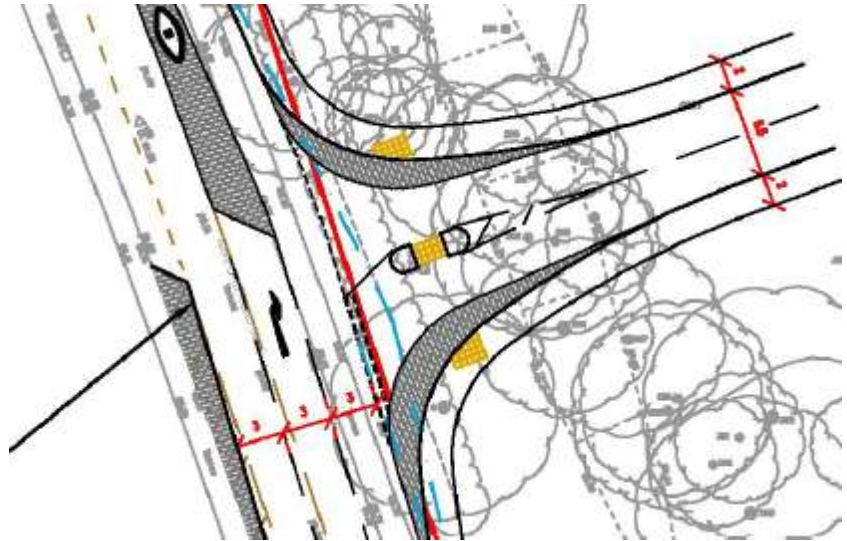


# SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

## FEBRUARY 2023

Edition 706



Work to start on the entrance to the Grove Park development on Monday February 6<sup>th</sup> for 10 weeks which means DELAYS POSSIBLE well into April.

### INDOOR TABLE TOP SALES – At Sellindge Village Hall 9am to 1pm.

Indoor table top sale **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY** 9am to 1pm many stalls already booked a mix between household stalls and different crafts. Tables are £6 for a 6 foot table. Refreshments are available to purchase. Plenty of free parking and entry is free. To book or for more information contact Jeanette 07753 283 575.

### SELLINDGE FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET in SELLINDGE VILLAGE HALL

The next Sellindge Farmers & Craft Market is on **Sunday FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup>** Open at 9am to 12 Noon. Check out the Sellindge Farmers & Craft Market Face Book Page for more details.

# Soupa Thursday!



**Thursdays at St Mary's Church  
Sellindge 10am-2pm**

**FREE** Coffee & Tea  
Lunchtime Homemade Soup  
**Foodbank Open**

There is a bus stop outside the church,  
parking available in the lay-by parking area.

### COFFEE & COMPANY

We are open to anyone every Tuesday morning in Durling Hall, Sellindge Village Hall – 9am to 1pm. Serving drinks and there might be cake ! Come and meet friends for a chat, make new friends.

**SELLINDGE WALKING GROUP** – 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.

### HI KENT – Reg Charity 1052036 [www.hikent.org.uk](http://www.hikent.org.uk)

*The local charity for people with a hearing loss*

Hi Kent provides FREE NHS hearing aid aftercare, advice and battery supply.

The local hearing aid maintenance clinic will be in Coffee & Company in the Durling Hall, Sellindge Village Hall on Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> from 10.15am to 11.15am.

## 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 on Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 6.30pm in the Durling Hall.  
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 or table 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.

**Jenny Hollingsbee and Susan Carey, Ward Councillors for North Downs West, F&H D C**  
[Jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:Jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) 01303 812 066  
[susan.carey@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:susan.carey@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) 01303 670 561

Your District Council will debate and set its budget for 2023/24 at a meeting of the Full Council on 22 February. The meeting will be webcast and the council papers will be available online. Our £19m budget provides the maintenance of our prize winning parks and gardens, housing services including help for the homeless, street cleansing, your kerbside waste collection and dealing with planning applications. Council tax bills are sent out by the District Council but they cover all the other bodies that are allowed to charge a precept (tax). The largest share goes to Kent County Council which pays for social care, waste disposal, roads, school places etc.. The rest of your Council Tax goes to Kent Police, Kent Fire & Rescue service and Sellindge Parish Council. There are several Council Tax (and other) benefit schemes for those in financial difficulties including a hardship fund for those whose circumstances don't fit other eligibility criteria. Information is on the Council website where there's also a live chat facility or you can telephone Customer Services on 01303 853 000, those without digital access there's the Customer Access Point (CAP) at the Civic Centre where computers are available for self-service and staff on hand to assist if needed.

The utility companies are also running schemes to help those who are struggling to pay their bills. One example of this is Southern Water and you can contact them at [payless@southernwater.co.uk](mailto:payless@southernwater.co.uk) or: 0800 027 0363 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm). Another Council run scheme is the Home Essential Fund. There's funding available for boiler replacement or servicing and, particularly relevant to our area, oil boilers needing to be replaced or tuned up and checked for efficiency, top-up of oil or gas bottles. Application forms will be on the Council website shortly, however please advise us if you know a family who may benefit from this scheme as we are keen that residents in this ward do not miss out because funding on this particular project is only available until the end of March 2023. Other projects, under this heading will follow in the next financial year and we'll keep you updated.

On 27 January the District Council arranged an online engagement event with the Home Office about the Government's use of temporary accommodation in our district (Napier Barracks and hotels) for those seeking asylum in the UK. The meeting was chaired by David Monk, the Leader of District Council and included Roger Gough, Leader of KCC and Folkestone & Hythe MP Damian Collins. Representatives from the Home Office and Kent Police were also invited. The meeting was shown live on the Council's Youtube channel and a recording should be available there shortly if not already posted.

Jenny attended the Sports & Social Club Meeting on 9 January, Sellindge Parish Council on 10 January and Stanford Parish Council on 11 January.



Help our Jack Fight Cancer

In September 2021 Jack at just 15 yrs old was diagnosed with a rare aggressive soft cell sarcoma. We are raising money to fund treatment/surgery abroad. To read Jack's full story visit our Facebook or GoFundMe pages using the links or QR codes below. Do please consider making a donation at our GoFundMe page.



**gofundme**  
<https://gofund.me/6d34fbf1>



<https://facebook.com/helpourjackfightcancer>

Thank you for your donations, every single penny will help Jack

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

KCC Leader Roger Gough's New Year message published on 31 December is well worth a read. It's still available at [www.kccmediahub.net](http://www.kccmediahub.net) and sets out the challenges that we face in our county as a result of the war in Ukraine, the effects of the pandemic, the breaches of our border along the coast and more. Roger doesn't just list problems but sets out how we are tackling them and the first step is making sure we set and deliver a balanced budget.

One of the ways we will do this is by reducing the number of buildings we run so that we have an estate that we can afford to maintain properly and which is fit for our residents and staff to use. It's also an opportunity to make sure our services are in the right place and to invest in outreach and digital services rather than expect people to make a journey to a Council building. We're starting with our community services – children's centres, facilities for adults with a learning disability, adult education, youth hubs etc. (Some services are proposed to be co-located at our libraries but library services are not directly affected by these proposals.)

The consultation on the proposals started on 17 January and will run for 10 weeks. (If you need a paper or other format, email [alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk](mailto:alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk) or call 03000 42 15 53 text relay service number 18001 03000 42 15 53). Do please take part in this consultation and make your views known.

We'll be debating our budget proposals for 2023/24 on 09 February. This all day meeting is webcast live and budget papers are already published and being discussed by Councillors at various Committees. We've been hard hit by inflation and balancing the budget has been exceptionally challenging. We have statutory services such as adult and children's social care where we are legally obliged to provide services when someone is eligible. As the demand for care rises less money is left for our other services and every year they are squeezed yet further. All Councils with responsibility for social care have been lobbying the Government to find a more sustainable way to fund such social care other than council tax. All are agreed that we can't go on as we are but sadly there is no agreement on what to put in its place.

Part of my special responsibilities at KCC includes our Heritage Team and the Minerals Planning Team and both were involved when the remains of a sixteenth century shipwreck were found in Denge Quarry on Romney Marsh. The story of the find featured on the BBC and you can still watch it on i Player – it's the first episode of Series 10 of [Digging for Britain](#). It was good to see Kent's heritage receive this attention.

### **THE SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB – 2023 membership fee now due**

Every Sunday – **Roast Dinners**, please call or text 07876 794 323 to book a table, collection or delivery (in Sellindge) we would hate you to miss out!! Served 1pm till 5pm

Pizza nights Thursday, Fish and Chips, Fridays takeaway and local delivery available.

Open from 9am Saturdays and Sundays serving Breakfast Rolls and full menu.

Wednesday – Youth Club for ages 11 to 16 from 5pm to 7pm – Thursday night BINGO – 8pm

### **SELLINDGE FC UNDER 15's – 2022/2023 – FEBRUARY FIXTURES**

#### **ASHFORD and DISTRICT YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE**



Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	PTS
1	Sellindge Sports & Social Club U15	9	8	1	0	25
2	Kennington Juniors U15 Youth	12	7	0	5	21
3	Rising Stars Youth U15 (Blue)	8	6	1	1	19
4	Headcorn Juniors U15 Hurricanes	9	2	3	4	9

Sellindge Sports and Social Club under 15's still comfortably at the top of the league.

February 4<sup>th</sup> – Away v Cheriton Utd under 15

February 11<sup>th</sup> – Home v Headcorn Juniors under 15 Hurricanes

February 25<sup>th</sup> – Away v Wittersham under 15

March 4<sup>th</sup> – Home v Rising Stars Youth Under 15



## **SELLINDGE TENNIS CLUB - KENT LTA CLUB of the YEAR 2021**



Sellindge Tennis Club Quiz Night - 11 February – Start time - From 7.00 pm - quiz starts at 7.30 pm – Team numbers - Up to 6 people – Price - £5 pp – Venue - Sellindge Sports and Social Club – Food and beverages - served from the bar  
If you'd like to book a table, please contact Gina. Email - [ginakendall282@icloud.com](mailto:ginakendall282@icloud.com) or text her on 07394 896 796.  
If you don't have a team - sign up and we'll promise to pair you with a clever crowd!



### **The Advantage Tennis holiday camps are back for the Easter holidays 2023!!**

The team of LTA qualified coaches and assistants will lead your child through a fun week of learning and playing tennis. Held at Sellindge TC, participants will focus on a different skill each day: Monday Groundstrokes (forehands and backhands), Tuesday Starting the point, Wednesday Net play, and a fun day to practise all the skills on the Friday. It's a 4-day week (Mon, Tues, Weds and Fri, NOT Thurs), 9-10am for 4-6 year olds 10-1pm for 6-12 year olds and 2-4pm for 12-16 year olds each day. You can book for individual days or a whole 4-day week. Sign up below or call Nick Skelton on 07545 871087:  
<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/adtennis/Coaching/Camps>

## **VILLAGE HALL REGULAR EVENTS**

### **MONDAY**

**RAINBOWS**

4pm – 5pm Main Hall - 01303 812 297 (Term time)

**BROWNIES**

5.15pm – 6.45pm Main Hall - 01303 812 297 (Term time)

**LINE DANCING**

7.30pm – 9.00pm Main Hall – 07753 274 913

### **TUESDAY**

**COFFEE & COMPANY**

9am – 1pm Main Hall

**\*\* NEW \*\***

**LITTLE SELLINDGE SWANS**

**0 to 4 TODDLER GROUP**

1.30pm – 3pm Main Hall

**LINE DANCING**

6pm – 7pm, 7.15pm – 8.15pm Main Hall – 07989 210 449

**PARISH COUNCIL**

2nd Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm Durling Hall –  
Chair 07710 260 751, Clerk 01303 813 271

### **WEDNESDAY**

**GUIDE DOG TRAINING**

10am – 12 Noon Main Hall

**TAI CHI**

2pm – 2.45pm Main Hall

**GET TOGETHER CLUB**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 2pm – 4pm Durling Hall

**KARATE**

4.30pm – 5.30pm Main Hall 01227 370 055 (office hours)

**BEES BODS**

5.45pm – 6.45pm Main Hall - 01303 813 274

**AEROBIC BODY BLAST**

7pm – 8pm Main Hall - 01233 820 109

**ANGEL CENTRE**

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month 7.30pm – 9.30pm Durling Hall

### **THURSDAY**

**PILATES**

9.30am – 10.45am Main Hall

**LINE DANCING**

11.30am - 1.00am Main Hall – 07989 210 449

**TAEKWONDO**

Various classes from 5.15pm Main Hall 01303 814635

### **FRIDAY**

**GARDENERS**

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month 2pm – 4pm Durling Hall 01843 597 710

**CUBS** – 6pm -7.30pm, **BEAVERS** – 6pm – 7.15pm, **SCOUTS** - 7.30-9.00pm,

**EXPLORERS** 7.30—9pm. 01303 813 250. [1stsellindgesg@gmail.com](mailto:1stsellindgesg@gmail.com)

## STOUR DOWNS PARISH Vicar's letter –

February: the shortest month, and this year the month of both Valentines Day and the start of Lent. Both of these make me think of chocolate – giving it as a gift and giving it up.

In the book and film, *Chocolat*, written by Joanne Harris, the central character, Vianne Rocher, arrives in a French village and sets up a chocolate shop across the square from the church. Much to the dismay of the priest and the mayor, she arrives at the beginning of Lent, when they are urging their community to repent and to fast.

One by one, Vianne welcomes the reluctant but curious villagers into her shop, gives them chocolate and hears their life stories, their problems, their pain. And gradually, gently, as the story unfolds, she encourages them to make changes in their lives, to rebuild relationships or move on from broken ones. She welcomes those others reject and treats them with the same love and respect. And the more the church condemns her lack of restraint or respect for the church's teachings, the more people are drawn to her and to one another.

The grumpy grandmother gets to know her grandson and appreciate his talent for drawing, the elderly man after decades musters up the courage to date his childhood sweetheart. The young woman escapes from her violent, drunken husband and a little girl makes new friends. A married couple rekindle romance, travellers are met with a smile and music and dancing are heard on the edge of the village.

Isn't this what the God of love is about: the healing of relationships, the blossoming of love, the helping out of friends in need of a home, the welcoming of outcasts and foreigners, the quashing of prejudice and discrimination? Isn't this what a celebration of Valentine's Day should be about – our demonstrating God's love for each person that says very clearly, 'You are worth it!'

May the God who created chocolate and laughter,  
shared stories and friendships,  
be with you.  
God bless  
Chris

## STOUR DOWNS PARISH – FEBRUARY SERVICES

5 <sup>th</sup>	Mersham	9:30am	Harvest Communion <i>Live- FB</i>
	Brabourne	10.am	Story & Praise
12 <sup>th</sup>	Smeeth	9:30am	Communion <i>and Live-FB</i>
	Stowting	9:30am	Family Service
	Mersham Church Room	4pm	JAM (Jesus and Me)
19 <sup>th</sup>	Brabourne	9.30am	Communion
	Mersham	9.30am	Morning Praise <i>Live -FB</i>
	Smeeth	4pm	Songs of Praise
26 <sup>th</sup>	Stowting	9.30am	Communion
	Smeeth	9.30am	Morning Praise <i>and live</i>
	Monk Horton	4pm	Evensong

## MIDWEEK SERVICES and ACTIVITIES – FEBRUARY

1 <sup>st</sup>	Brabourne	9.30am	Midweek Communion
8 <sup>th</sup>	Mersham	9.30am	Midweek Communion
15 <sup>th</sup>	Brabourne	9.30am	Midweek Communion
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mersham	9.30am	Ash Wednesday Midweek Communion

## THURSDAYS @ St Mary's Sellindge

Coffee & Tea 10am-1pm Lunchtime Soup & Roll Foodbank open