

July
2020

KEYS



Hildenborough village news

THE LORD bless you
and KEEP you; THE
LORD make His face
shine upon you,
And be GRACIOUS to
you; THE LORD lift
up His COUNTENANCE
upon you, And give
you PEACE.



Important information from
Hildenborough Medical Centre
see page 6

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From the Vicar

We live in a changing world. Things appear to be happening so fast in our current environment that many of us hardly have time to process what happened yesterday. We are getting rapid changing directives from the government on how to live our lives. Many people tell me they feel powerless in so many areas of their lives. Two things stand out for me in currently

1. Jesus never changes

The bible says "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." Hebrews 13:8 Therefore, Jesus is reliable and dependable. We can ask Him to help us when we are anxious and fear change or lack of control. He is trustworthy with our lives.

2. We can accept change is part of life and God can use it for Good

Philippians 4:6-7 in the message version of the bible says this. "Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let requests and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the centre of your life."

Here are just four statements in our personal lives we can make to start to see change.

I am sorry I forgive you
I love you Thank you

I wonder if you know the Serenity prayer? It originates in Christianity and was written by Theologian Karl Paul Reinhold Niebuhr. At its root is a desire to surrender our cares and control to God so that we may live in serenity. Free from stress, worry and anxiety.

The Serenity Prayer opens a wide door to spiritual growth and healing. It offers spiritual truths and practical wisdom to all people. Those who learn to live and breathe this prayer in their daily lives discover the balance between acceptance and change, the precious gift of serenity - a gift that is available to us with each new day and enlightens our lifelong spiritual journey. The prayer helps us examine our inner life and to understand that we can influence our feelings and our emotional health through the things we can control - our thinking and our actions. By focusing on those two factors, we strengthen our capacity for courage, the final quality promised in the Serenity Prayer.

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can,
And wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time,
Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace.
Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it.
Trusting that Jesus will make things right
If I surrender to His Will,
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with Him.
Forever and ever in the next.
Amen.
God Bless

Tim

ACTIVITIES AT THE CHURCH CENTRE

“OPEN TO EVERYBODY”

WHO LET THE DADS OUT ?

*For Dads and young children,
Hildenborough Church Centre
Second Saturday of the month 10 a.m.
Contact: Andrew Nurcombe-Thorne
Phone - 07506 737 633
Email – andrewnthorne@hotmail.com*

THE KING'S MEN'S GROUP

Will meet monthly in the Church hall at 7.30 till 10 pm. All men are welcome - come and meet us in a relaxed friendly atmosphere, where we can hear new exciting and encouraging testimony.
**More information from Gordon Paterson
01732 832 079 or 07836 262 833**

We plan to open the church for personal prayer soon, and will communicate that to the community after discussions with those involved, on how we can do that safely in compliance with current regulations.

11.15AM FORMAL SERVICE

TUESDAYS

11.15AM MORNING SERVICE (SPOKEN)

Hildenborough Gospel Hall

Sunday meetings

- 11.45am Wayfinders Children's Meeting; school term time only
- 6.30pm Gospel Meeting; not last Sunday of the month
- 4.30pm Gospel Meeting; only last Sunday of the month

Thursdays

- 7.00 pm Prayer and Bible Teaching

Mount Pleasant, Hildenborough, TN11 9JG
info@hildenboroughgospelhall.co.uk
www.hildenboroughgospelhall.co.uk/

WHO'S WHO IN ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

CLERGY	Vicar: Revd. Tim Sait Tel: 833 596 or Mobile: 07973 136 968 tim@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
CHILDREN and FAMILIES' PASTOR	Marcus Hockley (07800 887 938) marcus@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
READER and SENIORS' PASTOR	Sue Trowbridge (833 848)
CHURCH WEBSITE	www.stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
WARDENS	David Green (838 435), Wyatt Glass (832 430)
ARCHIVIST	Terry Barton (832 207)
PCC SECRETARY	Amanda Willmont (350 565) (NB <i>Parish Council tel. is on p 38</i>) amanda@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
TREASURER	Chris Mileham (chris.mileham@virginmedia.com)
CHURCH CENTRE BOOKINGS	Cynthia Fawcus (833 397) cafawcus@hotmail.com
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR and PA to the VICAR	Sal Hamlyn, Church Office, St John's Church Centre, Foxbush, TN11 9HT, (833 596) Email: sal@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk (do ring the church office or email Sal any time, if you would like to discuss any pastoral or administrative matter, or if you would like to make an appointment with the Vicar).
YOUTH WORK	See organisations list on page 38
"KEYS" MAGAZINE	Editor: David Haugh (832 869) Deputy Editor: Claire Rawlinson (834 896) Distribution: Clem Giles (833 543) Advertising: Jill Hinds (07931 976 957) keysmag@hotmail.com keysmagazineadvertising@gmail.com

There was an editorial error in last month's Keys which referred to donations needed to enable the Hospice 'to continue to care for our aged and elderly persons needing help'. This is incorrect. The stated mission of Hospice in the Weald is to 'provide compassionate, personalised and holistic care for everyone in our community living with a terminal illness, and for those important to them'.

Hildenborough Friends Group for Hospice in the Weald.



Church and Community News
www.stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
www.hildenboroughpc.org.uk



HTMG and Coronavirus

We find ourselves in extraordinary times. In March, daily life for most of us changed overnight; HTMG was no exception. Within the space of just a few days, we moved to telephone assessment of all appointment requests, in line with national guidance, had to close our Trenchwood site due to ongoing staff shortages, began consulting via telephone or video where possible, had staff working from home and implemented countless other infection control measures and

procedural changes in response to government advice and the evolving pandemic.

Due to the changes all of us made, the national situation with the virus has improved.

However, we must still continue to follow government guidance and work in different ways to prevent an increase in infection rates. This is particularly important in General Practice where we are often dealing with the most vulnerable members of society.

Understandably we have received a lot of questions related to government advice, in particular the need to follow shielding or social distancing measures. **The answers to most of these can be found on the gov.uk website and we ask that you take time to read this before contacting us by e-mail.**

On a different subject we also ask that you please allow 7 days before collecting repeat prescriptions; in doing so you help us make best use of our staff time. We continue to work closely with local chemists to ensure your repeat prescriptions are processed as normal. Things have continued to move at a frenetic pace, but we aim to continue to provide the high standard of care we offer. Thanks to the tireless work of our own Doctors Winstanley and Perry, along with other members of our Primary Care Network, we were extremely fortunate to be one of the first areas to set up a coronavirus assessment centre. Staffing has been provided through collaboration with other practices. Most patients with the disease do not require assessment, but this facility has had extra infection control measures in place to enable safer face to face assessment of those with more severe symptoms, who do not require immediate transfer to hospital. It has been based at Tonbridge School and is currently being relocated.

We would like to thank all staff, and the large number of volunteers at the surgery who have worked so hard on behalf of our patients during this challenging time. Thank you to everyone again for their encouragement, support and patience, and please, **take care.**

Dr James Rumbles

GP Partner, Hildenborough and Tonbridge Medical Group

Forget-me-not Cafés



Companionship over a cuppa



How are you all? We have had some lovely hot sunny days, but I must confess today as I write, that the weather has changed and it is very chilly and raining (good for the garden); I have had to put my long trousers back on! At the end of May, the Forget-me-not Café organiser, Elaine, held a virtual café on Zoom. It was an interesting experience and it was lovely to see some familiar faces. Our café friend Phil led us all in a sing-a-long, which had us all laughing, as there were a few hiccups and we will be attempting another one at the end of June to see if we have learned from our mistakes!

The Hildenborough café, as you may know, is held in the St. John's Church Centre and run mostly by volunteers from the Church. We are missing seeing you all and are looking forward to the time when we can all come together and have a good catch up chat. If you would like a chat before then or details of the cafes, please give me or Elaine a call on the numbers below. We are beginning to see some of the lockdown restrictions being lifted, but the Alzheimer's Society has a support line which is open every day for anyone experiencing problems and would like advice. It is 0333 150 3456.

As soon as we are able to reopen the café, Elaine (07805 367 268) or myself, Julie (01732 833 125) will be in touch. Until then please keep safe.

Julie Rhodes

ANNA CHAPLAINCY IN HILDENBOROUGH

What is Anna Chaplaincy? This is a Christian, community-based chaplaincy for older people developed by the Gift of Years network and the Diocese of Rochester to deliver spiritual care services for those with dementia in care homes, private homes, churches and community settings with people of strong, little or no faith, as well as family, friends and care staff. All Anna Chaplains are volunteers, carefully recruited and provided with training and support. There are also Anna Friends who support the Chaplains.

The Anna Chaplaincy hopes to be a voice for people with dementia and their families working in the community, to help them become dementia friendly. It is important to respond to spiritual needs in dementia, so that faith can continue to be a source of strength and encouragement through diagnosis and beyond. Support is given through listening, sharing and prayer ministry.

Why "Anna"? This recognises the work and dedication of the work of the faithful older woman Anna in the Bible in Luke's Gospel. Anna lived in the temple and recognised the baby Jesus as the fulfilment of God's promises – older people have prophetic voices and life-sharing experiences.

Anna Chaplains in Hildenborough At St. John's Church there are two Anna Chaplains, Julie and Susan, whose role is to support those with dementia, their family and carers through faith and pastoral care. Julie and Susan work closely with the Church Pastoral Team to support the community of Hildenborough. The Church currently supports a monthly Forget-me-not Café and holds an annual Carol Service at Christmas time for the older members of our local community. To contact Julie or Susan please telephone the Church Office.

*Julie Rhodes and Susan Trowbridge
Anna Chaplains, St. John's Church*

Finding Hope

Thank you to those who had a go at the writing competition from May's Keys magazine, even if you weren't brave enough to send it in. The winner for category B (adults) was Emily Wootton, with her poem 'The Songbird'. Her piece was inspired by an interview with Robin Wall Kimmerer (best-selling American nature writer) in the Guardian. Emily says, "Kimmerer's hopes for increased compassion extend beyond the human realm to greater ecological concerns. Kimmerer asks the question: 'Can we at some point turn our attention away to say that the vulnerability we are experiencing right now is what songbirds feel every single day of their lives? Could this extend our sense of ecological compassion?'. My poem is, in part, inspired by this revelation. Anxiety in the face of change and uncertainty are nothing new to the natural world. As Kimmerer points out, we too are part of this world and 'subject to the laws of nature'. It is a world that delivers us moments of despair, and moments of hope."

Here is Emily's poem...

The Songbird

Undeterred by threat of disease, money shortages or reduced freedoms
The songbird wakes with the early risers
Beckoning them with the promise of a new morning.
For the bird there is always fear: spring is but a hiatus from migration.
Forever braced for the changing seasons and climates
The songbird enjoys an audience of restless sleepers, and the ever-shifting sky.
Like the songbird, we too show fortitude through our actions.
But behind heavy doors there are tears: illness seeps uncaringly through the walls.
As a flock, we show strength in our numbers; but in solitude still there are many.
Unafraid of the lightless morning, there is authority in their call; there is hope in their song.
You will not be alone today. When the songbird's voice falls on your ears
Remember the multitudes of ears that hear it too.
Spring hurtles into summer again, as predictable as rain.
And again the songbird will ready itself for change.
There is hope and familiarity in their voice, and it invites us to join their chorus.

The runner-up in Category B was Nancy Evans. Here is her poem:

Hopeful Companions

I've seen fly-wasps plying, playing hide and seek as I prepare for runner beans a new bed
for squash and cabbages a place to lay their head.
I talk to bumblebees but not to plants, put carrots with the onions, beetroot and garlic,
celeriac snuggled up to leeks, carrots in the onion patch
Waiting for dill planted in pots, keeping still 'til it's time.
As we didn't have any entries for category A (under 12s), we plan to launch a children's story writing competition later in the year - watch this space!

Sarah Crockford

Judge Sarah

Sarah Crockford, as a past winner of the Hammond House International Literary Prize, has been invited to join the judging panel for this year's competition. She will be involved in the screenplay category (for ten-minute film scripts), where the top prize is £100, and the winner and two-runners up will have teaser-trailers made by Hammond House Productions. There are also other categories for short stories and poetry, where all short-listed entries will be published in the Prize anthology - so it's well worth having a go. The deadline is 30th September, and the theme this year is 'Survival'. All details about how to enter can be found at www.hammondhousepublishing.com/competitions.

If you'd like to have a go at the screenplay competition, but don't know how to start, Sarah will be putting some advice on her website. Good luck!

Please feel free to colour in this bouquet—give it some life!



I am delighted to be able to tell you that Hildenborough Farmers' Market **will be back in action from 7th July 2020**, but operating, at the moment, from St. John's Church car park. As we make our first tentative steps into getting back to normal, things are going to be very different, and I hope you will bear with us while we take a leap into the unknown with social distancing and everything else we are now having to consider to make it possible at all. Let's hope that the fantastic weather in May returns to shine on us.

Many of you will have been patronising Rob, Mikey, Carla and Helen at the Half Moon car park just down the road during the lockdown, and we now have twelve of our lovely stallholders eager to return and start serving you again. (Details below) You may find that some of them are happy to take orders and/or payment in advance and this might be helpful to make sure you can get what you want. But it won't work for all and this is one of the things we will all have to play by ear.

Parking will be restricted to the left-hand side for customers and a one way system in operation to look out for, but be assured that we will do *everything* in our power to keep you safe. If it is possible to walk, that would be a good idea.

It does mean, unfortunately, that we will not be able to offer coffee and the social interaction which is such a part of our Farmers' Market (or toilet facilities), but you will be able to see and greet many old faces. Nor will we be able to hold our 'Cooking for Kids' event during August for the first time. This has not been an annual fixture at the Market for eleven years and enjoyed by so many young people, and for this we are very sorry.

But things are beginning to look up, and although we have missed the asparagus, at least we have wonderful summer produce to relish.

We look forward to welcoming all our customers, old and new. The 'Yellow Jacket' brigade will be there to help you.

In all this excitement we mustn't forget the great kindness of the Half Moon Pub in Hildenborough. They have been kindness itself, and at a time when other facilities were not open to us, they stepped up for the Village and hosted our stallholders and shoppers there. Well done Steve, Karen and Ann, we appreciate so much all you have done for us. Why not reciprocate their kindness by popping in (when they are open again, of course) for an early lunch when you have done your market shopping or indeed any day of the week when you fancy a change from cooking yet another meal. A great welcome awaits.

Stallholder contact list:

Helen Aldridge, Cakes	helen.aldridge@btinternet.com
Rob Rusbridge, Bread	robrusbridge@live.co.uk
Carla Betts, Winterdale Cheese	carlabetts3812@gmail.com
Mike Janey, Fish	text to 07427 549457
Mari Wendy Evans, Preserves	wendyevans33@hotmail.com
Maria Bannock, Momapaws	momapawshomecraft@gmail.com
Denice Cartwright, Pure Peace	denice@purepeace.co.uk
Camilla and Paul, Hever Flowers	camilla@heverflowers.com
Elly Obeney, Contain Yourself	elly@containyourselftw.com
Gary Polekett, Primary Science	garpolykett@gmail.com
Mark Puckett, Sanden Vineyard	markpuckett@btinternet.com
Andy from Pympe Court Farm with his vegetables and fruit will also attend.	

Hildenborough Farmers' Market is held every Tuesday 9.00-11.00 at St. John's Church, Hildenborough. www.hildenboroughfarmersmarket.co.uk.

Contact: Janet Richardson 01732 838 903. 402 bus stops outside.

The wordsearch contains the names of 16 common garden weeds. How many have you found in your garden ?

Couch grass
Bramble
Dandelion
Daisy
Stinging nettle
Goosegrass
Fat hen
Buttercup
Herb Robert
Herb Bennet
Bindweed
Plantain
Silver weed
Hawkbite
Wild Arum
Ladies Smock

P	Q	P	S	D	Z	D	Y	S	I	A	D	H	Z	N
X	D	U	S	E	G	A	A	S	Z	I	A	F	M	P
N	Y	C	A	E	S	C	V	T	B	F	N	A	T	L
O	R	R	R	W	I	D	F	I	A	E	V	T	D	A
H	S	E	G	D	L	N	E	N	H	L	K	H	T	N
A	S	T	H	N	V	O	H	G	E	B	C	E	Z	T
W	A	T	C	I	E	I	E	I	R	M	O	N	P	A
K	R	U	U	B	R	L	R	N	B	A	M	M	F	I
B	G	B	O	M	W	E	B	G	B	R	S	U	Y	N
I	E	A	C	V	E	D	R	N	E	B	S	R	F	T
T	S	I	Z	Q	E	N	O	E	N	J	E	A	L	Q
F	O	D	C	R	D	A	B	T	N	M	I	D	U	B
C	O	V	Y	J	Q	D	E	T	E	Z	D	L	R	G
R	G	N	A	Y	T	O	R	L	T	X	A	I	I	B
U	M	J	T	M	A	O	T	E	S	A	L	W	Y	M

Cooking Corner: Easy Vegetable Risotto

This recipe featured on Jamie Oliver's *Keep Cooking and Carry On* series in the early days of lockdown. Jamie's contagious enthusiasm persuaded me to give it a try, and I have been making it ever since. Risotto always sounded like too much 'faff' to me - too much stirring and feeding - but Jamie's recipe is fool-proof, even for the novice chefs amongst us! By using different vegetables each time (whatever needs using up in the fridge or freezer is fine) each pot of risotto becomes its very own. Only one thing remains the same: the risotto is best served piping hot, so be sure to rally everyone to the table in plenty of time!

Serves 6

You will need:

- 1 litre of stock (1 stock cube)
 - 1 onion
 - 1 stick of celery (or leek, or some of both)
 - Olive oil
 - 300g risotto rice (I swap in 100g quinoa)
 - 300g mixed frozen veg (such as peas, spinach, green beans)
 - 60g cheese (plus extra for serving)
 - 125ml white wine (optional)
 - 1 lemon (optional)
- Optional: edamame beans, tofu or chicken, for extra protein.

1. Start by simmering the stock on a low heat. Add any leftover vegetables you may have to the stock – this will give the risotto extra flavour.
2. Finely chop the onion, celery/leek and add to a large saucepan with 1 tbsp of olive oil. Cook on a low heat for 5-10 minutes until the vegetables are soft.
3. Turn up the heat, add the rice/quinoa and stir for 2 minutes. Then stir in the wine (if using), until it is fully absorbed.
4. Begin adding one ladleful of hot stock at a time, allowing it to be fully absorbed before adding more. Continue this for 15-20 minutes, until the rice is soft, but still holding its shape.
5. When the rice is nearly ready, stir in the frozen veg (plus any extras), turn off the heat, and beat in the cheese.
6. Add another ladleful of stock – or use your judgement – to keep the risotto loose. Then cover the risotto for a few minutes before serving. Finish each portion with a little olive oil and a squeeze of lemon. Then enjoy!

Extra tip: If you added extra vegetables to your stock, such as cauliflower or broccoli that needed using up, try blending the leftovers for a lunchtime soup!



Emily Wootton

south east water

Together we can make a big difference

When it's hot and with more people at home water use has increased.

We're pumping millions of litres more through our pipes to keep up – but there may be low pressure at times for some people.

You can help us make sure everyone has the water they need to drink, cook, wash and clean with, when they need it.

Small changes, like **leaving your lawn to go brown** and **not washing the car**, can make a huge difference.

Water is precious, whatever the weather.
Thank you for being a water saving hero.

More water saving tips are at southeastwater.co.uk



Pure know how

The Night Sky in Hildenborough – July 2020

The phrase “What goes around comes around” must be more applicable to astronomy than it is for any other branch of science. We know that the yearly path of the Earth around the Sun gives rise to the gradual passing of the seasons and the almost imperceptible changing of the constellations that we associate with each season in turn. For example in July and August the appropriately named Summer Triangle is dominant whilst in the depths of winter Orion and his retinue take centre stage. Although the Hunter has gone for now we know that when the long nights return, so shall he. Similar rhythms hold true for the planets although they all have their own individual yearly cycles.

Since the beginning of 2020 we’ve been used to seeing the brilliant Venus shining in the west after sunset but now it has gone: moving into the morning sky whilst tiny Mercury has followed suit. However, there are compensations and they come by way of the reappearance in the evening sky of the “gas giants” Jupiter and Saturn to be followed in late August by the red planet, Mars.



At the beginning of July Jupiter rises at 10pm with Saturn following about fifteen minutes later. However, things improve later in the month because both make their closest approach to Earth in mid July: Jupiter on the 14th and Saturn on the 20th. The time when another planet is closest is referred to astronomically as “opposition” and simply means that Jupiter (or Saturn) are opposite the Sun in the sky. It follows then that as the Sun sets in the west the planet in question rises in the east with the reverse happening in the morning. Any planet at opposition is therefore visible throughout the

hours of darkness (short as they are at this time of year).

The diagram shows the positions of Jupiter and Saturn at 11pm around the middle of July.

Sadly the positions of both planets at the moment mean that they never rise particularly high in the sky and so are not seen at their best. However, if you have even a modest pair of binoculars you will be able to follow the motions of the four brightest satellites (the Galilean Moons) of Jupiter as they circle the planet. You will be able to see them more easily if you are able to mount your binoculars on a tripod: failing that you could find a solid fence post to rest them on.

Brian Mills FRAS

Hildenborough Eco Volunteers

We will be back litter picking again with the ease of lockdown. During lockdown, or near lockdown, we have noticed several discarded dirty plastic gloves, bottles of hand sanitiser and medical masks in Westwood, Watts Cross and the B245, particularly by the Covid Assessment Centre and the Medical Centre. Now, with the lockdown easing, we are seeing discarded 1664 cans (he is back again after furlough), plastic coca-cola bottles and sandwich wrappers. We haven't even seen the phantom nappy-tosser at Watts Cross too, so that is some good news. Our rural lanes appeared to be much tidier, and less like a No-Go area, when most motorists were staying home. The wildlife has had some kind of reprieve.

Since easing, however, we have reported four black sacks of grass cuttings and a carpet that was dumped in Mill Lane. We are pleased to say that they now have been picked up a week later by the Council.

We were very pleased to see a strongly worded notice by a resident in Coldharbour Lane, asking for lockdown ramblers to take their litter home. It is great to see some rural locals making a stand against rural littering. In honour of that, we hope to include Coldharbour Lane on our rural Car Litter patrols. Some of our volunteers are stuck in London or have hay-fever issues, so bear with us.

In parts of Hildenborough, we have not had our recycling collected for 8 days, and from the time this has gone to press, we have not had any reply from TMBC or the Borough Councillors. We haven't been given any explanation, which is frustrating. They have also been leaving a lot of litter behind, in private driveways and on the lanes, and we had to clear up after them.

Finally, we have spotted a secret drinking 'hot spot' on the MT34 footpath by Noble Tree Road. Young males have produced a lot of litter, and were clearly gathering during lockdown. Some of the alcohol was bought from One Stop on a Saturday evening. We hope that some offenders will be captured on CCTV. We have also seen nitrous oxide cartridges splattered in the middle of the Recreation Ground, with lots of KFC and Sainsburys bags around. They may not care, but we do, and we will be vigilant. It not nice for mental wellbeing to see our beautiful areas ruined by a minority of people.

Garden weeds to enjoy

Our gardens were once wild countryside which over the ages became cultivated as our skill at manging to select edible plants as crops improved. Along with the edible plants came opportunists. Plants looking for an opening in the market to give them space to grow.

Occasionally some of these plants appear in our gardens. Among them are some rather delicate plants with attractive tiny flowers. They get lumped in with other less elegant plants that we do not want to be called weeds. Among these are the Germander Speedwell with delicate blue flowers with a yellow centre (hence it is sometimes called Birds-eye) and a plant once common in arable crops, the Scarlet Pimpernel.



Scarlet Pimpernel

How these Mediterranean plants got to British soil is a mystery but we know that Neolithic man was trading with countries across Europe. They had fine flint axe heads to trade and one thing they would need would be cereal grain. With no idea of quality control, some of this grain seed would also contain the seeds of weeds from the crop. This is a weed that has been carried by man and occurs all over Europe and beyond. Mediterranean plants will grow in British soils and we still find them where there is freshly turned soil and not too much competition.



Germander Speedwell

The Scarlet Pimpernel, made famous by the use of the flower as a tattoo in the novel by Baroness Orczy, has tiny scarlet flowers that look perfectly formed in miniature. It is not a nuisance to the gardener and could be left to brighten the garden although it was not planted. In the past it was one of many weeds of arable land but modern cultivation techniques do not discriminate on looks. The Germander Speedwell can be troublesome as it drapes itself over other plants but again its delicate flowers can lead many to let it grow.

Every plant has its own preference for the type of soil in which it will grow. The Scarlet Pimpernel did not grow in Scotland but as the climate warms up they may also be able to enjoy this plant. Some weeds tolerate lime in the soil while others do not and a dose of lime to the garden to make it less acid will deter these plants. The good news is that many of the weeds do best in fertile neutral soil. The presence of weeds such as Shepherd's Purse shows that you have good soil. A similar weed that does well on fertile soil is Chickweed but this has tiny white flowers. So called as it provides food for chickens but in some areas it is also called "Mouseear."

A fertile garden can be home to a range of weeds all with different stories to tell. Controlling the weeds to favour our crops is a constant challenge for the gardener. For the new gardener it can seem to be a problem but if you love your weeds then the stress goes away. Remember, if you are too vigorous with your weeding then each plant you pull up disturbs the soil to reveal new weed seed. If you must control the troublesome plants than a gently hoe on a warm day will cut the plant away from its life support and it will wilt without bringing up too many new seeds.



Chickweed

George Gorham

From the Editor

This month includes an important message from our Medical Centre. The original article, due for the May issue, disappeared somewhere in the ether between HMG and the magazine.

Hopefully, that problem has been resolved, so there will be no bars to information flow in the future. Health is the most important topic for everyone, and we shall continue to broadcast to the village items of interest and importance from HMG. Please do read the article - it affects virtually everyone in Hildenborough. If you attend a practice in Tonbridge, precautions are likely to be similar, if not exactly identical.

Last month, daily deaths from Covid 19 were around the 500 per day mark. This has dropped, but is still in 3 figures, so please don't get complacent. We have spent 3 months or so being as careful as possible, and it would be a disaster if that were to be ruined by careless actions now. Do continue to look out for your neighbours - we are not yet at the stage where families can get together as before. As the saying goes - you know it makes sense.

If you have an interesting tale about the current situation, please send it in. If there are any heroes you think deserve to be mentioned, then do likewise. They do not have to work for the NHS (but could be) to be contributing to beating the disease. They won't get 15 minutes of fame - rather a permanent record of their actions.

Once again, I must remind you to be on your guard against scammers - both internet and telephone. The variety of topics chosen for scams is breath-taking and broad-ranging, and includes tax rebates, TV licence payments, insurance debit payments, police investigations, car tax, etc..... I still receive the old "419" emails advising me that for a little effort on my part, I can reap millions of dollars from an African bank that is just waiting to be collected.

By the time you read this, things will have changed again - it is impossible to keep up in a monthly magazine. In 1992, the Queen described the past year as "annus horribilis". 2020 has certainly eclipsed that, and every other year we have known. Stay safe.

From your local Kent County Councillor

Regular readers of my column will know that I tend to take a particular area for which KCC has responsibility and write thereon. This month I shall address schools and education. The recent and indeed ongoing restrictions on the movement of most of the population has certainly generated significant correspondence and telephone calls from my electorate. The coronavirus has enabled many residents to have the time to get in touch, and the last three months has been a peak period for contact from both residents and prospective residents. The most significant subject matter has been schools and schooling.

One of the most difficult matters with which to deal, has been the matter of work set for children who are unable to attend school, and as a result are being home educated. It is clear that many parents are concerned at the variation in both the quantity and the standard of work being set for their children. Where the school or teacher is setting significant levels of work and providing sufficient support, I am not being requested to answer questions from parents. It is clear that there are significant variations, even within families, as to the quantity and the standard of work being sought from pupils. It is clear to me that there are great differences between schools as to what support is provided and which age ranges are supported. In some families, with children at different schools, the differences are apparently stark. The quality of support offered differs both between schools and within schools. It is these differences, for the most part, that has prompted the greatest number of parents to make contact and ask if I know why these differences are happening and enquire as why they are allowed and whether this is school policy or is there any input from KCC?

The educational support offered by way of online education, work setting and support offered by each school is a matter for the Headteacher, and clearly there are differences between what various school establishments have put in place. At this juncture (I write this Column in Mid-June) it is difficult to have a holistic view. In Kent as a whole, 83% of state primary schools are now open, with pupil attendance restricted to those permitted to attend by the Government. There are clear differences between schools as to the degree of support available and provided. The secondary sector has also brought questions, with again, surprisingly significant differences between the degree of support provided by, what on the face of it are similar educational establishments. Some schools are setting work online to be completed either fully or partially offline, others run 'lessons' online using proprietary educational/meeting software. Some appear by accounts that I have received, to be offering very little support by comparison. I intend to press for an inquiry into the differences both between schools and potentially within schools once conditions permit. I hope that a serious second wave of the pandemic is not forthcoming, but if it is, it would be good to have learned how children's education could benefit from previous experience and best practice.

For my part, I seek to encourage all those who are responsible for the provision of our children's education to use their best endeavors to ensure that as many children as possible return to their classrooms at as early a date as they may be safely accommodated.

*Harry Rayner, Kent County Councillor
Tel 03000 421 606 Email: Harry.Rayner@kent.gov.uk*

From our local MP

As I write, Tonbridge and Malling is confirmed as the area of Kent with the lowest 'R' number and confirmed Coronavirus cases. Since we have all had to sacrifice so much over recent months, and my column has often shared news about the steps we should take, this month I wanted to have a more upbeat tone and recognise all the hard work that has gone towards keeping us safe.

Firstly, we should reflect on the sacrifices each of us has made. Whether it be going without seeing loved ones, being able to hug and celebrate birthdays and family events with those closest to us, or even go to work, our lives have changed fundamentally over the past few months to keep us safe.

Governments can issue guidance, and volunteers and neighbours can provide support. But ultimately, only we can look after ourselves and stay alert. That is evidently what we have been doing so far in Tonbridge and Malling.

Thanks also need to go to those who have been running community support schemes. While I know the Parish Council has been active, in many areas, these have happened on a street by street basis and show our villagers come together to help one another.

While the Government has given significant financial support to those workers and businesses affected, the role of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council in making sure that the most vulnerable were looked after is something we should rightly thank them for. There have been hundreds of people who have only been able to eat because of the efforts which the Council has gone to.

Until Covid-19 is completely eradicated from our communities, we must stay alert. The recovery will take a long time and we must be prepared for it. But we should also reflect on the progress which has been made so far and appreciate the steps we have all taken. I hope the 'R' number falls to 0 as quickly as possible, and if we continue doing what we have been there is a good chance of it happening here as there is anywhere.

Tom Tugendhat

The queue – a salutary tale

While waiting in a long queue early one morning for the supermarket to open for we 'seniors', I was surprised to see a young man saunter along and try to cut in at the front of the queue. A furious old lady waved her cane at him, and he quickly backed away. A moment later, the young man tried again. He managed to dodge the old lady, but then two old men started shouting at him. Again, the young man backed away. But he wasn't giving up, and soon the young man approached the queue for the third time. By now, all the pensioners were ready for him - an angry wall of opposition. The young man stood there for a moment, and then shrugged his shoulders. "If you people won't let me unlock the door, none of you will ever get in to shop."

Centre Piece

We have been so fortunate during the past month with the beautiful warm and sunny weather, although I think the plants in the garden would be grateful of some rain. It has certainly eased the lockdown situation, in as much as we, who are lucky enough to have gardens, have been able to work or just sit and admire the fruits of our hard work in them, or maybe just get out for our daily exercise to enjoy the Recreation Ground and West Wood.

The Parish Council welcomed two applicants to be co-opted to the Council following the two recently reported resignations at this month's meeting. They decided to co-opt both applicants, so, at their July meeting, once the formalities are completed, they will welcome Tony Fullbrook and Wayne Allingham to the Council.

One of the items discussed at the Parish Council meeting, held virtually once again, on 10 June, was a report on the huge accumulation of litter in the Recreation Ground and to a lesser extent in West Wood. The litter bins had been used, but an awful lot of users found it necessary to leave their rubbish on the field. This made it very difficult for our contractor, who had to clear up the rubbish and also our mowing contractor who had to frequently stop his equipment to remove empty glass (some of which had been broken) and plastic bottles. The Council is pleased when residents use these facilities in their open spaces, but do appeal to users to take their litter home if the bins happen to be full. The bins are usually adequate, but times are very different at the moment, with residents being mainly restricted to staying at home, and as a consequence our beautiful grounds are being heavily used.

We have to say a big thank you to those residents who have been helping with the litter clearing on a regular basis – it really is a big help and makes the environment better for everyone, and also to those who have been reporting to us anti-social behaviour in our closed play areas etc. Twice recently the Council has needed to arrange for camps to be removed from West Wood since the people building these were not abiding by the lockdown regulations. Normally the woodland area would be available for young people to play in and make camps, provided they were taken down at the end of the day, but not under current regulation as at early June.

The Council, at Wednesday's meeting, was pleased to learn that it now has a new look, updated and accessible website, <https://www.hildenboroughpc.org.uk/>. Do take a look. They are agreed this is a much more user-friendly website than the old one. They would like your feedback on this; for instance, does it tell you what you need to know, is it easy for you to find what you are looking for etc.? There are links to some local clubs and organisations. If yours is not there and you would like it to be included please email us with the details.

On financial matters, the Council has now changed its bank so that it can undertake transactions online. The previous accounts were working well, but more and more

individuals and organisations were requesting payment by bank transfer, and this could not be satisfactorily arranged through the previous accounts.

Have you noticed the redecoration which has been completed on the Pavilion? Our contractor has recently repainted the veranda, which was looking very unloved. All we need to achieve now is the repairs to the weatherboarding which was vandalised by a group of youths, who hopefully have now found something of greater value to society to do with their time. By the time you read this, the cctv will again be upgraded to give us greater coverage and resolution of images.

Our annual tree survey has been received, listing work which is needed to keep the mapped footpaths in West Wood, the car park and Recreation Ground safe from falling branches, etc. The bad news was that two areas of ash dieback have been identified, which need some tree surgery, although at the present time most will not require felling.

The Parish Council has received news that residents are shortly to be given information on the proposals Berkeley Homes have for the Fidelity International site. It would be helpful if you would let the Parish Council have any views on this, preferably by email, but do phone if this is not a practicable proposition. The Council, will, of course, be putting forward its view on these proposals, once they have had sight of the plans.

Hildenborough Flood Forum is becoming very frustrated with Southern Water's inability to make any meetings to discuss the outage of the sewer in Byrneside in February. They are seeking repairs, if required, and a regular maintenance schedule to ensure this does not happen again, but the response to date has given no details. This, the Forum will continue to pursue, supported by our local County and Borough Councillors.

Have you met our local PCSO James Billson yet? He has been very active in the area assisting with the identification of those breaking the lockdown regulations, as well as becoming familiar with the area. It is most reassuring to know that he is regularly walking around the village and getting to know residents. He is liaising regularly with the Parish Council.

I hope everyone is keeping safe and enjoying the sunshine. We look forward to being able to undertake more 'normal' activities, hopefully in the near future, but this will only happen if everyone behaves responsibly.

If you need to contact me with your ideas, queries or comments please do phone 01732 832 367 (do leave a message if I am unable to answer at the time as I do respond as soon as I can), or email me on clerkhildenboroughpc@gmail.com. DON'T FORGET TO LOOK AT OUR NEW WEBSITE <https://www.hildenboroughpc.org.uk/>

Keep safe,

Pam Gow

T.M.B.C. News

Council Meetings

Members are now undertaking Council meetings via Microsoft Teams. If you use Teams, you will know what it is like; personally, I would describe it as a bit 'Clunky'. I think Zoom is a much better system, however the Council require some form of security and so Teams it has to be. The online meetings are also streamed via You Tube on the dedicated TMBC site. Our Democratic Service Officers certainly have to be on the ball to ensure compliance with TMBC meeting procedures. Interfacing with the public speakers has appeared to be non problematical, although encouraging users to switch off their video and microphone to save Bandwidth is another hurdle. Interestingly the first Cabinet meeting to be held via Teams resulted in 36 members joining the session; it has been a long time since 36 members attended a Cabinet meeting, although many did not speak.

Refuse Collection

Both Nick and I have received some representation concerning waste collections. The current situation has not helped. Increases in volume at the kerb-side resulting in full vehicles, Contractor staff isolating, general staffing issues and vehicles unable to get to transfer sites is the main cause of the problems. Volumes of cardboard appear to have rocketed, possibly due to many more home deliveries. But if any resident is still having any difficulties, whatever it maybe, please contact Nick or myself.

From TMBC Leader Cllr. Nicolas Heslop

We have reached a critical moment in the battle to beat Coronavirus. In Tonbridge and Malling we have been fortunate to have recorded among the lowest infection rates anywhere in Kent.

Our thanks must go to everyone who has stuck to the rules and played their part and also to the many organisations and volunteers who have made life possible under lockdown. Now as the restrictions are eased, we must continue with our collective effort to keep the virus at bay and avoid a second spike in the infection rate.

At Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, we will continue to play our part by adapting how we deliver our services safely in areas such as waste collection, planning, licensing, housing and health. We'll also continue our support for those hardest hit by the pandemic. We've already distributed nearly £20 million in government funding to help businesses and are now offering discretionary grants to those who were not eligible first-time round. We've also contacted more than 4,000 shielded households to offer assistance and distributed hundreds of food parcels to those in need. While things will be different and social distancing the new norm, shopping locally and safely is the best way we can support local businesses and breathe life back into our local economy.

If everyone works collaboratively and acts responsibly, I'm confident we can continue to make progress and navigate the road to recovery. By working together and observing the rules, we can make our towns and villages safe and welcoming spaces once again.

Drainage

You might have noticed the improvement works at the junction of Half Moon Lane and the B245; obviously welcomed, but I have always thought the junction of Mount Pleasant and the B245 has more of a problem. Now the former has been actioned, I will send my pictures of rainwater ponding at the latter to KCC.

Stocks Green Road

From the junction of Leigh Road to the 30mph markers, the road surface is to be micro-surfaced. This work is programmed to start July 9th and should take 2 days.

Vines Lane

The whole of Vines Lane is due to be surface-dressed during 2020 summer.

Cllr Mark Rhodes

Contact Us

Just a reminder, if any resident wishes to contact Nick or myself, our details follow. Generally speaking, email seems to be the preferred method of contact. If you do email please can you include your address.

Borough Councillors

Nick Foyle 07860 444 217

29 Farm Lane, Tonbridge

nick.foyle@tmbc.gov.uk

Mark Rhodes 01732 833 125

27 Hawden Close, Hildenborough

mark.rhodes@tmbc.gov.uk

TMBC - 01732 844 522

Kent County Councillor

Harry Rayner 03000 421 606

harry.rayner@kent.gov.uk

Contact the Parish Council via

clerkhildenboroughpc@gmail.com or

01732 832 367.

Why Jesus walked on water

A tourist, planning a trip to the Holy Land, was aghast when he found it would cost £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. "Goodness," he objected to the travel agent. "In England it would not have been more than £20."

"That might be true," said the travel agent, "but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord Himself walked."

"Well, at £50 an hour for a boat," said the tourist, "it's no wonder He walked."

Keys Magazine needs your input, please contact:

- David Haugh (Editor), (832 869) or keysmag@hotmail.com
- Claire Rawlinson (Deputy Editor) (834 896)
- The deadline for an entry is the 11th of the previous month for typed or *legibly hand-written* entries and the 13th for email contributions.

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ORGANISATIONS

Community Groups

AFTERNOON WI	Mrs Betty Mackay (832 549)
EVENING WI	Miss Lorna Stapley (832 871)
GARDENERS' SOCIETY Secretary	David Haugh (832 869)
GUIDES (Hildenborough)	Louise Neale (361 759)
SCOUT GROUP.....	8thtonbridgescouts@gmail.com
CUBS PACK (Ages 8-10.5 Monday evenings)	hildenboroughwolfcubs@gmail.com
BEAVERS (Ages 6-8 Thurs 5.00-6.15 p.m.) HildenboroughBeavers8thTonbridgeScouts@hotmail.com	josh.barkaway@kentscouts.org.uk
EXPLORERS (Ages 14-18)	Mrs Lynne Flower (355 080)
HILDENBOROUGH CONSERVATION GROUP	Janet Richardson (838 903)
HILDENBOROUGH FARMERS' MARKET and COFFEE	Judith McQuillan (834 610)
HILDENBOROUGH HISTORY SOCIETY	Temporarily suspended
HILDENBOROUGH YOUTH CLUB	Thelma Fairs (832 475)
HOSPICE IN THE WEALD	01732 832 367
PARISH COUNCIL	hildenborough.kent.sch.uk (833 394)
HILDENBORO' C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL.....	
FOR THE STOCKS GREEN PRE-SCHOOL DETAILS SEE AD ON PAGE 26	
MUSICAL BUMPS	Margaret Lewin (07736 244 142)
STOCKS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	stocksgreenprimary.co.uk (832 758)
VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS	Pat Davies (833 092)
VILLAGE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION	David Vanns (835 289)
KENT POLICE (Non-emergency calls)	101

Church Groups

HOUSE GROUPS	Tim Saiet (833 596)
HILDENBOROUGH MEN'S GROUP	Gordon Paterson (832 079)
PRAYER CHAIN	Cynthia Fawcus (833 397)
KIDS' CHURCH	
YOUNGER YOUTH (Sundays term time 4 - 6 p.m.)	Marcus Hockley (07800 887 938)
NEW GENERATION (14 plus)	Marieke Dodd or Louise Stalker
	Contact via Church office

Hildenborough Sports

BADMINTON:	Kathryn Stewart (07809 299 553)
HILDENBOROUGH INDOOR (SHORT MAT) BOWLS CLUB	David Chambers (833 612)
HILDENBOROUGH CRICKET CLUB	Barry Webb (838 422)
HILDENBOROUGH FRIENDLY BADMINTON CLUB	Ivan Kirkpatrick (07730 888 429)
HILDENBOROUGH SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB (SUNDAYS)	Helen (07941 254 723)
STOOLBALL CLUB	Bill Richardson (838 903)
TENNIS CLUB (membership)	Jo Garrett (832 393)
HILDENBOROUGH SPORTS ASSOCIATION (Running Races)	Mark Taylor (832 948)
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Who can claim

You can claim if you're a self-employed individual or a member of a partnership and all of the following apply:

- you traded in the tax year 2018 to 2019 and submitted your Self Assessment tax return on or before 23 April 2020 for that year
- you traded in the tax year 2019 to 2020
- you intend to continue to trade in the tax year 2020 to 2021
- you carry on a trade which has been adversely affected by coronavirus
- your trading profits must be no more than £50,000 and at least equal to your non-trading income

If you're eligible and want to claim the first grant you must make your claim on or before 13 July 2020.

This scheme is being extended. You'll be able to make a claim for a second and final grant in August 2020.

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