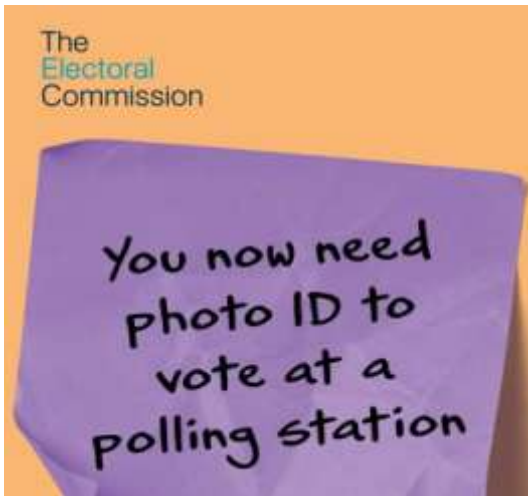


SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS



MARCH 2023

Edition 707



ELECTION DAY THURSDAY MAY 4th 2023

For District Council and Parish Council

Please be aware that the elections for the District Council and Parish Council take place on Thursday 04 May.

For the first time, those voting in person will need to show photographic evidence of their identity such as a passport or driver's licence.

If you don't have any photo id you can apply at

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>

There is no charge for this.

Alternatively you can apply to vote by post and as this is sent to your home no id is required.

The official notice of the election will be published on Friday

March 17th Full information at <https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/local-elections-2023>

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.

Kent Police Surgery – North Downs West

Your district PCSOs will be holding a Community Engagement Meeting on:

15th March at 10AM
This will be held at **Sellindge Village Hall**, Main Rd, **Sellindge**, TN25 6JX



Come and speak to your Community Safety Unit about your concerns on crime and anti-social behaviour.

For news, safety advice and information about policing in your area, visit www.kent.police.uk



Kent Police

Protecting and serving the people of Kent

SELLINDGE FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET in SELLINDGE VILLAGE HALL

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

AGM

The Sports and Social Clubs AGM will be held on **Monday 27th March 2023** at 7pm. We are looking for new committee members so if you are interested or just want to see what is going on, please come along.

CLOCK GO FORWARD 1 HOUR MARCH 26th BRITISH SUMMERTIME BEGINS

Disclaimer – The views are the views of those making the submissions and is not necessarily the views of the Editor or Parish Council

SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

www.sellindge-pc.gov.uk 01303 813 271

clerk@sellindge-pc.gov.uk

The next meeting of your Parish Council is on Tuesday March 14th 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 01303 812 066

susan.carey@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk 01303 670 561

Folkestone & Hythe District Council has been successful in its Levelling Up Fund bid and has been awarded £19.8m for a project in Folkestone which will transform the bus station in Bouverie Square into a green park. Shellons Street will become two-way with bus stops and bays replacing the present bus station and the whole area around Sandgate Road and Guildhall Street will have better signage, improved walkways and more greenery. The Council owns Folca (the former Debenhams building) in Sandgate Road and this will be developed in parallel to offer more public services, retail, leisure and business use. It's important to our whole district that Folkestone thrives as it provides a major shopping area and other facilities for our area. It's been heartening to see the regeneration of the seafront and the artistic quarter over the last decade and this latest scheme will extend the improvement.

The project to install 103 Electric Vehicle charging points in the District Council's car parks is now complete. (It's part of a Kent wide scheme providing over 600 charging points which Susan is responsible for at KCC). The idea is that people can top up their batteries whilst they shop and it's hoped the size of the network will build confidence for people to make the switch to an Electric Vehicle.

The budget meeting for the District Council had not yet taken place as we write this report but we expect to set a balanced budget as required by law on 22 February. We are also expecting the planning application for Phase 1 of Otterpool Park Garden Town to come to the Planning Committee in March. This project has been in preparation since 2016 and as well as homes, public open spaces, employment land, schools and medical facilities, it will provide a future income for the Council and financial security for Council services to all our residents. You can find out more at www.otterpool.org we're happy to talk through the plans with residents.

We're pleased to report that Veolia, the company that collects your kerbside waste on behalf of the District Council, has reduced its carbon emissions by 5% over the last two years. This has been achieved mostly by reducing fuel consumption and installing electric bin lifts on the waste collection vehicles. LED lights and more efficient heating at the depot have also contributed to the drop.

We are also pleased to report that we have supported St Mary's church and the Sellindge Sports & Leisure Club with grants from our ward budget. Each project received £1,000 towards the cost of new flooring. We also awarded £820 for a project at Stowting Primary School to be run by Academy FM our local community radio station.

Finally, please be aware that the elections for the District Council and Parish Council take place on Thursday 04 May. For the first time, those voting in person will need to show photographic evidence of their identity such as a passport or driver's licence. If you don't have any photo id you can apply at

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate> There is no charge for this.

Alternatively you can apply to vote by post and as this is sent to your home no id is required.

We were both unable to attend the February meeting of Sellindge Parish Council but sent reports. We always try to make these meetings and they're a good place for residents to come along (including those new to the village) and give their views as there's time for questions from the public at the start of the meeting.

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Help our Jack Fight Cancer

In September 2021 Jack of 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://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 01303 670 561

There's some really good news to share. KCC has been successful in its bid for a Levelling Up project and has been awarded £45m by the Government for access improvement to the Port of Dover. The works are designed to improve traffic flow with security checks moved further into the port, a doubling of the border control posts, more room created to deal with the freight traffic away from the normal road network and a new exit route. This should help relieve some of the problems caused to the whole of Kent but especially East Kent whenever Operation Brock is in place. The size of the grant is far larger than anything KCC could afford to fund itself and the project is expected to be delivered within the next two years.

KCC has now voted through a balanced budget for 2023/24 with a Council Tax rise of just under 5% which is less than half the rate of inflation that's had to be met over the last year. We will also be making savings, some of which will impact on our discretionary services. As uncomfortable as this will be, the alternative is to have Government commissioners take over, remove even more discretionary services and put Council Tax up by 15% as is happening in Croydon.

As I reported last month, one of the ways we will make savings is by reducing the number of buildings from where we run our community services. The consultation on this is open till 23 March and you'll find it at www.letstalk.kent.gov.uk/community-services-consultation. Please read what's proposed and have your say. (If you sign up to letstalkkent you will be advised of all consultations and you can also sign up to the residents' e-newsletter on www.kent.gov.uk which includes news about when policies and proposals are open for comment.)

There is help available for individuals and families struggling to pay bills (including Council Tax) and a useful place to look is on the KCC website under the 'Kent Together' banner or ring 03000 41 92 92.

I am pleased to report that I have been able to support three projects in Sellindge with my KCC Member grant. They are £1,000 towards replacement of the flooring at St Mary's church, £1,000 for new flooring at the Sports & Leisure Club and £497.07 towards the costs of the new Sellindge Youth Club.

Do let me know if you have a local project that also deserves support.

To finish with some good news about recycling. A national survey by AEG found Kent tops the league for the amount of food waste that's recycled. Kent's food waste is sent to Blaise Farm near Maidstone where it's turned into biogas or fertiliser. It's good to be top but we could recycle even more food waste – with everyone's help. Our audits of household waste show that there's still a lot of food in the residual waste (green lidded) bins and it's often still in unopened packaging. Reduce, re-use and recycle (in that order) helps our environment and thank you to everyone who uses the right bin for each type of waste as it really makes a difference.

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 *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 March 14th from 10.15am to 11.15am.

INDOOR TABLE TOP SALES – At Sellindge Village Hall 9am to 1pm. – Indoor table top sale **Saturday 4th MARCH** 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.

Whist Drive – Whist will be restarting at the Sports and Social club on Tuesday 7th March 2023 7.30pm. We would like to welcome everyone back who used to attend and hope anyone new who is interested will come along for a very friendly game of cards. For information, please call 01303 814 511.

Bingo – Bingo is held at the Sports and Social Club every Thursday starting at 8pm. This is a great night out so please come along and join in the fun. For information, please call 01303 812 437

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



ASHFORD and DISTRICT YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Sellindge Sports and Social Club under 15's still comfortably at the top of the league, a clear 6 points in the lead, there are 8 teams in the league.

March 4th – Home v Rising Stars Youth Under 15

April 1st – Home v Biddenden Under 15

THE SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB –

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.

Tuesday – Whist Drive – 7.30pm

Wednesday – Youth Club for ages 11 to 16 from 5pm to 7pm

Thursday night BINGO – 8pm

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

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

2nd 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

*****NEW*** FRENCH LANGUAGE COURSES FOR ADULTS – 6.30pm to 7.30pm**

AEROBIC BODY BLAST

7pm – 8pm Main Hall - 01233 820 109

*****NEW*** SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSES FOR ADULTS – 7.30pm to 8.30pm**

ANGEL CENTRE

4th 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

3rd 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

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STOUR DOWNS PARISH Vicar's letter –

March brings the celebration of two important Saints days, marked in modern popular culture perhaps by daffodils and Guinness!

St Patrick's day is celebrated on 17 March. St Patrick was born in Scotland or Wales in around 387AD and at the age of 16 he was taken to Ireland as a slave. He remained in Ireland looking after sheep and pigs when he spent much time praying. After 6 years he escaped, stowed away on a boat and returned to Britain. He followed his vocation to become a priest and a missionary and returned to Ireland as the country's second bishop.

Towards the end of his life he wrote Confession which told the story of his life and work. He is remembered for using the shamrock with its clover-like leaves to explain the Trinity.

Dewi Sant (in English, Saint David) has been regarded as the patron saint of Wales since the twelfth century, or earlier. 1 March is officially recognised as the day to commemorate his life and work. It is also the occasion on which people in Wales celebrate their Christian heritage, their distinctive language and affirm their nationhood within the United Kingdom.

Dewi lived in the sixth century and is thought to have died around the year 601. His calling was to be a monk in the austere tradition of the third century Egyptian desert hermits and ascetics. Because he encouraged his followers to bathe in cold water and to drink nothing stronger than water he was also called 'Dewi the Waterman'! He would wade into a cold sea for hours on end because he believed it helped him to become a better person.

Many stories gathered around his memory, the most famous relates how he was once preaching to a large crowd and the ground was said to have risen up under his feet, so that everyone had a better chance of hearing him. It's not surprising that his shrine in St David's soon became a place of pilgrimage, with four visits to St David's considered equivalent to one to Jerusalem and two to Rome! He is best remembered, however, for telling his monks in his last sermon, to 'do the little things' you've seen me doing. 'Be joyful and keep your faith and creed', Dewi Sant urged upon his followers. 'Do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about. I will walk the path that our forebears have trod before us.'

I wonder if, like the examples of St David and St Patrick, there are inspiring figures for you who you might see (or have seen) doing 'the little things' that encourage you? They might be the 'saints' in your life who are great examples of how to live life and bring love, joy or teaching that has changed you. How might we be the examples for others in 'the little things' that we do?

God bless

Chris

STOUR DOWNS PARISH – MARCH SERVICES

5 th	Mersham	9:30am	Communion
	Brabourne	10.am	Story & Praise
12 th	Smeeth	9:30am	Communion
	Stowting	9.30am	Family Service
19 th	Mersham Church Room	4pm	JAM (Jesus and Me)
	Brabourne	9.30am	Mothering Sunday Communion
	Mersham	9.30am	Mothering Sunday Service
	Smeeth	4pm	Songs of Praise
26 th	Stowting	9.30am	Communion
	Smeeth	9.30am	Morning Praise
	Monk Horton	4pm	Evensong

Wednesday Midweek Communions:

1, 15th, 29th March: St Mary's Brabourne 9:30am

8th & 15th March: St John the Baptist Mersham & St Mary's Brabourne 9:30am

ST MARYS CHURCH SELLINDGE

Queen II to King III

We need information and would love your help!!

To commemorate Charles III's coronation in May, St Mary's Sellindge is busily preparing to make a wall hanging from the fantastic church kneelers made between 1975-1980.

Do you know anything about them or the people in our community who made them?

These colourful tapestries were originally made by members of Sellindge to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II's silver jubilee. Sadly, over time these tapestries have become dirty, damp and susceptible to moths and now with congregations preferring to bow their heads rather

than kneel, these beautiful works of art are at risk of being damaged or lost.

So, to preserve these tapestries, it is proposed to remove the work from the kneelers, clean them and re-sew them onto a strong hessian backing in order to display them around the church.

Would you like to help? Would you like to be a friend of St Mary's and find out about the village's history?

At present one can make out the majority of information sewn on the backs; reference as to who has sewn the tapestry, when and to whom the work is dedicated to but sadly there's a number where information has been lost.

There are about 130 ranging from red, blue, green to brown backgrounds with the following surnames that we are able to decipher:

Bamford, Barnes, Barten, Beddy, Binder, Bryant, Buttery, Child, Cloke, Coombes, Daisey, Eastwick, Egan, Filip, Gasson, Godden, Griggs, Hall, Halliwell, Harvey, Hossle, Ibbottson, Jaeger, Jordan, Kenward, Kettle, Liley, Martinez, Mazzetti, Mott, O'Shea, Palmer, Parkinson, Pilcher, Piper, Ralph, Rylands, Small, Starkey, Stichells, Terry, Wetzel, Whittle & Yarnold

If that is your family or friend, do let us know.

You can contact Rev Chris Denyer

01303 761 972 – 07526 688 826 vicar@stourdowns.org.uk



OLD CD REQUEST

If anyone has CDs, DVDs etc that they no longer want, would they just pop them along to the church and leave them inside the main door. I am desperately need them for an installation for Easter and need hundreds upon hundreds!

Many thanks

Lorrain