



# Cobham & Luddesdowne

*September 2022*

**News**

£1

**PARISH of COBHAM & LUDDESDOWNE with DODE**

**Vicar — currently in an interregnum**

Church Office

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**For admin items please call the office.**

**Pastoral Assistant**

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SUBMISSIONS *Cobham and Luddesdowne News is a community magazine produced by and for the residents of Cobham, Sole Street and Luddesdowne.*

**Please send material for inclusion by the 15th of the month**

**preceding publication to [editorialcln@gmail.com](mailto:editorialcln@gmail.com)**

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**Cover photograph by Adrian—thank you**

**Printed by Wested Logistics Limited**

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September  
2022

Hello

Wow what summer weather we have been having! It reminded me of when I, as a teenager, worked in the food hall of Lewisham BHS back in the summer of 1976; the blue and white nylon uniforms and hats were horrendous and it was always a relief when a customer requested a specific cheese or cream gâteau so we could fight over who would go up two floors to the enormous fridge so as to enjoy its cool air for as long as possible!

As you will see September brings many events and fundraisers, the College is arranging a charabanc to Broadstairs and the traditional Harvest festival services will be taking place with the food collections benefitting local charities.

Until next month - be lucky! Tina

### **Would you be able to help us?**

We are looking for someone who would proof read the magazine on a monthly basis for us.

You would need to have an email address we can send the magazine to. It would help if you had Publisher on your computer

The magazine would be ready to proof read about the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month and we would need it back by about the 20<sup>th</sup> to send it off to the printers. The dates could vary by a day or so depending on what is happening.

If you would be willing to help please contact me, by email at [cobandlud.office@btinternet.com](mailto:cobandlud.office@btinternet.com) or by phone on 01732 823936

Many thanks

Janet



*September is a time when we begin the celebration of harvest, and the rhythms of the seasons that lead up to it . This Summer shows, the seasons have been disturbed. So our harvest celebrations this year must be tempered with a humble awareness of the part we've played in upsetting the rhythms of creation*

### **The Rhythms of Creation**

The rhythms of creation –  
The never-ceasing beat  
Of seasons in rotation  
As cold gives way to heat;  
We know, when it is raining  
The sun will dry the rain  
And when the moon is waning  
It soon will wax again.

The farmer drills his acres  
When springtime rains shall fall  
Then gathers wheat for bakers  
As sunflowers grow tall;  
In spring, the fruit trees, blooming  
Attract the busy bees;  
As autumn clouds are looming  
We pick from loaded trees.

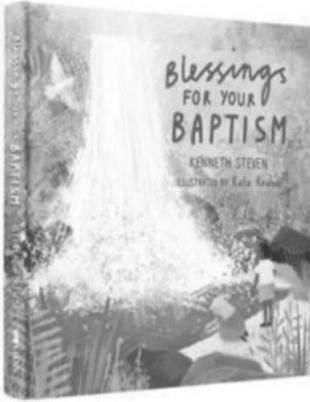
The Lord, our Great Creator  
Allowed us, by His grace  
To be the regulator  
Of earthly time and space  
But mankind has been greedy  
In burning coal and oil  
So farmers now are seeding  
In dry and desert soil.

The rhythms of creation  
Are wand'ring from their beat  
Increasing suffocation,  
Of fire, flood, and heat.  
Lord, teach us new behaviour  
To spend, with care, our days:  
Dear loving Lord and Saviour  
Forgive our foolish ways!



*By Nigel Beeton*

## **BOOK REVIEW**



### **Blessings for your Baptism By Kenneth Steven and Katie Rewse, Lion Children's books, £8.99**

This book could be a good baptism gift for a godparent, grandparent, or family member to give to a young child, as it is full of blessings for their life ahead. Inspired by sensing God's presence through the natural world around us, the book includes space to write your own words of blessing.

### **Don't miss the World's Biggest Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support**

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan Cancer Support's biggest annual fundraising event, held to support people living with cancer. People all over the UK either host or attend a Coffee Morning to raise money for Macmillan.

The official date is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September, but a coffee morning to support Macmillan can be held at any time. From a group in the garden, sharing a coffee, over a screen or a takeaway cake and cuppa, you can hold yours however you like.

Last year, 2021, Macmillan raised over £11 million and hopes to top that this year.

Find out more at: <https://coffee.macmillan.org.uk>

## North Kent Embroiderers

Hello Everybody,

Needlelace was the topic of our last meeting. Sue is one of our members but she has also previously been Chairman of the Lace Guild. Sue explained the basic process of needlelacing whereby a design is drawn onto fabric and then the outline is couched. Couching is a process of using a fine thread to stitch over a thicker thread in order to keep it in place and to delineate the outline. The spaces are then filled in with special stitches which give a lacy effect and finally the couched lines are over sewn with buttonhole stitch. You can see the three different stages in the example to the right.



Sue also told us about the history of lacemaking and in particular needlelace, which was thought to have started in the Sixteenth Century in Italy in a style known as 'Reticella'. Other forms have names such as Gros Point, Point de Gaze, 'Punto in Aria' which means 'stitches in the air', there is also Branscombe and Hollie Point which were both made in Honiton in Devon. The lace was used on purses, fans, dress fronts etc. Sue brought a beautiful selection of examples to show and inspire us.

As we have no meeting in August, members have been asked to embroider a name badge to wear at meetings and to think about starting to produce items for the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild which is a charity we are planning to support next year <https://www.qmcg.org.uk/> by making baby quilts, and knitted items.

If you would like to join our group or would just like to find out a bit more about us then please look at our website <https://northkentembroiderers.co.uk/> or email us at:

[ifo@northkentembroiderers.co.uk](mailto:ifo@northkentembroiderers.co.uk) or contact our Chairman, Eileen Tuff on 01474 324734. Happy stitching, Karen (All links and photographs used with permission.)

*\*\*\*Our group has over 300 copies of 'Embroidery' (at one point called 'World of Embroidery') – the journal of the Embroiderers' Guild dating from 1936 until 2003- not a complete set. If any-one would like them please contact Eileen – details above. Please note this is STRICTLY COLLECTION ONLY from North Kent.\*\*\**



## **SOLE STREET WI**

This August brought challenging temperatures but members have adapted weekly walks and re-arranged committee meeting to daytime - al fresco. Our main meeting was the traditional Afternoon Tea in Min's lovely garden. Much time was spent on the logistics for the St Mary's Church Room Local Funding Group's Garage/Driveway Trail table top sale by our members from address in Manor Road.

Craft meetings are being arranged to renovate and conserve our portrait of the Queen for future display and working groups to plan/create goods to sell at the WI Christmas sale in Meopham. A new "Tea & Chat Time" was inaugurated this summer and a meeting in member's home organised for next month. The Book Club, an amalgamation of our two Book Clubs, meets now in Meopham Library.

Speaker for meeting on Tuesday 27th September (7.30pm in St Mary's Church Room) Martin Heard talk on "Women Impressionists - The Neglected Modern Mistresses". Members' donations for Harvest Hamper and raffle.

Our scheduled speaker for Tuesday 25th October is Chris Stewart, whose subject is "The Flower Villages Of The Alsace And Lorraine". This is currently arranged to take place as usual in the St Mary's Church Room, 7.30pm. However in the event that the renovation of the church room has begun, a different venue will be organised. For information on this and all our activities please contact Yvonne Telephone 01474 813455

Molly Isaacs



## **BELL RINGING by Peter Hartley**

If the mind wanders when ringing, as all too easily can happen, an awful clash of striking bells results. Straight after the Platinum Jubilee long weekend I enjoyed, with family, a wander in East Sussex.

We stayed in the village of Wilmington at the feet of the Long Man of Wilmington. The church appeared to have three chiming bells judging by the ropes hanging at the west end. We did enjoy the Jubilee Flower Festival still decorating the church and were in awe of the venerable great 1600 year old yew in the churchyard. Such an ancient tree could live on for another platinum jubilee.

A short walk along the foot of the South Downs brought us to the hamlet of Folkington where the 61 residents maintain their little 13<sup>th</sup> century church with its one 500 year old chiming bell. A beautifully printed Platinum Jubilee Order of Service with the famous 1954 Annigoni portrait of The Queen on the front had been produced for their Jubilee Sunday Service with the congregation sat in their box pews.

In the churchyard we came across the grave of Elizabeth David (1913 – 1992), the famed cookery writer of her day, who was a daughter of the Manor. Church crawling is such fun and full of surprises.

Twin brother Christopher and I wandered home via Eastbourne, still bedecked in red, white and blue, on a sunny day. The sea sparkled, the pier was robust, the bandstand was being washed down, the floral clock replanted for the summer season and the grand, painted white Grand Hotel glistened.

Decades later we rediscovered the three Eastbourne theatres –the Congress Theatre (modern), the Winter Gardens (Victorian) and the Devonshire Park Theatre (Edwardian). Christopher was once a member of the Devonshire Park Theatre Repertory Company where they performed a new play every week while rehearsing next week's play and learning their lines for the play the week after that. Now concerts, operas, musicals, shows, plays and pantomime come for a season. I noticed Agatha Christie plays still remain on the list of forthcoming attractions; they were the money-spinners then.

Eastbourne was developed by the Dukes of Devonshire in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and seems sprinkled with numerous churches from that confident age. Looking at my Dove's Guide, which lists bells and ringing towers around the World (eg 6608 ringing towers in England, 21 in Scotland, 8 in Canada) I see Eastbourne's parish church, which dates from Norman times, has 10 bells and there are three other 8 bell towers. But now time to wander back to Cobham College.

The next **Meopham Library Writing Group** meeting is on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022** at 10am until about midday. There is a different writing theme each month and everyone is invited to write a short story, poem or article, using less than 1,000 words. Recent writing themes have included; “Moving Day”, “The Cruise” and “The Queen”.

A new Rolling Story was started in August, ready to be read out at the September meeting. Each person had to write just 150 words for their part of the story. There is also the monthly writing challenge, where everyone chooses a word, which all have to be included in a paragraph, using less than seventy words.

If you are interested in writing poems, stories or articles, either as a beginner or as a more experienced writer, you are invited to join our small, friendly group. Some people may just enjoy writing about their memories, which are really appreciated by their family and friends, while others have already had their stories and poems published in magazines or books.

Writing can also be very therapeutic when facing difficult times.

The following writing group meetings will be on 6<sup>th</sup> October, 3<sup>rd</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December. For more information about the group, please ring **01474 813379** or just turn up at Meopham Library on the first Thursday of the month.

The **1<sup>st</sup> South Street Boys Brigade and Girls Association Company** meetings start again on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September at South Street Baptist Church, next to Hope Hill Scout Camp, from 6pm until 7.30pm during term time. Boys and girls aged 5-18 years old are very welcome to come and join in the fun, which includes challenges, badge work, team games, craft, cooking and outdoor activities. The uniform is a blue T-shirt and a blue sweat-shirt with embroidered badges and the weekly subscription is £2. To find out more please ring **01474 813379** or visit the **South Street Baptist Church Website** at: [www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk](http://www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk)

The Boys Brigade **Honey Hill Camp Site** is in Maidstone and has an adventure playground, wooded areas and well equipped camping facilities. The Boys Brigade **Water Activity Centre** in Maidstone has recently been upgraded and it has bought new canoes, kayaks and stand up paddle boards. All these water activities are supervised by a team of fully qualified leaders. Please watch the video on the **Water Activities Centre Website** at [www.thewac.org.uk](http://www.thewac.org.uk) For more information about Boys Brigade, please visit the **Boys Brigade Website** at: [www.BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK](http://www.BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK)

A new **FRIDAY CLUB** for families with children aged about 3-6 years, will be starting on **9<sup>th</sup> September** from 5pm until 6pm, every Friday during term time, at South Street Baptist Church. There will be Lego, construction toys, board games, toys and creative activities. Please visit the Church website at [www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk](http://www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk) or ring **01474 813379** for more information.



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September is generally a cooler month than August and let's hope it is this year and with some rain! While there's not as much to do in the ornamental garden at this time of the year, if you have a fruit or vegetable patch, you'll be busy reaping the rewards of harvest. It's also time to get out and start planting spring-flowering bulbs for next year and you can collect seeds for next summer's colour too. Make the most of the remaining warmth while you can!

**RHS - Top 10 jobs this month September –  
Late summer progresses into autumn**

- 1 Divide herbaceous perennials
- 2 Pick autumn raspberries
- 3 Collect and sow seed from perennials and hardy annuals
- 4 Dig up remaining potatoes before slug damage spoils them
- 5 Net ponds before leaf fall gets underway
- 6 Keep up with watering of new plants, using rain or grey water if possible
- 7 Start to reduce the frequency of houseplant watering
- 8 Clean out cold frames and greenhouses so that they are ready for use in the autumn
- 9 Cover leafy vegetable crops with bird-proof netting
- 10 Plant spring flowering bulbs

Cobham Gardeners' Society are pleased to announce our Expert Speaker Talk for October 2022 –

**Wednesday 12th October 2022 – 7pm for 7.30pm** expert speaker talk at the Meadow Rooms. **Tresco the Abbey Gardens.** John Hughes cruise ship speaker and RHS judge, visited this unique garden which sits in a favourable position on the Scily Islands where it is warmed by the gulf stream and has an enviable climate allowing plants which would only survive in the greenhouse to thrive in the open. John will tell us how the garden came about and show us the beautiful and unusual plants that flourish here. Entry is free to members, non-members are welcome and pay just £3.

**You can sign up for Membership of Cobham Gardeners at any time** ... and get savings at local garden centres straight away to help with all of those garden jobs. You can apply for membership at the talk or by email. It's only a modest £8 for the year – money you get back from free entry into all Gardeners' expert speaker talks and massive savings of up to 50% on quality plants at local garden centres. For further details email [cobhams@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cobhams@hotmail.co.uk)



## Do you like art?

*We are raising funds for the restoration of St Mary's Church Room in Sole Street*

*A series of three one-hour lectures by art historian James Heard Owletts, Cobham, Kent*

### *Three Great Revolutions in Art*

**FRIDAY 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 7:30pm**

**The Golden Age of Dutch Art: "Never before could a mere backyard be worthy of artistic treatment"**

The seemingly realistic art of 17<sup>th</sup> century Holland seems hardly revolutionary but this new nation with largely Protestant beliefs required an art that was distinct from the traditions of Catholicism

**FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 7:30pm**

**The story of the French Impressionists: "Five or six lunatics, one of them a woman"** Who were these painters who broke all the rules of academic art to become the most popular artists of today?

**FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER 7:30pm**

**Cubism: "Perspective is a ghastly mistake"**

How can we begin to read this difficult artistic language that rejected perspective to explore the new modern world of cinema, air flight and the Eiffel Tower?

*James Heard is an art historian who has worked at the National Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery and the Tate, London among others.*

**£10 per lecture or all three for £25**

**BOOK TICKETS at OWLETTS**

**Tel: 01474 813741 e-mail: [gabriella.gabbittas@gmail.com](mailto:gabriella.gabbittas@gmail.com)**



# Cobham Gardeners' Society

Meetings & Shows at the Meadow Room in Dickensian Cobham, Kent  
SatNav DA123BZ Registered Charity No 228007



## Wednesday 12th October 2022 - 7.30pm Tresco the Abbey Gardens

John Hughes, cruise ship speaker & RHS Judge, visited this unique garden whilst giving talks on a cruise ship. It sits in a favourable position in the Scilly Islands where it is warmed by the gulf stream and has an enviable climate allowing plants which would only survive in greenhouses on the mainland to thrive in the open.

John will tell us how the garden came about and show us the beautiful and unusual plants that flourish there.

**Members free - non members £3**



Sharing a love of gardening ... locally  
Contact us [cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk)

**Cobham, Luddesdowne and Sole Street Church Services  
during September**



**Sunday 4th September**

**10:30am Holy Communion (BCP), Cobham**

**Sunday 11th September**

**10:30am Holy Communion, Luddesdowne**

**Sunday 18th September**

**10:30am Holy Communion, Cobham**

**Sunday 25th September**

**10:30am Harvest Festival Service, Luddesdowne**

***Please Note:- The collection will go to TEAR Fund, Packets and tins to Food Bank and fresh produce to The Ellenor Hospice***

**Sunday 2nd October**

**10:30am Harvest Festival Service, Cobham**

***Please Note:- The collection will go to Poverty and Hope, Packets and tins to Food Bank and fresh produce to The Ellenor Hospice***

**Midweek services**

**9:30am Sole Street Church Room**

**7th Holy Communion**

**& 14th, 21st & 28th Informal Morning Prayer**

Please see page 17 for foodbank info.

**Items requested by the food bank are listed below, however all food items are gratefully received.**

Long life milk, Tinned fruit, Small bottles of squash, Long life fruit juice, Chocolate spread, Biscuits, Readymade jellies, Tins of macaroni cheese, Tins of pilchards, Tins of custard, Egg noodles, Packets of instant mash potato, Crackers, Porridge oats and instant porridge.

We will be collecting these items at our Harvest services, which you are welcome to come along to. They will be held at:-

Luddesdowne 25<sup>th</sup> September 10:30am

Cobham 2<sup>nd</sup> October 10:30am

Alternatively, you can give to the Food Bank direct or via shops that collect on Food Banks behalf.



### **Bob Greenfield.**

Bob happily provided articles for the magazine for as long as I have been editor and before. Many of you will know Bob and Caroline through Cobham gardeners.

Sadly Bob Greenfield died suddenly on the 6th August 2022. Bob had been a member of Cobham Gardeners' Society for many years. Bob suffered from MS so in recent years was no longer able to actively garden himself but he enjoyed helping his wife Caroline with planning their garden and entertaining family and friends in the garden. Bob worked hard as the Society's Publicity Officer in promoting their shows, talks and increasing awareness of the Society. He enjoyed attending the Shows and was always impressed with the excellent standard of exhibits from the Society's members.

Although his mobility was restricted due to his MS he remained cheerful and enthusiastic about life, his family, sport and Cobham Gardeners to the end.

Our thoughts are with his wife Caroline and family at this sad time.



### Meopham Windmill

Due to structural and safety concerns, Meopham Windmill was closed to the public until repairs of the top floor and balcony could be completed, then came covid which extended that closure until this summer. We are now trying to open on Sunday afternoons 2.30 – 4pm. This is a little uncertain because of lack of volunteer stewards, hopefully there will be someone there during September. Entrance is free if you would like to look around. Please remember there is NO parking.

This September all being well, the owners, KCC, will start extensive refurbishment. The sails (sweeps) and cap will be removed and taken away for a complete overhaul or possible replacement. To enable work to be started, the hedges will be removed to enable large machinery to be transported into the area. Work is not due to be completed until this time next year (2023) when we hope that the sails will turn.

Even without our sails we hope to open to the public from next spring, when that happens a few more volunteers would be desperately needed to man the mill, perhaps you would like to help for a couple of hours each month, you'll need to unlock, turn on lights, open the balcony door, sell small souvenirs and make sure the public are aware of the hazards associated with looking around. Simple! If you happen to have a technical background, then how about being a guide? Please look out for the re-opening date and come along, you'll be very welcome. We will be announcing it in this local magazine for you, or why not email us now and leave your details at [meophamwindmill@gmail.com](mailto:meophamwindmill@gmail.com) we will get in touch and hold your name for when we start up again. Possibly if time permits, visit this September to find out if you would enjoy the experience. (We also book groups).

### **Luddesdown & District Rights of Way Group.**

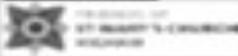
We are a small friendly group that usually walks from The Cock Inn, Henley Street, Luddesdown, Gravesend DA13 0XB, at 11am on Wednesdays. We walk at a gentle pace for some 90 minutes in beautiful countryside. Occasionally we lead weekend walks.

With four Socials a year in Luddesdown Village Hall and a twice yearly Newsletter, we would be delighted if you joined us for a walk or two. Becoming a member costs £7 per person a year.

Please contact Walks Co-ordinator Janet Ferguson, preferably by email [janetferguson@hotmail.fr](mailto:janetferguson@hotmail.fr) . Or Chairman Gerry Minister on 01474 813 376. '

Higham  
Village  
History  
Group and  
Friends of  
St Mary's  
present-

For Heritage Open Day  
Join the Bitumen,  
Barges & Bubblers  
Event at  
ST MARY'S CHURCH,  
CHURCH STREET,  
HIGHAM (NE3 7LS)  
on Sunday 11th  
September 2022  
between 11.00am and  
4.30pm. Find out how  
the Canal, Unkite and  
the Thames helped to  
form Higham - then  
and now - and have a  
guided a tour of this  
unique medieval church.



[www.highamvillagehistory.org.uk](http://www.highamvillagehistory.org.uk)

[www.stmaryschurchhigham.com](http://www.stmaryschurchhigham.com)



**THE TUESDAY POP-IN**

Meetings are held at the Leather Bottle on the second Tuesday of the month from 10.30 till 12 noon;  
everyone is welcome to join us for a  
relaxed chat and coffee.

Next pop-in Tuesday 13th September

CONTACT: MARY PALMER - 01474 816788



**NEW COLLEGE OF COBHAM**  
**COACH OUTING TO BROADSTAIRS**  
**THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

We will be running a coach outing to Broadstairs on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September, leaving The Meadow Rooms at 9.30am.

There are still seats available at £15 per person.

To book seats please contact Chris at Flat 36, New College of Cobham. Alternatively, by phone 01474 247632 or [chrisbr48@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisbr48@hotmail.com).



**The Luddesdown Society** is organising a **Quiz Night** on **Saturday 24th September 2022** at **7.30pm** in **Luddesdown Village Hall**.

The cost will be £5 per person (tables of 6), including a Ploughman's at half-time.

Bring your own drink & nibbles.

Please let us know in advance if you will be attending. Contact Dave Freeman or Jill Escudier on 01474 391644 or [jill.escudier@googlemail.com](mailto:jill.escudier@googlemail.com).



## COBHAM & LUDDESDOWN W.I.

The Cobham & Luddesdowne WI does not meet during August, so sadly no report for this month's mag.  
But never fear they will be back with a report in October!



### Cobham's Register

#### **Renewal of Wedding Vows**

**Rev'd Thomas Gordon OLIVER and Dr Rosalind Mary OLIVER**

Celebrated 50 years of Marriage and had a Service of Thanksgiving and Renewal of Vows in Cobham church on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2022. The service was conducted by Bishop Graham CRAY, who also officiated at their Wedding.

Many congratulations to Gordon and Ros (known as Ronnie to family).

### Luddesdowne's Register

#### **Baptism**

**George Adam WELLARD** was Baptised on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2022 in Luddesdowne church.

We welcome George into the Church family.

**YOU REALLY MUST SEE  
THE VIEW WHERE I AM!**

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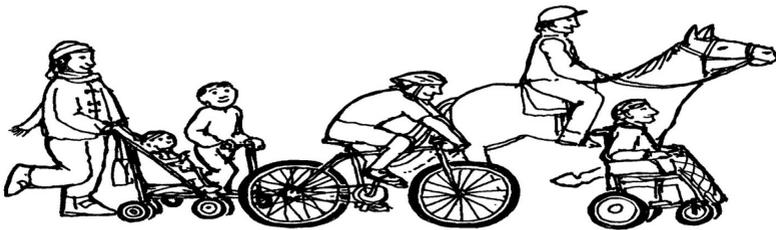
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**Contact Janet Weaver on 01732 823936**  
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## COBHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2022

Tuesday 6 September 7:30pm - St Mary's Church Room

Tuesday 4 October 8:00pm, - Meadow Room

Tuesday 1 November 7:30pm - Meadow Room

## LUDESLOW PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 22/23

19 September Full Council Mtg. Luddesdown Village Hall at 7.30pm

21 November Full Council Mtg. Luddesdown Village Hall at 7.30pm

16 January 23 Full Council Mtg. Luddesdown Village Hall at 7.30pm

20 March 23 Annual Parish Mtg. Luddesdown Village Hall at 7.30pm

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### Observations on daily life

We were not put on this earth  
to see through each other....  
But to see each other through. –  
*Peter de Vries*

The real art of conversation is  
not only to say the right thing at  
the right time, but also to leave  
unsaid the wrong thing at the  
tempting moment. – *Dorothy  
Nevill*

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## When the Church first agreed that the Earth went around the Sun

It was only 200 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1822, that the Roman Catholic Church admitted that the 16th century astronomer Galileo Galilei might have been right about the Earth orbiting the Sun. The College of Cardinals reversed the Church's condemnation of his ideas. Galileo had spent the last nine years of his life under house arrest for publishing his work on the subject.

Galileo (1564 –1642) was a brilliant scientist and a pious Catholic. Albert Einstein called him the father of modern science, and he was one of the first to state that the laws of nature were mathematical. He was not infallible, however: his theories on tides were quite wrong: he described the idea that the moon influenced them as “childish” and “occult”.

His support for heliocentrism, a theory that had existed since the Ancient Greeks, however, was spot on, but the consensus at the time – political, scientific and religious – held that the Earth was the centre of the universe, and that any other view was “foolish, absurd and heretical”. That was the conclusion of the Inquisition in 1615.

Some 17 years later, Galileo published his theories, but unfortunately in a way that alienated the Pope, who until then had given him support as a scientist. He was tried by the Inquisition, who found him “vehemently suspect of heresy”, forced him to recant, and subjected him to house arrest. It could have been worse.

The Cardinals' decision in 1822 was a bit late to help Galileo, but it represented a big shift for the Roman Catholic Church – though it was not until 1835 that his work was removed from the Vatican's list of banned books. And it was only in 1992 that Pope John Paul II conceded officially that the Earth was not stationary in the heavens.

Eight years after that he apologised to Galileo for the way he had been treated.



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### **Useful Gravesham Contacts**

#### **Kent Police**

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Police and Crime Commissioner's Office 01622 677055

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

**Kent Fire Service** Emergency: 999 Home Safety: 0800 923 7000

#### **Hospitals**

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<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

To report any emergency issues outside of normal office hours (Monday - Friday, 9am till 5pm), please telephone 03000 41 91 91.

**Gravesham Borough Council** Civic Centre - 01474 564422

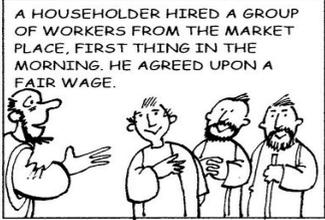


# The Hired Workers



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS - WE CALL THEM PARABLES.

ONE WAS ABOUT PEOPLE WAITING TO BE HIRED TO DO SOME WORK.



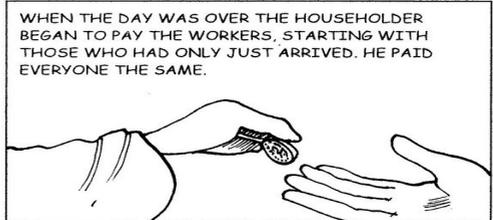
A HOUSEHOLDER HIRED A GROUP OF WORKERS FROM THE MARKET PLACE, FIRST THING IN THE MORNING. HE AGREED UPON A FAIR WAGE.



A BIT LATER ON THE HOUSEHOLDER RETURNED TO THE MARKET PLACE AND HIRED SOME MORE WORKERS.



HE RETURNED SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE DAY, EACH TIME HIRING MORE WORKERS. HE EVEN HIRED SOME PEOPLE JUST AS THE SUN WAS SETTING!



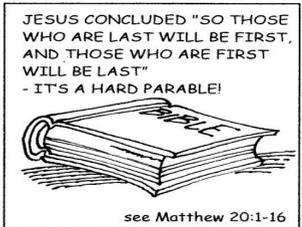
WHEN THE DAY WAS OVER THE HOUSEHOLDER BEGAN TO PAY THE WORKERS, STARTING WITH THOSE WHO HAD ONLY JUST ARRIVED. HE PAID EVERYONE THE SAME.



THIS UPSET THOSE WHO HAD WORKED ALL DAY. THEY THOUGHT THEY SHOULD GET MORE.



BUT THEY WERE BEING PAID WHAT THEY HAD AGREED AT THE START OF THE DAY.



JESUS CONCLUDED "SO THOSE WHO ARE LAST WILL BE FIRST, AND THOSE WHO ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST" - IT'S A HARD PARABLE!

see Matthew 20:1-16



The mice are on their way back to school after the summer holidays. They have new satchels and books and looking forward to seeing their friends again!



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