

UNITED BENEFICE OF ST. MARY, GOUDHURST  
WITH CHRIST CHURCH, KILNDOWN

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**Vicar:** Revd. Bill Hornsby  
The Vicarage, Back Lane Tel: 01580 211739  
billhornsby@btinternet.com  
Please note the Vicar's day off is Monday

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For initial arrangements regarding Baptism and Marriage please contact:  
The Vicar

ST. MARY'S

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**Church Wardens:** Jo Meyer Tel: 01580 211750  
jomeyer39@hotmail.com  
Angela Pakenham-Walsh Tel: 01580 211610

**Assistant Wardens:** Sue Crookall & Tim Wormington

**Treasurer PCC:** Peter Gray Tel: 01580 211496

**Gift Aid Secretary:** Roy Dunstall Tel: 01580 211814

**Secretary PCC:** Jill Dunstall Tel: 01580 211814

**Organist & Choirmaster:** Alistair Curtis BMus (Hons) PGCE  
Tel: 01892 782473

**Verger:** Vacancy Tel:

**Deanery Synod:** 2 vacancies  
Tel:

**Bellringing Captain:** Rosemary Southon Tel: 01580 211791

**Sunday Club:** Rachel Bickersteth Tel: 01580 212404  
Amanda Allison Tel: 01580 211283

**Church Room Booking Officer:** Rosemary Southon Tel: 01580 211791

**Church Cleaners Organiser:** Sue Crookall Tel: 01580 211710

**Wive's Group Leader:** Marilyn Whitewood Tel: 01580 211295  
Clayhill Farm

**Ready Call:** Tel: 01580 211457  
Transport: 01580 211940

**Village Hall Booking Officer:** Phil Coburn Tel: 01580 212023

## CHRIST CHURCH

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<b>Church Wardens:</b>	David Denton Patrick Mayhew	Tel: 01892 890244 Tel: 01580 211820
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Clive Roberts	Tel: 01892 890970
<b>Gift Aid Secretary:</b>		
<b>Secretary PCC:</b>	Annie Fellows	Tel: 01892 890354
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster:</b>	David Denton Quarry House	Tel: 01892 890244
<b>Verger:</b>	Vacancy	Tel:
<b>Deanery Synod:</b>	Vacancy	Tel:

## PARISH MAGAZINE

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<b>Editors:</b>	David Denton Jo and Ann Meyer	Tel: 01892 890244 denton@kilndown.fsnet.co.uk Russets, North Road jomeyer39@hotmail.com
<b>Magazine Advertising:</b>	James Wickham	Tel: 01580 211462 Fax: 01580 212031 james@wickham.eclipse.co.uk
<b>Distribution:</b>	Pam Stubbs (Goudhurst) Hilary Bird (Kilndown)	Tel: 01580 211013 Tel: 01892 890554

### Goudhurst Recorded Music Society

Following the AGM in December, the January meeting will be held in the Performing Arts Centre at Cranbrook School on Thursday, 14 January. Christina Lawrie, the celebrated pianist, and her husband, the violinist Marcus Barcham-Stevens, will give a talk and performance of two familiar works – the first movement of Grieg’s piano concerto and Beethoven’s Kreuser Sonata. They will analyse particular aspects of the works and will then play them (on two pianos in the case of the Grieg – Marcus, who is also a fine pianist, will play the piano reduction of the orchestral accompaniment).

Quentin Rappoport (01580 211514)

## FROM THE VICAR

### Wise Men Find Jesus.

'Wise Men Find Jesus'. A good headline for a newspaper? The simple, four word sentence contains that sort of double-meaning which intrigues – and sells newspapers! Is it a simple statement of fact? 'Wise Men have found Jesus'. Or is it a suggestion? 'Men (and women!) are wise if they can find Jesus'. Or, maybe both?

At our Epiphany services – which we will celebrate on January 3<sup>rd</sup> – we shall recall the time when '...wise men from the East came to Jerusalem...' looking for '... the child who has been born king of the Jews...'. It's good to go back to the Bible and read the story again. Matthew – Chapter 2 – verses 1 to 12.

And what a strange story it is – as we read it without the layers of 'tradition' and embellishment which have become attached to it. How many wise men? We don't know. But however many men there were, we are told that they brought three gifts. Were they 'kings'? No mention of that – but they did have confidence to go direct to Herod's palace. Why to the palace? Because they were looking for a 'king'. If you're looking for a king – you would look in a palace, wouldn't you? 'Simples!'

But – 'no king' at the palace! The strangeness continues. The wise men do not find the 'king' where they were expecting to. They recognize that Herod has his own understanding of what might be happening here, so they leave and continue faithfully on their journey. They arrive at a most unlikely place – and there they do find a king. Their peculiar gifts are offered to Mary and the infant, Jesus. And, having found Jesus, they are overwhelmed with joy.

There is something in all this about the challenge which faces each one of us. How do we recognize God's presence among us? So often that presence is found revealed through surprising people. It can be revealed in odd places. It is revealed in unpredictable ways. Looking back on the year just passed, each one of us can identify moments, if we look with the eyes of faith, where God has been active in our lives. Active, in ways which are often surprising, odd, unpredictable.

God's promise, through the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus, is that his presence will continue with each one of us as we continue our journey into the year ahead. What has been true of God's faithfulness in the past will continue to be true in the future. But, maybe, in ways which are surprising, odd and unpredictable.

We may find it less easy to identify ourselves with 'wise men' rather than 'shepherds'. But I pray that, when we recognize Jesus' presence in our lives, like the wise men, we may be 'overwhelmed with joy'.

Happy New Year, everyone.

With Blessings for 2010,

Bill

**Thank you.**

Sylvia and I are sincerely grateful for all the Christmas Cards which have arrived at the Vicarage and for all the kind thoughts expressed. There have been too many to make individual responses. We hope that, through this note, we can say 'Thank You' to everyone who has made our first 'Full Year' at Goudhurst and Kilndown so enjoyable. Your support and prayers throughout the year have been invaluable.

All our love,

Bill and Sylvia

**And – a note from Joe:**

Holly, my sister, is getting bigger every day. I think she enjoys being at home with Mummy and Daddy and me. She doesn't do jigsaws yet – and I had to help her unwrap her Christmas presents. I'm planning to bring her to see where Grandma and Grandad live and to see the Church across the Valley and Goudhurst and show her how to play buses on the stairs with Grandma...

**KILNDOWN CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

For once the rain stopped and on a (reasonably) bright afternoon the Village Hall filled to capacity for the annual Christmas Bazaar. It was a lovely event and it was good to welcome several old friends, there was much good natured gossip over tea and cakes, brisk trade on the stalls and lots of animated discussion over the whereabouts of buried treasure - Mark Pemberthy got it right. The tombola and raffle did as roaring trade, lots of goblins found new homes, Christmas shopping was done and lots of satisfied customers were seen leaving the Village Hall - exactly as it should be. On top of all of that a goodly amount was raised to help maintain the church building over the coming year and the tired organisers were able to bask in a job successfully completed.

Grateful thanks must go to all those who donated things for stalls, baked cakes, helped set things up and ran stalls on the afternoon or came and spent hard earned cash, without your help we would not have raised £720. Thank you very much for your support.

Kilndown PCC

## CALENDAR

**Please note - re: 8.00am. Communion Service in St Mary's** – order two from the Book of Common Worship, Traditional Language is used.

**Weekday parish prayers:** Morning prayer is at 8.00 am on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at St Mary's and on Friday at Christ Church. Evening prayer is at 5.30 pm on Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday at St Mary's and on Friday at Christ Church when the prayers for Compline will be used. See weekly sheet for Bible readings.

<b>Sun</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>		<b>Epiphany</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion at Christ Church
		10.45 am	Family Praise with – St Mary's
Thur	7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Communion – St Mary's
		11.00 am	Churches Together
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Baptism of Christ</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion at Christ Church
		10.45 am	Holy Communion at St Mary's with Baptism
Tues	12 <sup>th</sup>	11.30 am	M.S.G. meet – Vicarage
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	3.45 pm	Church/School Liaison Group
Thur	14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Communion – St Mary's
<b>Sun</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> of Epiphany</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion at Christ Church
		10.45 am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Thurs	21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00 am	No Holy Communion – St Mary's
<b>Sun</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Epiphany</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion – St Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion at Christ Church.
		10.45 am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Thur	28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	No Holy Communion – St Mary's
<b>Sun</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>		<b>Candlemas</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion – St Mary's
		10.45 am	Combined Service with Baptism – St Mary's

## READINGS

<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Epiphany</b> Isaiah 60.1 - 6 Gospel: Matthew 2.1 - 12	Ephesians 3.1 - 12
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Baptism of Christ</b> Isaiah 43.1 - 7 Gospel: Luke 3.15 - 17, 21 - 22	Acts 8.14 - 17
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> of Epiphany</b> Isaiah 62.1 - 5 Gospel: John 2.1 - 11	1 Corinthians 12.1 - 11
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Epiphany</b> Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Gospel: Luke 4.14 - 21	1 Corinthians 12.12 - 31a
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Candlemas</b> Malachi 3.1 - 5 Gospel: Luke 2.22 - 40	Hebrews 2.14 - end

## FROM THE REGISTERS

**BAPTISM** - We welcome into the Church

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November Wilfred Robert Ernest Turner

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December Lily Creasy and Jack Creasy

**MARRIAGE** - We congratulate on their marriage

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November Richard Dowse and Sandra Drawbridge

**BURIAL** - We commend into God's loving care

Stephanie Cornwallis who died on 4th December

## FRIENDS OF CHRIST CHURCH

We would like to thank everyone who kindly supported us at the Christmas Bazaar. Goblins, sweets and 'sole mates' proved popular and the Gingerbread House was won by Maxine Hayes.

We were able to add over £100 to the Friends' fund in addition to making a donation to the Bazaar.

We look forward to our A.G.M. in early March when we hope to meet old and new members of The Friends of Christ Church.

With our thanks for your continued interest.

Ann Olley - Secretary

## ST. MARY'S GOUDHURST Building for the Future

The launch on 19<sup>th</sup> September was well attended: those who were there had a fun and illustrative evening.

The project has apparently been quiet since, although fundraising progresses steadily. We realise there are many keen local friends yet to be visited. The crew of "touts" to make those visits will be expanded: volunteers will be favourably interviewed. We will also soon recruit colleagues to seek donations from the wide variety of businesses in the area.

You might be able to help if you work for an organisation, which has a charity fund by approaching it for a donation. It is amazing how many such funds exist and how wide are their interests. If you would like to consider doing this please approach Peter Gray, 01580 211496, or Julie Christie, 01580 212968, for background information and material.

There are also small developments on the way in the church. As soon as the preparatory work is done we shall put the public address system equipment and controls in a secure permanent wood cased box near the second column from the west end of the south arcade. This will avoid the backbreaking and potentially damaging movement of the equipment every time it is used. It will also position the operator within the congregation to join in the service and to better operate the system. To match the adjacent pews the case will be made from wood from one of the pews eventually to be removed.

Details are being developed for the installation of the "new" organ. This is exciting and a challenge - special features of the existing instrument may well be included in the new instrument, and it could be positioned over the choir vestry to make room for the growing choir. One might say that the organ committee is pulling out all the stops to make it an instrument and installation to be proud of.



## RSCM ADULT CHORISTER COURSE 2009

At the end of October some members of Goudhurst Church choir went to “choir school” at Rochester Cathedral. This was a great opportunity to sing in a large choir, in a beautiful setting with wonderful acoustics. There were about 45 people from churches across West Kent; our conductor was Nigel Groome, and our accompanist was virtuoso Martin Williams, who used the organ to great comedic effect during rehearsals. It was nice to sing in a large choir; we sometimes feel a bit “lonely” on Sundays if we only have one or two people singing each part and it would be nice if some more people would join us. Each day we practised and sang an Evensong service with a different setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. One of the settings was Stanford in C, which we sometimes sing at Evensong in Kilndown, so hopefully you will hear some improvement next time you hear us sing it.

JC, AC



**CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL**  
**Service conducted by Bishop Stephen**



*From left to right - Georgia Sargeant, James Norman, Louis Hall, Amanda Hall, Rev Bill Hornsby, Ben Norman, Portia Woods, Andrea Kirkby, Shaun Creasey & Tracey Buckland*

Back in November on a cold autumnal evening nine candidates were confirmed and two of our number were also baptised as part of the service. Sadly one of our group was unable to attend due to illness.

Our "journey" has been a wonderful uplifting experience and with the atmosphere of Canterbury Cathedral it was a very special and memorable evening for all.

We would like to express our gratitude to our Sponsors, to the members of the Community who attended the service and to those of you who held us in your prayers.

A great big thank you to Bill for an excellent preparation course, your enthusiasm and support has guided us on our journey of faith. Many thanks also to Sylvia for welcoming us into her home and for the delicious biscuits!

## **SUNDAY CLUB**

**at St Mary's Goudhurst**

**We welcome children aged 3 - 11 to join us for singing,  
Bible stories, activities and fun.**

**We meet in the Church Room at 10.45 am on Sunday mornings.**

<b>January</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>Family Praise at St Mary's, Goudhurst</b>
	<b>10th</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
	<b>17th</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
	<b>24th</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
	<b>31st</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>Family Praise at Christ Church, Kilndown</b>
	<b>14th</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
	<b>21st</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
	<b>28th</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
	<b>14th</b>	<b>Family Communion for Mothering Sunday</b>
	<b>21st</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>
	<b>28th</b>	<b>Palm Sunday (Christ Church, Kilndown)</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>

**For more information please call Rachel on 01580 212404**

### **GOUDHURST & KILNDOWN READYCALL ASSOCIATION**

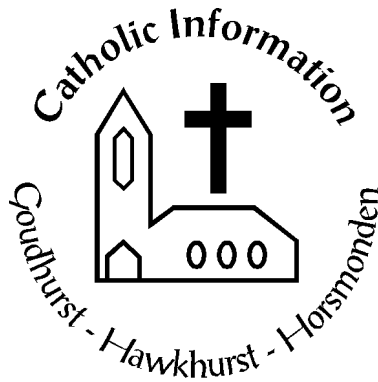
**Reg Charity 294206**

Norma Neal has volunteered to take over from Judith Farnfield as Chairman of ReadyCall with immediate effect. Norman can be contacted on 01580 211870.

Barbara Russell has decided to retire from organising the ReadyCall car service and the volunteer drivers from the end of December. Barbara has served ReadyCall transport for 20 years or so and we are very grateful to her indeed for the time and effort as volunteer. Her endeavour has maintained this essential service.

A new person will be appointed to Barbara's role shortly, but in the meantime if you need the services of ReadyCall transport, or if you would like to volunteer as an occasional driver, please call Norma Neal on 211870.

Judith Farnfield



**Parish Priest**

**Fr. Victor McClean** - The Presbytery, Beresford Road Goudhurst TN17 1DN  
Phone: 01580 211268

**Masses**

Saturday:...	5.30pm	Goudhurst (1st of Sunday)		
Sunday: .....	8.30am	Hawkhurst	Tuesday .....	9.30am Goudhurst
.....	10.30am	Goudhurst	Wednesday.....	9.30am Goudhurst
.....	5.30pm	Horsmonden	Thursday .....	9.30am Goudhurst
Monday .....	9.30am	Goudhurst	Friday.....	10.00am Hawkhurst

Baptisms by appointment / Confessions as requested  
especially before and after Mass

**Parish Contacts**

Fr Vic	01580 211268	Miriam Firth	01622 817600
Chris Roome	01580 891686	Nick Rourke	01580 211315
Helena Lesniewska	01580 753861	(Hawkhurst)	
Keith Reardon	01892 722799	(Horsmonden)	

**SPRING ART EXHIBITION**

Kilndown Art Group will be holding an Art Exhibition in Kilndown Village Hall on Saturday 20th March 2010 in aid of Kilndown Village Hall Funds from 2pm to 4pm.

There will be some paintings for sale. Kilndown Quilting Group will be organising a gift stall and there will also be a raffle.

Tea will be served between 2pm to 4pm.

Everyone will be welcome.

Irene Huntington



## QUARRY CENTRE

Shopping at the QC in 2010 starts on Saturday, January 9, and there will be the usual range of locally and UK grown greengroceries on sale, bread from Avards and eggs from local poultry farms and a good selection of organic and natural groceries from Infinity Foods based in Portslade. All deliveries of fresh goods are made on Saturday mornings. We still sell the Eco friendly cleaning products and provide a refill service and we have recycled loo and kitchen roll for sale. In the years since the Saturday Shop at the QC was started, there's been a few changes, mostly in faces both behind and in front of the sales counter, but the idea remains the same, a shop for the village to use.

The year 2010 brings three 'anniversaries' at the QC, the Saturday Shop 2000 -2010, the Quarry Centre ( in name) 1980 -2010 and the building itself 1880- 2010. So what are we going to do to celebrate? As usual the Treasurer has some ideas, silly and otherwise and no doubt she will get to grips with them all and something will happen!

Thank you to all who take the quiz sheets, to those that fill up jars with pennies, supply second hand books, shop with us, hire the centre and anything else that helps to keep this unusual village facility going.

Lynda Shepherd

## FROM THE TEA CLUB

We were invited to the Primary School to have lunch with the children, and watch the dress rehearsal of their nativity play which was a joy.

Lunch was delicious, the play enchanting, and the art work in the hall, 4 huge collages of local houses, was quite superb.

Form 6 looked after us and chatted about how they enjoyed school, and they were soon joined by a younger boy who asked whether we had any men members.

The answer had to be "no, not at the moment" to which he responded with determination, "Well, you really should have everyone, when you are treated as well as this."

He was absolutely right. (What about it chaps?)

We should like to thank everyone at the school who gave us such a lovely afternoon.

## HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

At our December 10 meeting, we were entertained by Geoff Hutchison who posed the question What is Christmas? And in a very jovial manner he told us, starting from pagan times up to date, facts, figures and a history lesson with a difference! After the talk we tucked into mince pies, illegally, as the act of parliament banning the making and eating of them has not been repealed! It was such a pity that there was only TWELVE in the audience.....

So facts and figures - that evening, on paper we 'lost' £55. Which goes a some way to explain why in 2010 there will not be so many speakers, but don't dismay, the speakers that are booked in are very good! Among them are Jacquie d'Aviolet from Rosie's Garden Plants, Andrew Fletcher, Wendy Bates from Rotherview Nursery and Jane Davidson. The first evening meeting for 2010 is on **Thursday, February 11 at 7.45pm** in the village hall, watch out for the posters.

Schedules for 2010 are with the printer now and will be available from the Quarry Centre as soon as possible, subscription fees are £10 with no concessions, but with some 'savvy' shopping at the garden centres and nurseries that we have arranged discounts with, this money could be recouped quite quickly! Various changes have been made to the schedule, by the committee including several new classes, and we look forward to seeing how our choices fare, as usual there will be a Spring Show - April 3, the Plant Sale - May 8, a Rose and Sweet Pea Show in July and the Autumn Show in September.

Lynda Shepherd

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Village Hall was a colourful place at the November meeting when Andrew Fellows gave an illustrated talk about Guarding the Lord Mayor of London. He came in full regalia as a Pikeman of the Honourable Artillery Company, Company of Pikemen & Musketeers and it involved armour, a twelve foot pike, scarlet breeches and a steel helmet with a scarlet ostrich feather. Not the usual Village Hall fare! Along with a brief history of the City of London, it's Lord Mayors from Dick Whittington to the current day and their modern role we learnt about the origins and history of the Honourable Artillery Company from the early 16th century to the present day with soldiers in Afghanistan. The Pikemen & Musketeers are the ceremonial face of the regiment and it's members have served in the active unit before being invited to join "The Pikes"

The next meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 20th January when the Rev Anthony Buckley will be making a welcome return, this time to talk about Oliver Cromwell. The competition is a wedding photograph. Visitors and new members are always welcome, for further information please contact Annie Fellows 01892 890354 or [annie@afellows.co.uk](mailto:annie@afellows.co.uk)

**CLIMATE CHANGE IS HAPPENING**  
**Pat Crawford provides the**  
**HADLOW COLLEGE COMMENT AND ADVICE COLUMN**

Everyone knows that most governments around the globe are genuinely very concerned about climate change and all the related issues.

Simultaneous to global warming, world population is estimated to reach 9 billion by 2050 – a huge increase that will make enormous demand on land for homes and related infrastructure. And all those millions and millions of additional mouths will have to be fed. At the same time, rising sea levels will result in loss of valuable agricultural and residential land.

Add to this the fact that, somehow, a reduction in carbon emissions has to be achieved. Despite numerous summit and other informed meetings at global level – and despite ‘targets’ – in *real* terms, little is being achieved. Debate continues in the developed world – meanwhile, Third World countries are working towards catching up - which has significant impact on their desire - or ability – for significant involvement in targets.

Most people agree that wind turbines *must* form part of a green energy policy. What isn’t agreed is how - and where - they should be sited. Development of numerous proposed wind farms is being held up while debate continues in relation to noise and visual impact. It is now proposed that planning permission will not be needed to erect turbines as high as 50 feet (15 metres) on farmland and industrial estates. Proposed new regulations would include strict safeguards intended to protect the environment.

As a sideline to this debate, one has to wonder if similar objections were made when the millers of bygone years decided to erect water or wind-powered mills. Nowadays, the mills that remain are perceived as a traditional, picturesque and much-wanted part of the landscape. Most – perhaps all – are Listed Buildings - and many are in operational order. One assumes that, at some stage or another, proposals will be mooted to make use of these energy sources.

Other proposed initiatives include plans to fast-track dealing with applications to install solar panels at schools, offices, railway stations and similar premises. New ruling would also allow councils to install electric car-charging points on streets and in car parks without requirement for planning. Additionally, the latest proposals include allowing ‘appropriate’ installation of water-source heat pumps and biomass boilers without requirement for planning approval. (It stands to reason that ‘appropriate’ indicates a degree of ‘approval’ being necessary.)

The not-in-my-backyard syndrome is understandable. It applies at international, national, regional and local levels. Meanwhile, the problems we face grow – and become more imminent.

Pat Crawford is Press Officer for Hadlow (01732 850551), one of the UK’s leading land-based colleges.



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2009

We surpassed our hopes this year and gathered in £4,093.62 – a magnificent tribute to the bravery of our defence forces and their dependants. This sum will increase when Gift Aid is calculated and added.

My grateful thanks to all those who helped to collect this fantastic amount. Twenty two house-to-house collectors visited practically every house in Goudhurst and Curtisden Green – if you think they didn't call, it would have been that unfortunately you were out at the time as they usually visit twice. Thirty two "static" tins in shops, pubs, businesses and schools were distributed. Sixteen stalwarts rattled the tin in Goudhurst High Street. Again our Treasurer, Brian Ferdinando, helped by coin-counters Anne Torry and Jill Coombs, banked the takings and Richard Dixon organised the wreath purchases – my thanks to them also. The generous donation of the offerings at the Remembrance Service at St. Mary's is very much appreciated.

The sad toll of loss of lives and limbs grows ever more but this contribution will help in some way to alleviate pain and suffering somewhere and show that we will never forget.

Barbara Stafford  
Poppy Appeal Organiser  
Goudhurst and Curtisden Green

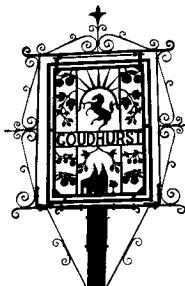
## THE POPPY APPEAL IN KILNDOWN 2009

I am delighted to be able to report that the Poppy Appeal in Kilndown this year has already raised £3,233 - yet another record for us. Tax relief under the Gift Aid scheme should add a good deal more.

I have already had a fulsome letter of thanks from the Head of Poppy Appeal at RBL headquarters. May I here add my own, to all who donated so generously; to Rachel and Neil at the Globe, and to the Little Chef, Bell Bedgebury and Ham's Transport, all of whom hosted trays of poppies; to Ivor Crossfield, Andrew Fellows, Mark Sheard, Bill Haynes and Richard Heaton, for collecting house to house; and to Clive Roberts for counting and bagging up all the proceeds.

A great result: thank you all!

Patrick Mayhew  
Hon. Poppy Appeal Organiser  
Kilndown



## KENT MEN OF THE TREES



After a gap of some years, Goudhurst Parish Council entered the "Trees in the Village Competition 2009" organised by The Kent Men of the Trees.

The judging took place on a very wet Friday last July with visits to various parts of Goudhurst, Kilndown and places between. We were delighted to learn a few weeks later that we were judged to be 'The Best New Entry' village for 2009 and overall we came 2nd out of a significant number of entries from across Kent.

We were awarded a prize of a tree of our choice and a cheque for £30.00. The chosen tree is a Prunus Accolade and this was ceremoniously planted at Tattlebury alongside the A262 on 30 November. Very likely the £30.00 will be invested in another tree for the Parish sometime later.

Seen here at the planting: Cllr Tom Crookall, Dr Alun Griffiths (Chairman of Kent Men of the Trees), Mrs Shirley Moorhead and Mrs Patricia Wilkinson (Kent Men of The Trees), Cllr Mrs Barbara Stafford, Cllr John Ward and Anthony Farnfield (Clerk to Goudhurst Parish Council)

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

We hope that everybody has had a splendid Christmas and Goudhurst Parish Council wishes you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Anthony Farnfield has mentioned the generous gift of a tree from Kent Men of the Trees. This was planted in the triangle at Tattlebury on a rather wet day. The gift recognizes the good state of the trees in the whole parish and is intended to encourage us further. We also learned several useful tips. We were recommended to prune the wych elm in the Glebe Field which they gave us some years ago.

Sheila Wheeler the Chief Executive of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has resigned to take up an appointment as Ch Exec at Somerset County Council. During her short service here over the last three to four years there has been a marked improvement in the performance of TWBC for which she deserves much of the credit. A process to recruit a replacement is now going on and it is interesting to note that a "Citizen's Panel" will have a hand in this. I have been asked to represent the parishes and chair that group. It is a positive idea but there is just a slight thought in the back of my mind that we might also share the blame if the new appointee is not a success!

As I write this we seem to be having difficulty in getting a dry day and the availability of volunteers to coincide. However I am sure that we will get the Christmas lights up in the chestnut tree at the Plain and outside the shops even if a bit late. Our thanks go to Barbara Stafford and her volunteers for undertaking this cold work.

Our Youth Forum met on 3<sup>rd</sup> December and it is sad to report that the "Ocean Blue Twirlers" have had a big drop in membership and are likely to close. This has been an excellent girls marching group in Goudhurst which has been led by Sandra Adams for four years or more. Sandra and her family have put in a huge effort and deserve the thanks of the community and it is particularly sad for her that the membership seems to have just melted away. If there are any would be twirlers or leaders there may just be time to revive this group. K Krew the youth club in Kilndown also has a problem with leaders and the indefatigable Robert Baughurst would be delighted to hear from anybody who might be able to make a regular commitment to help. New Year Resolutions needed!

In 2010 GPC faces the challenge of gaining the maximum benefit from our new football field while continuing to ensure that our various open spaces look their best. We are always open to suggestions and ideas as to how we can improve the way things are done. It is perhaps timely to mention all the many volunteers in this parish who make things happen. GADS recently put on an excellent production of "Christmas Carol" and it is always astonishing how high the standards are that are achieved by all our local societies. We thank them all.

Tom Crookall  
Chairman

## WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING

The Tunbridge Wells Borough Council **Amenity Lorry** (Cory) will be at these locations:

**Goudhurst**, Balcombes Hill Car Park, 8.00 am to 11.00 am

17 January                      31 January                      14 February

**Kilndown**, Beresford Close, 12 noon to 1.45 pm

31 January

**Curtisden Green**, Outside Bethany School 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm

31 January

\*\* Please note that there will be no Amenity Lorry service at Balcombes Hill, Kilndown or Curtisden Green on Sunday, 03 January 2010.

This service is meant for the disposal of medium sized household rubbish items. If you have trouble putting your waste into the lorry, ask the driver for help.

If you have large items for disposal such as bulky furniture, old cookers, washing machines and fridges, or potentially hazardous items, please phone Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for advice, and to arrange a special collection (for which there is a small charge).

Note that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council now provides a fortnightly kerbside service to separately collect compostable waste from your brown wheelie bin, paper and cardboard from one of your green boxes, and plastics and cans from your second green box.

Everybody is invited to use the **Recycling Facilities** at:

Balcombes Hill Car Park –	glass and cans
Bethany School –	glass, cans, paper and cardboard
Finchcocks –	glass, cans, paper and cardboard
The Peacock –	glass
Globe & Rainbow, Kilndown –	glass and cans

Please phone Tunbridge Wells Borough Council 01892 554246 if you have any queries about waste collection and recycling.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Dates for forthcoming Parish Council meetings are:

Parish Council	Mon 11 January	7.30 pm	Jessel Room
Planning Committee	Tues 12 January	6.30 pm	Jessel Room
Planning Committee	Tues 26 January	6.30 pm	Jessel Room
Amenities Committee	Tues 26 January	7.30 pm	Jessel Room
Parish Council	Mon 08 February	7.30 pm	Jessel Room
Planning Committee	Tues 09 February	6.30 pm	Jessel Room

All are welcome to attend these meetings at which time is set aside for questions from the public.

Anthony Farnfield, Clerk 01580 212552  
[clerk@goudhurst.co.uk](mailto:clerk@goudhurst.co.uk) [www.goudhurst.co.uk](http://www.goudhurst.co.uk)

## KILNDOWN VILLAGE HALL

We are on tenterhooks about funding from KCC, in theory they should double the grant already agreed by TWBC but it seems unlikely in the light of the cap on grant funding that has been imposed this year. We want £100,000 and the total available is £200,000 so we are exerting as much (legitimate) pressure as possible on those with influence in the hope we will be awarded a significant amount, this project is extremely important to our community as without a Village Hall we have no pre-school, youth club or venue for other village organisations. We're keeping our fingers crossed!

On a positive note there was a very successful and enjoyable Wine & Cheese tasting in the Hall recently when Will Vernell from Majestic Wines and John Maxwell-Jones from Burgess Stores both gave some ideas for wines and cheeses for Christmas and there was much cheerful sampling going on! We're now going to take a bit of a break from fund raising until the festive season is over but do make a note that on 13th February there will be a Safari Supper taking place and tickets will be on sale soon.



**SRI LANKA LINK**

# **QUIZ SUPPER EVENING ON SATURDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2010**

Please book your teams of 8 a.s.a.p. with Sue (01580 211710) or Brigid (01580 211502). We look forward to welcoming you in Goudhurst Village Hall soon after 7 pm for a 7.30 pm start for the Quiz, and we do look forward to it.

As before we will be providing a 2 course meal and the price remains at £15.00 per head. Vegetarian options available, please advise when booking.



We hope you all had a lovely Christmas. This term the children have been busy making Christmas goodies for Mums and Dads and a tasty Christmas Cake. Our Christmas Sale at the end of November was successful and raised over £100. Thank you very much to those who attended and helped out. Many thanks to the stall holders: Maria, Musical Bumps, [www.musicalbumps.com](http://www.musicalbumps.com), Suzanne Livett, [www.cantfinditanywhere.com](http://www.cantfinditanywhere.com), Joanna Kerley, Usborne Books, [www.brilliant.books.co.uk](http://www.brilliant.books.co.uk) and Heidi Bond, Phoenix Cards. We held a Children's Christmas Party, as a fundraiser, which was well attended and enjoyed by adults and children alike. A big thank you to those of you who helped out and came up with some wonderful games for the children to play. Many thanks also to Father Christmas who took time out of his busy schedule to make a special visit!

The Staff and Children are looking forward to starting the Spring term and would like to wish you all a Happy New Year!

For more information on the Pre-School please contact Tracy Edmonston on 01580 212179 during term times or alternatively visit our new website [www.smugglersden.org.uk](http://www.smugglersden.org.uk).

### GOUDHURST AND KILNDOWN TEA CLUB

I would like to thank all our leaders and helpers for all their hard work during 2009 and wish them a great 2010.

6th Welcome to 2010 – general get together

Leader Judy Hodges 212280

13th Golf with Patsy Johnson

Leader Jill Dunstall 211814

20th Policing matters with PC Moody

Leader Mavis Gray 211496

27th Bingo

Leader Sheenagh Nicholson 714035

All meetings are held in the Church Room from 2 15 to 4 15 pm unless otherwise stated. New members are always welcome. Just come along or ring the leader of the week for transport.

Sandra

## ADVICE FROM C.A.B.

**Recently, my husband lost his job, and only has redundancy money for three months. I only have a part-time job which would not cover the cost of the mortgage. Is there anything I can do to make sure we don't default on our loan and face repossession?**

Facing the prospect of repossession can be frightening, but losing your home is not the inevitable outcome of financial difficulties. Since January, a number of different Government schemes have been introduced to prevent it happening, like Homeowner Mortgage Support, and for the most vulnerable households facing the immediate threat of repossession, there may be the potential option of the Mortgage Rescue Scheme.

Firstly, its really important to get advice no matter what stage you are at. If you think you are going to have problems paying the mortgage, do contact your lender or visit your local CAB to talk through options of maximising your income – perhaps claiming Support for Mortgage Interest or renegotiating affordable payments for a period. Under the government's mortgage protocol, lenders are obliged to help and make all reasonable attempts to help borrowers find a way through a difficult patch.

You should make your mortgage your top priority. If you have other unsecured loans, creditors or catalogues you might have to pay less towards them to make sure you can meet your mortgage payment. Get in touch with everyone you owe money to and let them know what's going on. You should also claim all the benefits and tax credits you're entitled to. This might take some time so while you are doing it keep in touch with your mortgage lender so they know what you are doing. If you need help – ask – that's what you local CAB is there for.

It is important to remember that lenders should show that they have exhausted every possible option before applying for a possession order. Even on the day of a possession hearing, there are things that can be done - around four in five repossessions can still be stopped if the households attend court and access free advice. To find out if your court has such a duty desk scheme go to [www.nhas.org.uk](http://www.nhas.org.uk)

Finally, remember that concerned homeowners can get free, impartial advice from your nearest Tunbridge wells District CAB contact Details are available on our website [www.twcab.org.uk](http://www.twcab.org.uk) or telephone 0844 499 4140 or [www.adviceguide.org](http://www.adviceguide.org) or from [www.direct.gov.uk/mortgagehelp](http://www.direct.gov.uk/mortgagehelp), or from one of National Debtline's advisers on 0808 808 4000.

*Please note that our nearest CAB is in Cranbrook. Ed.*

**KILNDOWN**  
**PROGRESSIVE SUPPER PARTY**  
**Saturday 13th February at 7pm**

**Tickets £15.00 PP**

**3 course meal, including a glass of wine with each course**  
**Before 5pm on the day, you will be informed where to go for starters**

**All profits will be donated to Kilndown Village Hall fund**  
**Tickets available from Eileen Elderton 01580 211830**  
**Annie Fellows 01892 890354**

**KEANE TO PLAY HOME GIG AT BEDGEBURY**

Keane will be returning to their roots when they perform at Bedgebury on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2010. The band, who hail from Battle, has announced a tour of spectacular woodland locations next summer as part of the Forestry Commission Live Music series.

Keane have had three consecutive Number One albums "Hopes and Fears" (2004), "Under The Iron Sea" (2006) and "Perfect Symmetry" (2008), garnering Brits, Grammy's and Ivor Novello Awards. Their collection of hits including 'Everybody's Changing', 'Is It Any Wonder?', 'Crystal Ball', 'Somewhere Only We Know' and 'Spiralling', has secured Keane's place as one of Britain's best-loved bands. As well as selling an impressive ten million albums the band's live reputation is marked by their huge sold out Arena tours and critical acclaim.

Money generated by Forestry Commission Live Music ticket sales is spent directly on the nation's woodlands, benefiting everything from butterflies to mountain bikers.

Keane will be performing at:

Thetford Forest, Nr Brandon, Suffolk, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June.

**Bedgebury Pinetum & Forest, Nr Goudhurst, Kent, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June.**

Westonbirt Arboretum, Nr Tetbury, Gloucestershire, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June.

Sherwood Pines Forest Park, Nr Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June.

Dalby Forest, Nr Pickering, North Yorks, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June.

Cannock Chase Forest, Nr Rugeley, Staffordshire, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June.

Tickets cost £32.00 (subject to booking fee) and go on sale at 9.00 am Friday 4th December 2009 from ticket hotline tel 01842 814612 or online at [www.forestry.gov.uk/music](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/music) & [www.keanemusic.com](http://www.keanemusic.com)

## VILLAGE ECHOES

One day in August 1874 members of The Weald of Kent Fire Brigade met at their headquarters which was situated just below Cliffe Cottages in North Road, before setting off for Paddock Wood. Here they met the 10 o'clock train which had brought their new Shand Mason steam-powered fire engine. This was a great improvement to the manual pump, a machine that took eighteen to twenty men to operate.

Once the new engine was unloaded and ready for the journey back to Goudhurst, the firemen were joined by a company of The West Kent Yeomanry and members of the Tunbridge Wells Volunteer Brigade with their engine drawn by four grey horses. Stops were made at Brenchley and Horsmonden for refreshments and to give demonstrations of how far water could be thrown by the power of the new engine. At Horsmonden they were joined by Ashford Fire Brigade who had come from Staplehurst. Later another party of soldiers joined the procession to lead the way up the hill to Goudhurst where the new engine once again showed its power by throwing water right over a house near the church much to the delight of the crowds that had gathered.

That evening many worthy inhabitants of Goudhurst and surrounding villages, many of whom had subscribed towards the £320 cost of the engine, sat down to a meal provided by Mr Thurgood of the Vine Inn. Many toasts were drunk to the success of the brigade and its new engine. The Weald of Kent Brigade covered not only Goudhurst but also Horsmonden, Brenchley, Marden and Lamberhurst.

Only a year later in November 1875 the engine was nearly lost when the wooden shed that housed it in North Road burnt down! Luckily it was saved undamaged and was stored in a barn at 'Lamberts' in Church Road, until the new station opposite the pond in West Road was completed in 1878. The engine did sterling work until it was retired in 1930 and replaced by another Shand Mason steamer, a more powerful ex-Sittingbourne Fire Brigade engine named 'Victoria,' which had been built in 1898. As with the earlier engine, 'Victoria' was horse-drawn until a draw bar was fitted in place of the shafts and a lorry was used in place of the horses. One of the lorries used was supplied by the local coalman.

When the war came in 1939 the brigade was taken over by Cranbrook Rural District Council, a move that caused some discontent amongst the Goudhurst men who felt Cranbrook and Hawkhurst brigades were getting better equipment than they were. Mention of Goudhurst being 'Bolsheviks' by one council member was reported. An ex-R.A.F. fire engine chassis was acquired, to which new body work was fitted, and came to Goudhurst about the time that all fire brigades in the country were taken over by the N.F.S. (National Fire Service) on the 18th August 1941. A new station was built in 1942 on land acquired from the Ex-Servicemen's Club, where the entrance to their car park is today. After the war Goudhurst Fire Brigade was handed over to Kent County Council by the N.F.S. and, having failed

to find a site they could afford for a new station, Goudhurst was axed and their fire engine sent to Tunbridge Wells.

Information in this article comes from research done by Percy Mepham. More can be found in *The Goudhurst & Kilndown Millennium Book*. A few copies are still available from the history society, contact John Benfield 01580 211517.

Local History Society

Email: [historysociety@goudhurst.co.uk](mailto:historysociety@goudhurst.co.uk)



A happy New Year to all readers  
from the Goudhurst & Kilndown  
Parish Magazine  
team

**MATERIAL FOR THE FEBRUARY 2010 ISSUE** should be left at  
Goudhurst Newsagents or at Russets, North Road by  
**FRIDAY 15th JANUARY.**  
Thank you. Keep your contributions coming in!

## DEANERY EVENTS

### ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, MARDEN

Saturday 9th January, 2010 – 8.30am – Vestry Hall

#### MEN'S BREAKFAST

Come along and enjoy a FULL English Breakfast,  
followed by a talk by a Guest Speaker.

No charge but a donation towards the cost of the breakfast would be  
appreciated.

Contact Alec Noakes 01622 832211 or

Graham Westbrook 01622 832758 for further

information or to let them know you are attending for catering purposes.

### ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, HEADCORN

FRIENDS OF HEADCORN PARISH CHURCH

#### ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday 6th February, 2010

#### RACE NIGHT

Further details next month but mark it in the diary.

## TRADE DIRECTORY

Agricultural Engineers	B	Mathematics Tuition	F
Bowen Therapy	B	Newsagents	F
Care Workers	B	Nursing Homes	G
Chimney Sweep	B	Painting & Decorating	H
Cleaning Services	C	Pharmacy	H
Curtains & Soft Furnishings	B	Physiotherapists	H
Dental Work	C	Piano Tuning Services	H
Education	D	Plumbing	H/I
Electrical	E	Pre-School Music and Dancing	J
Essential Indulgence	E	Pre-School Playgroups	I
Financial Advisor	E	Taxis	J
Florists	B	Veterinary Surgeons	J
Funeral Directors	E/F	Wasp and Hornet Control	J

### TRADE DIRECTORY

Additional entries or modifications to existing entries will be made in March, June and September for publication in the April, July and October issues of the Parish Magazine. Please contact James Wickham for information on layout and cost.

Tel: 01580 211462 Fax: 01580 212031 Email: james@wickham.eclipse.co.uk