

Rural Roundup

A Community
Magazine



Covering Kingsdown,
Ringwould with Oxney, Ripple,
Sutton, Ashley & Studdal,
Little Mongeham & Walmer

Issue Number 130

Feb/March 2023

Rural Roundup Terms and Conditions

Editorial

The editor's decision on all editorial matters is final.

Any opinions stated in the editorial pages of the magazine are those of the individuals concerned and not those of the magazine.

Foul language, insults or abusive comments will be removed from any copy submitted before publication.

Stories and photographs which may be of interest to people within our circulation area are welcome.

All readers are welcome to contribute material; however, inclusion will be at the discretion of the editor.

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Please contact the treasurers: Martin & Helen Rodney-Smith,
2 Ringwold Cottage, Back Street, Ringwold CT14 8HN

Tel: 01304 373 795 Email: helen.rodneysmith@googlemail.com

Cover photo courtesy Don Hough

Welcome to Rural Roundup

A belated Happy New Year to all our readers and subscribers. We've had a change in our prices (see opposite), which should be attractive to all advertisers.

Please remember that next month's edition is online only. You can access the magazine via the following sites:

<https://www.cornilochurches.org.uk>
www.ringwouldwithkingsdown-pc.gov.uk

The next printed edition will be April/May. Please keep your articles coming in!

Monica and Don Hough

**Closing date for the online edition *March* of Rural Roundup
*Monday 20th February 2023***

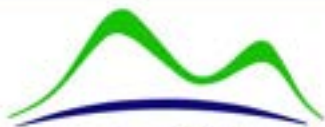
**Closing date for the *PRINTED* edition *April/May* of Rural Roundup
*Tuesday 21st March 2023***

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APPEAL FOR SUPPORT OF MAGAZINE!

As you will be aware the support from Ringwold with Kingsdown Parish Council has been withdrawn. Walmer Town Council have only contributed £400. Their grants helped finance the production of the magazine. We've received several ideas of ways to raise money. One of the ideas was to introduce a contribution of £5 per year for each house in the villages that receive a copy. Another idea was to ask for donations. We would be glad to hear from anyone who would be willing to support these ideas.

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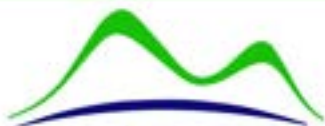
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Hello

2023! I remember when the film "2001: A Space Odyssey" came out and it was a long time ahead. Shocking.

Well, I have only set foot in the garden to clear up the leaves, feed the birds or empty the rubbish. It has been too cold, too wet and I am too lazy or suffering from unrelenting duvet day syndrome. No doubt you hardy all year gardeners are weeding, taking hardwood cuttings, pruning and transplanting??? Still, Spring is in the air or perhaps just in my thoughts. I'm not sure of my favourite season. It may be Spring: it is NOT Winter!

In February you can prune Type 3 Clematis to the ground. I get clematis confusion, not a proper gardener at all, you see. But ours does well when I DO chop it right down, must be a type 3 then. More luck than judgement. Some seeds can be sown (Yay! Time to resurrect the propagator), ever-green shrubs can be pruned, plants and corms can be ordered. Or just snuggle under your soft blanket on the sofa and dream of Summer. Glass of wine? I must confess we haven't even got round to doing our Autumn feed and weed. The timing was never right with torrential rain and other blah blah excuses.

I was googling the tiny flies we have on our houseplants. We have screaming hordes of them and they can be annoying. They are called Fungus Gnats, Fruit Flies or Sciarid Flies, apparently. I was surprised to find the larvae can harm your plants by surreptitiously noshing the roots. The adults mooch about, fly in your face and reproduce. And I'm not having that in my kitchen! An infestation of these can be caused by overwatering, interestingly. Mea culpa. A granite mulch can impede them so I might try that.

The February meeting on Monday 27th 7:45 pm is "How to commit the perfect murder and put the body to good use in the garden". I wonder if Oleander will be mentioned. One of my favourite poisons. Whoops, I mean poisonous plants. There is also a seed swap, often accidentally called a swede sop in my house as I am prone to Spoonerisms. What can you do...?

**Hope to see you there. New members, old members,
everyone welcome.**

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Kingsdown
Conservation Group
Campaigning for our village

Hello

Happy belated new year to everyone, we hope it will be a healthy one. In the up and coming months we have a wide selection of talks lined up. If you are not a KCG member you are welcome to come along to listen and have a drink. The cost is £3 per person but you could join the KCG for £5 for a whole year and the talks and wine are free..... a no brainer!!! Talks in village hall start 7.30 but the doors are open from 7.15 for a drink. Please bring a glass with you. Other events need to be booked via sue_lamoon@hotmail.com and in some cases a payment to confirm your booking needs to be upfront.

If you are interested in joining KCG please pick up a membership form from Del's or contact membership@kingsdownconservation.co.uk for an on line form. We always welcome new members and we are a friendly bunch.

On 16TH January there was a very interesting Illustrated talk in Kingsdown Village Hall by Nick Dunne, author of '**Walking on Holy Ground: A Pilgrimage on the Via Francigena and the Western Front, from London to Laon**' on his experience of this long distance walk which passes through our part of Kent. Nick shared some of the highlights of his journey along this ancient 1900 km pilgrim route between Canterbury and Rome which also passes through the World War One battlefields of northern France. It was well attended by over 30 people.

FUTURE TALKS

6th February - An Illustrated talk by John Buckingham our resident RSPB bird expert, on 'Birds of Kingsdown and surrounding countryside'. John has many many years of experience and many photographs to share.

20th March : An Illustrated talk by Sherece Thompson. Sherece is the marine conservation officer at Kent Wildlife Trust and in this talk she will be exploring some of the wonderful diverse life which takes up residence on the Kent coastline. She will then focus in on Kingsdown Bay and uncover what can be found in the area. By the end of the presentation, everyone should be equipped to start investigating their local rock pools in search of the weird and wonderful critters that they have introduced to.



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Continued from page 7

15th April 6pm -8pm: Louise Kelly will lead a visit to Ham Fen for 20 people maximum.

Ham Fen is the last surviving fen in Kent, and she will take us on a 2-hour walking tour and hear all about the project to reintroduce beaver to the site. You'll learn about the once native beaver, which were reintroduced to the site in 2001 as part of Kent Wildlife Trust's plans to create a wilder Kent. You'll look for evidence of these 'water engineers' at the fen and find out about their ability to slow running water, create pools and marshes, and the benefits this has started having on the landscape and other wildlife at the reserve.

it will cost £15 per head and places must be booked. Please contact sue_lamoon@hotmail.com

5th May: Nick the Forager walk, talk and lunch. Nick amazed and entertained us in Autumn with his stories and photos of his foraging life. He is now taking a small group on a local foraging walk and afterwards from his vintage LandRover he will prepare, cook and serve a 3 course lunch featuring in season , foraged goodies (wild garlic/sea beet/ sea kale/hogweed etc 10.30 -2pm FOR 10 PEOPLE £30 per head. (first come first served!) Please book with sue_lamoon@hotmail.com

There have been planning concerns arising with developments in the Conservation area which we have been involved with and are hoping to produce a leaflet to help guide residents about what should be acceptable and also a guide to the general public when they are lodging concerns with DDC.

Thank you to those in the community who came to the information meeting regarding the District Plan, we hope it was helpful and you were able to lodge your concerns with the council.

Work is also going on to improve and update our web site so it can be informative and easy to use by the public and members. Watch this space!

We must thank a loyal band of members (you know who you are) who tirelessly weed, plant, cut and maintain the two "Triangles" in the village for all to enjoy. The top Triangle opposite the Primary school is now established but still needs tending , the one at the bottom of Upper St and Undercliff Rd junction is at the early stages of improvement. If anyone has time to spare and wishes to get involved we would welcome their help. Please contact Alison at secretary@kingsdownconservation.co.uk

Finally we would like to thank Helen Williams for her hard work over the past few years, who has stepped down from being our treasurer and committee member. Helen however has kindly offered to continue to organise our beach cleans and keep us informed about relevant planning concerns.

We send all our best wishes, the days are getting longer!

Alison, Annie, Debbie, Jerry, Ian and Sue

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Newsletter - Jane Banks

'Beware the Ides of March'. For those of you not on Facebook, the village hall AGM has been advertised for **Wednesday 15th March at 7pm**. The committee are again looking for volunteers from the village. For more information, you are asked to email info@kingsdownvillagehall.org.uk

Phlebotomy Services

The fight for the re-instatement of phlebotomy services at Deal Hospital is still ongoing. Marsha Horne posted this on 2nd January:-

The Fight for the Reinstatement of Blood Services at Deal Hospital

With the arrival of the New Year, many people make resolutions that never get kept. One resolution that *will* be kept is this: our team will continue to fight for the much needed reinstatement of blood services at Deal Hospital.

Fifteen months ago the much used service was closed without any advance notice or discussion with the Community who used it. The needs and best interests of you, your family and your friends were not considered.

After 15 months, the GP-only provision available has proved unable to fill the need. Until this poorly made decision is reversed, we will continue to fight on your behalf.

You deserve the best Healthcare possible; Don't settle for less

Many thanks to everyone who helped set up, clear up, and man the stalls and the kitchen at the Christmas Fair in the village hall in Kingsdown on Saturday 26th November.

And of course, thanks to all those who came along to support the event.

We couldn't have done it without you!

The day was a great success.

Just over £300 will be on its way to Breast Cancer Now.

Same again next year?! Jane Banks



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RURAL ROUNDUP QUIZ!



1. What year did the Titanic sink in the Atlantic Ocean on 15 April, on its maiden voyage from Southampton?
2. What is the title of the first ever Carry On film made and released in 1958?
3. What is the name of the biggest technology company in South Korea?
4. Which singer fronted the 1970s' pop group Showaddywaddy?
5. Which now famous TV chef started cooking at the age of eight in his parents' pub, 'The Cricketers', in Clavering, Essex?
6. Which Dutch darts player won the 2012 BDO World Championship at the Lakeside Country Club, Frimley Green on 15 January?
7. Which metal was discovered by Hans Christian Oersted in 1825?
8. What is the capital of Portugal?
9. How many breaths does the human body take daily?
10. Who was Prime Minister of Great Britain from 1841 to 1846?
11. What is the chemical symbol for silver?
12. Who invented Cat's Eyes in 1934 to improve road safety?
13. What is the world's smallest bird?
14. Who played 'Bodie' and 'Doyle' in The Professionals?
15. What is the doll, Barbie's, full name?
16. What does Paul Hunn hold the record for, which registered at 118.1 decibels?
17. What did Al Capone's business card state his occupation was?
18. What is the lifespan of a dragonfly?
19. Which year was the first Tonka truck made – 1945, 1947 or 1949?
20. Who invented the tin can for preserving food in 1810?

Answers on Page 23

Hello everyone,

A very big thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to Kingsdown Carol Singing this year.

In total £3073.89 was raised for the Deal Food Bank and the Kingsdown Church Fund.

Many thanks!

Annie, Kathryn, Kate and Alan

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CONGRATULATIONS

Denis Brophy MBE

Congratulations to Denis Brophy who has been awarded the MBE (Member of the order of the British Empire) for his services to the RNLI. The award came as a great surprise to Denis, who said he felt deeply honoured and humbled to be considered for such an award.



He has been with the RNLI for the past 55 years and has held many positions culminating in his present position as Lifeboat operations manager in Walmer. The lifeboat station is operated solely by dedicated volunteers. Denis is listed on King Charles' first new year's honours list.

Denis and his wife will be invited to Buckingham Palace to receive the MBE soon.



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Community Group calls for Safer Roads for Walmer

On Friday 25th November many residents met at Walmer Parish Hall for a meeting called by James Walmesley and Vernon Recas of Walmer Road Safety Group, although the weather was miserable and there was the World Cup match on the TV!

Three of the speakers they invited to attend were there to answer questions from residents. Alan Watson, an organizer of Kent Speed Watch, cllr Mike Eddy of Walmer Town Council and cllr Trevor Bond, who represents Middle Deal on DDC and Deal & Walmer on KCC.

Many residents expressed their disappointment that developers are not made to pay for pavements, crossings, road cushions and road infrastructure that would mitigate the increased dangers their buildings bring with them. Campaigners Tony Grist and Sarah Gleave pointed out that with over 30,000 residents in Walmer and Deal now, the access roads used by emergency vehicles needed to be made a lot safer, there had been near misses and a fatality only last week. Alan Watson urged residents to report incidents to the Kent Police so that there are more prosecutions for dangerous behaviour

www.kent.police.uk/area/your-area/kent/dover/walmer/contact-us/top-reported-crimes-in-this-area Cllr Bond promised he would continue to press Kent Police for more action and to urge Kent Highways to put in road safety measures.

Many residents asked for 20mph speed limits on residential streets and Cllr Mike Eddy said that Walmer Council agreed 20mph limits would make residential streets safer. He said this and other measures were in the Walmer Council HIP (Highways Improvement Plan) and they were urging higher level councils, DDC and KCC responsible for planning and highways respectively, for 20mph limits. Residents and the chair of Walmer Council together agreed they would respond to the Local Plan and urge DDC to put a stop to the overdevelopment that will bring over 1000 more cars onto very congested roads.

In the photo, L to R Barry ?, James Walmesley, Vernon Recas, Cllr Mike Eddy and Sarah Gleave



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Kingsdown Village—Jane Banks & Sharon Morris

Third part of three part history—continued from December/January

The original Kingsdown School Logbook is a fascinating read and is available to view at the Maidstone Archives.

The Curlings also financed the building of the schoolteacher's house (now Old School House), the church of St John the Evangelist, and the rectory.

Following William Curling's death in 1855, Elizabeth gave the school premises to the church (conveyance of 30th July 1856) who were then responsible for managing the school (including appointing the teachers) until the 1930s.



Jimmy Smith, who ran the paper shop is middle row right, next to the teacher

Education was made compulsory to age 15 in 1944, and so education moved from the control of the church to the Ministry of Education. The schools – both infant and junior – were finally closed on 31st December 1937 after a disastrous government inspection.

The school kept the title deeds to the land.

After that date, the villagers used the building as a meeting venue for local societies. It was used as a NAFFI for the troops during WW2. However, the Ministry of Education insisted on the sale of the property in 1950, (it still had no electricity supply) so the Diocese sold the land and the building to the Parochial Church Council, (or rather to two local individuals namely Mr Stanley Player Mitchell and Mr Cecil Osmond Youden) who purchased it with a mortgage of £250 with the intention of letting it to the village at a peppercorn rent under a 99-year lease. After both legal and financial advice, and then agreement from the PCC, the land and the schools were sold to the people of the village, complete with £200 still to pay on the mortgage, and the property was invested in the Public Trustee of Charity Lands.

The PCC insisted on various conditions, including the name of the hall – St John's Village Hall, Kingsdown. The PCC stipulated that the hall was to be managed by a committee and

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Continued from page 19

run by the village for the village, but they insisted that the church could use the hall on Sundays and Good Fridays. The hall's governing document, the Deed of Trust, includes these clauses today.

On 1st April 1952, the first AGM was held, and the building was opened as a village hall. The village hall secretary, Miss Sybil Crocker, read a letter from a local benefactor who wished to remain anonymous, in which he said he donated the sum of £200 to pay off the mortgage on the hall, and another letter from Mr Gerald Hardman (solicitor) saying he had paid off all the interest and legal charges. The generous gifts made the **hall the property of the village absolutely**. The building and the cost of additional kitchens and cloakrooms was also cleared and completed in 1954. The property was vested in the Public Trustee of Charity Lands. charity (number 302777).

Unlike Ringwold Village Hall (which was built in 1934 on land owned by the Parish Council donated to them by the Monins Estate), Kingsdown's hall and the land it is built on, belongs to the village.

A picture of HM the Queen was bought in 1955. This was generously restored by a villager in 2014. In 1957, the minutes record a tribute to the retiring Hon Secretary Miss S. Crocker for all she had done for the hall with such untiring enthusiasm and efficiency. The first Chairman, Col Farrier said he doubted whether the Village Hall would have been acquired without Miss Crocker's efforts. The present Trustees are the successors of those very first Trustees.

The original Village Hall Committee minutes from 1950 to 1999 have been transcribed and are available in digital format. Unfortunately, and despite extensive enquiries, all official hall data from 1999 to 2007 cannot be traced. It is believed all these minutes were lost during the refurbishment of 2010. Records from 2007-2020 are available as both hard and digital copies.

The Church

The church of St John the Evangelist was built and endowed in 1850 by W. Curling Esq at a cost of £6000. It was Elizabeth Curling who selected the site that the church was to be built on – the site of a beacon for ships. The 'Morning Post' describes a 'procession of 1000 persons and 100 invited guests passing through a triumphal arch decorated with flowers on its way from the school' for the laying of the foundation stone by William Curling on May 4th, 1849. Building work was completed 13 months later, and the Church of St John the Evangelist was consecrated. William died in 1855, three years after the church was finished.

A fence was erected in 1964 between Old School House and the hall, the owner also serving as chair for many years until the advent of a playgroup. In the last 66 years, successions of local societies have used the village hall. These include the WI, The Garden Society, The Angling Club, Youth Club, Boys Club, Girls Club, Child Welfare Clinic, the County Library, the Devine School of Dancing, Darby and Joan Club, Civil Defence, Mothers Union, nursery, playgroup, whist club, the Parish Council, Table Tennis Club, Preschool, Sunday School, and group meetings. Since 1952, the hall has been used by the community for events such as jumble sales, coffee mornings, street parties and private hire.

The support of the village is key to its continued success, so long may this tradition continue!

This history was researched by two former Trustees in 2018.

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advice

Dover, Deal
& District



Volunteers Needed

Citizens Advice Dover, Deal & District are holding the following 'Taster Days'.

Tuesday March 14th 10.30am

Tuesday March 21st 10.30am

at

Our 'Taster Day' will include an informal chat including some information on the roles available at our Dover and Deal offices.

Dover Citizens Advice Maison Dieu Gardens Maison Road Dover Kent CT16 1TG

If you are interested in helping our service and want to know more on how you can help people in your community.

If you are interested then please call Amanda Cook on 07828-154737 to book a place.

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FEBRUARY

In Old English terms, the Anglo-Saxons named February as 'Solmonath', which means month of cakes, mud-month, as the Gods were offered cakes in the February season.

It was also called 'Kale-monath' or 'sprout-kale' by the Saxons, which is the name for cabbage and its sprouting.

In Welsh, February is known as 'y mis bach', which translates to 'the little month'.

The second month is called 'helmikuu' in Finnish, which means 'the month of pearl', inspired from the snow falling on tree branches and the droplets freezing on them, metaphorical with the pearls of ice.

About 400 years ago, during the Shakespearean time, this month was known as 'Feverell'.

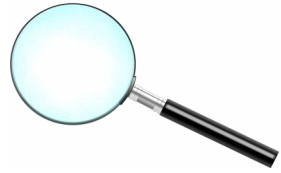
In Newton's time, which was some 300 years ago, it had changed to Frbrueer, which is where February has its latest derivation.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. 1912
2. Carry on Sergeant
3. Samsung
4. Dave Bartram
5. Jamie Oliver
6. Christian Kist
7. Aluminium
8. Lisbon
9. 20,000 daily
10. Robert Peel
11. Ag
12. Percy Shaw
13. Bee Hummingbird
14. Lewis Collins and Martin Shaw
15. Barbara Millicent Roberts
16. The loudest burp
17. A used furniture salesman
18. 24 hours
19. 1947
20. Peter Durand



Focus on LOCAL PETS



Sylvia Main started keeping donkeys in 1983, with the intention of keeping the grass down in her garden. Initially, she had two donkeys one named Violeta and the other named Thistle. Both donkeys had foals and Sylvia decided to keep Fiona who was the offspring of Violeta. Eventually Fiona was left alone, and Sylvia felt it would be good to have another donkey to keep Fiona company, that was about 6 years ago. Sylvia visited the donkey sanctuary at New Romney and decided to adopt Jacob. Sadly, Fiona has now died, and Sylvia only has Jacob. Jacob is about 25 years old. Donkeys can live to a ripe old age (Fiona was 37 years old when she died).

The male donkey is known as a jack, or a jackass and a female is known as a jenny or jennet, and they originate from Africa. Donkeys vary considerably in size depending on the breed and environmental conditions. The loud call or bray (hee haw) from a donkey can be heard up to 3 kilometres away. Donkeys have large ears which may pick up more distant sounds and may help to cool the donkeys' blood. Donkeys' hooves are more elastic than those of horses and do not wear

down as fast, therefore they may need clipping.

Donkeys cannot live outdoors all year in Britain as their coats are not water proof.

Jacob has a stable which is warm and dry. He spends most of his days eating grass, but in winter his diet is supplemented with hay. He is fed morning and evening. He enjoys eating carrots and apples and he also enjoys chewing on bark. However, it is not good for people to feed him their scraps as it can upset his stomach. It requires about a quarter acre of land minimum to sustain one donkey. Jacob features at the Easter Sunday procession at St John's church and can often be seen grazing in the church yard.



Jacob grazing in the garden

Donkey Facts

- A donkey is stronger than a horse of the same size
- Donkeys can see all four of their feet at the same time
- Donkeys can vary hugely in size, from 26 inches to 68 inches tall
- A donkey's bray can carry up to 60 miles in the desert
- Donkeys have incredibly efficient digestive systems, utilising 95% of what they eat
- Donkeys don't like being in the rain for long periods as their fur is not waterproof
- Donkeys have been used as working animals for at least 5,000 years.
- A blind donkey will often bond with a seeing donkey who will act as their guide
- Donkeys can be a calming influence on other animals
- Donkeys are very clever with a keen sense of curiosity
- Donkeys are not stubborn but can be reluctant to do anything that might be unsafe - they consider situations before deciding what to do
- Donkeys are extremely nimble and can cross tricky terrain
- Donkeys are very sociable and form strong bonds - you will often see pairs of best friends within a herd
- Donkeys are different to horses in their physiology, communication, thinking and behaviour - they do their best with other donkeys as companions.



Jacob enjoying the winter sunshine

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- 2018 (18) Renault Captur 0.9 Play TCE, blk, 31,264 miles, petrol, man, 5dr, SH, RFT £165 - £11,995
- 2018 (18) Renault Clio Signature Nav TCE, grey, man, pet, 45,866 miles, SH, RFT £165 - £10,995
- 2018 (88) Fiat 500 1.2 Lounge, 16,469 miles, red, petrol, 3drs, SH, manual, RFT £165 - £9,995
- 2017 (67) Fiat Panda 0.9 Twinair Lounge Dualogic Auto, silver, 14,198 miles, petrol, 5dr, SH - £10,995
- 2017 (67) Skoda Fabia 1.0 MPI 75 SE, red, 5dr, petrol, manual, 38,600 miles - £8,495
- 2017 (17) Mini Cooper Seven, green, 49,000 miles, manual, petrol, 5dr, RFT £165 - now £12,695
- 2017 (17) Citroen C1 1.0 Feel, grey, 39,600 miles, SH, petrol, manual, 3dr, RFT £155 - £8,995
- 2017 (17) Ford Fiesta Zetec 1.0 Turbo, white, 41,090 miles, petrol, manual, 5dr, SH, RFT £Zero - £9,895
- 2017 (17) Fiat 500 1.2 Lounge, blue, petrol, manual, 18,750 miles, SH, RFT £165 - £9,295
- 2016 (66) Renault Clio Dyn Max TCE, grey, man, petrol, 19,012 miles, 5dr, SH, RFT £20 - £9,495
- 2016 (16) Ford Fiesta 1.0 Zetec Turbo, grey, man, petrol, 20,646 miles, SH, 5dr, RFT £Zero - £10,995
- 2016 (16) Suzuki Celerio 1.0 S22, grey, manual, petrol, 24,400 miles, SH, RFT £Zero - £6,195
- 2015 (65) Peugeot 208 1.0 Active, blue, petrol, man, 54,548 miles, SH, 5dr, RFT £20 - £SOLD
- 2015 (15) Citroen C1 1.0 Feel, 45,850 miles, grey, petrol, manual, SH, RFT £Zero - £8,495
- 2015 (15) Volkswagen Polo 1.0 60 SE, 42,152 miles, blue, petrol, manual, 5drs, SH, RFT £20 - £8,195
- 2014 (14) Ford Fiesta 1.0 Titanium, blue, 49,027 miles, petrol, manual, SH, RFT £Zero - £7,995
- 2014 (14) Fiat 500 1.2 Lounge, Tiptronic, Auto, petrol, white, 18,500 miles, SH, RFT £20 - £9,995
- 2014 (63) Renault Captur 0.9 D-que N-nav, black, petrol, manual, 46,460 miles, SH, RFT £20 - £8,395
- 2013 (13) Skoda Fabia 1.2 SE, 15,100 miles, silver, petrol, manual, SH, RFT £135 - £8,995
- 2012 (62) Fiat Panda 1.2 Lounge, black, 18,824 miles, petrol, 5dr, manual, SH, RFT £30 - £5,995



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SUTTON BY DOVER PARISH COUNCIL

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January Meeting

Meeting was held in Studdal Church Hall
on Tuesday 3rd January 2023 at 7.30 pm.

Cllr Merriman opened the meeting by wishing councillors and visitors
a Happy New Year.

New Councillor

The Council welcomed Robert Buxton as a new Parish Councillor.

Precept/Budget

Councillors considered the budget for 2023/4 and decided to request
£14,858 from Dover District Council as the precept figure. It was noted in
the current year no increase was sought however outgoings have increased
materially and the new figure represents a 12.5% increase to the last pre-
cept.

Local planning

One planning applications was discussed by the Council and various DDC
decisions noted.

Local Community

Cllr Densham had kindly topped up the salt bins around the parish ready for
any bad weather and a new salt bag have been applied for from Highways.
Works on whole Millennium bank overhanging branches have now been
completed by Cllr Willet and Cllr Akhurst. Cllr Merriman thanked everyone
involved.

Litter pick

Litter pick Saturday 15th April was fixed as the date for holding a litter pick
in the parish.

*The next meeting which will take place on Tuesday 7th February 2023 at
7.30pm – The Church Hall, East Studdal.*



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If you live in Sutton by Dover Parish, please come along and join the Annual Litter Pick.

Lets all show some pride in our Parish

When : SATURDAY 15th April 2023 from 9.30AM – 12.30PM

Where: Please meet in the **Community Centre**, Downs Road, East Studdal at 9.30am for a safety briefing, which all participants **MUST** attend. Participants are required to provide their own hi-vis jackets and strong gloves.

Equipment: Pickup sticks and rubbish bags will be provided by the Parish Council

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE END OF THE EVENT.

Please email or Phone to register your support claire.inglin08@gmail.com
07810751959

This event is supported by Sutton by Dover Parish Council

Sutton Parish Community Centre

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Forthcoming Events

◆12TH MARCH TABLETOP SALE

◆31ST MARCH QUIZ NIGHT

BINGO!

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Council Tax News January 2023

2022 ended with the VOA head office accepting that atriums should be measured from the ground floor only. A battle won for those with central atriums around the staircase who were paying council tax for non-existent floor areas.

2023 is the government's final opportunity to persuade the electorate that life under the conservatives is better than life under Labour. Those readers who are long-term council tax payers will no doubt recall that council tax was first levied in April 1993 and is a tax on the dwelling based upon its capital value in April 1991. The liability to pay the tax is that of the occupier of the dwelling, not the owner.

Band D homes were said to be worth between £68,001 to £88,000 in April 1991, which in Kingsdown tend to be older and smaller dwellings, the average charge in 1993 for a Band D home was £568 per annum because the conservative government applied transitional relief to mitigate the increase from rental value to capital value under the new system.

November 1994 the opportunity to appeal the band ended.

March 1995 the transitional relief ended.

April 1995 Council Tax was charged in full approximately £609 for Band D.

This month's council tax news looks at how the money paid as council tax is spent.

In 1995 the cost of running the local services, including:-

police and fire services

leisure and recreation projects, such as maintaining parks and sports centres

libraries and education services

rubbish and waste collection and disposal

transport and highway services, including street lighting and cleaning, and road maintenance

environmental health and trading standards

administration and record-keeping, such as marriages, deaths and birth, and local elections.

Plus 100% of the parish council expenditure was covered up to 50% by the council tax and business rates. Councils such as DDC collected local business rates but were only allowed to retain 50%. Part of the shortfall was made up by an increase in council tax.

June 1997 Tony Blair won the election when council tax for Band D was £688.

One of Tony Blair's flagship policies was public sector reform including council tax

April 1998 Council Tax for band D increased by 8.6% to £747

In 2003 the increase was 12.9% and for the first time the annual charge topped £1000 for Band D.

Tony Blair set up a committee of finance experts, academics and council leaders to carry out a review of local taxation. By then council tax covered only 25% of local expenditure.

In 2007, the first revaluation of dwellings since 1993 was due to be carried out. One reform considered was to extend the number of bands from 8 to 10 to reflect the house price inflation. Tony Blair resigned in June 2007 before taking steps to action any plan.

At which point band D council tax had increased to £1321 per annum.



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Continued from Page 31

This increase of £574 since 1997 for a band D dwelling has no connection with the value of the dwelling. The demand is based solely on the sum estimated by Dover DC etc to meet the costs of providing the services for the coming year

Gordon Brown's fiscal policies saw council tax increase from £1373 in 2008 to £1439 in 2010 when the Conservatives returned to government and the average Band D charge was frozen at £1439 for the first time in 2011. Parliament decreed that local authorities wishing to increase the council tax charge above 2% had to hold a referendum. The Police and Crime Commissioner was introduced in 2012 and became an additional charge on the council tax payer. The annual charge increased to £1444 for 201.

In 2016 the conservative government decreed that dover council tax payers should contribute an additional 3% towards the costs incurred by Kent County Council in providing social care to adults. This additional council tax charge is ring fenced and to be used only for adult social care.

This precept is in addition to Dover District Council having the power to increase council tax by an additional 2% in 2016-17.

The total KCC precept for Band D homes in Kingsdown was £1,133.55 (£1,111.77 + £21.78).

In 2016 the 3.1 % overall increase made the charge for the average Band D dwelling £1530

In 2017-18 the total precept charged by KCC for adult social care was £1,178.82 (£1,134.36 + £44.46)

2018-19 the total precept was £1,237.68 (£1,169.64 + £68.04)

2019-20 the government allowed an increase by up to 2%, the total precept was £1,299.42 (£1,206.72 plus £92.70)

In 2020-21 adult social care authorities were able to increase council tax by an additional 2 per cent to fund adult social care making the total precept £1,418.76 (£1,259.64 plus £159.12)

In 2022 the council tax demand for Band D has increased further to include

Kent County Council £1,287.99 2.0% increase 11% goes to Kent Police

Adult Social Care Precept* £173.25 1.0% increase

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent £228.15 4.6% increase

Dover District Council £202.14 2.5% increase

Kent & Medway Fire & Rescue Authority £82.35 1.9% increase

Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish Council £42.43 -0.2% decrease

The above Parish/Town precept supports total spending of £43,600.00 for

Ringwould with Kingsdown Parish council.

Annual charge for a Band D property : £2,016.31 = 3.0% increase overall

In 2016 KCC received £1,111.77 + £21.78 adult social care for every Band D dwelling

In 2022 KCC received £1,287.99 + £173.25

Your riddle for 2023.

If in 7 years the precept has only risen by £176.22 what calculation is being used to allow the adult social care precept to increase by £151.47 ? *Answer to riddle in next edition*

Sandra Upton

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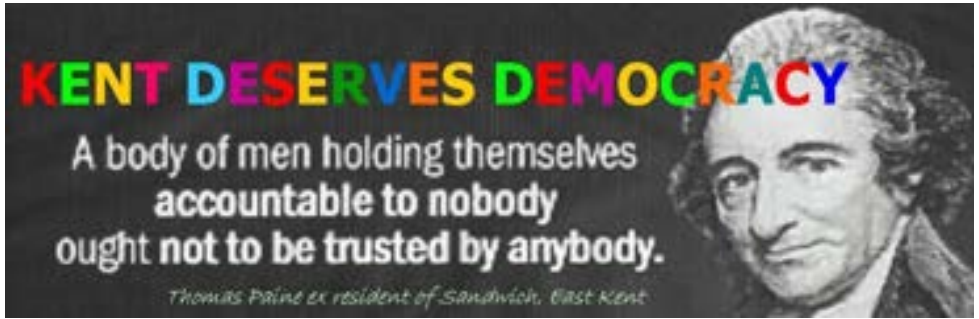
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New East Kent campaign group: Kent Deserves Democracy

On 3rd Oct 2022 many residents of our Walmer and Deal area, turned up at the Astor Theatre, to hear speakers with a national reputation speak about how fair proportional voting could break the grip of big lobby groups (private healthcare corporations, big property developers, big fossil fuel corporations, etc) and provide the 67million UK population with cleaner, more accountable government.

The current problematic system is the epitome of an unlevel playing field, with many safe seats and unaccountable MPs, with privileged access to some media outlets. 43.6% of the two-thirds who voted in 2019, gave 100% of power to a party with 56% of parliamentary seats. The hope of many, included some ex-Conservatives, is that any incoming parliamentary majority at the next general election would consult and bring in a fair proportional voting system with both strong constituency links and a close match between share of votes cast and share of seats won, and encourage more people to vote.

The hope is that fairer voting could also be brought in for regional govt like Kent County Council, so that councillors might be more accountable, keener to heed residents in order to earn their £15K allowances, instead of always voting as instructed by party leaders.

At the Astor on the 3rd the big speakers at the event were, Gavin Esler, broadcaster and author, Tom Brake, director of Unlock Democracy, and Neal Lawson, director of Compass. Three local campaigners from local parties who also spoke about their hopes for better, fairer government were Sarah Gleave, Jo Rothery and Penelope James of Greens, Labour and LibDem respectively.

The new local cross-party campaign group can be found on internet, on Facebook page **Kent Deserves Democracy** and on Twitter @KentDemocracy. It plans a number of actions in the new year, and can offer a talk with powerpoint on how councils function in Kent to community groups. To receive updates, drop John the secretary a line by email kentdesrvsdemocracy@gmail.com

Sarah Waite-Greave

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Covid 19 has had a significant impact on families in the UK. Family incomes have been significantly affected and children's early learning has suffered. Parent's ability to support their children has been affected meaning that children's learning and development has suffered. Lack of money, isolating in limited space, mental health difficulties and taking on additional home schooling and childcare responsibilities meant that families struggled to provide the resources and time to support their children's learning. Save the Children launched an Emergency Response for such families. In just one year, Save the Children provided support to over 7 000 families. It delivered 7 600 early learning packs that provide age-appropriate educational activities, books and interactive games for children and parents to use together as well as 4 3000 toys and games from companies supporting Save the Children. It also provided 13 600 e-vouchers for families to purchase essential food and basic products and 2 000 essentials such as children's beds high chairs, and dining tables. Save the Children also provided 35 700 Covid-19 packs filled with guidance for parents with activities for children to enjoy at home, put together by early years experts. There is also an emergency appeal for Ukraine. Save the Children is continuing to provide urgent humanitarian aid to families fleeing the war in the country.

To donate please visit <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk> or telephone 020 7012 6400 It is possible to donate to the Emergency Fund at the collecting tin in Del's shop, High Street, Kingsdown.

Sarah Spong (Chair Save the Children Deal). <http://www.stcdeal.org.uk>

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Services in the Cornilo Churches for FEBRUARY

www.cornilochurches.org.uk



Date	Ringwould	Kingsdown	Ripple	Sutton
5th SUN	0930 Holy Communion	0930 Breakfast Church	1600 Evensong	3.00pm Messy Church at Studdal
12th SUN	0930 Morning Prayer	0930 Holy Communion		11.00am Holy Communion
19 th SUN	0930 Holy Communion	1500 Funday Sunday	1100 Holy Communion	
25 th SAT	4pm Celtic Communion			
26 th SUN	0930 Prayer and Praise	0930 Holy Communion		Sunday at 4 Studdal Hall

ALL SERVICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO STAFFING ISSUES. Please check the 'Churches Diary' on the Website

To find our churches:

St Nicholas, Ringwould, Church Lane CT14 8HL

St John the Evangelist, Kingsdown Upper St CT14 8BJ

(Note NO PARKING on Church Cliff)

St Mary the Virgin Church Lane Ripple CT14 8JL

St Peter and St Paul Sutton, Church Hill CT15 5DF

Studdal Church Hall, Downs Road, East Studdal CT15 5BX

www.cornilochurches.org.uk

Tea and Chat is at 2pm on the 2 February at Ringwould Church



The Little Library

This is operates in the church porch at Ringwould, books are free just turn up and help yourself, we only ask that if you are leaving books you take an equal number away! We also have a few magazines available and jigsaws. **Jean Winn**





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Deal and District Branch
QUIZ

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Teams welcome - £2 per person
All proceeds to Save the Children
www.scdeal.org/home

Registered charity No. 213890 (England & Wales)
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Candle lit Nativity Scene at Saint John's Church, Kingsdown

Photographs by Babara Ridout



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PARISH CONTACTS

HALL BOOKINGS

Kingsdown & Ringwoud School 01304 373 734

Kingsdown Village Hall: *email: bookings@kingsdownvillagehall.org.uk*

Ringwoud Village Hall: Michel Dourthe 07923 165076
email: rvhringwoud@yahoo.com

Ripple Village Hall: Laurence Davey
email: daveyldavey@aol.com 01304 374512

Studdal Church Hall: Mrs Claire McLaren 07742 779 430

Sutton Community Centre: Meg & Darren Parfitt 01304 239 190
email: dcparfitt@sky.com

Walmer Baptist Church Hall: Administrator 01304 373 853
email: admin@walmerbaptistchurch.co.uk

Walmer Parish Hall: Elaine Wickenden 01304 366 605
www.walmerparishchurches.org

Ringwoud-w-Kingsdown Parish Council

Chairman: Sarah Wilson 07511 108 585

Clerk: Linda Hedley *email: clerk@ringwoudwithkingsdown-pc.gov.uk*

Parish council office opening hours 10.30 am - 3.30 pm 01304 375889

Please visit the website: www.ringwoudwithkingsdown-pc.gov.uk

Ripple Parish Council

Chairman: Mr Keith Morrison: *email: keith@keithgmorrison.co.uk* 07852 314 616

Clerk: Karen Griffiths: *email: clerk@rippleparish.co.uk* 01304 372 865

Sutton-by-Dover Parish Council

Chairman: Miss Barbara Merriman: *email: bm.suttonbydoverpc@gmail.com* 01304 369 256

Clerk: Ahti Nigol: *email: suttonbydoverpc@gmail.com* 07572468032

Walmer Town Council

Chairman: Cllr Mike Eddy: *email: cllrmikeeddy@walmercouncil.co.uk* 01304 362 363

Clerk: Richard Styles: *email: clerk@walmercouncil.co.uk* 01304 362 363

Kingsdown & Ringwoud PCSO

Non Emergency Number 101
email: jacqui.brook@kent.pnn.police.uk

KCC Community Warden

Mr Martin Dadd: *email: martin.dadd@kent.gov.uk* 07969 584 181

Walmer Baptist Church

for the community, in the community
The Rev'd Seyan Tills: Church Elder
Moderator: The Revd Helen Matthews
Ministry Assistant: Guy Platts
Kelvedon Road, Walmer CT14 7HX
church@walmerbaptistchurch.co.uk
(01304) 364 216 monitored answerphone

www.walmerbaptistchurch.co.uk

Sundays

Service 10.30 am

Weekdays

Mondays: 2.00pm Badminton
Tuesdays: 2.00pm Knitting for the Needy
Fridays: Noon Share & Prayer (on Zoom)

church@walmerbaptistchurch.co.uk
www.walmerbaptistchurch.o.uk

.Keeping you in touch with



Who are we?

Walmer Chapel is a Bible-believing, protestant church with members from a variety of backgrounds. We exist to give worship and honour to the sovereign God and his divine Son, Jesus Christ, and to share the message of salvation by which we ourselves found faith and forgiveness from sin.

Our regular meetings are as follows:

Sunday services are fully open but will still be **LIVE-STREAMED**....10.30am & 6.30pm.
For details of where to go online, please see inside.
(Communion 1st Sunday am, 3rd Sunday pm)

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2-3.30 pm term time (from 24th July)
all children welcome (Age 5 up)

Midweek Bible study/prayer meeting, Wednesdays 6.30 pm
Mums & Toddlers, Thursdays 9.30am -11.30am term time (resumes 21st April)
Drop-in cafe, 10am-12 noon **Saturdays** (closed on 28th)

Pastor Clive Lambden, all enquiries 07951 877 263.
Walmer Chapel, Station Rd, Walmer, Deal www.walmerchapel.org

CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Deal & District Branch of Save the Children

Chairman: Mrs Sarah Spong 01304 363 942
Treasurer: Mrs Gill Hughes 01304 364 188

Kingsdown Angling Club

Secretary: Danny Bacon 07815 134 658

Kingsdown Conservation Group

Contact: Alison Sharvill 07814 734 337

Kingsdown Garden Society

Chairman: Barbara Peel 01304 361 384
Secretary: Jane Jobey 01304 381 702

Kingsdown Pre School

Chairperson: Amy Bridges 07841 702 249
Secretary: Claire Tenhove 01304 379 727

Kingsdown & Ringwold Women's Institute

President: Mrs Sue Le Chevallier 07814 267 506
Secretary: Mrs Kathy Erridge 07973 238 603

Kingsdown Table Tennis Club

Contact: Cathy Whitnall 01304 362 824

Kingsdown Village Hall

Chairman: Anna Fitzmaurice 07976 600 392
Bookings & Enquiries: bookings@kingsdownvillagehall.org.uk

Ringwold Village Hall

Secretary: Mrs Avril Woolf 01304 379 059

Ripple Village Hall

Chairman: Laurence Davey 01304 374512
daveyldavey@aol.com

Kingsdown Welcome Pack (for newcomers)

Contact: Sylvia Main 01304 373 651

Loose Fibres Craft Group

Contact: Rita Rhodes 01304 365 778

Ripple Tea & Chat

Contact: Mrs Rosemary Davey 01304 374 512

Ripple Neighbourhood Watch

Contact: Claire Skardon 07716303974

St John's Heritage Association

Chair: Ian Stephen 01304 380 550

St Nicholas Players

Chairman: Mr George Hannah 07496 603 766
Secretary: Miss Janet Alcock 01304 367 453

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12th Deal (Kingsdown) Air Scouts

We meet at the Kingsdown Village Hall. Beavers 6 years to 8 years on Tuesdays 6.00pm until 7.00pm – Cubs 8 years to 10½ years on Wednesdays 6.30pm until 8.00pm and Scouts from 10½ years.

We have vacancies in all sections and we also need some adult help – if you like fun and adventure why not come along and give it a try!

Walmer Parish Churches

St Mary's, St Saviour's, & Blessed Mary of Walmer

Rector: Rev'd Canon Seth Cooper,

Associate Priest: Rev'd Carolyn Wood, 01304 366 605

Elizabeth House, 32, St Mary's Road, Walmer, CT14 7QA

Email: vicar@walmerparishchurches.org - www.walmerparishchurches.org :

Parish of the Cornilo Churches

**St John the Evangelist, Kingsdown, St Nicholas, Ringwoud,
St Peter & St Paul, Sutton-by-Dover, St Mary the Virgin, Ripple.**

www.cornilochurches.org.uk

Church Wardens

Patrick Macwilliam (Ringwoud) 01304 373 888

Email: patrick.macwilliam.pm@gmail.com

Elizabeth Bembridge (Kingsdown) 01304 374 630

Email: elizabethbembridge@gmail.com

Deputy Church Wardens

Dr Laurence Davey (Ripple) 01304 374 512

Email: daveyldavey@aol.com



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