

THE VOICE

September 2024



**Changes to
car parking
charges in
Borough Green
(see pages 11 and 13)**

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Editorial from the Church of the Good Shepherd

September 2024

Love actually...

“Whenever I get gloomy with the state of the world, I think about the arrivals gate at Heathrow Airport. General opinion’s starting to make out that we live in a world of hatred and greed, but I don’t see that. It seems to me that love is everywhere. Often, it’s not particularly dignified or newsworthy, but it’s always there – fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, husbands and wives, boyfriends, girlfriends, old friends. When the planes hit the Twin Towers, as far as I know, none of the phone calls from the people on board were messages of hate or revenge – they were all messages of love. If you look for it, I’ve got a sneaky feeling love, actually ... is all around.”

You might recognise the opening words to the film Love Actually. I just happened to catch them the other day and realised, having never watched the film all the way through, that I hadn’t heard them before. But with the news over the last few weeks, with terrible stabbings in Southport and the subsequent riots, these words seemed particularly striking. The violence and hate were much reported but, alongside that, there was love actually. Love for the families whose daughters were killed, love for the communities that were smashed up in riots, with people clearing up, helping out, and rebuilding. Love for those who were the target of racial hatred. There was even love for the police who stood in the face of violence, with people providing them refreshments when they could.

There does seem to be a lot of hatred in the world, anger and violence. But, there is also a lot of love. And the message we find in the Bible is that the more hatred we encounter, the more we need to love. For it is love that will overcome hatred. “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.” And if we choose to look for it love can be found everywhere for, after all, God is love and there is nowhere where God isn’t. So as the film says, love, actually ... is all around.

So perhaps, if you encounter hate, you might try love as your response. Or if you find yourself being filled with hate or anger, you might seek the God of love and ask Him to fill your heart instead.

God bless
Revd. Chris

Ride and Stride for Kent Churches
The Friends of Kent Churches
Saturday 14 September 10am - 6pm

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Help to raise funds for Kent churches in need of help with maintenance costs, whilst keeping fit and enjoying the local countryside! All cyclists and walkers welcome.

Sponsorship forms available from:

www.kentrideandstride.co.uk or Church of the Good Shepherd or
Julie Sweeting 01732 885437



Macmillan Cancer Care

There will be a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Saturday 28 September - 10 to 12 in the annexe, Church of the Good Shepherd. Donations of cakes will be gratefully accepted, also any good as new items. All proceeds going to Macmillan Cancer Care. Thank you.

Contact Pam Jones on 886150

Games, Tea & Chat

On alternative **Mondays** (for dates see diary section) at 2 - 4pm in the annexe to the Church of the Good Shepherd. Come and enjoy board games, tea and a chat. Plenty of room for new folk so, if you are wondering whether it's for you, do get in touch and ask for more information or just turn up at 2.00.

Contact Elaine Almond on 886440 or etalmond@aol.com



Church of the Good Shepherd Foodbank



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

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

Thank you

For any enquiries regarding our Foodbank please contact
Ian Simpson on **07801 135 460** or foodbank.cogs@gmail.com

An Autumn Supper Quiz

A super night out!



Saturday 28 September
7.00pm start



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Call Julie on 01732 885437

Church of the Good Shepherd, Quarry Hill Road, Borough Green

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A**

Please check the Church noticeboard for this month's presentation



3rd Wednesday of the month

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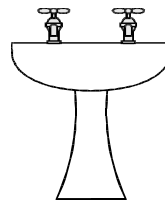
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Notes from Borough Green Parish Council

The Council met at 7.30pm Monday 5th August 2024.

Matters discussed and reports received included:



ESTABLISHED
APRIL 1934

- **The Parish Council are issuing** the following statement:

'The Parish Council have tried to work in a supportive and collaborative manner with the Borough Green Village Hall Management Committee over the recent transition of their committee and the running of the Village Hall. We have offered them advice, funding and resource in an attempt to promote constructive relationships. We wish to emphasise the point that all decisions relating to the management of the Village Hall are the responsibility of their committee, which is completely distinct and separate from the Parish Council.' - AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

- **The Parish Council** will be vacating the Parish Office in the Village Hall from 31st October, and future Council meetings will be held at Potters Mede, but we are looking longer term at a venue nearer the centre of the village. The Parish Office never fulfilled its role as a point of access to the PC, but was maintained even through Covid.

- **BG Scouts Group** are settling in nicely at their new home at Potters Mede and we are proud to have been able to help in their hour of need. This is a hugely valuable community youth facility and could not be allowed to fail.

- **TMBC Local Plan** - It has been reported to the PC that it has been completely shelved until they have a clear idea what the new Government's changes to the planning system will be and what new housing targets will be imposed. One new policy proposed in the new National Planning Policy Framework is that all Mineral Extraction sites will be reclassified as "Previously Developed Land" and renamed "Grey Belt". Borough Green and surrounding villages have suffered 150 years of quarrying, blasting, landfill, thousands of HGVs thundering through our rural lanes under the belief that one day when works ended all this land would be restored to its former agricultural use, and we would once more become quiet rural villages. Minerals are a nationally important resource, we have "done our bit" and now we have been betrayed by our country and its Government - a longstanding promise has been broken.

- **TMBC Leader Cllr Matt Boughton** issued this statement:

"If the Government really wanted to build more homes, it wouldn't be looking to reduce the housing targets for big cities including London and Labour-controlled authorities like Medway and Thanet, while significantly increasing the figures it asks Tonbridge and Malling to provide.

With over 70% of Tonbridge and Malling classed as greenbelt land, over a third a National Landscape, and requirements to 'build beautiful' deleted from the Planning Framework, our green spaces are now under greater threat than they have ever been before from a predatory Government.

Tonbridge and Malling has been forced to delay its Local Plan and now the Deputy Prime Minister, Angela Rayner, has effectively told us to redo much of our hard work. This is a deep disappointment for our towns and villages and we will be responding in the strongest possible terms."

- **Public Toilets** in the Village Hall car park will be shut for a few more days to complete the new access, and to upgrade the lighting so it is less gloomy and dingy.

(Continued on page 9)

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- **Surgery Parking** has eased dramatically since the section of Basted House Drive has had a porous parking area reinstated, allowing medical staff to park outside releasing more parking spaces in the surgery for patients, and we have had grateful comments already. One of the reasons the PC purchased the Harrison Rd land was to allow any future surgery expansion. By default we also ended up with that section of drive, so we can help the surgery without losing any of that little gem of wild land.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at **7.30pm** on **Monday 9th September 2024, at Potters Mede Sports Hall**. The agenda will include a period for public contributions and questions.

Council Contacts

Chairman mike.taylor@boroughgreen.gov.uk **01732 882880**

Clerk clerk@boroughgreen.gov.uk **07568 536405**

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

Advertising

Any commercial bodies or people offering services who wish to advertise should contact **Chris Atkins** email chris.atkins1952@gmail.com or phone **01732 366615** about rates and availability of spaces.

If you have something you want to sell, a caravan or cottage you want to let for holidays etc then contact Margaret Jeffery. The cost of such personal notices are just £2 per issue.

The views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team. The Editorial Team cannot accept responsibility for wrong information received, or mistakes that occur in publication. The Editorial Team cannot accept responsibility for any delay in distribution. Publication of advertisements does not imply any form of recommendation. All articles in this magazine are covered by copyright and permission must be obtained before reproducing them in any format.

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

Thanks

Thank you to the Borough Green Parish Council for their generous grant and to all our advertisers for their financial support which makes the production of this magazine possible. Also thank you to all our distributors who get the Voice to every house in the village.

Articles for the next magazine

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

The deadline for articles for the next magazine will be **Tuesday 17 September** and these should be sent to the address below. The next magazine will cover October so if you have any events planned for that month and you would like them to appear in the diary section please send to :-

m-jeffery@talktalk.net

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Chatty Cafe Scheme at the Village Tearoom, Western Road.



The Chatty Cafe Scheme is a non-profit organisation tackling loneliness. The aim is to kickstart conversations, get people chatting and reduce loneliness along the way.



A Chatter and Natter table is hosted by a volunteer every Tuesday from 10.30 to 12.00 at the Village Tearoom, Western Road. If you fancy a chat pop in and join the table.



Charges at Western Road Car Park

TMBC are introducing revised charges from **19 August**.

Charging periods extended to 8am to 8pm every day including weekends and public holidays (excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).

Pay and Display	Scale of Charges
Up to 30 mins	30p
30 minutes to 1 hour	60p
1 to 2 hours	£1
2 to 4 hours	£1.80
4 to 6 hours	£2.60
6 to 9 hours	£3.50
Up to 23 consecutive hours	£5.50
Residents' Season Ticket	
12 Months	£385

southeastern

Borough Green & Wrotham Railway Station Car Park

Southeastern are making changes to car park payments at a number of stations including Borough Green. This is ahead of works taking place for automatic number plate recognition installations later this year. In preparation for this customers will no longer be able to purchase daily or weekly parking tickets at the ticket office or ticket vending machine from **19 August**. Customers will be expected to pay for parking using options on signs at the car park (APCOA connect app, phone, online, QR code).

Village Hall Management Committee - AGM



The Borough Green Village Hall Management Committee held their Annual General Meeting for 2023/4 on 22 July. Normally the AGM is held around April but with general upheaval locally, updating of deeds and policies, and changes in the committee it was felt wise to delay until there was some clear stability and progress to report on. Over the recent months there has been a renewed focus and energy given to the committee that has brought about some major improvements around the hall and an impetus to bring about further developments to the benefit of users and the community.

During the AGM the Chair summarised by highlighting some of the recent achievements including amongst others: online booking, updated accounting and invoicing, governance and safeguarding developments, use of social media, installation of Wi-Fi etc. It was commented that 'One off' bookings have increased by **42%** and overall revenue by **24%** as a result in the updated booking and invoicing process.

The current Trustees were unanimously re-elected by public vote and the key roles of Chair, Secretary etc were proposed and seconded by the committee also by re-election demonstrating a keenness to continue and build on the good progress into the next annual period.

The committee are engaged on numerous projects over the coming months and details and notifications will be communicated through a number of mediums including the Facebook page and notice boards but some of the activities receiving focus are:

- Overhaul of hall parking which will include consultation with users, businesses and the public where appropriate.
- Decoration and maintenance plans including the consideration of linking with local schools for decoration and 'brightening up' ideas.
- Upgrading CCTV and Security coverage to protect the hall as an asset and users.
- Rewiring of the ancient wiring system.
- Upgrade and enhancements to audio and sound systems utilising modern technology.
- Upgrading and improving entry and access controls.

Village Hall Management Committee - A Right of Reply

We, the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC), are compelled to respond to the Parish Council's (PC) "Notes from Borough Green Parish Council" published in the August edition of the Voice. This is not our first instance of challenging the PC's unsubstantiated claims. Several inconsistencies in the PC's actions raise concerns:

1. The minutes of their last council meeting contained no discussion of a "serious concern" warranting Charity Commission involvement, as reported in the Voice. Such a significant issue would typically be officially recorded.

2. When questioned at their subsequent meeting about the Voice article, the PC claimed the Notes were unofficial and authored by a single council member.

3. The PC later stated that the matter was discussed in a confidential "Part 2" session, explaining its absence from public minutes.

4. However, this explanation contradicts the publication of these "confidential" notes in a public forum. This discrepancy remains unaddressed.

We wish to clarify that the VHMC has no intention of installing a permanent committee. Our focus remains on serving the best interests of Village Hall hirers and

the broader community.

We continue to work cooperatively with the Charity Commission, which has expressed satisfaction with our efforts.

Our annual report has been submitted and our financial statements are current. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to last month's article and set the record straight.

Village Hall Management Committee Have Your Say – Village Hall Parking

By the time this goes to print you will hopefully be aware that parking arrangements at Borough Green Village Hall are now, at long last, under review. The Committee are currently consulting openly with hirers, users, members of the public and local businesses regarding the charging proposals for the car park. **The consultation period is Thursday 15 August until Monday 9 September (inclusive).**

To be absolutely clear the hall car park (though central to the High Street!) is a **private car park for hall users** and is **not a public car park**. The public car park for the village is located on Western Road. Revenue raised from parking goes back into enhancing and maintaining the hall and car park for the benefit of the community.

The reason for the current review is that existing charges and the provider no longer meet requirements, feedback from hirers and hall users state they are unable to load, unload or park for activities due to non-hall users block parking for up to 3 hours (free). The belief is also, based on research, that block parking actually restricts footfall to local business as visitors go elsewhere due to limited parking turnover/availability.

As part of its mission statement to be inclusive and work with the community the Village Hall Committee are consulting locally over August and September by inviting feedback from villagers through questionnaires and comments on car parking and any proposed charging arrangement for the Village Hall. Hall users of course receive **free** parking for organised events and activities as any revenue gained from hire already contributes to maintenance of hall and facilities.

Options to Consider

Currently the primary options being considered (subject to change due to the consultation) for **non-hall user** charging, along with the 'Maximum stay 2 hours and no return for 3 hours' are:

1. Free parking - potentially resulting in increase to other local fees to cover costs.
2. Free parking for 30 minutes then charges such as £1 per hour apply.
3. 50p for first hour then £1 per hour for following hours.
4. Straight off hourly rate £1 per hour.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire being used for the consultation is confidential and available as a hard copy, as a pdf, or as an online form. In addition, face to face sessions are being conducted for local business, hall users and general public non-hall users by the committee itself over the consultation period from 15 August to 9 September.

To have your say and submit a questionnaire for inclusion and consideration please visit the Village Hall Facebook (www.facebook.com/groups/bgvilleagehall), the Village Hall website ([Home - Borough Green Village Hall](#)) to complete the questionnaire, or email boroughgreenvillagehall@gmail.com to request a pdf copy. Completed questionnaires can be dropped off at the Village Hall letter box or emailed to boroughgreenvillagehall@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing your views and opinions and thank you in advance for your continued support.

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FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

WEDDINGS

Rhys Higgins & Lisa Renwick
Simon Lott & Elena Barnard



Thanks

Norman Groombridge 5/5/44 - 31/5/24

Sue would like to thank neighbours and friends who have helped her through the sudden sad loss of her husband Norman. Norman was born in Borough Green, liked the village and did not want to move. He will be sadly missed. He was a proud Kentish Man.



Bob's Macmillan Coffee and Cake

In memory of Bob Harman, his family are holding an event at Borough Green village hall on **Sunday 29 September** from 10.00 to 2.00 with funds going to Macmillan Cancer Support. There will be coffee, cakes and a raffle with many donated prizes from generous members of the community.

DELIVERING THE VOICE



We are looking for some help to deliver this magazine each month in the village. At the moment there is a particular need to cover :

Crowhurst Road
Normanhurst Road
Mountfield

Monkton Road
Brockway
Hunts Farm Close



If you are able to help with any of the above or willing to put your name forward for any future vacancies, please contact Chris Atkins **01732 366615**.

Events in the Village for the month of September

- 1 **COGS - Holy Communion said - 8.30**
SJCC - Mass - 9.30
COGS - All-Age Communion - 10.00
BGBC - Service - 10.30
Bash the Trash - BGVH - 11.30 to 12.30
- 2 **Toddler Time - COGS Annexe - 10.00 to 12.00**
Games, Tea and Chat - COGS Annexe - 2.00 to 4.00
Platt Church - Borough Green and Platt Players Auditions - 7.30
- 3 BG Library - Scrabble Club - 2.15 to 4.15
Ightham Gardeners' Club - Autumn Evening Show - (see page 17)
- 5 SJCC - Mass - 10.00
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00
BG Library - Coffee & Chat - 10.15 to 12.15
- 6 Potters Tots Playgroup - Potters Mede - 9.30 to 11.00
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00
BG Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time - 10.15 to 10.45
- 7 **Saturday Open House - COGS - 10.00 to 12.00**
Wrotham Church - Kent Police Choir Concert - 7.30
- 8 SJCC - Mass - 9.30
COGS - Holy Communion and Children's Church - 10.00
BGBC - Service - 10.30
- 9 BGVH - u3a meeting - 2.00
BG Parish Council - Potters Mede - 7.30
- 10 BG Library - Scrabble Club - 2.15 to 4.15
- 11 Sticky Fingers - BGBC - 10.00 to 11.15
BGBC - Women's Fellowship - 2.00 - Searchword Pray/Prayer
- 12 SJCC - Mass - 10.00
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00
BG Library - Coffee & Chat - 10.15 to 12.15
- 13 Potters Tots Playgroup - Potters Mede - 9.30 to 11.00
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00
BG Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time - 10.15 to 10.45
Friday 2 Book Club - BG Library - 2.00
- 14 **Saturday Open House - COGS - 10.00 to 12.00**
COGS - Ride and Stride
- 15 **COGS - Breakfast Church - 9.00**
SJCC - Mass - 9.30
COGS - Holy Communion - 10.30
BGBC - Service - 10.30
- 16 **Toddler Time - COGS Annexe - 10.00 to 12.00**
Games, Tea and Chat - COGS Annexe - 2.00 to 4.00
- 17 BG Library - Scrabble Club - 2.15 to 4.15
- 18 **COGS - Film Afternoon - 2.00**





- 19 SJCC - Mass - 10.00
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00
BG Library - Coffee & Chat - 10.15 to 12.15
- 20 Potters Tots Playgroup - Potters Mede - 9.30 to 11.00
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00
BG Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time - 10.15 to 10.45
- 21 **Saturday Open House - COGS - 10.00 to 12.00**
- 22 SJCC - Mass - 9.30
COGS - Holy Communion and Children's Church - 10.00
BGBC - Service - 10.30
COGS - Tea-Time Church - 4.30
- 24 BG Library - Scrabble Club - 2.15 to 4.15
- 25 Sticky Fingers - BGBC - 10.00 to 11.15
BGBC - Women's Fellowship - 2.00 - Afternoon with Grace
- 26 SJCC - Mass - 10.00
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00
BG Library - Coffee and Chat - 10.15 to 12.15
- 27 Potters Tots Playgroup - Potters Mede - 9.30 to 11.00
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00
BG Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time - 10.15 to 10.45
- 28 **Macmillan Coffee Morning - COGS - 10.00 to 12.00**
COGS - Autumn Supper Quiz - 7.00
- 29 SJCC - Mass - 9.30
COGS - Holy Communion - 10.00
Macmillan Coffee Morning - BGVH - 10.00 to 2.00 (see page 15)
BGBC - Service - 10.30
- 30 **Games, Tea and Chat - COGS Annexe - 2.00 to 4.00**



Abbreviations

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

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Ightham Village Hall

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- **River Walk Music** inviting people to gather along the river banks to enjoy free live music. Genres ranging from jazz and blues to pop and funk, plus a range of stalls offering food and drink. Stalls open from 6.00, radio DJ from 6.30 and live music from 7.30.

Sunday 1 September

- **Dragon boat race.** All proceeds from Tonbridge Lion's dragon boat race will be donated to local charities and good causes. The event will take place at the Watergate (Big Bridge) Tonbridge High Street with teams of up to 16 people competing in the heats over distances of around 250m from 9.30am to 3.00pm followed by the grand final.

For more information on these and ticketed events (outdoor theatre) go to www.tmbc.gov.uk/events

St George's Church, Wrotham

The Friends of St George's Church present



Kent Police Male Voice Choir Saturday 7 September 7.30pm

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Ticket £12 Online: <https://forms.office.com/r/qJ6dKzq14z>

At the Church: Tuesday, Sunday mornings or on the door

Telephone: 01732 885172

Borough Green & Wrotham u3a

Meetings are held every second Monday of the month at 2pm in Borough Green village hall with tea, coffee and biscuits. Parking is available as is disabled access.



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 9 September AGM and Tim Baker 'The Acting Lark' - a comedy career in TV commercials. All ages welcome.

Please contact Irene at membershipsec.bgwu3a@gmail.com for more information. Annual fee is only £20. Non-member guest fee is £3.

Phil Williams, Communications Secretary

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Are you looking for a new challenge?
A rewarding role in your local community?
An opportunity to learn new skills?
Could you be one of the 250,000 people who volunteer as school governors each year?

We are looking for a co-opted governor to join our dynamic and committed Governing Body at Borough Green Primary School. We would be delighted to receive nominations from members of the local community, past parents, carers, and grandparents.

No special qualifications are needed to be a school governor as free training is provided. The most important thing is to have enthusiasm for the role and to have the time and commitment to play an active part in the work of the Governing Body.

If you are interested in giving something back to your community, and want to know more about the role, please contact Karen Proctor, Clerk to the Governing Body. If you know someone who you think would make a great governor please encourage them to apply.

E-mail: clerk@bgpschool.kent.sch.uk



VOLUNTEER CAR DRIVERS NEEDED

- Help local people to remain independent by driving them to appointments in your own car
- Mileage reimbursed and training provided
- Join our friendly driver community
- Flexible role to fit around you!

At the moment there is only one volunteer covering Borough Green and neighbouring villages and more are needed.

Interested?

To find out more go to www.imago.community/dial2drive, give us a call on 0300 777 1200 or email volunteering@imago.community

Mobile Hairdresser
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Borough Green Lunch Club



The club runs from 10.00 until 1.00 on both Thursday and Friday in the Village Hall, providing friendship, fun and food.

Spaces available.

We are able to provide transport if mobility is a problem.

For further information contact Pauline on 07503 156 713.



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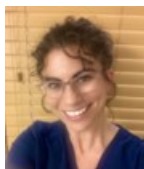


www.shiresheatingservices.com



Borough Green Medical Practice September 2024

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



Dr Fiona Humphreys graduated from medical school in 2015, initially working as a hospital doctor. She became a salaried GP at Borough Green Medical Practice in 2023, working two days a week (Wed and Fri). Outside of her time at the surgery she likes to keep busy, often working for the out-of-hours GP service and in A&E. She enjoys running, reading, and attempting to play the piano.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccination

As we are sure some of you are aware, there is a new vaccine called RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) that will be available from September 2024 and we will shortly be contacting those eligible.

What is RSV? RSV is an infectious disease of the airways and lungs. It often causes symptoms similar to a cold, including cough, sore throat, sneezing, runny or blocked nose. It can also cause wheezing or shortness of breath and lead to pneumonia or other life-threatening conditions. There is no specific treatment and most infections will get better by themselves. Every year thousands of older patients need hospital care for RSV and can sometimes be fatal. RSV can be more severe in people with medical conditions such as heart or lung disease or a weakened immune system. RSV infections can occur year-round but peaks every winter. The best way to protect yourself is to have the vaccine. A single dose is thought to protect you for a few years.

Those eligible are as follows -

Pregnant Women from 28-36 weeks

Anyone aged 75 on or after 1 September 2024 will be offered a single dose.

Anyone who is already 75-79 years old on 1 September 2024 will be offered a single dose.

This is the first roll out of this vaccine and only those detailed above are currently eligible. You can have them at the same time as the shingles or pneumococcal vaccines but they **cannot** be given at the same time as the Flu or Covid vaccines.

Borough Green Surgery will be running clinics for these vaccines in September. If you are eligible (as detailed above), please do not wait to be contacted. You can call the Surgery on 01732 883161 to book your appointment. This vaccine can be very beneficial especially if you already suffer from any respiratory illnesses.

Seasonal Flu and Covid vaccinations

Borough Green Medical Practice will be offering the Flu and Covid vaccinations from October and more details about the vaccinations and available clinics will be published shortly.

Social Media

Did you know Borough Green Medical Practice has it's own Facebook page?



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For further information: 07887 518855 email: lucilla@themount65.co.uk

AUDITIONS: 02.09.24 @ 19:30PM

The Garden Room, St Mary's Church,
Long Mill Lane, Platt, TN15 8NE



This year's '**Moonlit Memories Walk**' will take place at a new venue Cobtree Manor Park in Aylesford on **5 October**. Come along with family and friends to have fun and create new memories as we light up the night sky in aid of Heart of Kent Hospice. A 5-mile route will take walkers on footpaths around Cobtree Manor Park and Golf Course with specially lit areas including along parts of the river. There will also be a 1-mile family walk for anyone who would like to enjoy a shorter route. A reflective lantern lit area will be available for anyone who would like to leave a special message in remembrance of a loved one.

Walkers can arrive from 5pm at the event village located inside the park to enjoy refreshments, live music and warm up acts before the walk begins at 6.30pm. Refreshments including a glass of bubbles from the prosecco van can be purchased and face painting will also be available. After completing the walk everyone will receive a special edition Moonlit Memories Walk 2024 medal.

Cost: Adult ticket £22 (5 mile route) £10 (1 mile route)
Child ticket £12 (5 mile route) £5 (1 mile route)
Family ticket £65 (5 mile route) £27 (1 mile route)
Group of 10 £198 (5 mile route)



This event is one of our most important events and raises funds to provide compassionate end-of-life care and support for patients and their families at the Hospice or at home across Maidstone and surrounding areas.

For more information and booking go to

www.hokh.org/event/moonlit-memories-walk/

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BOROUGH GREEN LIBRARY

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

Opening hours are

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

Ancestry - Monday 10.15 - 12.15 need to book an appointment

Scrabble - Tuesday 2.15 - 4.15

Coffee & Chat - Thursday 10.15 - 12.15

Baby Bounce & Rhyme Time - Friday 10.15 - 10.45

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



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

We look forward to seeing you.



**DIGITAL
KENT**

is working to improve digital inclusion and capabilities. The next events are on Fridays 6 September and 4 October at 11.00 - 1.00. To book a session and find out more please visit www.digitalkent.uk or call 0300 0410950.

The next clinic for sound support for deaf and hard of hearing people is on Friday 27 September 2.00 - 3.30.



Hi Kent



Join us at Mote Park, Maidstone on **Saturday 7 September** and share an incredible day with others who understand how it feels to be affected by dementia.

To make sure everyone's included there are two routes to choose from on the day. A shorter **2.5km route** is a gentle stroll around the park and lake, which is wheelchair accessible and suitable for all ages and abilities. The longer **5km route** is a little more challenging, and will take you around the park and lake, as well as through woodland. This route is not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs due to the nature of the pathways. You can arrive from 10am and the first walk starts at 11am.

The aim is to raise **£160**, or as much as you can, so you can support more people affected by dementia now and in the future. Lots of tips and tricks are included in the fundraising pack you receive through the post. For more information go to

www.alzheimers.org.uk/memory-walk/find-a-walk/maidstone



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AUTUMN PLANTING TIME!



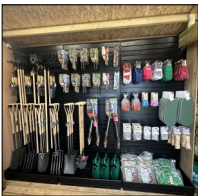
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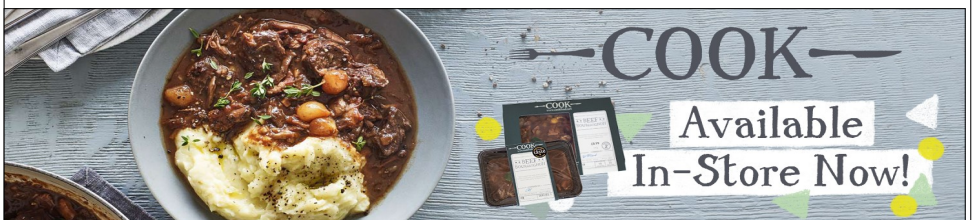
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Tom Tugendhat MP's Column

As you may have seen I have decided to stand to be the next Leader of the Conservative Party.

While I was honoured to be re-elected to serve Tonbridge, Edenbridge and North Downs villages at the General Election in July as a Conservative candidate, in too many other communities across the country the Conservative Party lost the trust of local people. We did not do what we said we would.

I hope you have seen that during my time serving our community here in Kent that if I say I will do something, I will do it. A lot of people try to make politics complicated. It's not. Let your values tell you what you should do. Tell people what you will do. Do it. That's it.

The Conservative Party needs to unite after years of factionalism, rebuild the trust of the British public, so it can go back into Government.

Over the summer I am spending a lot of time travelling the country speaking to Conservative Party members hearing their thoughts on the future. No matter what happens with my campaign, I will still be representing our wonderful towns and villages.

We have achieved so much together in the 9 years that I have been a Member of Parliament, and I would like to achieve so much more, locally and nationally. As I held my first surgeries in my Tonbridge office after the General Election, it was great to be back helping people, as I enjoy that most.

If you would like to share your thoughts with me or have any issues I can help with, please contact me using these details:

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

tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk

Consultation on KCC's new Local Transport Plan: Striking the Balance

(Extracts from Press Release issued on 17 July)

In 2023 views from residents and businesses were gathered in a public consultation on the emerging new Local Transport Plan. This new draft full plan takes these views into consideration to strengthen the case for improvements to the transport modes that people in Kent rely on most.

The new plan will help KCC to make the case to secure funding needed for roads and public transport to cope with the pressures of today's traffic and growth. It is estimated that between £2.6 billion and £3.1 billion extra will be needed from government to deliver all the proposed transport improvements in the plan that KCC is responsible for, over the next 12 years.

This consultation is seeking feedback from residents, businesses and stakeholders to help finalise the plan. This includes the opportunity to let us know your views on the full range of countywide strategic schemes and local schemes set out for each district.

Residents can find the full plan and consultation questionnaire at www.kent.gov.uk/ltp5. Details of drop-in events to find out more about the plan will be found here. The consultation closes on **8 October**.



SMALL NOTICES



Slimming World
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Village Hall
www.boroughgreenvillagehall.co.uk
01732 646040

Potters Mede
Bernard Galopin 07568 536 405

Defibrillator Locations

- a) **24 hours a day**
The Village Hall
Potters Mede
The Recreation Ground
The Fire Station
- b) **When premises are open**
The Medical Centre
BG Primary School
Fourways Dentists





Wrotham (St George's) Cricket Club

A lovely sunny Sunday on 14 July set the scene for a Wrotham victory against Hildenborough. In a match restricted to 35 overs per side to ensure everyone got home in time to watch England's defeat in the Euro final Wrotham batted first. The loss of an early wicket did not bode well, but from then on Neil Pickford and Matt Crisp batted sensibly and once they got their eye in there was no stopping them. Matt was unfortunately out just before the end 2 runs short of what would have been a most deserved century and, with Neil unbeaten on 89, Wrotham posted 217 from their overs. For quite some time tight bowling and keen fielding looked as though we were in for a comfortable win, but a late flurry of aggressive stroke play by some of the young Hildenborough team left them only 20 runs short. A good competitive friendly game again against these opponents.

Next up on 28 July was another home match this time against Kings Hill who won the toss on another hot day and elected to bat. With 3 of the top 4 batsmen scoring 40 or more there was always going to be an uphill battle for Wrotham who did well to keep Kings Hill to 205 runs from their 40 overs. Tight bowling from Neil Pickford (2 for 34 off 7 overs) and Will Booth (2 for 33 off 8), backed up by keen wicket keeping from Jem Blok, meant that we kept the lower order in check. Unfortunately a strong bowling line-up kept Wrotham's scoring in check, accompanied by a steady fall of wickets, so that the reply of 136 off 40 overs left Wrotham well short. Of note Neil Pickford topscored with 35 and Luke Ward, one of the promising new breed, was left with a classy 19 not out.

A first time visit to the picturesque ground at Southborough followed on 4 August, with Wrotham winning the toss and deciding to bat first. Opener Neil Pickford continued his fine run of form this year with a dogged 55, and with Matt Crisp featuring with 32 and Will Booth unbeaten on 21, Wrotham reached a creditable 180 off their 40 overs. It should be noted that wides of 28 also contributed well! Against a class bowling attack the score perhaps undervalued the batting achievement. Southborough's strong openers put the match beyond doubt, although against the odds all-rounder Will's figures of 3 for 23 off 8 overs were a standout achievement. The opposition ultimately knocked off the runs in 27 overs in a rather lop-sided match.

John Humphreys



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All equipment supplied, just turn up and go at your own pace.

Tonbridge and Malling Ramblers

You don't have to be a Ramblers member to try up to three 'taster' walks with us. If you're new to our walks, please contact the walk leader to check that their walk will suit you. For details of these and other upcoming walks and walk leaders, see our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/tonbridgeandmallingeramblers or visit www.tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk.



September	Route	Distance in miles
Sunday 1st	Circular walk from Westerham through Crockham Hill Common to be rewarded by views to the North and South Downs. Some climbing in order to gain these views from open meadows after some shaded walking in the woods. Moderate difficulty.	5
Sunday 8th	Up the Downs to Stansted: steep climb from Wrotham at the start for good views to the south. Spot the war memorials to crashed WW2 aircraft. Moderate difficulty.	5.5
Thursday 12th	A waterside walk from Lower Upnor following the River Medway as it joins the Thames estuary. The walk climbs through woodland and along the higher ground to Hoo St Werburgh, giving commanding views of the estuary before returning along the shoreline. Moderate difficulty.	4.5
Sunday 15th	Leisurely late summer stroll through Brenchley's many orchards and woods, with plenty of shady sections, lakes and ponds. Some stiles, some slopes and a little road walking.	5.3
Wednesday 25th	Circular Medway Valley walk from Yalding to Teston. moderate difficulty.	5.5
Walks usually start mid-morning. There's a short half-way break (bring refreshments) and we usually finish near a pub. Most walks are dog-friendly (see website).		



The Walk4 Wellbeing leaves from St Mary's Church steps, Platt, at 10am on Mondays.

The walk is about 75 minutes through the woods and along local footpaths with occasional sections on roads, and refreshments are served in the Church afterwards.

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