

# SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

## DECEMBER 2021

Edition 692



**At the heart  
of Christmas** 

St Mary's, Sellindge in the Stour Downs Parish

**Community Carols  
on the Green**

**Sunday 5th December**

**4pm**



Followed by mince pies & mulled wine in the village hall

### PRESS RELEASE



### GLORY TO THE FREE PARKING

Folkestone & Hythe District Council is giving residents and businesses an early festive gift.

Charges in our pay and display car parks and on-street bays across the district will be waived on the three Saturdays ahead of Santa's arrival to help support the local economy and shoppers to buy fantastic presents.

This means motorists can park for free on Saturday 4 December, Saturday 11 December, and Sat 18 Dec.

Cllr Ray Field, Cabinet Member for Transport and Digital Transformation, said: "Our district is blessed with a great range of independent and major stores, so naturally we want to encourage residents and visitors to explore our diverse offering. "It has been a testing period for businesses but the future is now looking brighter – shopping locally is an easy way to get some great gifts for loved ones, and help traders in all our high streets and town centres flourish at the same time.

"Everyone is a winner – 'tis the season for free Christmas shopping parking in Folkestone & Hythe."

Limited waiting (free) and controlled parking zone restrictions are still in place on the three Saturdays in the lead-up to Christmas to ensure local residents are able to park close to their homes and there is a sufficient turnover of spaces.

Residents can also [apply via MyAccount](#) for a permit to park in

council-run car parks all year round for £60. This allows you to park your vehicle for three hours in long-term car parks and two hours in short-term car parks. Terms and conditions apply – visit [www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/parking/permits](http://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/parking/permits) for more information.

### CHRISTMAS TABLE TOP SALE SELLINDGE VILLAGE HALL

Indoor table top sale Sat 4th December in Sellindge village hall 9am to 1pm. Various stalls homemade crafts, wood work, homemade jams, cards, books, toys, a chocolate stall and much, much more.

Refreshments available and free parking on site.

Come and view and maybe purchase your Christmas gifts to save having to go to town. For more information contact Jeanette 07753 283 575.



11-12 DECEMBER  
10AM - 5PM  
SELLINDGE CHURCH  
TN25 6AG





Meet, support and  
empower your  
community.

**THERE ARE NO PLANNED  
CHANGES TO WASTE AND  
RECYCLING COLLECTIONS  
OVER CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR.**



### Folkestone & Hythe District Council

 There will be no changes to the household recycling and waste collection schedule during the festive season this year.

 This means your bins/boxes will be emptied as normal **on your usual day.**

### CHRISTMAS OPENING AT THE CLUB

Christmas Eve – 3pm till LATE

Christmas Day – 12 Noon to 2pm

December 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> (Monday & Tuesday) – 3pm to 7pm

## SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

[www.sellindge-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sellindge-pc.gov.uk) 01303 813 271 [clerk@sellindge-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@sellindge-pc.gov.uk)

The next meeting of your Parish Council is Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December starting at 6.30pm in the Durling hall  
The Parish Council wish all the residents of Sellindge and Happy Christmas  
From your Parish Council Clerk

Linda Hedley

**Dog Poo Bags** – Dog poo bags are still available from Nigel at Trust Cottages in Moorstock Lane, he puts them on a patio chair outside his house, as does the Chairman who places on the front garden wall if you phone him on his mobile 07710 260 751.

Also now available from the Dog Poo Bag dispenser which is located at the entrance to the Village Green.

## SELLINDGE WALKING GROUP

Sellindge Walking Group is now back up and running again. We meet at the Village Hall on a Tuesday morning at approximately 10.20am and set off at 10.30am.

We walk for 1 and 1/2 hours around the village using local footpaths.

This does involve crossing fields and climbing over stiles so appropriate footwear is advisable.

We are no longer part of the NHS Walking for Health Scheme just a group of locals who enjoy walking.

Everyone walks at their own risk.

## Jenny Hollingsbee and Susan Carey, Ward Councillors for North Downs West, F&H D C

The District Council has partnered with Kent County Council and other local authorities for the roll out of one of the largest networks of Electric Vehicle charging points. Our six existing off-street charging points will be replaced by Connected Kerb, one of the UK's biggest EV charging point providers and replaced with 100 new EV charging points. These will be a mixture of fast 7Kwh, 22kw and rapid 50Kwh with at least four charging points in 25 of our public car parks. The installation is planned to start early next year. Connected Kerb has committed to installing 190,000 EV charging points across the UK by 2030 and it should really help to have a consistent network for EV charging.

Those of you who subscribe to the kerbside garden waste collection service will receive a discount of £9.70 for the next annual charge due on 01 April 2022. This reflects five missed collections for the fortnightly service for the 10 weeks the service was suspended earlier this year. A discount seemed the most straightforward way to deal with the refund and there will be special arrangements for those not renewing their subscription.

We're pleased to report that the team that deals with Revenue and Benefits at the District Council has won the Excellence in Education and Staff Development award given by the Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation. The team was also shortlisted in three other categories – benefits and welfare reform team of the year, revenues team of the year, and excellence in social inclusion. This area of the Council's work often goes unnoticed but is of vital importance to many vulnerable people and it's good to see their hard work recognised this way.

'Your District Today' magazine will be delivered to every household soon. Look out for details of any changes in dates for collections (we don't collect on Christmas Day!) and the free parking offer for local Christmas shopping.

Neither of us could attend the meeting of Sellindge Parish Council on 09 November but we sent reports. Jenny helped with the well-attended firework display at the Sports and Social Club and we both attended the Joint Advisory Committee of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on 09 November (Jenny representing Folkestone & Hythe District Council and Susan Kent County Council.)

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and say a particular welcome to those who've recently moved to Sellindge. We hope you will be happy here and become involved (or start) local activities in the village. We'd like to thank all the good neighbours who've watched out for one another during the pandemic and continue to do so. Thank you to those who serve on the Parish Council, run the Church, the Governors at Sellindge School, those who write for, edit or distribute this newsletter, those who run our local shops, pub and businesses, the Committee Members of the Village Hall and the Sports and Social Club and everyone who keeps the village organisations going for the benefit of all.

May you all enjoy a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Susan Carey and Jenny Hollingsbee

**ASHFORD STOMA SUPPORT GROUP** – Ashford Stoma Support Group will be meeting in Sellindge Village Hall, Thursday December 30<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 4pm. The Group meets on the last Thursday of the month.

## SELLINDGE UNDER 14's FC

December  
Fixture list

Disclaimer – The views are the views of those mentioned

04/12/21 10:00	Sellindge Sports & Social Club U14	VS	Park Farm Rangers U14 Colts	Sellindge Sports & Social Club, TN25 6HB
11/12/21 10:00	Cheriton United U14	VS	Sellindge Sports & Social Club U14	Cheriton United U14
18/12/21 10:00	Sellindge Sports & Social Club U14	VS	Biddenden U14	Sellindge Sports & Social Club, TN25 6HB



**FROM YOUR KCC COUNCILLOR** Susan Carey, Elham Valley Ward. [susan.carey@kent.gov.uk](mailto:susan.carey@kent.gov.uk) 01303 670 561

I thought you'd be interested to hear about the work that our contractor, Amey has been doing for KCC to improve the efficiency of the road gritting. Around 30% of the main network is gritted when road surface temperatures are predicted to drop below freezing. Amey has started using artificial intelligence models to improve how gritting runs are planned. Amey says it can now predict road surface temperatures within 1°C, 24 hours in advance, to 90% accuracy. The models can also run alternative scenarios for the salt spread rate and the routes to match the severity of the predicted weather. The best response is then chosen and the gritters' navigation systems automatically updated. This is expected to improve the efficiency of the gritting runs by 18% leading to an annual saving of £109,000. It's savings like this that will help us cope with rising costs elsewhere such as the increase in employer contributions to National Insurance and rising demand for KCC's services from Social Care to extra school places. Thank you to those who responded to our annual consultation on KCC's budget, your responses will help us decide the priorities for limited funding.

There are several other consultations being held or planned and you can find them all on <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/> The Heritage Strategy consultation (archaeology, windmills, metal detecting etc.) is open until 13 December. There's also a consultation on the Kent Design Guide which provides advice for planners and builders but is also open to everyone for comment until 17 January. I am also expecting consultations to be launched on KCC's Mineral and Waste Plan (where sites for extraction of sand, ragstone and other building materials are protected and where our waste is processed) and our Plan Tree strategy which complements our Plan Bee pollinator action plan and looks at how we want to use nature as part of our work to balance the carbon emissions in Kent.

Do please look at what's proposed and have your say.

I'm pleased to report that eight of KCC's country parks have won Green Flags (a national award based on the quality of the park, its value to the community and environment). Shorne Woods, Lullingstone, Trosley, Teston, Manor Park, Brockhill near Hythe, and Pegwell Bay Country Parks have all retained their Green Flag status and new for this year is Grove Ferry Country Park in Canterbury. They are all well worth a visit.

There's some good news about electric vehicle charging points with KCC's EV600 project to offer a network of at least 600 charging points across Kent over the next two years. As you'll see from the District Council report, the network of publicly accessible EV charging points is set to rise across the country quite dramatically. Our buses are starting to go electric as well. KCC has been awarded £9.5m by the Government for electric buses on the existing Fastrack service in Kent Thameside and the new Fastrack starting in Dover in 2023. This bodes well for bus services that will serve Otterpool Park where there's the opportunity to plan good public transport from the start and benefit surrounding communities as well.



### **The Official re-opening of the Tennis Courts.**

Here's photos of our juniors, members and funders at the official opening of

our new courts. David Crumley, STC Chairperson thanked our funders (Folkestone and Hythe District Council, Quinn estates, KCC and Hornbeam Charitable Fund) members and coaches. Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee shared some history on the club and thanked all villagers and members on their efforts, Vicki Jessell, from Hornbeam charitable Fund talked about the ambience of the club and the reason for joining the club and investing and then MP Damian Collins thanked the members, villagers and STC committee on the fantastic achievement of resurfacing our courts in such a short space of time.

Sellindge Tennis Club has been selected as a nominated CO-OP community cause. If you are a CO-OP member you can select 'Sellindge Tc' and 2p of every £1 you spend will go to our club for the next 12 months.



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Not a CO-OP member you can sign up for £1 here!!! <https://www.coop.co.uk/local-causes>

## **CHRISTMAS AT THE SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB**

Pizza nights, Wednesdays and Thursday Takeaway and local delivery available.

Fish and chips, Fridays takeaway and local delivery available.\*

\*Christmas Eve delivery for Fish & Chips 4pm to 7pm must be ordered in advance.

Christmas Breakfast Saturday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am. £7pp must be booked in advance, all welcome.

Christmas Dinners available every Sunday to eat in, takeaway and local delivery.

New Year Eve Party.... More details to come.

Please call / text 07876 794 323 or phone 01303 812 437

## **CHRISTMAS OPENING AT THE CLUB**

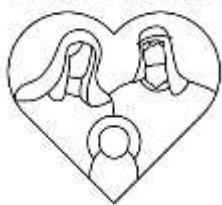
Christmas Eve – 3pm till LATE

Christmas Day – 12 Noon to 2pm

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## **STOUR DOWNS PARISH** Vicar's letter – December 2021

### **At the heart of Christmas**



Last year Christmas was different for all of us. We didn't get the opportunity to join together with family and friends or do what we usually do. Christmas is for many bound up in traditions, the way we do things in our family, friendship group, workplace, village or church. What did that mean for you? It was strange for me because Christmas is so bound up with church. I missed the community of people, I missed the nativity, Christingle, Christmas Carols and the odd glass of mulled wine! I hope and pray this year will be different. However, the simplicity forced upon us last year helped me reflect on the Heart of Christmas. The birth of a baby, not in grandeur but in simplicity who would show us, and continues to show us the

saving love of God. This year we invite you to come along and discover or be reminded of the good news of Christmas in the saving love of God revealed in his son. After Jesus was born and the shepherds had been the Bible says Mary pondered all these things in her heart. Last year gave us lots of time to ponder. This year as you enjoy the festivities when Christmas arrives, I invite you to ponder as Mary did, the meaning of Christmas in your hearts. Do come along and join us at one of the many services and events going on this Christmas time.

Rev Susan



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At the heart  
of Christmas



Christmas in The Stour Downs Parish

## Carols on the Green



5th December at 4pm on the Sellindge Green



## Christingle

5th December 10am in Brabourne  
& 11am Mersham

19th December 11am Stowting



## Christmas Craft Fair

11th-12th December 10am-5pm in Sellindge Church

## Christmas Concert



11th December 7:30pm Smeeth Church



## Noisy Nativity

Saturday 18th December 3pm Sellindge Church

## Nine Lessons and Carols



19th December 6pm Brabourne



## Christmas Eve Crib Service

3pm at Mersham; 4pm Smeeth; 6pm in Stowting

## Christmas Eve Carols

5pm Monks Horton



## Christmas Eve Midnight Communion

11:30pm Brabourne



## Christmas Day Communion



9am in Stowting & 10am in Mersham

St Stephens Day Parish Communion

Boxing Day 9:30am Sellindge