



## **Temple Ewell Organisations**

Parish Council Chairman Clerk to the Parish Council District & County Councillor	Mr C Smithen 332139 Mrs J Coulson-Wright 820273 Geoffrey Lymer 07960 490929	
Police Community Support Officer	Gretel May 07772 226209	
T E School Executive Head Teacher	Mrs Jo Hygate 822665	
Friends of TE School (Sec - Amanda Stone)	friendsoftheschool@fsmail.net	
Sunday Club	Mrs J Miles 824280	
Friday Club	Yvonne Sacker 330017	
Art Workshop	Antionette Tourret 826292	
DDWF	Mrs J Fowler 822792	
Age Concern	Mrs K Green 207268	
Brownies	Mrs A Newington 827138	
Community Coffee Mornings	Mrs J Miles 824280	
WI	Jan Luckhurst 331051	
Produce Association	Trevor Barlow 824787	
Temple Ewell Players	Mr M Brodie 824400	
Men's Club	Mr A Ladbrook 824948	
Village Hall Bookings/Enquiries	John Holness 448140	
Youth Club	Marilyn Holness 448140	
Tiddlers	Amanda Lomas 07506 811851	
Wednesday Club	Marilyn 448140	
	Trish 820966	

#### St. Peter and St. Paul Temple Ewell

Rev Fr Paul Christian The Rectory Green Lane Temple Ewell 822865 Church Wardens - Mr P Austen 820615 Mrs E Waller 824709 PCC Secretary - Mrs C Roberts 822850 PCC Treasurer - Mrs C Spink 824575 Choir Master - R Christian 826320

#### **Baptist Church**

Rev Ewart Graham on 375823 or Pat Clipsham on 827341

#### **Temple Ewell Newsletter Editorial Committee**

Chair / Secretary	Jacqui Axford	330073
Treasurer / Editor / Web	Jeanette Potts	826386
Vice Chair	Jenny Olpin	825011
Distribution	Jenny Miles	824280
Members	Cindy Tuson	823325

#### Hello Everyone

At our AGM last month we had a couple of resignations and some changes to the Officer roles. Linda Ognibeni and Nienke Eernisse decided to bow out due to other committments and the committee would like to thank them both for their contribution to the success of the Newsletter.



Remembrance Day

I am now Treasurer and Jacqui Axford has taken over from me **Sunday 8th November** as Chairman in addition to her Secretarial role.

We have a couple of possible newcomers joining us, which is very good news, but we could still do with some more members, so if you are at all interested give me or any committee member a call to discuss.

I'm pleased to report that our recent fundraiser - the Kapow show - netted us £168 towards keeping the Newsletter going. At the next committee meeting we will discuss our fundraisers for 2015, so watch this space for news of those. Any suggestions are very welcome.

#### CONTRIBUTORS - DON'T FORGET - THERE'S NO JANUARY ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER, SO DIARY ITEMS FOR JANUARY NEED TO BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR **DECEMBER SUBMISSIONS.**

Jeanette

Email: tenews@uwclub.net Tel: 01304 826386 Address: Edenvale 1B Byllan Rd River CT17 0QL

We welcome all contributions to the content of the Newsletter, but please remember that the deadline date is 8pm on the 15th of the month. NOTE: You should be aware that articles are also published on the website tenews.co.uk - please inform us if you want any part of your article withheld from that particular medium.

A copy of every Newsletter is posted on the website, including the village diary. Make sure you log on to www.tenews.co.uk





## **PCSO GRETEL MAY**

I can be contacted on **07772 226209** for any issues that you'd like to discuss with me. My next surgery at the Coffee Morning is on Thursday 18th December. Gretel.





Mon 6

Tues 28

## Village Diary 2014

#### **November**

Sat 1 W.I. Turkish Evening 7 for 7.30pm in the Village Hall Thur 6 Coffee Morning at the Village Hall Sun 8 **Remembrance Sunday Mon 10** Village Hall AGM 7.30pm in the lower hall - all are welcome **Sat 15** Church Bazaar at the Village Hall - see ad next page **Sat 15 Temple Ewell Art Workshop Autumn Exhibition** at Kearsney **Bowling Club** Thur 20 Coffee Morning and PCSO Surgery at the Village Hall **Sun 23** Afternoon Tea in the Millennium Hall - see ad page 17 Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm Tues 25

#### December

Thur 4 Coffee Morning at the Village Hall Sun 7 **Sweet Home** A short play based on a chapter of 'The Wind in the Willows' with the choir of Temple Ewell School at Church of St Peter & St Paul 10.30am. Sun 7

Christmas Lights Switch On at Players' Corner 6pm Thur 18 Coffee Morning and PCSO Surgery at the Village Hall

Thurs 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** 

## 2015 **January**

Thurs 1 **BANK HOLIDAY** Thur 8 **Coffee Morning** at the Village Hall Tues 27 Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm Thur 22 **Coffee Morning** at the Village Hall **Wed 28 PANTO - The Little Mermaid - more details next month** to Sat 31 **February** Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm Tues 24 March **Tues 31** Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm **April** Fri 3 **GOOD FRIDAY** 

Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm

**EASTER MONDAY** 

### May

Mon 4 BANK HOLIDAY
Mon 25 BANK HOLIDAY

Tues 26 Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm

June

Tues 30 Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm

July

Tues 28 Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm

**August** 

Mon 31 BANK HOLIDAY

September

Tues 29 Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm

**October** 

Tues 27 Parish Council Meeting in the Baptist Chapel Hall 7.15pm

Let us have your 2015 dates as soon as possible!

Temple Ewell W.I.

## Turkish Autumn Evening

Saturday 1st November in the Village Hall. 7- for 7.30pm

3 course meal with cabaret

Tickets £9
Please bring your own drink
and glass







## Temple Ewell Players

## Temple Ewell Players working with Heart FM at the Marlowe!

Recently the Heart FM Breakfast show asked for local amateur dramatic groups to help with a new musical they were producing for charity. Jemma Groombridge, Clare Senior, John Regan, Rachel White, Andy Fellows, Heather MacDonald, Louise Ellis, Peter Bowely, Lawrence Worton, Ruby Hamilton, Jacqueline Axford and Linda Clarke of the Temple Ewell Players decided to audition.

We had to be filmed singing one by one in front of the show's producers and a few days later Jemma was called and told that we had been successful!

We have been busy rehearsing 'James and Charlie the Musical' in which Aliens descend upon the Heart FM Breakfast show. The songs are catchy, original and fantastic fun to perform.

The cast were invited up to the Heart studios to be interviewed and to promote the new show.

Interviews with the cast and information about the show was announced on air on Friday the 17th.

We are all very excited to be involved in such a unique opportunity!

The musical will be performed in the Marlowe Studio as part of a charity

evening on the 13th of November. For more information please see the Heart FM Website.

Make sure you listen out for us!

### Greetings from the under sea!

Rehearsals are well under way for our new Pantomime:

### 'The Little Mermaid'

Directed by Tonia Watts, it's a funny, lively and entertaining show. We look forward to performing this one in January!

Details on where you can get those allimportant tickets will be in next month's Newsletter, but the dates to look out for are:

Weds 28th - Sat 31st Jan 2015

#### Rachel



### Seven Ages - a review

The Newsletter committee was pleased to host a fundraising event on Saturday 4th October featuring the Kepow Theatre Company, made up of Kevin and Abi

Tomlinson......and what a night it was!

Firstly, the show was sold out, which was a good omen, and then the sun shone in the early evening following a much needed downpour during the afternoon.

Our audience arrived, laden with a variety of 'goodies' and drinks for their tables. There was one noteably impressive supper table - made our crsips, nuts and sausage rolls look a bit sad! While everyone was setting up Abi circulated the

Hall requesting the audience to

write down a title or line from any song which she would then collect for use throughout the show.

An impressive

supper table

Once everyone was settled, Kevin, ably supported by Abi, began the show. Called 'Seven Ages', the evening provided hilarious, and very clever entertainment, using audience participation to

take us on a journey through infancy, childhood, teenage years, working life, relationships, retirement and old age, by the means of masks coupled with very good

acting and comedy skills.

The way the song lines were eventually woven into the story had us hoot-

ing with laughter.

All the characterisations were spot on but Kevin's old man was a particular mas-

terpiece, capturing the regrets and sadnesses of old age, alternately making us cry and then laugh again.

It turned out to be a very enjoyable evening for the audience that ranged from 14 to 80+ years.

Our grateful thanks to everyone who supported this event and we look forward to seeing you at our next fundraiser.....(make sure you get your tickets early so as not to be disappointed!!!).





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## Willows



The Willows really enjoyed their recent trip to Chessington World of Adventure. It was Alex's birthday so we had cake on the bus on the way home. We are off to the Rare Breeds Centre at Woodchurch in a couple of weeks - more news on that trip next month.





A BIG thank you to everyone who supported our MacMillan Tea Afternoon. We raised £341.06.

Thank you too to all the stall holders who helped make it a lovely afternoon.

A special thank you to Mike Matcham for helping me by washing up when we ran out of cups! Youth Club Members are very excited about our weekend trip to Camber. more news about that next month.

### Sophie

## Temple Ewell W.I.

'Flying for fun' was the title of a very amusing and informative talk, with slideshow, by Tony Harris. He told the story of aviation from the first ever flight right up to the present day. He is a very experienced pilot who has flown in many different types of aircraft and many thousands of miles.

Tony tried to allay any fears of flying that we may have by giving us reasons, evidence and statistics to show how safe flying really is.

The next meeting is on November 13th.

#### Ride & Stride

Ride and Stride in aid of the Kent Churches is a good opportunity to get out into the countryside and visit some of our beautiful churches. Many of these are increasingly under threat of closure due to maintenance costs and poor attendance and we must all try and do our bit to preserve this crucial element of our spiritual, environmental and historical culture.

That said, the 13th September was a beautiful day and three of us, Amanda Lomas, David Gavin and I mounted our bikes at the Methodist Church at River and continued on for five hours and managed to visit an amazing twenty-six churches!

Our route was from River through to Temple Ewell, out to Lydden and then up the hill (which we all did!!) to Coldred. Then we pedalled on to Shepherdswell and out to Elvington and Barfrestone. On we went back to Eythorne and through to Waldershare and Church Whitfield. It was here that Amanda had to leave us for home!

The Langdons beckoned, as did Guston, and then speedily down hill into Dover where we were able to visit a further seven churches. Our final Church was that of St Andrews at Buckland. An excellent ride, beautiful weather and lovely warm welcomes, with refreshments, at many of the churches. A very worthy cause I think you'll agree!

#### Jenny Olpin





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## Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul

November services – to which we warmly welcome you. Our Sunday Club meets every Sunday during term time at 10.30am

Sunday 2nd ALL SAINTS SUNDAY (Walsingham Pilgrimage Weekend)

PARISH EUCHARIST 10.30am Celebrant; Fr. A Fletcher SSC

Monday 3rd (St. Mary's Lydden) All Soul's Requiem 6.30pm

Saturday 8th Holy Baptism of Flynn Price 5pm

Sunday 9th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

SUNG MATINS & ACT OF REMEMBRANCE 10.30am HOLY EUCHARIST (for the Peace of the World) 6pm

Tuesday 11th School Remembrance Service 11am

Sunday 16th PARISH EUCHARIST 10.30am

Western Ministry Area, 'Songs of Praise' St. Radigund, Capel 6pm.

Sunday 23rd CHRIST THE KING

PARISH EUCHARIST 10.30am

Sunday 30th 5th Sunday Benefice Eucharist, St.Mary's Lydden 10.30am

To also be attended by members of the Knights Templar, with an

Investiture to follow

## For times of the Daily Offices and midweek services, please refer to the Church Notice Board.

'Tell the last man in the line to close the Menin Gate' – In 1917 the familiar joke told from one soldier to the next as they marched through what was then known as the Menin Gate, but in reality a gap in the ramparts on the eastern side of Ypres. From 1914 the gap onto the Menin Road had been the starting point for practically every regiment of British and Commonwealth soldiers on their way to the battlefield of the Western Front. 'Tell the last man in the line to close the Menin Gate' – a joke so brave, yet rendered so hideous by ghastly reality. And the reality we know, is that in the hell of the bloody and relentless fighting at Ypres, the remains of over 90,000 young British and Commonwealth men who lost their lives in battle have never been found – their graves are where they fell.

Cold statistics like these, and especially as we have commemorated the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, remind us of the colossal sacrifice of this and the Second World War and every conflict that has scarred and broken this world and so many hearts ever since. On Remembrance Sunday as we remember the debt we owe so many, we know also that true and worthy remembrance, no matter how inconceivable it may seem, will never abandon hope, in spite of the overwhelming power of evil still so depressingly evident in this world. For the Christian, our focus turns to the supreme sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross and the ultimate victory over the powers of darkness of the love of God for a world He surely will not give up on.

#### Fr. Paul

PS. Many will know that financially it is becoming more and more difficult for us to continue to maintain the life of our beloved Church. With reclaimed tax, the Gift Day total is approaching £2,000 as I write and we are so grateful. THANK YOU!!

#### https://www.facebook.com/templeewellpepaul



Sun 7th December at 10.30am At Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul

#### 'Sweet Home'

A short play based on a chapter of
The Wind in the Willows with the choir of Temple Ewell School

### 'The Shop-in-the- Church'

In support of badly needed funds for the upkeep of our village church a new venture, in common with many churches today, is a 'table-top' stall of books, cards and collectable and gift idea items which have already been donated by members of our congregation.

Any contributions for our 'stock' including home produce and/or crafts would be very welcome. The church is open daily between 10am - 4pm.

## Church News

Thank you to those who supported the Quiz Evening in October where we made a marvellous profit of £267.50. Our biggest thanks must go to Chris Padfield for setting such a challenging quiz, ably assisted by his fabulous family and friends!

Happy 80th Birthday this month to Pat Clipsham from all your friends at St Peter & St Paul.

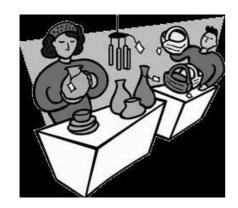
#### Alison

## Sunday Club and Bubbles

The club continues in the Millennium Hall on Sunday mornings.

This is going to be a very busy time of year with Remembrance Sunday, Advent and the start of the Christmas story in planning. We welcome any new starters who would like to come and join us.

Please contact Jenny on 824280 or Margaret on 820615 for further details.



## **Christmas Bazaar**

Saturday 15th November in the Village Hall

11am – 2pm

Soup and rolls available with other refreshments

Grand Draw, Tombola, Gifts,
New & Nearly New Clothes and Accessories,
Cakes and many other stalls

If you have any kind donations for stalls please contact Jenny on 824280





### **Afternoon Tea**

Amanda, Jenny and Margaret would like to invite you for afternoon tea on Sunday 23rd November 3-5pm in the Millenium Hall. For only £3.50 adults, £1.50 children, you can have a lovely afternoon tea with good company, music, craft for children or they can play in the outside area.

Each year Sunday Club make and send shoe boxes to children who otherwise wouldn't get a Christmas present. Thanks to the generosity of the people of Temple Ewell and the UK Border Force we sent 138 last year. We are aiming for 150 this year. There are postage costs involved (£3 a box) and we do make sure each box has everything in it so if items haven't been put in we fill the box up. For example last year the boxes were lacking soap, flannels and postage. All the proceeds from the afternoon tea will go towards this worthwhile project.

Here is the website for Operation Christmas Child should you wish to donate anything or make your own box up. www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk/

Each box should have the following in:

- 1. Toothbrush & toothpaste
- 2. Flannel or sponge & soap
- 3. Hat & gloves
- 4. Game or Toy (not war or fighting)
- 5. Cuddly toy (CE kite marked and new)
- 6. Sweets (not chocolate bbf 31/05/15)
- 7. Pens, pencils, colours, stationary items
- 8. Notepad or colouring pad
- 9. Finger puppet
- Hair bands or bobbles for girls or socks for boys.
   And postage of £3

Make your box for a girl or boy, the age ranges are 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14 years. Please bring them along to the afternoon tea or ring me and I'll collect them. If you

would like to come for afternoon tea (Margaret and Jenny really do a good spread, you won't need tea afterwards!) ring me or Jenny to book your place, so we know how many cakes to bake. Do come and support The Sunday Club.

Thanks, **Amanda Lomas** Amanda 07506811851 Jenny 824280







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## 60

## Temple Ewell Baptist Church

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#### SINK OR SWIM

It is a pleasure to watch the activity in Dover Harbour on a sunny day. Sails flutter, water sparkles and sailors relax in their yachts.

It looks so easy, and surely a Dovorian must have something of the sea in his blood.

Sadly the theory and the practice are not the same. I set my sail and off I went. Going out was great - the trouble started when I tried to turn for home. The boat kept going and I hit the water with my mouth wide open. I was in the sea and the sea was in me.

This reminds me of the practice of the Baptist Church to Baptise people by fully immersing them in water. A symbol of the Lord Jesus Christ coming into our lives. The Bible puts it like this "If any person is in Christ Jesus, he is a new person; old things are gone, all things have become new."

Our activities continue as usual:
Sunday Family Service: 10.30am
Monday Keep Fit: 7.30pm
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer: 7.30pm

MESSY CHURCH on Sunday 9th November. 4.00 - 6.00pm. This is for children and adults and comprises about 1 hour of craft activities, 10 minute bible based talk, a full cooked meal. Please come.

We are here to serve you and if there is anything you wish to ask do not hesitate to contact Pat on 827341, Jack on 825150 or our minister Ewart Graham on 375823.

www.temple-ewell-baptist.co.uk



## TEMPLE EWELL Village Hall AGM

Monday 10th November 7.30pm in the lower village hall

All are very welcome to attend

## SOUTHDOWN STORES, TEMPLE EWELL ANNUAL TASTER EVENING Thursday 6th November 7 - 8.30pm

(Friday 7th November 10am - 12 noon)

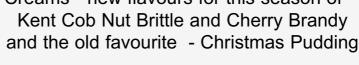
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## KCC and DDC Councillor

Are you eligible for the flu jab?

Protecting yourself against the flu has never been easier for the vulnerable, those people at risk, the young children, older people and pregnant women.

Children aged two to four years old, alongside people aged 65 or older, plus those with long term medical conditions not forgetting mums to be are amongst the priority to receive the vaccine. These groups are more susceptible, flu can increase the risk of developing more serious illnesses such as bronchitis and pneumonia, or can make existing health problems worse. In the worst cases seasonal flu could result in a stay in hospital, or though very scarce, could even prove to be fatal.

Young girls and boys can receive the vaccine as a nasal spray, instead of a jab. Having one can make a great difference. If you are being offered the opportunity to protect your children, then you should take it, it is not just important for them, but for the rest of the community too, as you are stopping the spread of the infection.

However, there are some misunderstandings and misconceptions about the vaccine so that some people do not feel confident to come forward and get themselves the best defence against the flu this winter.

So here are some myth busting examples

You get the flu by having the vaccine!

It is impossible to get flu from having the flu jab. This is because the vaccine does not contain any live viruses. A very small number of people experience side effects, that are similar to those of flu, such as aching muscles, but this is actually your immune system responding to what it thinks is an attack of flu.

You won't get the flu if you are healthy!

Anyone can pick up the flu virus, even if you are generally in good health. Usually 15-20% of the population gets the flu each year and it is possible to pass it to those who are vulnerable, as mentioned at the beginning of this article, the very young, those over 65, those with long term medical conditions, such as cardiac or pulmonary problems, cancer etc and pregnant mums to be.



The flu vaccine is not safe!

The seasonal flu vaccine is one of the safest vaccines in the world and is given to millions of people in the UK each year. The specific strains of flu that are included may change from one year to the next, but that does not affect the safety of the vaccine or change it in any way.

If you are still not convinced after reading this article, then have a look at www.kent.gov.uk/Health, or have a word one of the surgery nurses.

Oh yes, that's another myth, they don't bite! (It is rumoured!)

## Cllr Geoffrey Lymer Dover District & Kent County Councillor

## Friday Club

September was not a very exciting month, with many on holiday.

The weather is now showing us what winter is all about with wet, windy and rainy weather, so I hope that everyone will wrap up warm to ward off those nasty winter colds and flu.

With the dark nights fast approaching don't forget safety - take a torch and leave a light on at home, not only will it welcome you home with a warm glow but it gives the impression that someone is at home.

As we all enjoy our bingo games we are considering calling the club Friday Bingo Afternoon so if any one out there enjoys a game why not come and join us. We are open 1.30 to 4pm and we are all very friendly

Sadly we lost another former member, namely Grace Burrett, and I would like to send condolences to her family on behalf of the Friday Club.

Don't forget that by the time you receive this Newsletter, Firework Night will be around the corner, so please make sure that pets are kept indoors as so many get frightened.

Hope you enjoy whatever you are about to do. Take care and be safe.

#### Yvonne



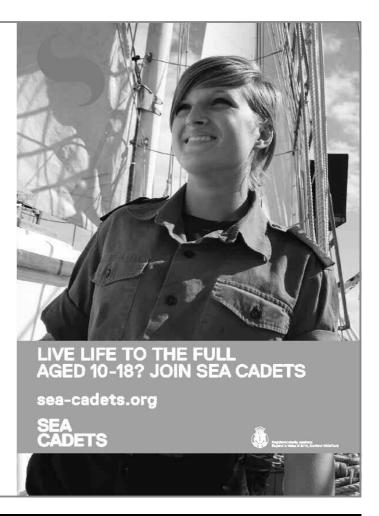
## Dover & Deal Sea Cadets

Dover & Deal Sea Cadets meet at their headquarters, TS LYNX, in Upper Road, Dover (behind the castle) Monday and Thursday evenings from 6.45 - 9pm.

If you are a girl or boy aged over 10 (or a parent / carer) and would like to find out more about what we do, call in any Monday or Thursday evening or ring us on 01304 219810.

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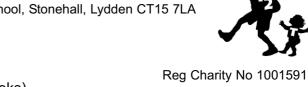
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## Temple Ewell Parish Council KALC COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME 2015

Supported by the High Sheriff of Kent, Chairman of Kent County Council and Mayor of Medway Council The KALC Community Award is to acknowledge and give recognition to a resident of Temple Ewell who has made a significant contribution to this Parish over a period of years.

If you know of someone who has given this sort of service and merits an Award then please do nominate them. The person must live or work within the Parish Council boundary. The winner will be the one with most nominations.

The winner will receive a certificate signed by the Kent Association of Local Council's Chairman and the High Sheriff of Kent. The Award will be presented by the Parish Council Chairman at its Annual Parish Meeting in 2015. Only ONE nomination per resident but all adult members of a family may submit a nomination form. Just photocopy the form or phone the Clerk on 01304 820273 for extra forms.

Completed forms in a sealed envelope should be sent to: The Clerk, 5 Dour Side, River, Dover, Kent CT17 0UX

The closing date for receiving nominations has been extended to 1st December 2014.

There will be no pre-determined criteria on what a "significant contribution to the local community" might be. However, some examples are set out below.

A significant contribution to the local community could be any or all of the following:

- a) Long and sustained service to the community or part of it;
- b) Achievements or actions of an inspiring nature to the local community;
- c) Such other activities which have reflected credit on or brought benefits to the village or its people;

## 

The full Parish Council meets on the last Tuesday of the month (excluding August & December) at 7.15pm at the Temple Ewell Baptist Church Hall on the corner of the High Street and London Road. Parishioners are most welcome to attend and contribute to meetings.

The agenda and minutes are displayed on the Parish Council notice board by the village shop, Southdown Stores, and on the Parish Council website.

Contact details for councilors are on the website:

www.templeewellpc.kentparishes.gov.co.uk Email the Clerk at: coulsonwright@aol.com

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#### Friends Forever

One day in 1961 Mr Strand, Head Teacher, entered Miss Clark's class at River School with a list of names of children abroad wanting pen pals. I can't remember where they were all from but I chose a girl from Canada called Darlene Hawthorne. It said she lived on a farm in Saskatchewan and was the same age as me.



So began our friendship. We wrote to each other on a regular basis throughout our childhood, comparing notes on things like school and hobbies. We discovered that not only were we the same age, but our birthdays were within days of each other and our mothers had the same birthday! Darlene told me about life on the farm and travelling to school in a place called Tramping Lake. It all sounded very different to my life growing up in River and to my mind much more interesting.

Later on, as we reached our teens, talk

turned to things like make-up, pop music, boyfriends etc. Darlene loved the Beatles and was envious when I sent a photo of me wearing a Beatle hat – she still has that photo (as you can see on the right)!

As we both got on with the business of finding jobs, and eventually starting families, we lost touch for a while, but now and

then I thought of Darlene and wondered what she was up to. In 1979, when my own daughter was ten, the age I was when Darlene and I started writing to each other, I told her about my pen pal and she said "You should write to her again mum and see what she's doing now". So I said I would.

Over the intervening years I had moved about a bit and had lost Darlene's old letters, but I thought that even if she had moved away from the farm, her mum and dad would probably still be there and the address was so easy to remember. It was just 'Broadacres, Saskatchewan, Canada', so I wrote and sent it there.

Well, I was right. Her mum and dad were still on the farm and they sent my letter on to Darlene, who by that time was living in a place called Nelson. I got a letter back quite quickly. She was really pleased to hear from me and we carried on writing, swopping news about our families. As well as my daughter I had two boys, and so did Darlene. We continued to write, always exchanging letters, photos etc on birthdays and Christmas, and spoke on the phone a couple of times (although back then international calls were very expensive - I remember one costing me £15, and that was in the 70s!!).

We always talked about how good it would be to meet up, but the cost was always an issue as our children were growing up. However, in 1993 a colleague of mine suffered a personal tragedy, which prompted the thought – if you really want to do

something, you should do it if you possibly can, while you are still able to. With that thought in mind, and with funds from a cashed endowment, Bob and I made plans to visit Canada the following year.

Darlene and her husband Bill were delighted to hear that we were coming and so we set off on 31st March 1994. By this time they were living in Armstrong, about 300 miles from Vancouver, British Columbia.

It was a bit of a leap of faith really as, although Darlene and I were firm friends through our letters, Bob and Bill had never met or even spoken to each other. What if they didn't get on? What if spending 3 weeks all together was too much?

As soon as we clapped eyes on each other at Vancouver Airport, all fears were



allayed. We immediately all felt comfortable together and we knew it would be the holiday of a lifetime, and it was. As the holiday progressed and we travelled around BC, Bob and Bill became great friends – they had lots to talk about, not least the trials of dealing with Darlene and me! We two felt, and continue to feel, like sisters with so much in common it is

uncanny. An article about our friendship and visit made the local Newspaper there.

Since 1994 we have visited Canada again and they have been here together twice (most recently only last month). On our second time there we got the chance to visit the farm in Sakatchewan where Darlene grew up and also

Tramping Lake where she went to school. That was



amazing! We also all met up in Cuba one year and Darlene came here on her own in 2001. While she was here 9/11 happened and she had to stay longer as flights out were suspended.

We hope to return to Canada in a year or two. We're all getting older now and can't afford to leave it too long between visits.



Parents, if your children get the chance to write to a pen pal, encourage it – who knows where it will lead.

This year marks the 53rd year of our friendship and I can truly say that friendship with Darlene and Bill has enriched our lives greatly. They are very dear friends and we can't wait to spend time with them again.

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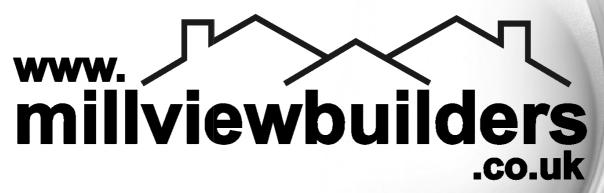
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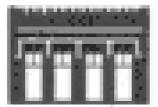


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## Advent-ageous!

Christmas is a'coming, the goose is getting fat
I shall be doing all the cards and presents,
so that's enough of that!
So whose houses are we visiting this year?
We're staying in by the fire, of that I have no fear.

Christmas is a'coming, the goose is getting fat
I've had a glass of Baileys. Now THAT is enough of that!
I know you've bought me a lovely present so I'll have a glass of wine
Next month it'll be Christmas and cold out there,
so I'll snuggle up with mine.

Christmas is a'coming, a few days off work
There will still lots to do though, no time to shirk.
There'll always be housework to clear and the odd pressy to find
There will be always one I miss - oh, never mind!



Christmas will come and go
the tree fairy will inevitably topple off
All the clearing-up I'll have to do and be
packed away
New Year's Eve is a'coming ...... wa'hay !!!

Anne Cox

## Letters to the Editor



We would like to hear from you. What do you want information on? Need help with something? Want to comment on a local issue? This is the place to do it! Send to the Editor - details on page 3

#### **Dear Readers**

Be Proud. If you were at the Town Hall on Sunday 12th of Oct you will be as proud as me.

Dover should be very proud of the White Cliffs Symphonic Winds, they were amazing. I think there were over forty instruments, including a red plastic cornet! Graham Harvey, the conductor (ex-Marine), said 'plastic is quite good enough for budding musicians to practice on', so get your children into music, buy a plastic trumpet or flute. Who knows, your child could be in a future 'Gala Night'.

This Year they played music from the

first world war from a variety of composers. The arrangements were brilliant. We were entertained by Mike Scurfield who led us into songs of the era. Joan Woodland was magnificent as Britannia and she must have been very proud, as we all were, of our very own Sophia Lyons.

Sophia sang a wonderful arrangement of Ava Maria. Her clear beautiful young voice filled the Town Hall.

The evening was held in aid of the Pilgrims Hospices and at the end a £500 cheque was handed to a representative of the charity.

Rosemary Ann Hogben

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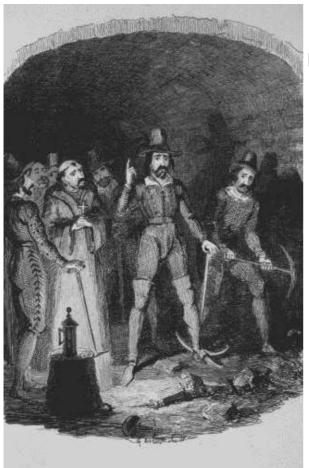
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Most of us know the first line of this old poem, but did you know the rest of it?



#### **Guy Fawkes**

Remember, remember the fifth of November,
Gunpowder treason and plot.
We see no reason
Why gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot!

Guy Fawkes, guy, t'was his intent To blow up king and parliament. Three score barrels were laid below To prove old England's overthrow.

By god's mercy he was catch'd With a darkened lantern and burning match. So, holler boys, holler boys, Let the bells ring.

Holler boys, holler boys, God save the king.

And what shall we do with him?

Burn him!





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