mat Bowls

Chairman Phil Gooda 01622851217/p.gooda@btinternet.com

Tai Chi Class Angela Akast 07754454030/akast.a@btopenworld.com

Tennis Club

Chairman Mr A Rogers 859352

Secretary Mrs K Daking 850652

The Lenham School

Head of School Mr Chris Foreman 858267

The Poppy Appeal

Organiser Richard Cast 07787476879/richardcast@btinternet.com

Ulcombe Pre-school

Chairperson Helen Leat 07511657828/
ulcombepreschool@live.co.uk

Village Hall Bookings bookings@harrietshamvillagehall.org.uk

Wives Group

Leader Katherin Daking 850652

Yoga Helen Kacperk 07762761905/helenpurpleyoga@gmail.com

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SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER 2021
AT 10.00 am

IN THE AMBROSE HALL

Network Magazine November 2021 deadlines

Fri 1 October 2021 12 noon advertising deadline for November Network

Fri 1 October 2021 12 noon copy deadline for November Network

October Diary

Abbreviations:

HVH = Harrietsham Village Hall

LCC = Lenham Community Centre

Mon	4	9.30-11am	Yoga Class (weekly)	HVH
Mon	4	2.00-4pm	Harrietsham History Society	HVH, Booth Hall
Mon	4	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Thurs	7	7pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Sat	9	12-2pm	Soup Saturday	St John's Church
Mon	11	9.30-11am	Yoga Class (weekly)	HVH
Mon	11	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Wed	13	1.30 - 5pm	Craft and Chat	LCC Osborne Room
Thurs	14	7pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Fri	15	7.30pm	Harrietsham in Bloom AGM	HVH, Booth Hall
Sat	16	10.00am	Harrietsham Village Hall Trust AGM	HVH Ambrose Hall
Mon	18	9.30-11am	Yoga Class (weekly)	HVH
Mon	18	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Mon	18	2.00-4pm	Knit, Crochet & Natter	HVH
Tues	19	7.30pm	Harrietsham Gardening Society	HVH
Thurs	21	7pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Mon	25	9.30-11am	Yoga Class (weekly)	HVH
Mon	25	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Thurs	28	7pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Sat	30	1.30-5pm	Craft and Chat	LCC James Hatch Suite

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Holiday to Ireland

Hello everyone,

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Marjorie Darby and I have for many years been involved with the organisations in the village (including Harrietsham Fish Scheme, the publishers of Network and organisers of the Lift Scheme).

I have frequently organised events locally and am now testing the waters to see if we can get together enough local people to go on a coach trip holiday to Ireland next year.

The Itinerary is as follows:

Holiday to Ireland - June 25 2022 7 Nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast - 5 Nights at La Mon and 2 Nights at Overnight Hotels

Cost £799, £50 optional insurance. £60 Deposit

Saturday 25 June: 5 nights Half Board at The La Mon 4 Star Hotel and Country Club and two nights at overnight hotels. The La Mon Hotel and Country Club is conveniently located close to Belfast city centre yet nestled away in the countryside.

Includes: All coach transport from your chosen joining points to resort, return ferry crossings: (Holyhead-Dublin outbound and Belfast-Cairnryan inbound): breakfast on board the ferry to Dublin, excursions, admission to the Giants Causeway, tickets for the Titanic experience (I have done the museum and it is brilliant), admission to Mount Stewart House and Gardens, admissions to Bushmills with guided tour and tasting. Strangford Lough ferry crossing, and services of a Tour Escort and complete luggage handling.

Please let me know if you are interested in this holiday in the first instance on marjoriedarby5@gmail.com or on 01622 850657.

We require 36 travellers for viability. I hope this is of interest to many of you.

It will be good to get back to reasonably normal living again!!

Marjorie Darby

Top Tips

From Harrietsham Gardening Society

I wonder how many of you suffered from the dreaded blight on your potatoes and tomatoes this year? I think it was the worst I can remember, promulgated and exacerbated by the excessive spells of warmth and high humidity. The spores are spread and most infectious during what is known as a 'Beaumont Period', when for 48 hours the temperature doesn't fall below 50C and the relative humidity is in excess of 75%. We have had plenty of occasions when that has occurred this year. What can be done about it? Well, all of the fungicides available to gardeners to prevent or treat blight have been withdrawn although you can still make up your own Bordeaux mixture. This consists of 1 part copper sulphate, one part lime and 100 parts water and was first used at the end of the 19th century in the Bordeaux region of France to treat grape vines for downy and powdery mildew. As with many things its effectiveness was noticed by chance, grapes growing by the roadsides did not suffer from mildew in the same way as vines further into the fields – the vines near the road had been sprayed with copper sulphate and lime to stop passers-by from eating the grapes so someone put two and two together. It is the copper which affects an enzyme which means the blight spores don't germinate. It is preventative rather than a cure and has to be sprayed on when you expect a Beaumont period so keep checking the weather forecasts!

One other thing you can do is plant blight resistant varieties bred to not succumb to the disease. In the case of potatoes, Lady Balfour, Nicola, Cara, Setanta and the Sarpo group show resistance; in the case of tomatoes a couple are Crimson crush and Solito. A word of warning though, does the flavour of the blight resistant potatoes or tomatoes meet your expectations?

Thirdly, good crop hygiene is really important such as disinfecting greenhouses, practising good rotation, burning old potato haulm and earthing-up well to prevent spores washing down onto the tubers.

This year too has been a bumper year for slugs and snails. Again, any effective chemical control has largely been withdrawn and my experience is the little so and so's sit there waiting for the next feed of currently available pellets. The best, but costly, control is watering a solution containing nematodes over the area but this is only practical on a small scale. Copper rings, beer traps and eggshells are all advocated in some quarters but are only partially effective. One good thing is last summer was not particularly conducive to the spread of aphids and with an abundance of ladybirds they didn't pose too much of a problem. Even caterpillars of cabbage-white butterflies were in much shorter supply, however, do keep an eye open on your shrubs for the cobweb nests containing tens if not hundreds of brown-tail moth caterpillars as these are becoming more and more prevalent and can not only denude shrubs and trees of foliage but cause very painful skin rashes if you come into contact with their hairs. If you do see any caterpillar cobwebs burn them or (wearing gloves etc. of course) put them in a polythene bag in the bin.

Hopefully October will see you picking the last of your apples and pears which are certainly in shorter supply this year due to a very late frost affecting the blossom,

so do store these in trays without them touching each other and regularly look them over to check for any diseased fruit.

This month is probably the most ideal if you want to move any shrubs or young trees around the garden as the soil is still warm and roots will grow at a lower temperature than shoots so they should be on the way to becoming established in their new positions before next year. Cut back foliage to reduce stress and reduce, on young trees, any side branches by a third or so.

In the meantime don't forget to plant your autumn onions, garlic, shallots, broad beans and sweet peas to overwinter.

Finally, be quick off the mark whilst things are still fresh in your mind and get any seeds ordered ready for next year.

Happy gardening

Public Services and Emergencies Directory

Doctors' Surgery (Lenham and Harrietsham)	01622 858341
Dentist, Lenham	01622 858204
Dentaline (out of hours emergency treatment)	01634 890300
Saxon Warrior Pharmacy	01622 858287

Hospitals:

Maidstone, ME16 9QQ	01622 729000
The Tunbridge Wells Hospital, Pembury, TN2 4QJ	01892 823535
William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, TN24 0LZ	01233 633331

Councils:

MP – Helen Whatley	01622 758053
Kent County Council	03000 41 41 41
Maidstone Borough Council – all departments	01622 602000
Harrietsham Parish Council – Parish Clerk	01622 850089

Police: Emergencies only	999
Non- emergencies	101

Samaritans, 48, Grecian Street, Maidstone	01622 674444
Citizens Advice Bureau, 2, Bower Terrace, Maidstone	01622 752420
Childline	0800 11 11
KCC Children's Social Services	03000 41 11 11
KCC Adults Social Services	03000 41 61 61

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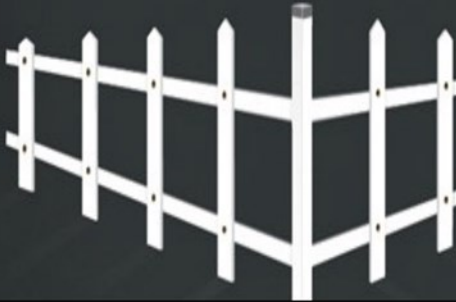
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Harrietsham Network

Christian Message

Have you ever done some long distance hiking? I'm talking about the kind where you carry your tent, sleeping bag, food etc and cover some serious mileage. I've loved the times that I've been able to get into the countryside, pitch a tent under the stars and cook on little gas fires. However, in order to be able to bring everything that is needed for that kind of hike, you need a pretty serious rucksack!

Imagine this – it's time for you to move house and I offer to come and help! When the big day rolls around, I turn up, ready to get stuck in. Unusually though, I'm wearing my fully loaded, massive hiking rucksack. You'd probably think to yourself that that was a bit odd. Imagine that as I help move your furniture from the house to the moving van, I'm puffing, panting and wobbling precariously under the extra weight of my rucksack. After a while, you would probably tentatively suggest that I consider taking the rucksack off!

This analogy links to a wonderful verse in 1 Peter 5:7 which says:
“Cast all your burdens on Him because He cares for you.”

Just like the idea of carrying the extra weight of a loaded rucksack and finding that it inhibits our daily lives, sometimes we need to ask ourselves whether we're carrying burdens that we ought to let go of?

The verse that I mentioned uses the word 'cast' which certainly paints a more active picture than other words that could have been used. Sometimes it takes a real determination and intentionality to let go of and leave behind the things that burden us.

Here's the best bit though – We are invited to cast our burdens onto God precisely because 'He cares for you.' None of us enjoy watching those we love carry extra burdens and the same is true of God. He holds out His hands and invites us to cast them on to Him because of His great love for us. You are never an inconvenience to Him!

So, I'd encourage you to reflect on whether you are weighed down by any burdens and consider whether you can reach out to God through prayers and in the light of His love and care for you, offer them to Him.

Ben Doggett





The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Harrietsham

Registered Charity No. 1090622

100 Club Lottery Draw

The result of the Fifty-eighth draw of the Friends of St John 100 Club made in September at Little Hatch and drawn by Denise Williams in the presence of Michael Gear and Chris Roots is as follows:-

A record 135 numbers were included in the draw giving a prize fund of £135

First prize £67.50 – number 53 Andrew and Jackie Moore

Second prize £40.50 – number 99 – Alex Hubble

Third prize £27.00 – number 88 – Janice Brockwell

For further information and details of how to become a member of the 100 Club to help with the upkeep of our church – contact the Administrator, Chris Roots at 100Club@FriendsofStJohn.org

Soup Saturday



Soup Saturday is starting up again and will be held in the church on Saturday, 9 October 2021 between 12noon and 2pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a delicious bowl of Helen's Hearty Homemade Soup with crusty bread. Come along and enjoy a social lunch. Tea/coffee and biscuits also available. All profits go to the upkeep of our beautiful village church.

Denise Williams -Secretary

Harrietsham Network

Our Covid Journey So Far

This review was recently written and delivered by Revd. Millie Hart. A succinct summary that hits the nail on the head. This may be something to keep and to pass on to the grandchildren? There is also a Memorial Book to be kept as a historic document in the church. It can be used for people to write in memories of those we have lost over this time and also as a way at looking at the positives, celebrating local heroes.

For my husband and I it really started when our children asked us not to leave our home for anything, not to mix with anyone. This was the fear as we approached the national lockdown for all in our age group and for the vulnerable in general. This fear was also felt by me as all our churches were asked for information on how many spaces we had in our churchyards. The nation were expecting many funerals.

For some lockdown meant isolation from everyone. This would be hard for all involved. If we were living alone we could only go out for essential shopping if there was no one else able to help. For my husband and I it meant our daughter or our daughter in law would drop our supplies off at our back door. Then we would have to wipe everything down before we could bring anything into the house. Or it could be left outside in a secure place for 2-3 days before it came indoors. But we could cope, thinking it would be just for a few weeks, possibly even 12 weeks! We didn't realise this was going to happen for a lot longer....

And we were advised to wash our hands frequently, long enough to sing Happy Birthday twice!

For some the isolation meant depression set in. The nation's mental health was a real concern. Domestic abuse and other forms of abuse also was rising. However, it was good as we looked after each other in the village, and beyond. We looked out for each other by telephoning, knocking on the doors of anyone we knew to be alone, trying to make sure that everyone was keeping safe and had supplies of food to keep them going.

Some of the supermarkets provided time slots when only the vulnerable could go in. Everyone had to queue to wait their turn and follow the one way systems around the shop.

We were allowed to go out for exercise for just one hour each day, not meeting up with anyone else.

The general public would learn who we valued in our community. The NHS staff, carers, teachers, chaplains, shop workers, transport workers. These and others were all people who often would put their own lives at risk of the deadly virus by continuing their duties. We thanked our NHS staff by clapping outside our front doors at 8pm every Thursday, in appreciation for all they were doing. Some of us banged saucepans and the like as well as clapping! Personally, I also liked to catch up with neighbours at this time, we could check that we were all ok.

Many were hospitalised or isolated because of the virus or because of other complications caused by the situation. Even after recovering from Covid, many are

still suffering from becoming newly infected and also from Long Covid. We still have much to learn about all aspects of the infection.

And then there was home schooling, not easy for parents and carers, and especially if they didn't possess laptops etc for the children to do their work and send it into school.

And people were instructed to 'work from home' if they could. All this meant that the roads were quiet. The airways were quiet too. People who could exercise were out walking and the value of the beauty of nature in our gardens and on our walks was appreciated and the beauty and the peace became newsworthy.

We learnt how we valued our relationships with family and friends. Grandparents and grandchildren missed out on seeing each other, on hugging each other. We found alternative ways of non tactile acts of hugging, and even of shaking hands.

And then it was the summer, could it be all over? We were told we could 'eat out to help out' A hint that the hospitality scene could recover maybe. Although theatres and cinemas could still not reopen. Some theatres could use outdoor spaces for outdoor performances. Our church here in Harrietsham offered outdoor worship which was amazing in the quiet beauty of the surroundings with a trumpet for music, but no singing allowed for fear of spreading the virus. Our prayers were probably for the weather to stay dry! Fortunately, it was a good summer, weatherwise.

Mask wearing became compulsory on public transport in England and at NHS facilities from 15 June 2020 and became mandatory in shops and supermarkets in England from 24 July 2020. However, assaults on some shop workers and emergency workers sadly still continue.

I have reminisced, with our churchwarden, how the Dean at Canterbury Cathedral suddenly became well known as he gave his regular Christian message to the media, with one of his cats sometimes wandering into the picture, or even a chicken.

Technology was suddenly being used more. Zoom calls became normal and also, oh what joy, to see family and loved ones on Face time!

But then, disappointingly we faced Autumn and Winter with a second lockdown. Many of us found this much harder. Many continued to be hospitalised and there were still many deaths.

At last, though, there was good news about vaccines. The vaccines started to be administered and as we approached the Spring a new phrase entered our vocabulary. The talk was about if we had been double jabbed! And it seems we are now approaching a time when we will talk about being 'triple jabbed'!

The Covid journey has been quite something.....

So, what about where we are now? Will we learn anything from all this or just resume our pre-Covid madness?

Harrietsham Network

Harrietsham CofE Primary School



Monday September 6 was a red letter day for the school – and a red ribbon day!

As many of you will know builders have been in residence for over two years – since before the start of the pandemic. However, with a great push during the summer holidays the work has now been completed and Harrietsham School has potentially doubled in size! There is a new entrance which leads into the offices and the Head teacher's room and then onto six new classrooms, a new activity room and new toilets. Only three of the classrooms are occupied at the moment with Years 4,5 & 6 in residence. The teachers spent the last week of the holiday setting out the new furniture and moving their equipment. Because of the new classrooms this has freed rooms in the 'old' school to become a music room and the children have got their library back – something Mrs Davies is particularly pleased about!

Then on Monday I was invited to go to the school where all the children came out into the playground to watch the ribbon cutting ceremony, which was performed by the oldest child in the school and the three youngest in Year 1 (who all share the same birthday). Mrs Davies joined us and Mrs Williams, the school Bursar, who has had much involvement with the builders during their time in the school.

Of course, as any of you know who have been involved in building work, it is not finished and there will be 'snags' to sort out along the way, possibly for many months. But it has been a long road especially with all the other outside problems to contend with and Mrs Davies and all the school staff are relieved that it is over.

Katherin Daking

Hazel's lovely monogram



See Harrietsham Craft Groups article on page 9.

Heritage Transport Show have confirmed new date for 2021



The Heritage Transport Show, organised by the Kent County Agricultural Society, is set to return on Sunday 10 October 2021.

After being cancelled in 2020 and again in April 2021 due to the pandemic, the Heritage Transport Show is making a return later this year. The event is popular with visitors and exhibitors alike, so the organisers are keen to run the show again after a difficult year for many.

James Forknall, chairman of the Kent County Agricultural Society, said: “we are thrilled to be able to confirm a new date for the Heritage Transport Show after it was cancelled earlier this year. To be able to still run this in 2021 is testament to COVID-19 restrictions finally subsiding and it is clear from the support of the local community that positivity is growing”.

“Although the situation with the pandemic still remains, the team will be following any changes to government guidance closely and will keep visitors and exhibitors updated. One thing for certain is that The Heritage Transport Show will still hold the same spirit and enthusiasm as it always has.”

The event will again be joined by the South East Bus Festival and so between them, we will be welcoming a vast selection of vehicles, over 1000 were seen in 2019 and we hope to see similar numbers this year.

Applications to exhibit at the Heritage Transport Show are currently open. Vehicles of any age and type are welcome to apply.

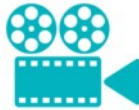
Tickets are now on sale and available to purchase online at www.kcas.org.uk. Prices prior to the show are £10.00 per adult and under 14s are free. Tickets will be available on the gate for £12.00 for adults.

Visit www.kcas.org.uk for vehicle applications, ticket access, and more information



Lenham Film Club

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Friday October 15 (evening)

Performance begins 7.30 pm, doors open 7 pm

Three cheers! Lenham Film Club is back in business and we're looking forward to welcoming you to our next performance. Come with us on a journey over the rainbow on Friday October 15, when we'll be opening the season with the magnificent multi-award-winning **Judy** (PG13). **Judy** is the story of Judy Garland looking back on her brilliant but stormy career and splendidly played here by Renée Zellweger. Director Rupert Goold's film is as unforgettable as Judy herself. (*Running time: 1hr 58mins.*)

For more information please check out our website (www.lenhamfilmclub.org), follow us on Facebook (@LenhamFilmClub) or if you'd like to be added to our mailing list, then please contact us at lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com. Perhaps consider becoming a member or just come along on the night!

Admission: members £4, non-members £5

Annual membership £6 (over 16's only); pick up a form at our ticket desk.

The next Issue of Network will be printed and delivered subject to Covid guidelines and will also be available on our website on 1 November 2021

www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

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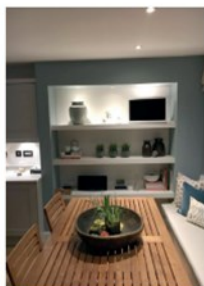
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