

# Cobham & Luddesdowne

November 2023 *News* £1



## **PARISH of COBHAM & LUDDESDOWNE with DODE**

**Priest-in-Charge** – The Rev'd Canon Alyson Davie

For Funeral enquiries please contact Alyson Phone no. 01474-812068  
email:- [alyson@stjohnsmeopham.co.uk](mailto:alyson@stjohnsmeopham.co.uk)

(Rest Day: Friday)

**Associate Priest** – The Rev'd Pam Davies

For Wedding, Baptism and all other enquiries please contact Pam  
The Vicarage, Battle Street, Cobham, Kent. DA12 3DB

Phone no 01474-394515 email:- [rev.pamdavies@sky.com](mailto:rev.pamdavies@sky.com) (NB new number)

(Current work days are Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday)

**Pastoral assistant**

Janet Weaver, 36 Highview, Vigo Village, DA13 0RR (01732) 823936

**Church Office** Phone no. 01474 813495

### **Church Officers of St. Mary Magdalene, Cobham**

**Lay Chair**

Hilary Savage

**Churchwarden**

Hilary Savage (01634) 723027

**PCC Secretary**

Ron Chamberlain (01474) 814250

**Treasurer**

Jeffrey Julie-Rusz 07946 249021

**Deanery Synod**

Hilary Savage

### **Church Officers St Peter and St. Paul, Luddesdowne**

**Lay Chair**

Colin Campbell

**Treasurer**

Janet Weaver (01732) 823936

### **Parochial Church Council Members**

**Cobham**

Peter Balanck

Ron Chamberlain

Ann Clarke

David Palmer

**Luddesdowne**

Jill Beety

Colin Campbell

Sue Campbell

Janet Weaver

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)**

**Cover photograph Adrian Whiteing (Cobham Church)**

**Printed by Wested Logistics Limited 01474 361615**  
**sales@westedpress.com**

It's November and more events are being advertised in this month's magazine- the build up to Christmas is underway! However, before I get to that I have to apologise for the error in the August word search. I was informed that two words were missing from the grid! So I am sorry for any frustration or colourful language this may have caused :(

Back to the local events taking place; there is a wreath making workshop in the Meadow room (P. 27) spaces are limited so put you name down quickly. Two lively music concerts, for November, taking place in Cobham Church (P 23 & 36) Choirs from Higham and Cobham are currently perfecting their performances for Christmas (P 20) Please see pages 5, 7 and 9 for even more forthcoming events. Enjoy the colours of Autumn. Tina

### **Cobham's Register**

#### **Baptism**

George Henry WILDER was baptised on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023. We welcome George into the Church family.



#### **Burial of ashes**

**Frederick COLEMAN** died on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2011 aged 82 years old. Frederick was cremated at Charing Crematorium on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2011. His ashes were buried in the existing grave of Sarah Jane WHIFFIN, his grandmother, on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in Cobham's churchyard. The short service was conducted by Lesley GOULD, Licensed Reader from St Mary's Gravesend. Our sympathy and prayers go to Frederick's family.

**John Arthur Dunn LATCHAM** died on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023 aged 83 years old. John's ashes were buried on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in Cobham's garden of remembrance. The short service was conducted by Susan HEADS, Licensed Lay Minister from Ash and Ridley. Our sympathy and prayers go to John's wife Anne and his family.

### **Luddesdowne's Register**

#### **Baptisms**

Elizabeth Mary BROWN and Pippa Rose WOODCOCK were Baptised on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

We welcome Elizabeth and Pippa into the Church family.

#### **Other Funerals**

Min KEATING died on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at the age of 82 years. A service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Min took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in St Paul's Catholic Church, Meopham, followed by Thames View Crematorium. Our sympathy and prayers go to Min's husband and family.

A letter from the Vicar, The Rev'd Pam Davies

Dear friends,

This time in the church's year is known as the 'Kingdom Season.' It includes 'All Saint's Day,' 'All Soul's Day' and 'Remembrance Sunday.'

On all Saints Day we remember and reflect on those who have gone before us in terms of our faith.

On All Soul's Day we reflect on and remember our loved ones who are no longer with us but have supported and encouraged on our life journey.

On Remembrance Sunday we reflect on those who have given their lives for their country and have inspired courage and bravery.

They are all about remembering.

But there is more to remembering than mere recollection. We don't recall events just to test our memories. The function of memory is much richer. There is something in our processing – our mulling, sifting, and discerning of events that makes memories richer. It is easy to recall things, but memories are what we hold, value, and give us a richer meaning in what we discern.

Remembering is a deeper mystery in which the past, the present and the future become bound up together. When we remember, we actually re-member in the sense that reassemble and recall. We bring out of the past, into the present those whose lives have influenced in our journey of faith – ranging from those well-known saints to those people who have quietly helped us and journeyed alongside us in our own walk of faith. We bring out of the past and into the present those who we have loved and lost and those whom we still love yet see no longer. We bring to the fore those to whom we owe a debt yet cannot repay or thank enough.

We respond with gratitude and thanksgiving for all those who have gone before us. For those who gave their lives so that we might live. For the sacrificial and costly gifts that have been given and for the yesterdays of others that have enabled our tomorrows. For the souls and saints we cherish, those whom we love, yet no longer see. We remember those who have kept and held us together when we felt that we might fall apart. And we look to the future.

We also remember the love, generosity and goodness of God for each one of us and those we love. He knows each one of us, remembers each one of us and cherishes each one of us. Nothing is lost to him. As we come together to worship and to pray, to be silent and recall, in a real sense we build on the dedication and self-sacrifice of the past for the present and for the building of our future.

Please do join us for any of our services during the kingdom season and make it an opportunity of thanksgiving and gratitude to God, to those we have loved and continue to love and to those who have sacrificed so much for us.

Every blessing,

Pam

# Quiz Night

Saturday 18 November

@ 7.00pm

At the St John's Centre,  
Wrotham Road,  
Meopham, DA13 0AA



Teams of 6 - 8, Tickets £6

Bring your own drinks and snacks

For bookings call 01474 832246, email  
[bassenfell58@hotmail.com](mailto:bassenfell58@hotmail.com)

## Sunday Afternoon Club at the St John's Centre October to December 2023

8 October:  
Jesus at the  
Wedding Party



12 November (at 4pm):  
Jesus and the  
Fishermen



10 December:  
Angel Stories



3.00pm on Sunday Afternoons:  
Songs and Stories, Prayers and  
Games, Activities and Food! For  
Children aged 0-10 and their  
adults. For further information  
contact Jill on 01474 813632 or  
Jan on 01732 823753



## Higham Choral Group Christmas Concert

*lots of lovely Christmas music  
and carols for all*

Saturday 16th December  
6.30pm

St John's Church,  
Hermitage Road, Higham

£8.00 - pay at the door  
*includes light refreshments*

for further information phone 01634 718285  
or email [kateiw@tiscall.co.uk](mailto:kateiw@tiscall.co.uk)

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



## COBHAM AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Presents an evening of two one act plays



### **Wine Tasting** - Comedy thriller by Ronnie Dykstra

Wesley harbours a grudge against his fellow neighbours and acquaintances. He hosts his annual get together to sample his large collection of wines but this year the conviviality is particularly strained and Wesley uses his pharmaceutical knowledge to dole out his revenge.

### **Rambles on Radio** - Comedy by Robert Scott

Christopher is excited to be performing his play on the radio with his niece in a starring role, while others are less happy about the casting. It seems there is more drama happening behind the microphone than is going out over the air.

The production will run 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of November in Meadow Room, The Street DA12 3BZ

Tickets £10.00 Box Office will open Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October on 07552 665588  
Ample free parking . Bar opens at 7.30pm Curtain up 8pm.

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

### **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.

## Sole Street WI

Our members have been much occupied in weekly craft meetings in the St Mary's Church Room creating different pieces for our "Christmas Extravaganza" event next month.



Our main meeting on Tuesday 28 November at 7.30pm in the St Mary's Church Room (Manor Road, opposite The Little Shop) will host speaker Carol Harris, whose presentation is entitled "Putting On The Ritz - 1920's 30's Fashion". For further information on all our activities please contact Yvonne 01474 813455.

Molly Isaacs

# **Complete** *Family* **Law**

**Complete Family Law Ltd is a modern and innovative law firm based in north Kent. We can offer appointments at our offices, via remote methods including Zoom or telephone, with home visits also available.**

**With our friendly team of expert Solicitors and Legal Executives, Complete Family Law can assist with:**

- **Divorce**
- **Wills and Probate**
- **Financial Applications**
- **Children Issues and Applications**
- **Disputes between unmarried couples**
- **Family Law Act Applications (Injunctions)**
- **Disputes within the wider family**
- **Lasting Powers of Attorney**

**0330 223 2016 (Brasted & Cobham)  
0330 223 2018 (Otford)**

**[info@completefamilylawltd.co.uk](mailto:info@completefamilylawltd.co.uk)  
[www.completefamilylawltd.co.uk](http://www.completefamilylawltd.co.uk)**



## THE TUESDAY POP-IN

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

Next pop-in Tuesday 14th Nov

**CONTACT: MARY PALMER - 01474 816788**



## The Christmas POP-IN lunch

The December meeting, Tuesday 12 December, will be a Christmas lunch. Please book with Mary Palmer not later than 26 November if you wish to attend.



**Christmas Bazaar** to be held at  
The Meadow Room, Cobham  
on Saturday 25th November 2023  
10.30am to 1.30pm



Enjoy some village fare, bacon butties, mulled wine & mince pies, Christmas decorations, cakes, preserves, bric-a-brac, and much more.

Entry 50p, children free.





# Oakwood Garden Care

Your reliable gardening service

Does your garden need some TLC? Would you like to sit back and enjoy your garden without having to do all the hard work?

Your garden is precisely that, “yours” .

We listen to our customers and tailor each project to their individual needs and requirements. We are a small, family run business who pride ourselves on offering a high quality garden service - whether you need us for a one-off job, or would like to book us for a regular maintenance program? The choice is yours.

Competitive rates with prices starting from as little as £20 per hour.

All work undertaken including:

And much more - no job is considered too small

For a free quote, please call 07709 328 979

We are available week days, weekends and even Bank Holidays

Email: [oakwoodgardencare@gmail.com](mailto:oakwoodgardencare@gmail.com) [www.oakwoodgardencare.co.uk](http://www.oakwoodgardencare.co.uk)

## Prestige Property Maintenance

*Old fashioned standards of customer service and a high quality craftsman finish to all work undertaken*

- Repairs and renovations, internal and external
- Painting, decorating and tiling
- Shelving and cupboards made to measure
- Furniture and fitted kitchen repairs and restorations
- Gardening, fencing, paths and patios

No job too small – References available on request



Contact Kevin by telephone or email to arrange a visit to discuss your requirements

Telephone: 07765 405641 Email: [prestigemaintenance@outlook.com](mailto:prestigemaintenance@outlook.com)

### **THE MEADOW ROOM COBHAM**

#### **AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

Hire rates start at £36.50 for a session

Contact us or visit the website for full details

Discount for parish residents

For bookings, call  
01474 815319

Or email

[bookings@meadowroom.org.uk](mailto:bookings@meadowroom.org.uk)

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

Registered Charity No 228007

For Hire

### **St Mary's Church Room Sole Street**

£6 per hour

Use of small Kitchen

Bookings and Enquiries

**01474 814560**

# Lewis Solomon

## Funeral Service



**The oldest independently owned and family run funeral directors in Gravesend and surrounding towns**

Especially for the first time, any time of the day or night you can talk to us  
We will attend to everything, we can provide for all of your requirements  
We have a private chapel of rest and can provide a fleet of Hearses and Limousines to compliment a dignified occasion

**19 DARNLEY ROAD, GRAVESEND, KENT, DA11 0RZ**

*24 hour personal service  
parking available on site  
bespoke funeral plans*

**01474 352261**

Email: [office@lewissolomon.co.uk](mailto:office@lewissolomon.co.uk)  
**[www.lewissolomon.co.uk](http://www.lewissolomon.co.uk)**



**GULLANDS**

S O L I C I T O R S

Agricultural and Farming Law

Farm Sales and Purchases

Conveyancing

Divorce and Family

Employment Law

Wills, Estates and Tax Planning

Accident Claims

Medical Negligence

Criminal Law

Road Traffic Offences

Commercial Property

Construction Law

Landlord and Tenant

Dispute Resolution

Company and Commercial Law

Health & Safety Prosecutions

Business Defence

Licensing

Notarial Services

[info@gullands.com](mailto:info@gullands.com) [www.gullands.com](http://www.gullands.com)



Whitehall Place | 47 The Terrace | Gravesend | Kent | DA12 2DL | 01474 887688

16 Mill Street | Maidstone | Kent | ME15 6XT | 01622 689700

# North Kent Embroiderers



Hello Everyone,

Our speaker this month was Beth Power <https://www.dottytextiles.com/> talking about 'The Art of 'Stitchscaping' - hand embroidered landscapes. Beth says, "the itch to stitch drew me to my stash" and she told us how her business had taken off during lockdown when she was able to produce many beautiful pieces and started to add 3D elements including shells, to her designs. The range of embroidery stitches used in each piece is amazing and includes bullion knots, French knots, drizzle stitch, seed stitch, running stitch, cross stitch and whip stitch, many of which are used in imaginative ways. Her work is inspired by the landscapes she encounters on a daily basis. Everything Beth does is hand stitched and she brought with her many of her delightful pieces for us to see and handle.



This month was the first one of our postcard challenge – the subject being 'holiday memories.'

Those who were taking part had placed them in an envelope and

then swapped their creations with that of another participating member. You can see some of the post-cards here.

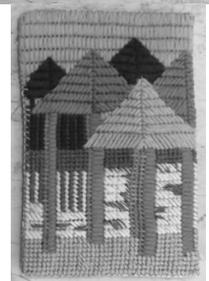


Our next speaker is Dr Susan Kay-Williams CEO of the Royal School of Needlework. She will be talking about 'The Development of Blackwork.'

Before that some of us will be taking part in a day school run by the 'Woolly Felters' [www.woollyfelters.com](http://www.woollyfelters.com) . We will be making a Christmas bear– more of that in the next article!

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

email us at: [info@northkentembroiderers.co.uk](mailto:info@northkentembroiderers.co.uk) or contact our Chairman, Eileen on 01474 324734 Happy stitching, Karen



  @kmjacupuncture



# ACUPUNCTURE

ELECTRO-ACUPUNCTURE

CUPPING

GUA SHA

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

[kate@kmjacupuncture.com](mailto:kate@kmjacupuncture.com)

01474 612 057

Station Approach, Wrotham Road,  
Meopham, DA13 0HP

A modern approach to health using  
ancient wisdom and healing



British  
Acupuncture  
Council Member



- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sciatica  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General fatigue          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Muscle aches & pains    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allergies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Menopausal symptoms      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anxiety & Depression    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insomnia  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Musculoskeletal problems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fertility & IVF support |



## Professional Domestic Cleaning Services

Are you a busy mum?

Working long hours?

Just need extra help?

Give us a call for reliable

DBS checked staff and

fully insured service!

07545 455742

[sophie@capablecleaners.co.uk](mailto:sophie@capablecleaners.co.uk)

[www.capablecleaners.co.uk](http://www.capablecleaners.co.uk)

## Cobham Hall open to the public guided tour

On: Wednesday 1st November  
2023

At: Cobham Hall, Cobham  
Kent DA12 3BL

Tours start at 2pm and last  
tour is 4pm

Price: £6.50 (concessions  
£5.50) – Cream Teas available  
at extra cost-homemade cakes  
in the Gilt Hall.

No need to book-just turn up.

**The Parishes of Meopham with Nurstead and Cobham with  
Luddesdowne & Dode**

**Teaching programme for Autumn Winter 2023/2024**

During the autumn and winter of 2023/2024, we shall be exploring Paul's letter to the Romans, with the help of the Bible Society's Romans Course. This will be made up of ten sessions, each of which will consist of a video presentation of a section of Romans by the New Testament scholar Andrew Ollerton. It will run at the St John's Centre on Tuesday afternoons from 2.00-3.15pm, and by Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 7.45-9.00pm.

**Course programme**

**November**

- 7 Salvation – Romans 3-4
- 21 Peace – Romans 5
- 28 Freedom – Romans 6-7

**December**

- 5 Hope – Romans 8
- 19 Mystery – Romans 9-11
- Christmas and New Year break

**January**

- 30 Devotion – Romans 12

**February**

- 6 Community – Romans 13-14



If you have queries or would like further details, please contact Martin Davie at [mbarratt.davie@btinternet.com](mailto:mbarratt.davie@btinternet.com)

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE**

**FESTIVAL 2023** St John the Baptist Church, Meopham, are holding a fund raising Christmas Tree Festival. We are inviting local individuals, schools, clubs, businesses and organisation from across the Parish to buy a small Christmas Tree from us and decorate it to reflect their groups Image. The Christmas Trees will be on display for one week inside the Church from

**Sunday 3rd —Sunday 10th December**

We would request that you decorate your Christmas Tree between 9 am—12 noon on Friday 1st December or Saturday 2nd December.

Our annual Christingle Service will be held at 3 pm on Sunday 10th

December and after this Service has finished we will then auction off each Christmas Tree to the highest bidder.

Please contact Ruth Blake to reserve and pay for your Christmas Tree. Telephone: 01474 812097 or Mobile: 07855 352478



## **BELL RINGING by Peter Hartley**

High-ho, high-ho it is off to Essex I go for a couple of days bell ringing with friends from Kent, Sussex and Hampshire. We stayed in a gastro-pub between Chelmsford and Colchester which was busy with Essex life. We visited surrounding villages and in their parish churches we rang their 6 bells or occasionally 8 bells. We rang from the ground floor of the church or from the balcony and usually from the ringing room high in the tower. We climbed wooden ladders, negotiated trap doors and wound our way up stone spiral stairs – and down again.

Whilst enjoying the ringing, being an avid church crawler, I always made time to explore the interesting and varied churches. The little church at Little Waltham, built of flint and pebble rubble in the 12<sup>th</sup> century with a 15<sup>th</sup> century tower, has a very big church key and a remarkable 13<sup>th</sup> century parish chest made from a hollowed out trunk of a sycamore tree reinforced with iron straps and six iron locks. The vicar and five reliable men, each with a different key, had to be present to open the chest.

The brick church at Ford End was built in 1871 by public subscription on land given by the local Tufnell family and consecrated by the Bishop of Rochester. Built on a former osier bed there has always been trouble with the foundations. In 1985 the chancel had to be demolished but the nave and, fortunately, the thin tower remain. Next we rang at Great Dunmow Church. There on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939 the Vicar, the Reverend Noel Mellish, V.C., M.C., who, as an Army Chaplain was awarded the Victoria Cross in the First World War, had to announce to his congregation the outbreak of the Second World War. In the large graveyard Nahim Rashid “Allah bless you” rests with the many other dead. The glory of Stebbing Church is the rare surviving screen of stone where three fine big arches fill the chancel opening.

Our second ringing day began at brick Galleywood Church built at the expense of Arthur Pryor, Chairman of the brewers Truman, Hanbury and Buxton, and his deeply religious wife. The new church was consecrated on the Feast of Saint Michael and all Angels, 29<sup>th</sup> September 1873 by the Bishop of Rochester. Just after our visit they were going to celebrate their 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday when the Bishop of Chelmsford was joining the congregation. The County of Essex had been in the Diocese of Rochester.

Cont'd P17

Then the County was transferred in 1877 to the new Diocese of St. Albans and to the even newer Diocese of Chelmsford in 1914. Sir Simon Jenkins remarks “The 20<sup>th</sup>-century Church of England created new bishoprics as fast as it lost congregations”.

At Rettendon, dominating the North Aisle, is the surprising and vast marble memorial to Edmund Humphrey who, along with other figures, lies on his side on the projecting base reclining on his right arm. As a bachelor he was the last of the line and had the monument built in his lifetime so he could contemplate it before he died in 1727. Today the parish needs to find £60,000 to have this important memorial professionally cleaned.

The Church at Burnham-on-Crouch has an attractive setting standing back from the centre of the town. In 1774 there was a disastrous fire. The new long and low plaster ceilings give the interior its distinctive tunnel-like effect. The oldest of the six bells in the tower was cast in 1415. All part of now from before yesterday.

And so a farewell to today’s scene of yachts bobbing on the dappled waters of the River Crouch and the Essex villages where we have rung in their ancient hearts. So often we have seen housing developments being imposed on the village edges. One wondered about adequate roads, schools and health provision. Perhaps somebody is thinking it out - or not! Meanwhile we had ensured that the timeless English sound of bells being rung had floated across today’s Essex as it has done for centuries.

### **MEOPHAM LIBRARY WRITING GROUP**

Meopham Library Writing Group meets again on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 at 10am until about midday. The group will be celebrating their 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, by having lunch together after the meeting at a local restaurant. Writing poetry or stories is a very enjoyable activity and recording special memories will be valued by the family in the future. It can be also be helpful when facing difficult times in life.

Anyone who is interested in writing is invited to join us, and beginners or more experienced writers are equally welcome. Each month there is a different writing theme, such as “Logic” or “Halloween”, so everyone can write a short story, poem or an article containing less than 1000 words. There is also a writing challenge, when members can each choose a word and then try to write a short sentence containing all the words chosen by the group.

For info, please ring **01474 813379** or just turn up at Meopham Library on the first Thursday of the month.

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



*(\* Please note some changes/new, dates & times to previous years)*

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

10:30am Memorial and Thanksgiving Service, Luddesdowne

**\* Armistice Day Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

\* 10:45am Armistice Service, Luddesdowne

**Remembrance Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November**

10:00am Act of Remembrance at Cobham War Memorial

10:30am Remembrance Service, Cobham Church

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November**

10:30am Holy Communion, Luddesdowne

\* NEW 4pm All Age Family Service, Cobham

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November**

10:30am All Age Worship with Baptism, Cobham

**Midweek services in Sole Street Church Room**

9:30am 1<sup>st</sup> November - Holy Communion,  
8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Informal Morning Prayer

**St John's Meopham with St Mildred's Nurstead Church Services**  
**St John's Meopham with St Mildred's Nurstead Church**  
**Services during November 2023**



**Sunday 5th November**

9.45am All Age Worship at St John's

11.30am Holy Communion at St Mildred's

**Wednesday 8th November** NO Holy Communion in St John's Centre

**Saturday 11th November Armistice Day**

10.45am Prayers & Silence at The War Memorial on Meopham Green

**Sunday 12th November Remembrance Sunday**

10.30am Joint Service of Remembrance at St John's  
*with live TV link to the Cenotaph in London*

4pm Sunday Afternoon Club at St John's (for all ages)

**Wednesday 15th November**

10am Holy Communion in St John's Centre

**Sunday 19th November**

8am Holy Communion at St Mildred's

9.45am Morning Worship at St John's

**Wednesday 22nd November**

10am Holy Communion in St John's Centre

**Sunday 26th November**

9.45am Family Communion at St John's

11.30am Family Service at St Mildred's

**Wednesday 29th November**

10am Holy Communion in St John's Centre

# COBHAM CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

TOM BETTLEY DIRECTOR | LAURA WEST SOPRANO

TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 7PM  
COBHAM CHURCH

"A really enjoyable, professional, performance in such an atmospheric venue."  
"Absolutely the best concert I've been to."



Tickets £10 (under 18s £3) including interval refreshments.  
From Cobham Community Stores, on 07926 677188  
or at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/cobham-choir](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cobham-choir)

## CHIROPODIST

HOME VISITING SERVICE

FOOT CARE AND ADVICE

IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

HCPC registered chiropodist/podiatrist with over 20  
years' experience

Anna Mapp MSSCh MBChA

01474 812494 or 07977 465452

[anna.mapp773@gmail.com](mailto:anna.mapp773@gmail.com)



# HEDGE & FENCING SPECIALIST

ESTABLISHED FOR 20 YEARS

- ALL HEDGES AND SHRUBS TRIMMED, REDUCED AND REMOVED
- STUMP GRINDING SERVICE
- ALL STYLES OF FENCING SUPPLIED AND INSTALLED
- SLEEPERS AND DECKING SUPPLIED AND INSTALLED
- ALL STYLES OF GATES SUPPLIED AND INSTALLED

CALL MATTHEW ON:

**07796 416607**

OR 01732 822467 EMAIL: [mhlgardencare@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mhlgardencare@yahoo.co.uk)

**FULL PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE,  
FREE ESTIMATES & REGISTERED  
WASTE CARRIER**



# TREE STUMP REMOVAL SERVICES

- FULLY INSURED
- REGISTERED WASTE CARRIER
- FREE ESTIMATES

CALL MATTHEW ON:

**07796 416607**

OR 01732 822467

OR EMAIL:

[mhlgardencare@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mhlgardencare@yahoo.co.uk)



# A new level of home care

## GP led bespoke care

We get the basics right with the Right People, the Right Care at the Right Time.

Our staff are trained to the highest standard to enable them to provide a wide range of tasks within the home, to ensure you feel safe, comfortable and content.

We are dedicated to helping each individual maintain an active and independent lifestyle by focusing on current abilities, interest and needs.

### Some of our services include;

- Assistance with personal care
- Meal preparation
- Shopping
- Trips to friends and relatives
- Administration or assistance with medication
- Overnight care
- Companionship
- Leisure activities
- Housework
- Live-in 24hr care
- Holistic Services
- Complimentary GP Lifestyle Assessment.
- Social Prescribing

Carers  
required



## Get in touch

### Gravesham & Dartford

50 The Grove, Gravesend, DA12 1DP

T: 01474 240909

T: 01322 537733

E: [hello@vitalityhomehealth.co.uk](mailto:hello@vitalityhomehealth.co.uk)

"Vitality Home Health Limited is in no way affiliated with VitalityLife Limited or VitalityHealth Limited"

# Vitality

home health

 Vitality Home Health  @Vitality\_Care



[www.vitalityhomehealth.co.uk](http://www.vitalityhomehealth.co.uk)



TWO WOMEN EVENTS

Present:

COME IN YOUR BEST ABBA  
GEAR IF YOU FANCY!!

# ABBA / RÈVIVAL



**THURSDAY 30th November 2023**

St Mary Magdalene Church, Cobham Kent

Tickets £24.50 in advance, £29.50 on the door

Book online on [www.twowomenevents.com](http://www.twowomenevents.com)

Or come to Cobham Community Stores (cash or cheque only)

Free Public Car Park Nearby

Fully Licensed Bar On Site(cash only)

For more info and contact: find us on Facebook or email

[info@twowomenevents.com](mailto:info@twowomenevents.com)

IT Solutions Kent Ltd

IT Support -

CCTV - Networking

0333 050 2446

[support@itsk.co.uk](mailto:support@itsk.co.uk)

## ***COBHAM TREE SURGERY***

All aspects of work undertaken

Tall & Dangerous Trees

Hedge trimming

£5 million Public liability insurance

Most waste organically recycled

Call for a free quotation:

07789261474

[Stuart@cobhamtreesurgery.co.uk](mailto:Stuart@cobhamtreesurgery.co.uk)

[WWW.COBHAMTREESURGERY.CO.UK](http://WWW.COBHAMTREESURGERY.CO.UK)

KCC TRADING STANDARDS APPROVED

## **1<sup>st</sup> South Street Boys Brigade and Girls Association Company**

Boys and girls aged 5-18 years are invited to join us for fun and games at **6pm until 7.30pm every Friday evening** at South Street Baptist Church, Wrotham Road, DA13 0QJ. Please visit: [www.BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK](http://www.BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK) or ring 01474 813379 for more information. Half term will be on 20.10.23 and 27.10.23 and the weekly subscription is £2. Summer activities include camping at the Boys Brigade Honey Hill Camp in Maidstone and visits to the Boys Brigade Water Activities Centre in Tonbridge, for canoeing, kayaking and stand up paddle boards. For more information, please visit: [www.thewac.org.uk](http://www.thewac.org.uk)

Sunday services at South Street Baptist Church begin at 10.45am and finish at about midday. On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November, there will be a Family Service and BBGA Church Parade, with puppets to help tell the Bible stories. The next **Family Games Afternoon will be on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2pm-4pm** and all ages are very welcome to join us. Entry is free. There will be indoor curling, table tennis, pool, indoor archery, board games, cakes and tea or coffee. For families with babies and children under five, **SONG TIME meets every Monday morning during term time, from 9.45am until 11am**. There is a variety of toys, as well as art and craft activities, musical instruments and singing. Family admission is £1.

## **LUDESDown SOCIETY EVENTS**

at Luddesdown Village Hall, Luddesdown Road, Kent, DA13 0XE

**Christmas Party** - Sunday 10th December 2023, 2pm onwards

£2 per child. £5 per adult.

Party games, buffet & music.

Plus a visit from Santa

RSVP by 1st December



**New Year's Day Walk** – meet at 11am in hall carpark

Free Event. Mulled wine on arrival. Dogs welcome.

On return walkers are invited to stay for lunch (a donation towards food costs would be appreciated).

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for all the latest events.



## November

**2023 draws to a close** – as another year end fast approaches, Cobham Gardeners' Society celebrates what has been another successful year – full of well attended events & seasonal shows and continuing growth in membership. In fact, the judge at our recent Autumn Show, Dr John Hughes, said *“I have been judging the autumn show now for at least five years and I felt that this was the best show for the overall quality of both the vegetable and flower exhibits”*.

**On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7:30 pm** the Society holds its AGM, Annual Prize Giving and Christmas Get Together. So, if you are thinking of taking up membership why not come along see what we are about, celebrate the achievements of our worthy cup & trophy winners – with a glass or two of Christmas Cheer! Membership is only £10 for the year which includes free entry to our talks, non-members pay £3, discount at local nurseries, savings on our annual seed order and 2 for 1 entry to RHS Gardens. For full joining details, email [cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk)

Winter is on its way but there is still plenty to do in the garden. Leaves are falling rapidly, and wind and rain are on the increase. Tender plants will need protecting from frost, gales and freezing rains. Move plants into the greenhouse, or into a sheltered spot, but if you can't, it is worth wrapping plants or pots in situ. Remember winter can be a tough time for birds in terms of water and food, so keep supplies topped up.

### RHS - Top Jobs this month

1. Clear up fallen leaves - especially from lawns, ponds and beds
2. Raise containers onto pot feet to prevent waterlogging
3. Plant tulip bulbs for a spring display next year
4. Prune roses to prevent wind-rock
5. Plant out winter bedding
6. Cover brassicas with netting if pigeons are a problem
7. Insulate outdoor containers from frost - bubble wrap works well
8. Stop winter moth damage to fruit trees using grease bands around the trunks
9. Put out bird food to encourage winter birds into the garden

# Consilio

## Partnership

Garden Design - gardens tailored to your needs

Landscaping - full landscaping service

Garden Maintenance - regular visits to one off tidy-ups

Consilio offer a comprehensive range of garden services through our team of fully qualified & experienced professionals.

Landscaping Services include:  
driveways-patios-fencing-decking-  
water features-planting-turfing-etc.

Please contact us with your enquiry or ask a member of staff

01474 247 077

07311 381858

[enq@consiliopartnership.com](mailto:enq@consiliopartnership.com)  
[www.consiliopartnership.com](http://www.consiliopartnership.com)



**LOCAL FUNDING GROUP**  
**CHRISTMAS DOOR WREATH WORKSHOP**

You are invited to attend a Christmas Door Wreath Workshop  
at the Meadow Room, Cobham on  
Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December from 10.00 am – 2.30 pm.

This will be a fund-raising event in aid of St. Mary's Church Room.

Tickets are £30. 00 and include all necessary materials –

Mechanics: 12" Naylor Base ring, fixing and wires

Foliages: Skimmia, Fir, Variegated Holly, Cupressus, Ivy, Christmas Box

Decorations: Cones, dried orange slices, cinnamon sticks, berries and  
baubles.

Please bring a small kitchen knife, floristry or kitchen scissors, and a towel  
or cloth to work on. Include your favorite item such as ribbons, faux  
flowers, mistletoe, birds, bells or stars to add a personal touch to your  
work.

Tea, Coffee and cakes will be served but please bring your picnic lunch.

We can only offer 24 places and so please reserve your seat. Enjoy!

(This is a cash only event) Contact Sue Arnott (07783 285105) or

Su Rowe (07557 990944)

**COBHAM PARISH**  
**COUNCIL MEETINGS 7.30PM**

7 Nov Church Room

**LUDESDOWN PARISH COUN-**  
**CIL MEETINGS 2023**

20 November 7:30pm,

15 January 2024 7:30pm,

18 March 2024 7.30pm



COMMUNITY COFFEE  
MORNING 10.30 – 12.00  
**9<sup>th</sup> November LF Group  
meeting**

**LUDESDOWN**  
**VILLAGE HALL**

The hire charges are as follows:  
from £40 per session (please visit  
our website for full details)

**Concessions for parishioners  
and members of  
LUDESDOWN SOCIETY**

For bookings and enquiries please  
contact:

Colin Dickens 01474 814155 or

email [lvhbooking@gmail.com](mailto:lvhbooking@gmail.com)

## Absolute DIY Services

All aspects of DIY covered, from hanging a blind to a complete room makeover, painting / decorating, flooring, flat pack assembly, no job too small, and all at competitive prices.



Darren Lawrence  
Sole Street,  
07841 51 8255 / 01474 812853

## JOHN GREEN DECOR LTD

PROFESSIONAL PAINTERS  
& DECORATORS

INTERIOR, EXTERIOR  
& INSURANCE WORK  
ALL ASPECTS OF PAINTING  
AND DECORATING  
INCLUDING WALLPAPER  
HANGING, PAINT  
EFFECTS AND SPRAYING



Phone: **01474 871273**  
email: [sales@johngreendecor.co.uk](mailto:sales@johngreendecor.co.uk)  
website: [www.johngreendecor.co.uk](http://www.johngreendecor.co.uk)

## Stephen P Gay Memorials Inc. Horlocks



SPECIALISTS IN MONUMENTAL  
MASONRY  
**120 Old Road West  
Gravesend  
Kent, DA11 0LR  
Tel: 01474 321003**

## MEDWAY METALS LTD

Buyers of all scrap  
metal & car batteries

QUICK PAYMENT

**01634 297423**

UNIT 6 SHAMEL PARK, MEDWAY CENTRE EST.  
COMMISSIONERS ROAD, STROOD  
ME2 4HQ

## **Gardening for a Wilder Kent – Encouraging Bats**



If we see bats in our gardens on a warm summer evening it is an enchanting experience. We are lucky some villagers see bats circulate around at dusk using our gardens as a source of food, water and shelter. Bell ringers see bats in church! Bats are not to be frightened of: Shorne is home to yet another endangered species and bats are a truly unique mammal, possessing an ability that no other mammal has. Bats are the only mammal capable of true sustained flight, allowing them to fill a niche in our environment which is specific to them. In Shorne you will mostly see the small pipistrelle which weighs the same as a 2p coin. Bats hibernate for the winter emerging around March if the spring is warm enough then, eating a huge amount of insects to keep them going until the birth of the next generation in June or July and as mammals they suckle their young in the “nursery”. They mate in autumn when they gradually become slower and prepare for the coming winter.

A bat’s pregnancy lasts between six and nine weeks. The length of the pregnancy depends on the species and can be influenced by weather, climate and availability of food. Bats usually give birth to a single baby (called a pup) each year. They keep their babies close and nurture them carefully. The young bats are suckled by their mothers for four to five weeks until they are old enough to fly. They then begin to venture out from the roost to forage for food. There are fewer wooded areas, ponds and open grass spaces for bats to feed and roost as roads and buildings have now replaced them. These features can also create barriers for some bats. Links to the countryside, like hedges and front gardens that make up green corridors, have been lost or fragmented. That is why it is so important that our gardens are friendly to wildlife including bats.

Careful planning will increase the value of your garden or green space to bats and other wildlife, however small it is. As bats need a huge number of insects, a garden that is good for insects is good for bats. Even a window box or tiny courtyard garden can attract insects, which in turn attract bats. Aim to grow as wide a range of flowers throughout the year as possible to attract a diversity of insects. Daisies with short florets, umbellifers with landing platforms, flowers with long pollen tubes, herbs and aromatic flowers, night scented pale flowers more obvious to moths, aquatic flowers, climbers and flowering trees will support lots of insects which will in turn support bats.

Cats can be a danger to bats and should be kept in for an hour before dusk. Avoid using chemicals to kill insects or in fact any pesticides and try and encourage natural predators such as beetles and ladybirds. Reduce your light pollution! All bats rest in nooks or crannies in dark places during the day and emerging at night to feed. Porch lights, garden security lighting, or decorative lighting on homes and trees, can have a detrimental effect on bats. You can support bats by reducing or turning off your garden lighting. If you like to keep on your security lighting, try changing your settings to a dimmer light or fit hoods or cowls over them to limit light pollution.

## **All Seasons garden Maintenance**

Local and reliable service

Grass and Hedge cutting, Border Maintenance, Pruning

Pressure washing,

Full public liability insurance

References available from existing customers

Contact John - Home: 01322 423063 (Based in Gravesend)

Mobile: 07951 429175 Email: boaz26@live.co.uk

**APEX PEST CONTROL**

Mole catching, Wasp nests, Rodents

24/7 service



## **AtTENTively Yours...**

Here to provide you with a fully personalised service

Catering for garden parties, corporate and sporting events

High specification - best quality equipment used

Site survey and no obligation quotation

**Freephone 0800 389 8298**

**Office 01474 815150 Mobile 07766 681151**



# Robin Hunter

Tree Surgery  
Garden Design  
Fencing & Gates

Tel: 07775 971380

Email: robinhunt1@hotmail.co.uk

- Professional, Affordable, Service
- Foils & Colour Specialists
- Cut & Blow Dry Specialists
- Wedding hair available on request
- Hair extension by appointment (Tuesday only)
- Late Evenings (Monday & Thursday's)

**£5 OFF PERMS & COLOURING**  
WITH THIS ADVERT



Station Approach, Meopham, Kent - Telephone: 01474 813378

## **Harvest Thanksgiving Services**

**Luddesdown's service took place on the 24<sup>th</sup> September** from which we were able to donate 14.6 kgs of tins and packets of food to The Community Cupboard, Fresh produce to The Ellenor Hospice and £119.10 to Tear Fund. Tear Fund have thanked us for bringing hope to Aminata in Mali.

Dear Friends

**Thank you for your church's offering of £119.1 this Harvest. Your congregation is helping transform lives around the world in Jesus' name, bringing hope to Aminata in Mali.**

It's tough to find ways to make an income in Aminata's village in Mali, where she lives with her husband and young son. Like many other women there, Aminata used to chop down trees for firewood to sell. It was hard work, and she had to walk a long way as most of the trees near her house had been cut down already. She also had to leave her small child at home – Aminata hated that, but she couldn't see an alternative. They had to eat.

The whole local area is facing terrible deforestation and changing weather patterns, with unreliable rainfall. And these factors have resulted in poor soil quality and reduced crop harvests, with devastating consequences for people's incomes.

But, thanks to the generous giving of congregations like yours, our local partner has been able to help. They've funded and established a market garden in Aminata's village, where women like her can grow vegetables. Aminata has also received training in how to use her garden most productively and on how to protect the environment.

Now Aminata focuses mainly on cultivating her garden plot. She grows a variety of onions to sell and, she tells us, she makes a great onion sauce for her family too!

Aminata says she is so grateful to all who helped her village have this market garden.

**Aminata is providing for her family and helping protect her local environment. Your church's support makes life-changing work like this possible. Thank you.**

**Cobham's service took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> October** from which we were able to donate 38 kgs of tins and packets of food to The Community Cupboard, Fresh produce to The Ellenor Hospice and £244.00 to Water Aid. The Ellenor Hospice have sent a thank you letter to both Luddesdown & Cobham. congregations

Thank you for choosing to support ellenor with your recent Harvest Festival donation. Your collection of food and drink is already helping us to support those who need our care in the community.

It is the incredible people who offer their kindness and support that ensure that ellenor can care for patients of all ages, no matter what happens.

Thank you for being a part of ellenor!

Best wishes,  
Meghan Hunt

Cont'd on next page

Thank you to Elizabeth Haider, Michele Jackson and Jean Pickering for arranging the beautiful displays and to all the other helpers who decorated the church for the Harvest service. Some displays shown below.



As John and Michele Jackson celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 29<sup>th</sup> September we presented them with a card and flowers at the harvest service and Pam included them in prayers during the service. Congratulations to John and Michele!

Hello - The King will be 75 years old this month! Why not colour in his picture and make him nice and colourful for his birthday!  
Enjoy bonfire night and remember to keep your furry friends safe while your having fun.  
Love and licks, Paddy

P.S I have a new blankie!



# Need a Plumber?

Your local plumber is

## Graham Hickson

Reliable, prompt and reasonable prices

20% discount on labour with this magazine

## Graham Hickson

**07968 551 562** [g.hickson@btinternet.com](mailto:g.hickson@btinternet.com)

VAT Sole Free Trader

**Wills & Trusts  
Powers of Attorney**

**Based in Cobham  
covering all Kent**



### *British Will Writers*



**Totally Confidential  
Friendly and Professional  
Free Consultation**

**07942 999 919**

<https://www.britishwillwriters.com>

#### ADVERTISING RATES IN THE MAGAZINE

Page Size	1 Year	6 months	1 month	Dimensions (mm)
¼ page	£60	£36	£13	W:65 H:90
½ page	£105	£56	£18	W:135 H:90
Full page	£195	£100	£34	W:135 H:185

**Contact Janet Weaver on 01732 823936**  
[cobandlud.office@btinternet.com](mailto:cobandlud.office@btinternet.com)

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

This month, on 30<sup>th</sup> November, Scotland remembers one of the very first disciples of Jesus. St Andrew is honoured, not for any mighty deeds of his own, but for his love of introducing people to Jesus. He went straight off and introduced his brother Peter to the Saviour, and followed that up by bringing Nathanael/Bartholomew to Jesus. 'Better Together' seems to have been his slogan, too! 'We have found the Messiah!', he told them, unable to keep the good news to himself. Andrew's connection with Scotland dates back to the claimed translation of his remains from Patras in Achaia to Scotland in the eighth century. The church in Fife where these remains were buried became a place of pilgrimage during the tenth century. All of this may be no more than pious legend, but that St Andrew was highly regarded in Scotland and became its patron saint is beyond doubt.

Scotland disciples Jesus Andrew honoured Peter Nathanael  
 Bartholomew Messiah Saviour Patras Archaia eighth remains  
 translation Fife pilgrimage tenth pious patron saint love  
 introducing place



TWO WOMEN EVENTS

Present:

# FLEETWOOD BAC



**THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2023**

St Mary Magdalene Church Cobham, Kent

7pm for 7:30 start

Tickets £22.50 online, £27.50 on the door

Book on [www.twowomenevents.com](http://www.twowomenevents.com) or come to Cobham

Community Stores

Fully Licensed Bar

Contact: [info@twowomenevents.com](mailto:info@twowomenevents.com)