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Temple Ewell Newsletter



### **Temple Ewell Organisations**

Parish Council Chairman	Mr Glenn Mousley	824121
Clerk to the Parish Council	Mr Andrew Howard-Grigg	361774
Police Community Support Officer	Megan Keehner	07929 049947
District Councillor	Mark Rose	07733 080861
County Councillor	Geoffrey Lymer	07960 490929
T E School Head Teacher	Mrs A Matthews	822665
Friends of TE School (Sally Parker)	friendsoftheschool@hotmail.com	
Sunday Club	Mrs J Miles	824280
Friday Club	Yvonne Sacker	330017
Art Workshop	Antionette Tourret	826292
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	07766 228728
Men's Club	Mr A Ladbrook	824948
Village Hall Bookings/Enquiries	John Holness	448140
Youth Club	Marilyn Holness	448140
Tiddlers	Amanda Lomas	07506 811851
Branching Out	Marilyn	448140
	Trish	820966
Kent Wildlife Trust Conservation Tasks	Bob Newington	827138
Short Mat Bowls Club	Audrey West	823511
Allotment Manager	Dominic Castle	07836 388458

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

Church Warden - Mrs E Waller 824709 Dr Judith Shilling, 827692

PCC Secretary - Vacancy

PCC Treasurer - Chris Tyler 07715 078882

### **HOWEVER PLEASE NOTE:**

**For Weddings - Dr Judith Shilling, 827692**

**For Baptisms - Christine Roberts 822850**

**For Funerals - Liz Waller 824709**

### **Baptist Church**

Rev Ewart Graham on 375823 or John Woodland on 822982

Hello All

Hard to believe that it's twenty years ago that we were preparing to launch the first ever Temple Ewell Newsletter. In the October issue I am planning to have copies of some of the articles that were in that first issue dated October 2000. It will take



a visit to my loft to dig that first Newsletter out, but it should make interesting reading.

To celebrate our 20 years and to help raise funds so we can continue for perhaps another 20 years (with a younger committee most likely!), we are launching a PRIZE DRAW with a top prize of £100 and lots of other prizes too. We will be around the village and at different events hoping to sell tickets, which are £1 each or a book of 5 for £5. Please support us by buying some tickets.

Lastly, I have great pleasure in welcoming Barbara Sheridan to our committee. We are delighted that you have chosen to join us Barbara.

Editor: Jeanette Potts

Email: [templeewellnews@gmail.com](mailto:templeewellnews@gmail.com) Tel: 01304 826386

Address: 13 Chilton Way River CT17 0QB

We welcome all contributions to the content of the Newsletter, but please remember that the deadline date for the next issue is 8pm on the 15th of the preceding month. However, please note, there is no August or January issue of the Newsletter.

NOTE: You should be aware that articles are also published on the website [www.tenews.co.uk](http://www.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](http://www.tenews.co.uk)

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

Treasurer / Editor / Web	Jeanette Potts	826386
Chair / Distribution	Jenny Miles	824280
Vice Chair	Jenny Olpin	825011
Secretary	Ruth Horton	268998
Members	Cindy Tuson	823325
	Lisa Scrivens Waghorn	-
	Barbara Sheridan	827493



## Village Diary

**Some of these may need to be cancelled —  
check before attending**

### Sep

- Thurs 10      Coffee Morning 10am in the Village Hall  
                 W.I. Meeting 7pm in the Village Hall
- Sat 12        Ride & Stride in aid of the church—see page 23
- Sun 13        Footpaths Walk 1-3.30—see page 28 for details
- Thurs 24      Coffee Morning 10am in the Village Hall
- Weds 23-Sat26    T E Players September Production
- Tues 29        Parish Council Meeting 7.15pm in the Baptist Hall

### Oct

- Thurs 8        W.I. Meeting 7pm in the Village Hall
- Tues 27        Parish Council Meeting 7.15pm in the Baptist Hall
- Fri 30         Produce Association AGM 7.30-9pm in the Village Hall

### Nov

- Thurs 5        Coffee Morning 10am in the Village Hall
- Thurs 12       W.I. Meeting 7pm in the Village Hall
- Thurs 19       Coffee Morning 10am in the Village Hall
- Tues 24        Parish Council Meeting 7.15pm in the Baptist Hall

### Dec

- Thurs 3        Coffee Morning 10am in the Village Hall
- Thurs 10       W.I. Meeting 7pm the Village Hall
- Thurs 17       Coffee Morning 10am in the Village Hall



Don't forget to  
let us have your  
diary dates

**Links to the following information leaflets can  
be found on our  
HOME PAGE**

**1. 200409 Services in Dover\_Edition 5**

*(a list of all possible phone numbers etc. that you may need)*

**2. little-booklet-of-phone-scams**

**3. NHS-CoVID-19-Parent-Guide**



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**XXXX**

## **TENews 20th Anniversary Draw**



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PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PRIZE DRAW, it will help us  
continue to bring you your Newsletter 10 times a year.

**THANK YOU**

### **Temple Ewell Art Workshop**

We meet in the Village Hall every Wednesday

during term time 2-4pm

New members are welcome

***Currently closed due to Covid19***

**PLEASE CONTINUE  
TO SEND US YOUR PHOTOS AND  
STORIES**

## **Temple Ewell Village Store & Post Office**

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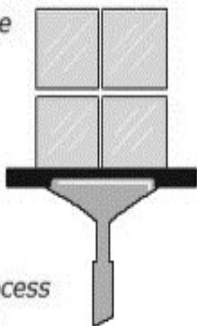
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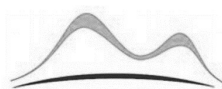
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# TEMPLE EWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

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## WHY IS IT SO HARD TO ACCEPT SPIRITUAL THINGS?

All of our learning starts by accepting simple concepts. Time is one example. We readily accept what the clock says when the big hand is at the top and the little hand at the bottom. We learn by acceptance that 60 seconds is the same as one minute.

Professor Stephen Hawking, in his book "A Brief History of Time" says that time has not always existed. At some point it came into being. He also says that time moves faster at the top of a mountain than at the bottom. How weird is that? Yet from our earliest school days we accept a simple concept without question.

We build our education on what we have accepted as true. Our initial questions are answered as our knowledge increases, but also many additional questions come to our mind. At least we then have some understanding from which to address our questions.

When it comes to spiritual matters, our approach changes, and we want questions answered first.

The Bible tells us that GOD IS A SPIRIT. It is a different medium to that in which our five senses operate. Knowledge of him can only be had by revelation. Questions get answered as we come to know our Heavenly Father. The Bible is quite clear that God loves each one of us and wants to reveal himself to all. He also says that we will find him if we seek him with all our heart.

Services are now being held each Sunday at 10.30am.  
All are welcome but face masks must be worn in accordance with our Government directions.

If we can help in any way please do not hesitate to contact June on 822982, Jack on 825150 or our minister Ewart Graham on 375823. [www.templeewellbaptistchurch.com](http://www.templeewellbaptistchurch.com)



## Temple Ewell Parish Council

It seems the new buzzword this year is “staycation”.

Certainly in East Kent this is a good choice for many people who would normally be away in various far flung summer holiday destinations. My family have indulged in such activities which include finding the best beach (normally shingle) that is not invaded by too many people from London (or other parts of the country) ! We have also tried to find remote country walks, have picnics and to take advantage of the Government initiative of “Eat out to Help Out”, trying many cafes and restaurants that we have not previously been to. These have all been fairly easy to achieve whilst also keeping to government guidelines to help keep Coronavirus infection rates and of course deaths as low as possible. The worrying thing is that there seem to be too many people who are not abiding by the regulations which risks a second wave as we approach the autumn.

My hopes have also been answered in that we have finally seen progress in Kearsney Abbey with the full opening of the car park. This has led to a reduction of congestion of cars parked irresponsibly in Temple Ewell. This move has also been combined with the re-opening of the temporary café and also toilets. Walking through the park recently, it was pleasant to see it being widely used and to observe good compliance with social distancing.

We have also recently been able to re-open the Play Area at the Village (King George V) field. Please remember to sanitise hands before and after use, observe social distancing and follow the guidance on the posters attached to the equipment to ensure you keep you and your children safe from Coronavirus.

The village school will soon be re-opening after an unusual summer break and I know the staff have been working hard to create a safe environment for all of the children. We hope that all families will feel that they can return their children to the school and that there may be some return to normality and achieving the outstanding education that the school provides.

Our latest Parish Council meeting was face to face in the Baptist Church garden, using social distancing. All councillors attended and a full agenda was discussed in detail. We expect our next meeting in September will be face to face and will be monitoring guidelines to see where this will be held.

We are pleased that Kent Police and local PCSO's have issued 5 bikers with notices for riding on Scotland Common. This means that if they are caught again within 12 months, their bikes will be seized. The areas above the rural villages around Dover continue to be patrolled in an effort to combat this anti-social and illegal behaviour. Please be diligent and continue to report any instances of illegal use of motor bikes and quad bikes to the police.

The village footpath walk (socially distanced) will take place on the 13<sup>th</sup> September starting at 1.00pm. This year our assembly point will be in the garden to the Baptist Church by Players Corner. Please bring your own refreshments which can be consumed in the garden following the walk. Unfortunately, current restrictions mean that we will not be able to host the usual WI tea. However, toilets will be open.

For those that are wondering, our Highways Improvement Plan has not been forgotten but with Coronavirus has been delayed. We are hoping for the proposed traffic surveys to take place towards the end of September.

I hope you have enjoyed the summer and are now looking forward to the autumn in our beautiful village I will update you again next month.

***Glenn Mousley – Chairman of the Parish Council***

### **Village Defibrillator**

The machine is now back in place, having had new batteries and pads added which were about to expire.

There is a demonstration video from the manufacturers, 5.5 minutes long, which guides you through what to do and what the machine is telling you to do. This can be found at:

[https://youtu.be/jR7V3\\_I-aLw](https://youtu.be/jR7V3_I-aLw)

This link has also been added to the Parish Council Website and Facebook Page.

### **Parish Clerk:**

**Andy Howard-Grigg**

**Tel : 01304 361774    E-Mail : [TempleEwellPC@Outlook.com](mailto:TempleEwellPC@Outlook.com)**

Butterflies seen recently on the Nature Reserve —  
photos courtesy of Roger Revell



Chalkhill blue

Peacock



Pyronia Tithonus  
(Gatekeeper)

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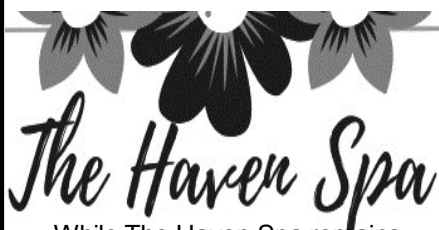
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## Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul

For readings, prayers and links to the Church of  
England services, please go to  
[www.facebook.com/templewellpepaul](https://www.facebook.com/templewellpepaul)

### September

- 9<sup>th</sup> 9.00am joint Holy Eucharist at Lydden,
- 16<sup>th</sup> 10.30am joint Holy Eucharist at Temple Ewell
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.00am joint Holy Eucharist at Lydden
- 30<sup>th</sup> 10.30am joint Holy Eucharist at Temple Ewell

In addition there is a "Prayer and Share" Group which meets each Wednesday at 11.30am in Temple Ewell Church. It is an informal group to which everyone is very welcome.

There was relief and celebration when the church could be re-opened following closure at the start of the Coronavirus. There has been a steady number of people visiting to enjoy just sitting following their own thoughts, in the peaceful atmosphere of the church. This has certainly been welcome but it didn't really feel like the church we know and love, something was missing.

All changed following the preparations for the Licensing Service for Ian Parrish. Our artistic team of flower arrangers brought colour and life back into the Church and thank you Trevor for the amazing dahlias. Our team of cleaners reached all dusty and cobwebby corners. The rather ancient sound system was coaxed into providing enough microphones for all to follow the service. The organ was tuned in readiness for Stephen Yarrow to provide such uplifting music. The congregation, suitably masked, arrived in great anticipation with Archdeacon Darren leading the service, assisted by Andy Bawtree as Area Dean. The Bishop of Dover, Bishop Rose, delivered a message of thought and vision for our church to embrace a "Fresh Start" with Ian Parrish, now legally our priest. It was such a pleasure to welcome both Ian and Frauke, his wife. In our sharing this welcome and worship together, that has not been possible for several months, the Church seemed to glow with warmth and happiness. It was a very special service.

It is the congregation, and the clergy who lead us and focus our faith and prayers, who are the missing part of the jigsaw.

*Liz Waller*

## *Revd. Ian Writes....."Going to the other side"*

To let go of the familiar and set off in a new direction is risky, it means facing the unknown, and probably making mistakes, but hopefully finding something new and exciting along the way. In my licensing service Bishop Rose read the passage from Mark 4 'Jesus Calms the Storm' and spoke about crossing to the 'other side.' A journey where we must have faith, use our strengths and gifts wisely, but also be willing to share our weaknesses.

Over the last few months, I have become increasingly aware of the anxiety and fear that we all carry in our lives. Many of us are so afraid of our own weaknesses that we try to hide them at any cost. And, in this way we end up living double lives, a life that we present to the world and an anxious inner life that at times can be totally out of control. The split between these two lives can cause a lot of tension and suffering to ourselves and those whom we love.

Overcoming these fears and becoming more open and honest to the people we love and meet along the Way helps us to understand the storms that we face together and the depth of common humanity.

In sharing our weakness and being attentive to the other, helps us to show our true humanity, not as despair but as a source of hope and common concern. And, if I am able to truly confess, my weakness and dependence on others, on friendship, love and building partnerships in community, then I believe that those who we meet along the Way will be blessed by the presence of Christ who is always with us. Let us set out in faith to the 'other side'.....

*Love...Ian+*

**Ian and  
Frauke with  
Bishop  
Rose**





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## Prayer and Share

For the past few weeks a group of about 10 of us has been meeting in church at 11:30am on Wednesday. Socially distanced and with masks, we spend about 20 minutes on readings, prayers, a poem and a piece of music then open up for general discussion. If you would like to join us please come along - no preparation is required, and we hope that you, like us, will find it a calming and uplifting experience.



## **FRIDAY CLUB**

We met up at the Fox on 14th August for sausage and chips and a nice cold drink.

This is the second time we have been able to meet up with social distancing being observed during the lock down and it is so good to catch up with our members. The weather was kind, although a little humid, but all in all a lovely afternoon. Thanks to Alyson, Steve and Beverley .

It has now been agreed that, all being well, we shall resume our club meetings on 4th September and are very much looking forward to our new home at the Baptist Church.

So for now stay safe and well until next time.

***Yvonne***

# ANNUAL VILLAGE FOOTPATHS WALK

(socially distanced)

## Sunday 13th September

### 1 – 3.30pm

Our assembly point will be in the garden to the Baptist Church by Players Corner.

Please bring your own refreshments which can be consumed in the garden following the walk.



Unfortunately, current restrictions mean that we will not be able to host the usual WI tea. However, toilets will be open.



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## ***Ride & Stride for Kent Churches*** ***Saturday 12th September 10am – 6pm***

Due to Covid19 and restrictions on church services, fund raising etc. our church is in desperate need of funds. Why not sign up to this event either by walking, cycling or even horse riding? Sponsorship forms and further information will be available from Betty Pilcher (01304330706).

If you are unable to walk etc. you could collect sponsors to sit in the church porch to sign visitors in. Half of all money raised is given to our church and the other half to the charity. By supporting this event we are able to approach the charity for financial help when work is needed on the church's fabric.



### **Scout Hut at River**

Friday - Beavers 4-30 to 5-30pm

Tuesday - Cubs 6-30 to 8-30pm

Monday - Scouts 6-30 to 8-30pm



## Solar Together Kent



**Solar panels are a good investment –  
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Solar Together Kent is a group-buying scheme, which brings Kent households and small businesses together to get high-quality solar panels at a competitive price.

If you already have solar panels installed you can also register to have battery storage added to your ex-isting solar panels to maximise the benefits of your system, simply select this option on the website when registering.

Registration opens 1 September 2020 at [www.solartogether.co.uk/dover](http://www.solartogether.co.uk/dover)

**1. Registration:** you can register before 6 October for free and without obligation at [www.solartogether.co.uk/dover](http://www.solartogether.co.uk/dover). To register you simply provide details about your roof, such as its size and orientation.

Applications should be made by the property owner, with landlords and small businesses limited to 50 panels.

**2. Auction:** an 'auction' will be held on 6 October, when our pre-vetted solar installers will bid for the work. The more people that register, the better the deal should be for each household.

**3. Personal recommendation:** from 26 October you will be emailed with a personal recommendation, based on your registration details. This includes your costs and specifications of your solar panel installation.

**4. You decide:** the decision is then yours as to whether you want to accept your recommendation. There is no obligation to continue. You will have until 11 December to decide and will be invited to visit an information session.

**5. Installation:** if you accept, the winning supplier will contact you to survey your roof and set an installation date. All installations are planned to be completed by the end of May 2021.

**Get in touch** - If you have any questions you can call Solar Together for free on 0800 014 8721, Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm





## 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.



Coffee Morning at The Fox — what could be nicer on a sunny day?

## RIVER ART GROUP

We currently have vacancies in our Class that meets on  
Tuesday mornings 9.30-11.30am term times  
in River Village Hall (cost is £50 per term)

Our teacher is well known local artist, Penny Bearman

Call Jeanette on 01304 826386 for more info

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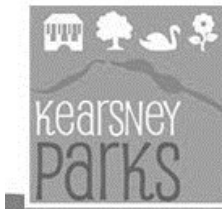
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## **Coronavirus**

**If you are going to the park, please respect the social distancing measures and keep at least 2 metres away from other people. You can see the latest government advice on Coronavirus at [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)**

## **Please use our parks responsibly.**

The car park at Kearsney Abbey has been re-opened. We will be closely monitoring how it is used. If it becomes apparent that national guidelines are not being followed, we may be required to close the car park again.

There is a temporary café and temporary toilets (including one with disabled access) in Kearsney Abbey.

The Kearsney Park permanent café and toilets will open once the development works have been completed and DDC takes possession of the building. All applications for events on DDC land will each be considered on merit, in line with government guidance, as to whether the event is able to go ahead. More information is available at [www.dover.gov.uk/events](http://www.dover.gov.uk/events)

## **The following statement has been issued by our contractors, idverde:**

idverde are continuing to work with their clients to monitor and review this rapidly changing situation. In line with Government information and guidelines, we are constantly putting further measures in place for sites that are still open to ensure the safety of our colleagues.

This is constantly being reviewed. Additional guidance and safe working measures have been put in place to ensure those colleagues able to work can travel there safely and can adhere to the prescribed social distancing measures both in workplaces and in transit to work. Where the minimum distance measures cannot be maintained, including travelling, work will not continue.

Thank you for your co-operation during these unprecedented times.  
If you are concerned or have any queries please contact **0800 917 6263**.

## Welcome to Kearsney Abbey & Russell Gardens

There's something for all the family at Russell Gardens and Kearsney Abbey - visitors already enjoy great days out at Kearsney Parks but we're looking to make the experience even better. We're restoring these two historic parks to create a unique heritage, community and event venue.

**THANK YOU!** To everyone who contributed to our Heritage Lottery Fund bid for the Kearsney Parks. We've secured a £3m investment for our restoration and improvement plans. While the work is taking place, there is limited parking available on site. Please think about using public transport, cycling or walking to the parks. If you do drive, please think about the nearby residents. Please park considerately, and do not block emergency access routes. Thank you.

## Works In Russell Gardens

Site works are under way in Russell Gardens. This means there is no access to the north side of the ornamental lake at this time. We apologise for any inconvenience.

We have closed off some pathways into Russell Gardens. The pathway from the new timber gate main entrance to Russell Garden is open, and access to Bushy Ruff is via the ornamental brick boat house and pathway. Due to site limitation we are not able to have a step free access route currently, however further pathway works and route closures/openings will be notified in due course.

For further updates please subscribe to Keep Me Posted.

**Subscribe Here**

## Cafe extension

As part of our National Lottery funded project at Kearsney Abbey we're building a 180 sq. m. extension to the cafe. This will provide an enlarged café with modern kitchen facilities, along with new customer toilets. The extension and toilets will be fully accessible, including a **Changing Places facility**. A new outside space will provide additional seating.

Please excuse our appearance whilst this exciting project is underway.



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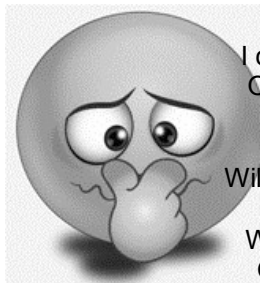
**THE DAILY DILEMMA**

The day the gas men came to dig a trench .....

The noise is dreadful, will I hear the 'phone?  
Will I hear what I am supposed to do?  
A trench is being dug outside  
Quick, close the door, phew!

When will they be finished?  
I can hardly hear myself speak!  
Oh, I'll go and get a cup of tea  
Quick, close the door, eek!

Will it just be today they are here?  
Or will it be tomorrow too?  
We don't wish to smell the gas  
Quick, close the door, phew!



© Anne Cox 2018

## WHAT A MESS

I've got a cupboard all painted pink  
but, what's inside? Not what you think,  
not rows of jumpers neatly pressed,  
but one big jumble awful mess.

It's not that I'm lazy or even a slob,  
I'm holding a very prestigious job.  
It's just life's flying with no time at all  
to tidy my cupboards or paint my old wall.

It's just that I'm finding my days so  
oppressed;  
I'm late – or I'm early – I have to confess.  
My shoe has a hole and my hair's like a nest.  
Oh, boy, I suppose it's just one awful mess.

My cat's got the mange though I care for her so,  
my parrot sings songs that are so full of woe,  
and even the garden – my flowers want to grow -  
I suppose I'm just stressed. Oh boy! What a mess.

And, oh, that old news, just what can we say?  
It's just getting worse with each passing day.  
Wiull it ever get better? I'm so looking forward to that  
time of sweet rest -  
with no more eternal, infernal mess!



**Mary**





## Temple Ewell and District Produce Association

Once again sad news we have had to cancel our Autumn Show on 5th September in the Village Hall but Reece will do another virtual show on that day for us.

Please join in and send your photo's of fruit, flowers, veg and cookery to [info@tedpa.club](mailto:info@tedpa.club) before Wednesday 2nd September. We do hope your flowers and veg survived the 90 plus degrees of early August.

Looking forward to seeing the entries on the 5th and really hope next year everything will be back to normal.

Please can members keep hold of the 2020 schedule as we will use it for 2021. A new front sheet with the new dates will be printed and delivered where possible later, also the new dates will be printed in Temple Ewell Newsletter.

*Trevor*

[info@tedpa.club](mailto:info@tedpa.club)



## Temple Ewell W.I.

No report this month but dates for 2021 are:

January	14th
February	11th
March	11th
April	8th
May	13th
June	10th
July	8th
August	TBA
September	9th
October	14th
November	11th
December	9th

Meetings are held monthly on Thursday evenings at 7pm in  
Temple Ewell Village Hall



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Refurbishments to our home and improvements to our service are in process and ongoing.

If you or your loved one is considering the need for residential or nursing care, please feel free to contact us or come and visit us to see what we can offer.

We look forward to welcoming you to our home.



## Temple Ewell Nursing Home

Wellington Road, Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent, CT16 3DB

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[www.temple-ewell.co.uk](http://www.temple-ewell.co.uk)

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## County Councillor

The Covid-19 helpline within the Kent and Medway Growth hub was set up early in lockdown in March, sponsored by KCC. Up to 24<sup>th</sup> July it had received 8,470 phone calls; dealt with 1,890 queries via the web chat line; providing 3,301 individual phone based advice sessions.

This week saw the rebranding of the Covid-19 Helpline and the launch of the Business Recovery Workshop programme with 190 businesses registering in the first few days. The workshops and one to one sessions begin over the next few weeks to help businesses assess what action they can take to increase the chances of their business continuing to trade.

A few businesses continue to seek clarity around the re-opening of certain sectors, but in general most seem comfortable with their understanding of their obligations. Perhaps surprisingly, the introduction of the face mask guidance didn't cause as much concern as anticipated as this appears to have been seen as a consumer requirement rather than a business issue.

There has been a worrying number of calls relating to redundancy and it may be that, as forecast a few weeks ago, this is the lagged effect of the economic shock associated with lockdown starting to play out. Access to cash flow is still a focus of attention. Conversations suggest that some businesses are reluctant to take on further debt; as they don't have confidence in their future trading strength. The shift from high street to online continues at pace, as retailers seek to replace the losses in footfall. While some areas have seen the benefits of pent up demand, most see the need for an online presence as being critical. KCC will continue to provide all the support it can to businesses struggling to recover and thrive.

A video for schoolchildren using the bus to and from school from September is planned, which will feature in special 'back to school' newsletters for parents of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), Disability and residents, as well as being promoted on social media. Kent Communications is also working with Strategic Commissioning, Headstart and the NHS on an article for these newsletters and elsewhere to help parents and schools support children coming back to school who might be particularly anxious or worried. All communications will be fully covered on [kent.gov](https://www.kent.gov.uk), including information on parental expectations of specific transport options for eligible learners.

While on the subject of school transport, detailed transport guidance from the DfE has been expected for over four weeks, since school return announced, and is still awaited. However, initial planning for transport services is underway, based on the current guidance. Guidance has been provided to schools to explain current limitations on the transport available, but focussing on what planning

can still be completed. Clear communication lines for all schools enabling them to raise individual concerns have been established. SEN students will be provided their normal hired transport and mainstream students entitled to transport will continue to be provided with either dedicated hired vehicles or a season ticket on a local bus.

Initial guidance for these pupils does not require social distancing on dedicated school transport vehicles, due to the consistent cohort and lack of interaction with the general public. Social distancing and face covering requirements are clear for different pupils on different types of transport and will be implemented. The schools transport team has worked with local bus operators to identify services which can be designated as for schools only, which increases on-vehicle capacity to 70% from the normal 50%.

The application window for the Kent Travel Saver remains open. Applications made by the 9th August are guaranteed a pass in time for start of term. The application process for free school transport has been available throughout the lockdown period and applications are being submitted. The cost of KCC subsidising school travel passes for parents amounts to £8 million annually, from its budget. Not all county councils around Britain provide such a scheme and this should be viewed as a privilege and not a right, for it could be withdrawn if KCC has to make savings as a result of COVID-19 creating a financial drain on its funds.

There are currently 508, under 18 year old, unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) in the County. There have been 331 new arrivals since the start of the year, including 50 young people so far in July.

Quarantining of young people arriving was stopped on 10<sup>th</sup> July in line with government guidance (unless they have been in a Country not on the exempt list within the previous 14 days). This enabled Oakwood House, which had previously been used for those quarantined, to be taken out of use. All young people are now housed at Millbank, Swattenden, Appledore, and the Mansion House, with Oakwood House being kept as contingency accommodation in case there is a sudden rise in numbers or the requirement to quarantine all those arriving from France is reintroduced.

As of today, 75 young people have moved to other Local Authorities as part of the partially revitalised National Transfer Scheme, with a further 10 moving this week. We are grateful to our colleagues working in other local authorities for this and the other 137 offers of placement that have come through. The service is working hard to match young people to the pledges made. It is worth noting that there have been no known Covid-19 cases among the new arrivals.

Finally, I am very concerned at the loss of employment some members of our community may suffer due to the impact of COVID-19 on local businesses, including some of the major ferry companies at Dover Port, even though some of these companies took advantage of the Central Government financial schemes.

I would like to assist those who have been made redundant to become reemployed quickly to stave off financial problems along with the worries that brings. To this end, if anyone on my ward has been made redundant, please email me, I require NO NARRATIVE, just first and family name, email address, contact telephone landline and mobile number, type of occupation before redundancy, any particular additional skills eg class1 HGV driver, qualified mechanic, seamstress, etc. By sending me your email, you accept and agree to giving me open permission to pass your details on to a potential recruiter. I will not reply to your emails, other than acknowledge its receipt.

If you operate your own business or control a major business and you require one or more staff, full or part time, once more I require no narrative just your first and family name the name of the company, farm or small holding contact email address and phone number. Just email to me the type and number of job vacancies you have. Once more I will only acknowledge receipt of your email. My intention is to get those who have suddenly lost an income back to receiving an income quickly, to ease any major financial worries and to support local industry grow. To do this, all my rôle will be is to pass the details of those unemployed to business operators and farmers who require staff.

Whilst I encourage those who are out of work to sign on at the Department for Work and Pensions, hopefully, if we all work to support each other, should you be unemployed you may be recruited sooner and then this will ease the case load for the DWP too.

Finally, those unemployed who may consider this is the time to start their own business. My advice, really research that business, is there a market? be honest with yourself, do you have the discipline, the energy, the tenacity and strength of character and knowledge to actually run such a business, are you prepared to put in the time ? Are you prepared to listen and learn? If you feel you have what it takes, drop me a brief line stating what type of business you would like to consider starting, explain why you believe there is a market by evidencing your beliefs, explain how you intend to fund it and I may be able to assist you further with advice. One of my many rôles at KCC is "start up business enterprise and support." I am contactable on [Geoff.Lymer@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Geoff.Lymer@kent.gov.uk).

**Geoffrey Lymer**  
**Kent County Councillor Dover West Ward**



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KCC Highways to report faults with roads/lights etc	03000 418181
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Dover Leisure Centre	201145
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Age Concern      Maggie Paterson	207268

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