

St Bartholomew's Church

Oxford Parish News



January 2020

www.stbartholomews.co.uk

£1

SERVICES AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

January	8am	10am	3pm	6.30pm
5 Jan Epiphany	Holy Communion	All Together Worship	-	Evensong
12 Jan Baptism of Christ	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	-	-
19 Jan 2nd Sunday of Epiphany	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	-	United Service Otford Methodist Church
26 Jan 3rd Sunday of Epiphany	Holy Communion (BCP)	Holy Communion	-	-

SUNDAY CLUB (FOR AGES 0-14) INFANT: 3-7

JUNIOR: 8-11

SENIOR: 12-14

First Steps for toddlers and their carers meets on alternate Wednesdays during term time. For more details please contact Najen Harris, 01959 522813.

EPIC (for school years 5-7) meets on the 2nd Saturday in the month, 6-8 pm in the Church Centre.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP meet every Sunday evening during term time in the Church Centre, 6.30 - 8.00 pm.

HOLY COMMUNION Every Wednesday 10.00 am (Book of Common Prayer)

If you would like to book a baptism or wedding, please contact the Church Office 01959 523185.

Cover photo: Otford sign in snow by Richard Worssam
Magazine printed by Silver Pines Services, Magazine No. 01 Volume 90

A MINISTER'S REFLECTION

A HYMN FOR THE NEW YEAR

Dear Friends,

Since hymns are really sung prayers, they can be a big help when we are trying to find words for those matters about which we wish to pray. It is natural that at the very outset of 2020 we shall want to bring the year before God and the hymn "Lord for the years your hand has kept and guided" does this very effectively. It was written by Timothy Dudley-Smith, Bishop of Thetford from 1981-92. It is set to an upbeat not to say boisterous tune by another Bishop (Michael Baughen of Chester) and is very wide ranging in its subject matter.

THANKSGIVING.

The first two verses thank God for spiritual blessings over the years; for his seeking of us, his pardoning, guidance and inspiration. This helps us because remembering past blessings strengthens our sense of God's impact on our lives and also strengthens our faith for the future. There is a special focus on the word of God with its special ability to touch and to shape us. The word of God is dynamic. It "speaks to our hearts", the writer says, and has power to "rebuke, inspire, to teach and train". The writer of course speaks generally, but we may have, should have, specific matters for which to thank God over the year just past or over a longer period, for ourselves and for our loved ones. Perhaps, even more widely, to thank God for security, justice and other blessings not enjoyed in some parts of the world.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

The hymn continues with prayer first for our land, in a vivid phrase "oppressed by pleasure wealth and care". (Many would regard the first two of these as good things, but is Dudley-Smith here pointing to an excessive pursuit of these in a materialistic way?) Young and old are included. This widens to prayer for the world in general. There is prayer that Christ may reign wherever there is deliberate rejection of God - "where men disown or doubt you" - or where circumstances (perhaps civil war or natural disaster?) leave people "hungry and helpless" - "lost indeed without you".

PRAYER FOR OURSELVES

The above ensures that we are not too inward looking in our prayers. But it is right that we should offer our own concerns and thanks to our heavenly Father. So the last verse is personal.

*Lord for ourselves in living power remake us,
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne.*

The past should be let go and the future embraced. "To live for Christ alone."

Happy New Year!

Revd Chris Reed

New Series for 2020

We hope you enjoy our new prayer for the month (pg.7), walk for the month (pg.12) and update on past YPF members (pg.17)

-The Editors-

DATES 2020

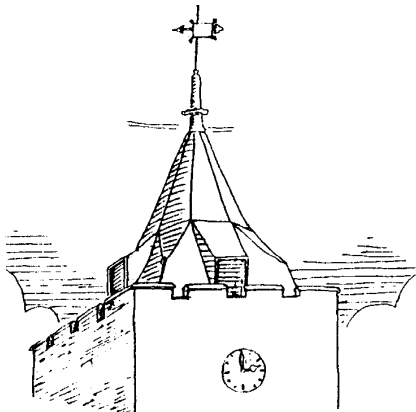
SIGNIFICANT SUNDAYS AND SPECIAL SERVICES

Sunday 19 th January	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service (6.30pm Methodist Church)
Wednesday 26 th February	Ash Wednesday (8 pm Holy Communion at St. Bart's Church)
Friday 6 th March	Women's World Day of Prayer (2 pm)
Sunday 22 nd March	Mothering Sunday
Sunday 29 th March	British Summer Time begins
Sunday 5 th April	Palm Sunday Ecumenical Procession (10.45 am at Methodist Church, 11 am on the Green)
Thursday 9 th April	Maundy Thursday Service (8 pm at Otford Methodist Church)
Friday 10 th April	Good Friday services
Sunday 12 th April	Easter Day services
Sunday 3 rd May	Service to Commemorate Departed Loved Ones (3 pm)
Sunday 17 th May	Civic Service (10 am)
Thursday 21 st May	Ascension Day
Sunday 31 st May	Pentecost/Whit Sunday
Sunday 7 th June	Trinity Sunday
Sunday 5 th July	Sunday Club Celebration Service & Parish BBQ in Vicarage garden
Monday 24 th August	St. Bartholomew
Sunday 20 th September	Stewardship Sunday
Sunday 27 th September	Harvest Services
Sunday 25 th October	Bible Sunday (British Summer Time ends)
Sunday 8 th November	Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 29 th November	Advent Sunday Advent Carol Service by Candlelight (6.30 pm)
Sunday 6 th December	Christingle, 4.00 pm
Sunday 20 th December	Nativity Play and Christmas Presentation (10 am) Service of Nine Lessons and Carols (6.30 pm)
Christmas Eve (Thurs)	Crib Service (4 pm) Midnight Communion Service (11.30 pm)
Christmas Day (Fri)	Christmas Communion (9 am) All Together Christmas Worship (10.30 am)

EVENTS

Saturday 25 th January	Burns Night Supper
Saturday 8 th February	Wedding Preparation morning
Tuesday 3 rd March	5-session Tuesday evening Lent course begins
Saturday 4 th April	Spring cleaning of the Church
Sunday 10 th or 17 th May	Christian Aid Week begins
Monday 25 th May	Village Fete/Bank Holiday
Saturday 20 th June	St. Bartholomew's Church Fair (2 pm)
Fri-Sun 17 th -19 th July	Youth Weekend at Kench Hill, Tenterden
Saturday 12 th September	Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Bike and Hike
Saturday 21 st November	Christmas Market
Sunday 13 th December	Choir Christmas Concert (7 pm)

FROM ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH



CHURCH OFFICE AND CHURCH CAR PARK

During the clerical vacancy (September onwards) the church and church car park will only be open during church office hours - Monday to Friday 9am-12.30pm.

If you wish to visit the church at another time please contact the church office 01959 523185 or st.bartholomews@otford.net

BURNS NIGHT

SAT, 25TH JANUARY. 2020 - CHURCH CENTRE 7PM

Do come along for a 3-course Scottish meal with traditional toasts, readings, songs and a table quiz. Make up a table of 8 or apply individually and we'll join you with others.

Please bring your own drink and advise us of any dietary requirements. Tickets from Vicki Howie (vickihowie@btopenworld.com or 01959 522413.) Suggested donation on the night, £20 in aid of church funds.

Please wear something Scottish if only a token tartan ribbon!

CHRISTMAS MARKET 'THANK YOU'

Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped to make the Christmas Market such a success. To the stallholders who worked so hard beforehand and on the day, to the kitchen staff and to all who sewed, knitted, baked, made sweets and preserves, turned wood, filled hampers, sold raffle tickets - and to everyone who came to support us. What more could we ask? A lovely day, the Church Centre with stalls laden with goodies and delicious refreshments, and lots of people creating a joyous atmosphere. The total raised was £3,053.17, an overall increase of £197.61 on 2018. An excellent result!

SOUP LUNCH

Do join us on Monday, 13th January (12-2.00 pm) in the Church Centre and enjoy the delicious homemade soups and bread with a light dessert, in very genial company. Please sign the list on the book table at the back of church to let us know that you are coming. Our coffee-time guest will be David Batchelor, last year's Master of Company of Turners. Suggested donation £5.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place on Sunday, 19th January at 6.30 pm, Otford Methodist Church

BIBLE READING NOTES

If you would like to order "New Daylight" Bible reading notes for this year, please contact Margaret Lidbetter. For a group of 10 or more the annual subscription is £14.10 for 3 issues, May, September and January 2021.

FAIR FEAST 2020

Fair Feast 2020 (pancakes, etc. and quiz) is on Shrove Tuesday, ('pancake day', 25th February in Otford Methodist Church Hall. All receipts from ticket sales and any donations will be sent to All We Can, the Methodist relief and development fund. Tickets are £7, or £3.50 for students, and they can be bought now or on

the night. Tables seat 8 people, but everyone is welcome and reservations may be made for any number from one upwards. To reserve places, please contact Glen Cable (01732 457842; glen-chris.cable@sky.com).

MONTHLY MEDITATION—JANUARY

New Year

January 2020 – a new year, a new start, fresh beginnings. A time of hope – and also a time of uncertainty.

It's understandable that we start a new year with a mix of feelings and perhaps more than a little fear of the unknown that lies ahead. In 1939 George VI knew this all too well – he was ruling a country that was four months into a war that was going to get a lot worse before it got better. People were scared, facing uncertainties and hardship. The king, who had his own demons to face, knew what to say when he made his Christmas speech that year. He quoted lines from a poem called 'God Knows' written by Minnie Haskins. Many of you will know these words well, probably by heart, but they are worth revisiting.

'I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown"; and he replied, "Go out

into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than a light, and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the night.'

We too are facing uncertain times, environmentally, politically and within our own families. What will this brand new year hold for you and those you love? No doubt many good things and happy times but there will also be worries and sadness. But as George VI told his subjects 80 years ago, we do not have to face them alone. Put your hand in God's hand and talk to him. Whatever words you use they will be heard and the way forward will be clearer.

May God be a smooth way before us, a guiding light above us and a keen eye behind us each day and each night of this year. Amen.

We shall not be downtrodden or left alone when we walk with him.

Susanne Beard

FAITH IN THE FAMILY...

January: Epiphany

The Epiphany (meaning 'appearance' or 'manifestation') is traditionally celebrated on 6 January and celebrates the introduction of Jesus in human form to all mankind. In the West, this special day commemorates the visit of the Wise Men or Kings to the baby Jesus, led by a star and bringing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Gold symbolised his kingship, frankincense (used in worship) his priestly role, and myrrh (used as a burial spice) his death for all on the cross.



In the East, The Epiphany celebrates the Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan by John the Baptist, when he was revealed to be the Messiah by God speaking of the son in whom he was well pleased and by the Holy Spirit descending from heaven in the form of a dove.

In many countries, 6th January is known as Three King's Day and different customs have evolved. In Spain, the Philippines and various parts of Latin America, children leave their shoes out overnight in order to collect gifts from the Kings. They also leave presents for the visitors and their camels in the form of sweets, drinks and hay! A special cake is baked with a small Jesus doll inside.

Depending on the country, the finder of the doll must pay for the cake, host a party later in the year, or simply serve as king for the day.



In the Netherlands and Belgium, children dress up as the Kings and visit houses singing songs and receiving sweets or coins. In Germany, the children also leave the initial letters of the kings' traditional names (M(elchior), G(aspar) and B(althazar)) above the door frames to bless each family for the new year.

In Italy, the legend of an old lady known as La Befana is popular. One story goes that the Kings visited her on their way to Bethlehem. They invited her to accompany them, but she was afraid and decided to wait until the morning. The next day, she gathered some small but prized possessions and set off in search of the baby king. But as she travelled, she became lost. Legend has it that she wanders to this day, searching for the baby and leaving gifts (or lumps of coal) in the shoes of sleeping children on 5th January.



New Year Resolutions: Read the story of the Wise Men in Matthew 2:1-12 together as a family. Chat about the ways in which they had to trust God and persevere on their long journey. Keep any Christmas cards of the Wise Men and use the backs to write some resolutions for 2020 that would please Jesus. Pin them up as a reminder to persevere with them and pray for each other to keep going!



Vicki Howie



NEWS FROM OTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We had a busy Christmas time at Otford Primary School.

Festivities began with the Christmas bazaar which was a great success. The hall was full of colourful stalls and outside there was a Christmas market. Children visited Santa in his grotto and parents were entertained by the choir and ukulele club performing festive songs.

Two nativities were rehearsed and performed by the reception and KS1 children to 100s of parents and friends. The children sung and spoke with such confidence and enthusiasm and their costumes looked wonderful up on the stage. A time of special memories for the

families at Otford Primary.

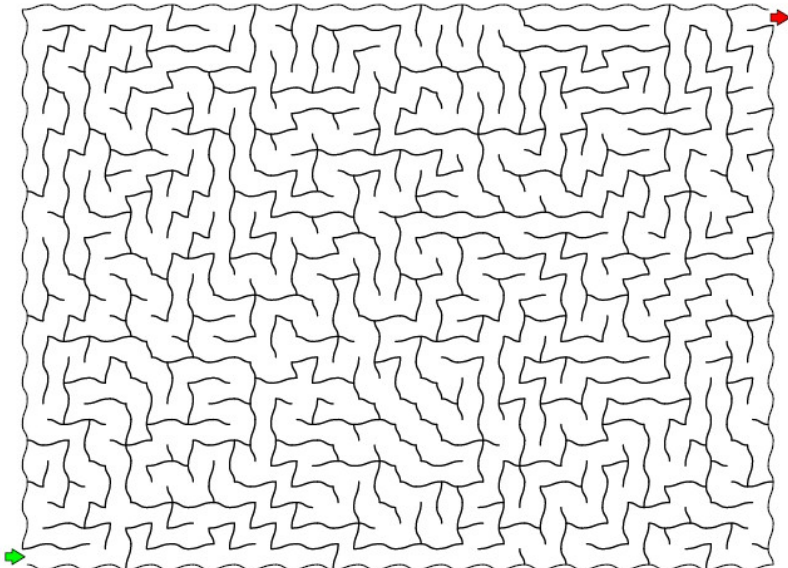
For KS2, we held our annual Carol Service at St Bart's church one chilly dark evening. The candles were lit and the church was filled to bursting with children and parents. The children led the service with readings, singing and instrumental groups and we filled the church with our carol singing. It was a truly wonderful celebration of Christmas.

Otford Primary School would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy New Year.

Louise Brown

PUZZLE FOR JANUARY

Can you find your way?





IN MEMORIAM ... MARIANNE SHELTON



Marianne was born in 1938 in Mysore State, India and was the fifth of six children. She told many exotic stories about her early childhood

there, recounting how once a panther padded right by her, as she played under the kitchen table, taking away her pet dog in its mouth.

The family moved to the UK in the 1950's and settled in London.

Come the swinging 60s, Marianne made the most of living in London. Together with her friend, Barbara, she would be found jiving to Humphrey Lyttelton, Chris Barber and the like at the 100 Club on Oxford Street.

Marianne met Rod when she was a PA to the managing director of a film company, Illustra Films. Rod, in his work as an advertising director, was a client. They got married on 1st April 1967 and were married for 52 years.

Marianne and Rod's first home was, appropriately enough, on Shelton Street in Covent Garden with their King Charles Spaniel, Oscar. Marianne became an independent casting director, often getting cross with the four noisy lads in the next door cutting rooms. They were editing their first animation film - it was called *Yellow Submarine*!

In due course, Marianne and Rod moved to Smarden in Kent, firstly living in a cottage then, after 8 years, moving to a historic house known as 'The Dragon House'. They both immersed themselves in community life. On one occasion they organised an entire Elizabethan Charter Fair with Marianne clothed in Glenda Jackson's dress

from the TV drama series Elizabeth R.

Their son Christian was born in 1975 and daughter Pru in 1979. And so from managing her business, Marianne now flourished as she managed a family and household.

In 1984 the Sheltons moved to Sevenoaks and then, in 1996, they came to Otford. Otford was to mean a great deal to Marianne over the next 23 years.

Marianne loved helping others. She became a volunteer teacher at Dorton House School, encouraging the blind or partially sighted children to enjoy creative work. She was also an excellent cook and enjoyed entertaining.

She had a professional eye for antiques and liked collecting them. She helped restore many of Chevening's extensive collection of antiques – even at one time being asked to restore the Stanhope death masks, which no one else would touch. In addition she became adept at book restoration, both at Chevening and elsewhere.

An avid painter, Marianne was an active member of the Sevenoaks Art Club for many years. She loved flowers – peonies, roses and freesias especially – and enjoyed her beautiful garden, re-designing it from scratch with Rod.

She had an eclectic taste in music, enjoying artists such as Elvis, Neil Diamond, Harry Nilsson, and Queen.

Although her final years were beset by illness, she bore the burden of her ill health with tremendous bravery and grace.

This is an abridged version of the eulogy from Marianne's funeral, largely written by her daughter, Pru.



IN MEMORIAM ... ANNE FLEETWOOD



Anne was born in Bedfordshire in 1939, her father was a serving aerial reconnaissance officer and was shot down and killed over Holland when Anne was only 2 ½ years old.

Subsequently she and her mother moved to Eastbourne where Anne grew up. Her mother (fondly called granny seaside in later years) was a strong woman and ensured Anne developed an independent and adventurous spirit.

At the age of 18 Anne moved to London to train as a speech therapist, living in a variety of flats around Notting Hill and making lifelong friends including Liz Fleetwood, the sister of Colin. Colin recalls their first meeting as hearing a whizzing noise as someone rushed around the flat and his sister explaining that it was Anne – active as always. Their friendship grew, with dancing and parties and after 7 years Colin proposed. The wedding was a year later, on the first free Saturday after the end of the cricket season and they were married for 53 years.

Anne and Colin spent their entire married life in Otford, buying their family home in St Michael's drive which they renamed Lorien after the elven wood in Lord of the Rings. Anne worked as a speech therapist at Moorhouse School near Oxted, a specialist residential school for children with communication issues.

Three boys, Jonathan, Andrew and Tim arrived, and rugby, cricket and school became part of the family life, but never one to sit still Anne also used her catering skills to cater for weddings, dinner parties and other events. She also became

involved in the Soroptomists, being president 3 times and making friends with ladies around the district.

When her sons started to marry Anne was delighted to welcome some female influence into the family, and her joy was increased as her 7 grandchildren arrived. Her eldest grandchild Harriet gave a moving tribute at Anne's thanksgiving service of the happy times she spent with her grannie.

St Bartholomew's has been Anne's church for the last 50 or more years. She was a central part of the church family and she led the mission committee, helped to run the bookstall at the church fete, was a member of a ladies home group and supported Colin in his role as church warden and treasurer. For many in the congregation she was affectionately known as Grannie in her role as YPF leader and she has influenced, encouraged and prayed for many of the young people of our church who are now adults with families of their own.

In the last few years she developed Parkinson's disease and eventually, after being cared for by Colin, she moved into local nursing homes. Colin describes how he was thankful that at her parting she was well cared for, comfortable and not in pain.

Anne's infectious faith in Jesus was central to who she was, an enthusiastic and lively person who believed life was for living and sharing. Her influence lives on in her children, grandchildren and the hundreds of people she met and with whom she shared her life and love.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Dawn Hallam

JANUARY WALK

A new year's walk of 3.29 miles offering beautiful views over Otford, Kemsing and Seal.

The route has two steep uphill sections and, at this time of year, the paths can be rather muddy so walking boots are recommended.

The starting point is on the North Downs Way (NDW) where it crosses Pilgrims Way East and begins to ascend Otford Mount.

Walk uphill on the NDW between the garden fences and then continue up the steep slope to arrive at a bench erected in memory of Ted Laundon. From here there is a fine view back over Otford with the church at its heart.

Carry on up a flight of steps and through a wooded area to emerge into a large field surrounded by skeletal trees.

Follow the NDW footpath straight ahead. To your left, on the far side of the field, you will see a trig point .



On reaching the road cross onto the central triangle of land and turn right into the woods; unless it has been recently snowing you will easily see the route (you have now left the NDW). On either side of the path you may just be able to spot the first bluebell shoots pushing their way through last year's leaves. After roughly 100 yards turn right downhill until you come to a T junction then turn left along the well-trodden path running above the grounds of St Michael's School.

Eventually, after about a quarter of a mile, cross a track/shaw. Continue straight on, passing a Kent Wildlife Trust 'Kemsing Down' notice board on your left. Follow the wide path round to the right descending to meet a cross track. Turn left - now you are on a gently descending wide path. After a short distance you will see a bench on your left from which, between the trees, you can glimpse the valley below.

Pass the bench and carry straight on until you come to a T junction then turn right downhill. Just before you reach the gate leading out onto the open space of Whiteleaf Down there is a bench strategically placed to take full advantage of the beautiful view . Often, on a January day, the wind will be from the north, deadening the noise of the M26 in the valley below.



Go through the gate and follow the steps steeply downhill, through a wooded area, to emerge onto a large, sloping, open space. Turn right at the top of this area, keeping to its upper edge and passing several benches – this is a popular spot for dog walkers, and for children to sledge whenever there is sufficient snow.

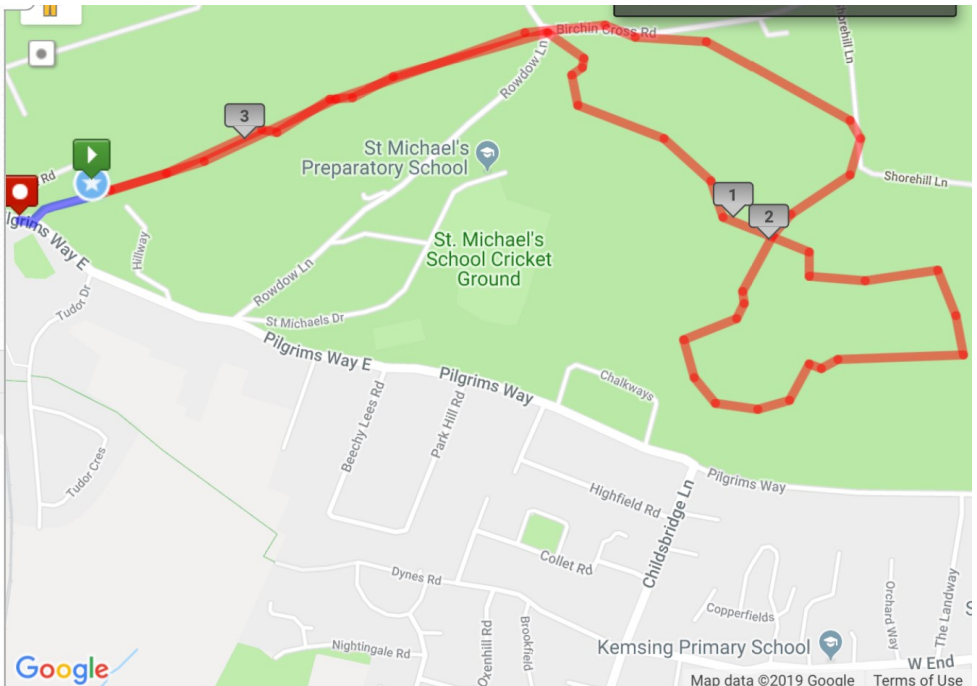
At the far top right corner of the open down, go through the gap between the hedges and, after a few yards, turn left to go downhill. Turn right at the bottom of the earthy slope, following the sign on the wooden post for Shorehill Lane. Pass the entrance to the Kemsing Service Reservoir on your right and turn left onto the wide track that leads to Shorehill Lane – you will see some large houses in front of you. At this point turn right uphill.

Now you can test your fitness! If you can walk from here up to the public road at the top without stopping, you are reasonably fit. If you can run it, you are amazingly so! The shaw that you are ascending is a narrow leafy gully, overhung with branches, and with the thick roots of trees clinging tightly to the chalky banks. Proceed uphill and cross the route you took earlier, eventually passing a red brick bungalow on your left, before reaching the road (Shorehill Lane).

Continue along the road for a short distance then, just beyond a black barn/garage on your right, turn left into a field following the NDW (signposted Otford 1 1/2 miles). In January there are often pregnant ewes in this field – and horses in the next one you cross. Then, with the wood to your left, follow the NDW as it curves right to

exit onto Birchin Cross Road. Turn left and walk straight on until you see the five bar gate ahead of you leading into the field you crossed earlier. From here retrace your footsteps along the NDW footpath back to your starting point.

Christeen Malan



DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

Health and Wellbeing

As we move into the New Year, many of us will be thinking about improving our fitness and health. If you are looking for some fresh fitness ideas your District Council may be a good place to start.

Sevenoaks District Council, in partnership with a team of community volunteers, co-ordinate several fitness and health walks offering a range of options from shorter gentler walks to running groups at various locations across the District. The walks are well attended and provide residents with important, light exercise and many other physical and mental health benefits. The walk leaders encourage anyone to take part whether you can only manage a short distance, are recovering from an illness, looking for something more challenging, or just need someone to encourage you to get out and get moving.

Every Step Counts A gentle wellbeing walking group which offers short walks led by qualified volunteers who will support and encourage you along the way. The 'Every Step Counts' walks differ from other health walks in the District, as they are aimed at people who may have long-term health conditions or lack fitness or confidence which may have an impact on them being active. The walks vary in time and distance to accommodate different abilities and initially will last around 15 to 20 minutes, with the option to do more for those who wish to continue.

The wellbeing walks are free and are open to anyone looking to take their first steps towards better health whilst enjoying the great outdoors, getting fitter and meeting new people. There are eight weekly wellbeing walking groups across the District, including one in Otford. The Otford wellbeing group meets in all weathers every Wednesday at 10am in the High Street car park by the Memorial Hall.

Health Walks A more challenging longer health walk for people who want to do more exercise outdoors and enjoy walking in groups. The walks are between one and two miles long and take up to an hour to complete. With eight free weekly health walks in different locations, including Otford, it's a great way to get to know other parts of the District. The Otford Health Walk meets every Monday at 10.30am in the High Street car park by the Memorial Hall regardless of the weather.

Up and Running A gentle 10-week beginners' running course in Knole Park for women wanting to boost their mental wellbeing. The program runs on a Saturday at 11.30am from Hollybush car park. The course is open to women aged between 18 and 65 and costs £2 per session. After the run the leaders and fellow runners meet for coffee in the Hollybush Café.

For more information about the walking and running groups visit: www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/healthwalks or call Sevenoaks District Council at 01732 227000.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

Cllr Irene Roy
cllr.roy@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Tel: 01959 525610



OUT AND ABOUT



OTFORD METHODIST CHURCH QUIZ NIGHT

Falling within Fairtrade Fortnight

2020 where the emphasis is again on ensuring that all farmers are paid fairly for their work, Fair Feast 2020 (pancakes, etc, and quiz) is on Shrove Tuesday ("pancake day", 25 February) in Otford Methodist Church Hall. All receipts from ticket sales and any donations will be sent to All We Can, the Methodist relief and development fund.

Tickets are £7, or £3.50 for students, and they may be bought now, although payment need not be made until the night. Tables seat 8 people, but everyone is welcome and reservations may be made for any number from one upwards. To reserve places, please contact Glen Cable (01732 457842; glen-chris.cable@sky.com).

YOUR OTFORD MEMORIES AND FAMILY CONNECTIONS TO THE SECOND WORLD WAR PLEASE !

As part of the nationwide celebrations to mark the 75th anniversary of the ending of the Second World War in Europe on the 8th May 2020, the village is planning a series of events to mark the role that Otford and her people played during the conflict.

Rather like the 'Poppies around the Pond' in 2018 that sought to honour the Fallen from the First World War, we are trying to find out as much information as possible about those from the village who fought during the Second World War.

However, we also seek to highlight all those from the village who entered the Forces and 'did their bit' – where all too frequently that 'bit' involved incredible tenacity and bravery. Their individual stories deserve to be told on 'VE Day 75' and preserved for future generations. So if you know

of, or are related to, a service man with local connections we would love you to get in touch with us.

Similarly, we should stress that we would like to hear about the whole 'sweep' of the conflict as it impacted locally – not just those in the forces, but also the hard-working men and women who kept the war-factories open, the hospitals operational and our local farms running throughout the years of turmoil.

So, if you think you have a story to tell, please get in touch with: info@otfordhistoricalsociety.co.uk or call in at the Parish Office and leave your details, and we will get in touch.



OTFORD EVENING W.I. will welcome in 2020 with our first meeting of the year on January 9th, in the Club Room at 7.30pm.

Our speaker is Mary Smith who will talk about 'A School Girl's War'; a story about school life in wartime.

Just a reminder, subscriptions are due at this meeting. If any more information is needed, please contact 01959 524831.



OTFORD-NEUFCHATEL-HARDELLOT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Our AGM will be held on Monday 20 January 2020 at 7.30pm at The Woodman Pub in Otford to conduct the formal business of the Association.

Do join us and share your suggestion for our future activities, both in England and in France. We welcome current members and are always pleased to see new faces with new ideas.

Jane Lawrey

A BOOK WHICH INFLUENCED ME...

The Rector of Pepynbridge

by Peter Morrell

Many of the subjects of this series are biographies which is understandable in that they tell the stories of real endeavour, heroism, and achievement which inspire readers. However, fiction can also provide role model personalities with fictional characters who provide exemplars: how many potential teachers have been motivated by, for example, the sympathetic portrait of that dedicated schoolmaster in *Goodbye Mr Chips* (by James Hilton)?

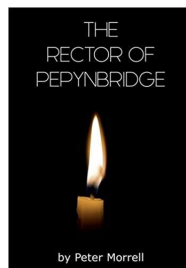
My choice of book is a fictional story but one whose characters do not so much inspire as reflect the complexity of human behaviour and its motivations, and thus encourage its readers to think a little more deeply about what gives rise to the patchwork of light and dark within human relationships. I very much enjoyed reading the story both because it kept me guessing until the end and for the authenticity of the characterisation of the leading players. The author, Peter Morrell is a former Circuit Judge, now in holy orders, and so he writes with the experience of conducting trials of the matters such as the one here described, the knowledge of how the Church of England operates in such circumstances, and the understanding of some of the causes of the variety of human behaviour.

The story is set in Pepynbridge, a large village in the East Midlands with an abbey as its parish church. To this incumbency is appointed the Reverend Herbert Onion who is a bachelor and worships within the Anglo-Catholic tradition – so often referred to as that of ‘bells and smells’.

However, many of his parishioners favour the ‘low’ church forms of service and some will not change! The Rector is also a dedicated musician, faithful in his belief, naïve in his character, hard-working in his pastoral duties, but sadly damaged by his experiences of abuse in a children’s home in his early life so that he is now uncertain of his sexuality. Pepynbridge, on the surface, is a peaceful rural community with a mixture of mature, balanced and supportive residents and others whose attitudes and values are much influenced by their prejudices and unhappiness.

The Rector has the challenge of gently weaning his flock to his preferred ‘high’ church style of worship and of finding the money to repair the seriously damaged abbey roof in addition to managing his personal challenges including a growing attraction for the appealing headmistress of the village school. Disaster strikes when a female teenager accuses him of engaging in under-age sex with her. I report no more of the story because it would spoil the suspense of discovering the outcome of this tangled but very realistic web.

It is a story well told with considerable insight into human motivations. I much looked forward to renewing my acquaintance with the good (and not-so-good) people of Pepynbridge when I read the sequels within this trilogy.



Keith Lawrey

*Local Methodist preacher
and Secretary to the
Trustees of
Christian Premier Radio*

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Livvy Howie

My earliest memory of St Bart's is building the Easter Garden with my family. My brother James and I would help our parents gather moss, sand and stones from our garden and take it down to church in a wheelbarrow. We'd construct a tomb, the stone rolled back, and carefully place figures Jesus and Mary within the scene. Making the garden helped me to understand the importance of the Easter story whilst spending quality time with my family. I still love seeing families engage with the church, particularly at Christmas when the figures of Mary and Joseph are carefully passed around homes in the village until they reach the Crib scene on Christmas Eve.

As a teenager, Sunday nights meant YPF in the old Church Hall – we'd enjoy stacks of white toast with marmite and the boys made sure we prayed for the owl in a photograph on the wall every week! Being able to explore my faith in a fun environment with other teenagers was hugely positive and made me feel part of the wider St Bart's family.

At 18, I moved to Manchester to study Music and Drama at University. Singing has always helped me to feel connected with God - as a child I remember squeezing into the St Barts' choir stalls with my fellow Russell House primary school pupils at our yearly carol service. This mix of music and faith helped me to land a role assisting on a BBC Radio 2 programme *The Sunday Hour*, presented by Diane-Louise Jordan, early on in my career. This remains one of my favourite jobs to-date.

Moving to London in my twenties, I kept up singing in various choirs. It is no wonder that

some of the most powerful music was written to be performed in a church. I regularly sang at St Gabriel's, Pimlico and Christ Church Kensington and always felt comfortable in those environments that reminded me of St. Bart's. Music has also taken me to some of the most spectacular places of worship around the country – and world – from Canterbury Cathedral to the Sagrada Família in Barcelona.

I recently moved to Hove, working freelance as a television producer for classical music programmes such as The BBC Proms and the Glyndebourne Opera Cup. I always endeavour to bring the Christian values of kindness, compassion and joy into the work that I do, whether or not it is about religion. I regularly return home to spend time with family - this often includes a visit to St Barts. It always thrills me to feel the sense of family and community which seems to run through the heart of the church. No matter where I am in the world or what I'm doing, St Barts will always feel like home.

Livvy Howie



CHURCH PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Part 2: Assisi and Ravenna

We said farewell to Rome and began our journey northwards towards Assisi, the next step on our pilgrimage. After two hours, we stopped at the foot of Orvieto and caught the funicular railway, some 60m, to the old town. What a wonderful view over the valley below and the Umbrian Mountains! In the square, we admired the splendour of the cathedral before walking around town to find lunch and the compulsory Gelato!

On the way to Assisi, we called in at the tiny Benedictine church in the valley which St. Francis used as his base. Around this tiny church they have built the Church of Santa Maria Degli Angel. It was most unusual to find a church inside a church and it was here that St. Francis died at the age of 44, although his body was moved back to Assisi after his death. In the garden, we saw a species of rose which he is said to have made thornless by falling among! Eventually we arrived at our Guesthouse for dinner and a much needed rest.



The next day, we met our Assisi guide and travelled by escalators up to the old town. Our day was spent walking in the footsteps of St. Francis, who grew up in the town. He was the eldest son of a very rich wool merchant and for the first

twenty-four years of his life enjoyed the wealth and status that this gave him. He then decided to turn his back on everything and gave the rest of his life to following Christ, giving away everything he owned and separating permanently from his family, after trying to give away their wealth too. Our first visit was to the multi coloured Church of St. Clare. Clare was twelve years younger than St. Francis and became one of his followers, eventually starting the Poor Clares Order. In the crypt lies the mummified body of St. Clare, who outlived St. Francis by twenty years. We then walked across to the Basilica of St. Francis, which is on two levels. The upper level is a Papal Church with frescos by Giotto, some of which were irreparably damaged during the recent earthquake. We then went into the crypt in the lower church to see the tomb of St. Francis. It was a wonderfully peaceful place. We then celebrated the Eucharist in one of the monastery chapels. It was wonderful to know that Anglicans were welcome in a Catholic Church.

In the afternoon, we visited the Church of St. Damiano where St. Francis was told by God to rebuild his church. The original cross which St. Francis was holding is still in the Church of St. Clare. Our final trip was to the hermitage, above Assisi, where Francis spent much of his time outside, sleeping and praying in the woods and paths of the mountains.

The next day, it was farewell to Assisi and onto our final destination of Ravenna. The journey was from Umbria, through Tuscany and into Alicia Romagna, the route being across the Apennine Hills including spectacular bridges and tunnels, with amazing scenery. Our lunch

Parents of St Francis

was in a restaurant where we were served “strangled priest”, a local speciality! We then visited the Basilica of St. Apollinaire in Classe, built in the sixth century, with a round windowed tower, typical of Basilicas of this age. Although the outside was plain brick, the interior was a mass of mosaics on the ceiling and walls.

Our final day was spent on a walking tour of Ravenna. The Basilicas were all covered from the Arian to the Besantine period with Roman style art and alabaster windows. All the mosaics showed stories from the gospels and were used to teach the people, most of whom could not read or write. Our first stop was at the Basilica Apollinaire Nouvo, a newer version of the one in Classe. Again the exterior was plain but the interior ceilings and walls were covered in mosaics. Our next stop was the

Basilica of St. Vitals. This was an Octagonal Church, again plain on the exterior, but covered in mosaics inside. We visited the nearby Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, very small but with beautiful mosaics. Our final visits were to the Baptista St. Giovanni and to a museum which contained St. Andrew’s Chapel and the Ivory Bishop’s Throne dating back to 948 A.D.

On our final day, we had the chance for a final walk around Ravenna where we found the alley of umbrella’s, quite unusual.

This was a memorable journey which we all thoroughly enjoyed and all of those taking part would like to offer our sincere thanks to Rev’d Richard Worssam and Rev’d Andrew Proctor for all their organization.

Brenda Edwards



The Otford Pilgrims

MISSION MATTERS...SAYT UPDATE 2020

2019 began with the continuation of the schools work which had been strengthened with Beth's joining in late 2018. Work continued to encourage the fledgling Christian Union and SAYT's wider involvement at Knole Academy. The Artless Theatre Company were invited, through SAYT, to do a citizenship day with year 9 in early February. Discussions also continued with Weald of Kent school about possible options to provide support within the school but these sadly closed without success in March.

Detached work has continued at the recreation ground in Kemsing. A Passover meal was prepared for Maundy Thursday allowing the young people to experience a little of the background to the Christian faith, and provide a talking point for conversation. Throughout the year the group has morphed; with the older members drifting away as they find jobs and new younger members arriving to fill the gaps. It has been really encouraging to see the older members of the group take up jobs, including schools work, which some thought they could never get and hear the positive responses as they start to work with and support others.

The summer brought both opportunities and sadness. Beth was invited to help lead the youth stream at the Bountiful conference and was ably assisted by young people from the area. The annual trip to SOLID festival was held in reduced form in early July but was augmented by the opportunity to take groups off to the beach in late July and August. Opportunities to highlight the work SAYT does in the area were given at St. Nick's, Bessles Green, St. Bart's, and the Sevenoaks Soroptimists. However, despite having only been with SAYT for a year Beth handed in her

notice in early August to take up a church based post, with her last day being the 10th of September.

Not to be deterred the volunteers stepped up to the mark providing the extra manpower required to allow the schools and detached work to continue and the trustees got on with the unenviable task of starting a recruitment campaign. Our prayers were answered in the most unusual form, a text message. The year closed with the appointment of Holly to the team. Holly is local, having lived in Greatness all her life, and has a real enthusiasm for that community.

The team ask for your prayers to: -

- Thank God for all that Beth did for SAYT and to guide her and Chris as they start their new life.
- Thank God for sending Holly to us.
- Ask for guidance as they seek to expand the detached work to include the Greatness area again.

Russell Edwards



Believing their worth

DIRECTORY OF ADVERTISERS

Aerials		Estate Agent	
Sevenoaks Aerials	28	Ibbett Mosely	31
Accounting		Fine & Country	31
SGL Accounting	24	Florist	
Builders Decorators Plumbers		Denise Thompson	23
A. Cossey-Decorator	24	Funeral Directors	
Easton Electrical	25	Welham Jones	32
Chaili Plumbing	24	Hair and Beauty	
Paul Tapper	23	Fiona - Freelance Stylist	22
Painting and Decorating	28	Halls for Hire	
Clean Gutter Company	23	Otford Church Hall	26
Towns Bathrooms	29	Hotel	
Cars & Bikes		The Bull Hotel, Wrotham	33
Express Factors (car spares)	34	Oil Suppliers	
Palmar Motorcycles (bike spares)	34	Spar Oil Services	28
Sevenoaks MOT Station	32	Printing Services	
Chimney Sweep		Silver Pines Services	35
David Fairman	26	Scouts	
Computers		15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scouts	22
Need help with your computer (Prosphero)	27	Taxi	
Disco and Lighting		Gulliver's Travels	22
Silver Pines Sound and Light	35	Space Travel	35
Education		Timber Treatment	
Russell House School	30	Gulliver Timber Treatment	27
St Michael's School	30	Watch and Clock	
		MJ Leach	26

ADVERTISING IN THIS MAGAZINE

To enquire regarding advertising in this publication please contact:

st.bartsmagadvertising@otford.net

Gulliver's Travels

Otford based Private Hire Taxi for pre-booked journeys incl:

- Airports (we meet you in the Terminal)
- Hospital visits (wait and return)
- Cruise Terminals (luggage no problem)
- London
- Days Out (golf, seaside etc)

To book ring Simon on **07956 808747** or email gulliverstravels@otford.net

Fiona – Freelance Stylist

Your local, reliable, friendly, mobile hairdresser.
Highly qualified in all aspects of hairdressing.



Call Fiona: Home: **01322 867160**
 Mobile: **07799683031**

15th SEVENOAKS (OTFORD) SCOUT GROUP

H.Q. adjacent to Otford Station

Beaver Scouts (Age 6 - 8) Meeting: Mondays 5.00pm - 6.00pm

Cub Scouts (Age 8 - 10½)

Meetings: Mondays 6.30 - 8.00 p.m. or Thursdays 6.45 - 8.15 p.m.

Scouts (Age 10½ -14) Meetings: Fridays 8.00 - 9.30 p.m.

All enquiries and hall bookings www.otfordscouts.org.uk



GUTTERS CLEARED & REPAIRED

Conservatories, Fascias & Soffits cleaned & rejuvenated

Phone or email for a quote: **Jeremy Steer**

01959 525347 or 07831 214815 e: jeremysteer2@gmail.com



Denise Thompson Designer Florist Ltd

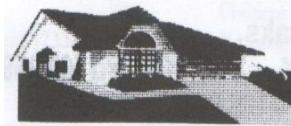


9 High Street • Otford • Kent • TN14 5PG

Tel: 01959 525009 Email: denise@dtflorist.co.uk www.dtflorist.co.uk

PAUL TAPPER

- ◆ Painting / Decorating
- ◆ Interior / Exterior
- ◆ Wallpapering
- ◆ Glazing
- ◆ General House Maintenance
- ◆ Free Estimates



20 Years Experience

Friendly Service and Competitive Prices

01732 365277 Mobile 07813 455491

paul.tapper@btinternet.com



chaili plumbing

a professional service every time

- No call out charge
- A service you can trust
- Complete installations
- Member of the CIPHE
- Burst pipes
- Leaks and blockages
- Covering all areas of Sevenoaks

For a friendly, reliable and totally personal service, call now: **t: 01732 460695 m: 07711 940803**

A COSSEY

PAINTING & DECORATING



A

acdecorator@gmail.com
07742 972 136
FULLY INSURED INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
COMPETITIVE PRICING FREE ESTIMATES

*Need a helping hand
with your accounts?*



sglacc@outlook.com
07546 155862

Friendly, efficient service based in Knockholt

EASTON ELECTRICAL

Easton Electrical Services

**Domestic,
Business, Commercial & Industrial**

No job too small

Competitive free estimate

WHAT WE UNDERTAKE

**Re-wire, Lighting, Power Installation,
Additions, Repairs, Fault Finding
Inspection and Testing
Door Entry Systems
Security and Fire Alarms
Landlord Certificates
Maintenance
PAT Testing**

**Highly-trained,
competent and fully-qualified.**

All work is guaranteed.

A reliable on-time Trade Company.

Please visit our website to see all services.

**Office: 01959 523054
Mob: 07999 878274**

**Office@EastonElectrical.co.uk
www.EastonElectrical.co.uk**

OTFORD CHURCH HALL

HIGH STREET

Available for:-

- * **Meetings**
 - * **Rehearsals**
 - * **Children's Parties**
 - * **Receptions**
- (No discos or adult parties)*



Reasonable Rates

Contact: Robert Hunt on (01959) 523820
for further details.



DAVID FAIRMAN
CHIMNEY SWEEP

Reliable • Professional • Clean & tidy

Traditional methods
Open fires • Woodburners
Agas • Inglenooks

Appointment times
convenient to you

call 07949 072949

M. J. Leach.

Watch and Clockmakers and Repairers.



SPECIALISTS IN THE
SALES & RESTORATION OF
ANTIQUÉ CLOCKS, WATCHES
& BAROMETERS

ALL WORK CARRIED OUT IN
OUR OWN WORKSHOPS

HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

OUR SHOWROOM IS OPEN:

TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY
10am-5pm (Closing 1-2pm daily) &
Saturday 10am-1pm

Tel: 01732 886115

www.mjlclocks.co.uk

Member of the British Watch and
Clockmakers Guild

High Street, Wrotham, Sevenoaks,
Kent, TN15 7AD.





Gulliver
Timber Treatments Ltd.

WOODWORM, DRY ROT AND RISING DAMP SPECIALISTS
Incorporating Surrey Timber Preservation Company

Specialists in the investigation and treatment of:-

WOOD WORM * DRY ROT * RISNG DAMP

WATERPROOFING BELOW GROUND STRUCTURES (TANKING) * RESIN REPAIRS

For a survey ring : 01959 524966 Fax: 01959 525176

Unit G1 Chaucer Business Park, Watery Lane, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 6HU

Email: enquiries@gullivertt.co.uk Web: www.gillivertt.co.uk

Member of the: Property Care Association, Trustmark and Guarantee Protection Insurance Ltd

Need Help with your computer ?

PC



Web

Friendly

professional

business and home use

Advice and

Support for

Andrew Craner : 01732 742454 or 07957 648461

Email: enquiries@prosphero.co.uk Internet: www.prosphero.co.uk

ADVERTISING IN THIS MAGAZINE

To enquire regarding advertising in this publication please contact:

st.bartsmagadvertising@otford.net

Painting or Decorating?

CALL IN THE EXPERT

- ✓ More than 40 years experience
- ✓ Free consultancy service
- ✓ References available
- ✓ Free quotations

Wallpapering a speciality

If you're planning painting or decorating projects at home or work, then call Ernie Ball on **01322 274 777** or **07960 866 603** for expert advice and service.



Spa Oil —SERVICES— Heating Oil



Competitive prices
Friendly, helpful service
Red Diesel

Call : 01892 615400
www.spaoilservices.co.uk

SEVENOAKS AERIALS

For friendly advice on all your
TV Aerial / Satellite requirements



Please Call:
01732 590246
01959 525884
07950 852021



email: sevenoaksaerials@btinternet.com



towns

BATHROOM SHOWROOM

It's more than our outstanding knowledge and product range that makes us so attractive.

Local location with very friendly staff, full design service, bathrooms, radiators, water softeners and plumbers merchants.

T: 01732 350911

Unit 4 Orchard Business Centre, Sanderson Way, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1QG



showroom@townsbathrooms.co.uk



www.townsmerchant.co.uk

AQUALISA  **ashton & bentley** **IMPERIAL** **KOHLER** **LAUFEN** **Roca** **Vitra** **GSI**



St Michael's Prep School
The Joy & Wonder of Learning



New Reception class opening September 2018

Book an individual tour to see excellence in action
(ISI report 2017 rated "EXCELLENT")



www.stmichaels.kent.sch.uk



Russell House

Love Challenge
Love Opportunity
Love Success

Love
Russell House

01959 522352

Station Road, Otford,
Kent TN14 5QU

*An independent
co-educational
preparatory school for
children aged 2-11*

www.russellhouseschool.co.uk





Ibbett Mosely has been selling property in Otford Village for over 60 years

We remain the only agent in the village to offer a wide range of professional services

Open 7 Days a week

The name you can trust when it comes to selling property in the village

Regular coverage on all major websites and Sevenoaks Chronicle

Visit our website at www.ibbettmosely.co.uk

Email: otford@ibbettmosely.co.uk

The Parade Sevenoaks Road Otford 01959 522164

Coming to Otford
Local Expertise, National Presence,
International Audience

FINE & COUNTRY
fineandcountry.com

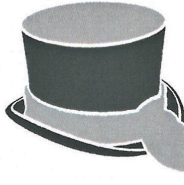
Park Lane Office

Does your property deserve the Fine & Country service?

Breaking new ground, Fine & Country is known for its unique blend of intelligent and creative marketing, coupled with a very professional approach to the sale of individual and country property.

Access to the lucrative London and International buyers market from our prestigious showrooms on Park Lane, London, W1 and in over 300 locations worldwide.

Fine & Country
Tel: 01474 700009 | Email: northkent@fineandcountry.com | www.fineandcountry.com



WELHAM JONES

FUNERALS & MEMORIALS

FAMILY OWNED COMPANY

Sevenoaks, Otford, Kemsing
01732 742400 or 01959 525440

156 London Road, Kent, TN13 1DJ
sevenoaks@welhamjones.co.uk

Borough Green
01732 780600

43 Western Road, Kent, TN15 8AL
boroughgreen@welhamjones.co.uk

www.welhamjones.co.uk

- ◆ Traditional & Contemporary funerals
- ◆ Eco-friendly funerals & woodland burials
- ◆ Private chapel of rest
- ◆ Home arrangements
- ◆ Memorials & keepsakes



Pre-paid
funeral plans

24 hour
service



SEVENOAKS MOT STATION

Repairs and Servicing of all makes of vehicle

Free pick up service within 7 mile radius

01732 464420 www.smots.co.uk



£20 OFF

your next full service with this voucher

(one voucher per full service, not available with any other promotion)

- Welding
- Exhausts
- Shock Absorbers
- Clutches
- Tyres and brakes
- Diagnostic Machine

Support your local small business for all your mechanical work
Don't get charged main dealer prices when we can do the work for you



NEW YEAR'S GIFT VOUCHER

25% OFF YOUR FOOD BILL IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2020, LUNCH OR DINNER, MONDAY TO THURSDAY, TABLES OF ANY SIZE. DRINKS ARE NOT INCLUDED. NOT VALID IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. PLEASE BRING ALONG THIS GIFT VOUCHER.

BOOKINGS ON 01732 789 800.



THE BULL HOTEL BULL LANE WROTHAM TN15 7RF



BLOCK 3, UNITS 3 & 4, VESTRY TRADING ESTATE
OTFORD ROAD, SEVENOAKS
KENT, TN14 5EL

SEVENOAKS

**SUPPLIERS OF
TOP QUALITY MOTOR COMPONENTS
FOR ALL MAKES OF MOTOR VEHICLE
TRADE & RETAIL**

**Fast, Friendly
and local!**



**Extensive
Tool Range!**



**CALL US TODAY!
01732 46 45 46**

PALMAR MOTORCYCLES
Motorcycle Parts & Accessories

**FAST, FRIENDLY
& ACCESSORIES FOR ALL MAKES OF
MOTORCYCLES TO BOTH TRADE & RETAIL**



Tel 01732 46 95 46

**Please phone or drop in, we will
always try to help**

**BLOCK 3, UNITS 3 & 4, VESTRY TRADING ESTATE
OTFORD ROAD, SEVENOAKS KENT, TN14 5EL**



<p>Business Cards Letterheads Newsletters Magazines Price Lists Booklets Brochures Leaflets</p>	<p>Posters & Signs Christmas Cards Calendars Postcards Folders Invitations Menus Wedding Stationery</p>	<p>Complete Print Service from Design to Delivery</p> <p><i>Creative design & typesetting</i> <i>Large format printing</i> <i>Bulk & short run copying</i> <i>Short run colour at very competitive prices</i> <i>a particular speciality, direct from your own file</i> <i>Rapid turnaround</i></p>
--	--	---

• Silver Pines Services •

Pinewood Avenue, Sevenoaks, TN14 5AF
www.silverpines.co.uk • e-mail: info@silverpines.co.uk

Phone us to discuss your requirements
01732 465641

Silver Pines Sound & Light

Professional Mobile DJ & Event Lighting & Sound Service


- ★ High quality, experienced DJs who know how to make your birthday or anniversary party, wedding, club or corporate event really special
- ★ State of art equipment, full PLI
- ★ Full event lighting & sound service – from a wedding to a mini-festival

Party, Event, Live Sound & Conference Equipment Hire

- ★ Extensive range of sound, lighting & AV equipment for hire, for parties, bands, theatrical or church groups, product launches, award ceremonies, public meetings, etc.

www.silverpinessoundlight.co.uk • Tel: 01732 465641 • Email: james@silverpines.co.uk

PO Box 747
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN14 5XF



'SPACE TRAVEL'

Mob
07956 870 240

Tel: + 44 (0) 1959 524 747

Your local saloon & 6 passenger MPV specialists

<p>Gatwick from £55 Heathrow from £85 Stansted from £90</p>	<p>London from £90 O2 from £65 Ebbsfleet from £45</p>
--	--

Advance Bookings Essential

E-Mail enquiries@spacetravel.co.uk

Internet www.spacetravel.co.uk

For *the* personal & reliable licenced chauffeur service.
Any distance, anywhere, any time Travel in space and comfort.

Established 1995

Who's who in the Parish Church . . .

For enquiries please contact the church office at st.bartholomews@otford.net
or on 01959 523185

READERS:	Dawn Hallam Bill Lattimer Margaret Lidbetter Mags Southgate
READER EMERITUS:	Peter Downing
PASTORAL ASSISTANTS:	Susan Reid Margaret Lidbetter
HONORARY MINISTER:	Chris Reed
CHURCHWARDENS:	Russell Edwards Janet Hunt
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER:	Kevin Grafton
SACRISTAN:	Tony Grogan

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Vice Chairman: Derek Shilling
Hon Treasurer: Heather Stanley
Freewill Offering Sec: Mervyn Harris
Min. Sec: Mark Holmes

PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday 10.00am-12.00pm:
Susan Reid, Clive Southgate
01959 523185
Email: st.bartholomews@otford.net

CHURCH HALL

Manager and Booking Sec: Robert Hunt

MAGAZINE

Editorial team: Vicki Howie, Christeen Malan,
Advertisements: st.bartsmagadvertising@otford.net

CHOIR

Choirmaster: Kevin Grafton
Practice night: Friday 8.00-9.30pm New members
always welcome

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WORK

'First Steps' (for parents/carers with pre-school children)
Contact: Najen Harris

SUNDAY CLUB (Sundays at 10.00am)

Infants (3-7s), **Juniors** (8-11s), **Seniors** (12-14)

YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

Contact: Dawn Hallam

OUTREACH

Chairman of Mission Links:
Andrew Hill

BELLRINGERS

The Tower Captain: Bobbie Fairclough
Secretary: Janet Whitehead
Practice night: Thursday 7.45-9.15pm

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Joan Beacom

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Churchwardens Russell Edwards and Janet Hunt, Sam Barnett, David Calcott, Jo Chandler, Colin Deane, Phil Gardner, Dawn Hallam, Jocelyn Hart, Mark Holmes*, Martin Lea, Margaret Lidbetter*, Emma Peters, Derek Shilling#, Ben Southgate, Heather Stanley

Ex-Officio (Diocesan Synod) * Ex-Officio (Deanery Synod)