

# SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

## JULY 2023

Edition 711



### SELLINDGE FC UNDER 15's – ASHFORD and DISTRICT YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The team having won the league for the 2022 / 2023 season have also won the Pilgrims 2023 under 15s tournament.



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

Next Sellindge Farmers & Craft Market is **SUNDAY July 16<sup>th</sup>** Open at 10am to 1pm.  
Check out the Sellindge Farmers & Craft Market Face Book Page for more details.

### SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

**Late start boot fairs 2023** – details inside. **Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 10am**  
Weather and ground conditions permitting. Car £7, Car & trailer or Van £10  
Refreshments and toilets – Free Parking

### SELLINDGE VILLAGE HALL AGM 2023

Tuesday July 4<sup>th</sup> in the Durling Hall at 7pm  
Everyone is welcome to attend.

### COFFEE & COMPANY

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

### SELLINDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### SUMMER FARYE

Sellindge Primary School is holding their annual Summer Farye on the Sellindge School Playing fields  
On Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup>

**Thursdays  
@ St Mary's  
Sellindge**



**10am-1pm  
Coffee, Tea & Cakes**



**Parish Foodbank Open**

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



**Asian Hornet more info inside**

## CONFIRMED SIGHTING OF AN ASIAN HORNET

Around mid-April there was a confirmed sighting of an Asian Hornet, somewhere in the Folkestone area. Asian Hornets are an invasive species, which pose a threat to Honeybees and other native wildlife.



The British Beekeepers Association are urging the public to be vigilant, and report any sightings the easiest way is to download the Asian Hornet App which is available for Android and iOS phones or online at [www.rise.brc.ac.uk/alert.php?species=asian\\_hornet](http://www.rise.brc.ac.uk/alert.php?species=asian_hornet)

**Jenny Hollingsbee, Ward Councillor for North Downs West, F&H D C, (Conservative).**

[Jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:Jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) Mobile 07887 918 458 Twitter @jennyhollingsbee

It has been quite a different start to the new political term with a Green/Liberal Democrat Administration supported by Labour. Cllr Jim Martin, the new Leader, confirmed the current plans for Princes Parade have been cancelled, but has yet to say how the funding already spent will be dealt with – there was no announcement about replacing the existing Hythe Swimming Pool. Further details on Cabinet appointments and announcements can be seen on the website [www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](http://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

I have been elected as Leader of the Conservative Group, I am a member of the Planning & Licensing and the Personnel Committees. I do not know yet whether I will continue to be a Director of the Otterpool Park LLP: I very much hope to continue as it is an important project in a large part of our Ward. At the recent ‘Otterpool Gallop’ including family runs, a 5K and a 10K run held at the Racecourse, I presented the medals and prizes to the winners. For further information and to sign-up for regular news on the Otterpool project, please see [www.otterpoolpark.org](http://www.otterpoolpark.org)

The Ward Budget Scheme is now open and the application form can be found on the website [www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](http://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) – search for ward grants. We have £3,000 per Councillor to help support community organisations throughout the Ward.

On 16 June I visited the Grove Park housing development site to raise some of the issues residents have contacted me about and Quinn took on board all the points of concern and will be addressing them and advising affected residents accordingly.

I recently met our newly appointed Police Constable for the North Downs Wards (East and West), George Brace. Although the North Downs is a large area to cover, he is keen to get out and meet residents and community groups as well as attend Parish Council Meetings, when he can and depending on his shifts. He can be contacted at [George.brace@kent.police](mailto:George.brace@kent.police)

A further reminder about signing-up to ‘My Account’ on the FHDC website. This allows you to report issues, check your details, see any planning applications within 500 metres of your property etc, with other facilities being added all the time.

Some good news for Fishermen, as fishing facilities along the Royal Military Canal in West Hythe will be improved thanks to Environment Agency funding as the District Council has been awarded £4,000 for 15 new angling platforms between West Hythe Dam and the foot of Lympne Hill as part of the 2023/24 Fisheries Improvement Programme. They will replace the existing platforms which have fallen into disrepair.

Work started last year on making the district’s social housing stock more energy efficient. Funding from Wave 1 of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF), and match funding from Folkestone & Hythe District Council has allowed us to ensure that more than 120 properties benefit from improvements which will help tenants keep their homes warm in winter and cool in the summer more efficiently. Further funding of £2.6M has been agreed under Wave 2 of the SHDF. The funding will be matched by the council bringing the total spend on improving the homes and wellbeing of tenants to £5.2 million. The new grant will continue the work begun last year under Wave 1 of the SHDF and will enable F&HDC to improve the energy efficiency of a further 300 homes over the next two years.

## **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 July 11<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.

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

My District Council colleague, Jenny Hollingsbee and I attended Sellindge Parish Council on 13 June where we gave our reports and answered questions. I'm repeating some of my report here for the newsletter.

Back in 2021 KCC made a successful bid to Government for a grant for schemes to reduce energy costs and carbon emissions ranging from replacing lights, installing double glazing, heat pumps and solar panels on the roofs of our buildings. By far the largest project on our list was the purchase of a large solar park (21 MW) followed by the building of a smaller (3MW) solar park on one of our closed landfill sites. The grants had to be spent within 7 months which was impossible, but we were determined to make good use of this opportunity and when the solar park we intended to buy in Kent was cancelled we found another one that met the grant criteria in North Somerset. The site, known as Bowerhouse 2, covers 94 acres and has 39,256 solar panels built on stilts so that the land can still serve as flood alleviation.

Bowerhouse 2 has been generating carbon free electricity for around a year now and going through a commissioning process to check for defects. It's now reached its full capacity and on 09 June, KCC Leader Roger Gough and I had a tour of the site and I cut a ribbon to mark the successful completion of the project. KCC contributed £1.4m to the purchase of the site and the balance of £14.5m came from the grant. In its first year of operation, it has produced £2.8m and (when energy prices fall as they are expected to) it is expected to make at least £1m a year for the next 40 years as well as provide a rebate on our energy costs. This is very welcome at a time when we have to make £55m of savings this financial year and yet more thereafter.

One of the 300+ services funded through your Council tax is Kent Scientific Services (KSS) which provides the scientific and calibration work needed to support Kent Trading Standards to check that goods sold in Kent are safe and properly measured. KSS is one of the services that's not often seen but which keeps us safe and catches crooks.

On 05 June the Kent Scientific Services laboratory in Kings Hill, West Malling was visited by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak to announce a nationwide crackdown on the marketing and sale of vapes to those under 18. It's illegal to sell vapes to children but some unscrupulous retailers have been giving free samples to children to encourage them to become future customers. With their brightly coloured packaging and sweet like flavours, vapes can be attractive to children. The free sample loophole is being closed.

More generally KSS has been testing vapes on sale in Kent for dangerous ingredients such as lead and Kent Trading Standards (another KCC service) is undertaking targeted enforcement action.

KCC plans to hold a number of public consultations over the next few months and the best way to take part is to register via [letstalkkent.gov.uk](http://letstalkkent.gov.uk) We will be asking for views on the 2024/25 budget which may seem very early indeed but the intention is to have savings plans more fully developed by the time of the budget meeting in February 2024.

Do please take part as this is the consultation to help us decide which services to prioritise.

**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 Main Hall, Sellindge Village Hall on **Tuesday July 11<sup>th</sup> from 10.15am to 11.15am.**

## 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.

## THE SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB –



Every Sunday – ***NEW SUMMER MENU COMING SOON***

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 Thurs, Fish and Chips, Fri takeaway & local delivery available.  
Open 9am Saturdays and Sundays serving Breakfast Rolls & full menu.  
Tuesday – Whist Drive – 7.30pm  
Wednesday – Youth Club for ages 11 to 16 from 5pm to 7pm – Thursday night BINGO – 8pm

**Late start boot fairs 2023** Weather and ground conditions permitting.  
Car £7, Car & trailer or Van £10  
Refreshments and toilets – Free Parking.  
All Boot Fairs start at 10.am Please do not arrive early  
**July 15<sup>th</sup>, August 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, September 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

### OPENING TIMES

Monday	3pm – 7pm
Tuesday	3pm – 9pm
Wednesday	3pm – 9pm
Thursday	3pm – 10pm
Friday	3pm – 11pm
Saturday	9am – 11pm
Sunday	9am – 6pm

**Closing times subject to change**

## SELLINDGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

The Gardeners meet in the Durling Hall in Sellindge Village Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month (**July 21<sup>st</sup>**) meetings commence at 1.45pm for a 2pm start and end at 4pm.  
New members are most welcome.  
Teas Coffee & Refreshment, Plant Displays, Competitions, Occasional Talks and Discussions, Quizzes, Coach Outing to Famous Gardens and Raffles.  
More information contact Valerie Wilton on 01303 814 331.

## 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 – Clerk 01303 813 271

### **WEDNESDAY**

**GUIDE DOG TRAINING** 10am – 12 Noon 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  
**FRENCH LANGUAGE COURSES FOR ADULTS** – 6.30pm to 7.30pm  
**AEROBIC BODY BLAST** 7pm – 8pm Main Hall - 01233 820 109  
**SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSES FOR ADULTS** – 7.30pm to 8.30pm

### **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)



**Sellindge Village Hall**

Halls available for hire.  
Meetings, Clubs, Parties,  
Wedding receptions etc

01303 813250 [sellindgevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:sellindgevillagehall@gmail.com)

## STOUR DOWNS PARISH Vicar's letter –

There is a poem called "Love is Like Owning a Dog", which I've heard read at two weddings that I have officiated at in this parish – a more unusual and wonderful way of capturing the sense of what love is like, and all the more touching if you are familiar with owning a dog.

It is said that we are a nation of dog owners, and the number of walks with four-legged companions of all shape and sizes that I see happening each day throughout the day on my travels around the parish certainly bears testament to that. I would say it is also evident in the outpouring of affection for our late celebrated neighbour Paul O'Grady, famous for his love of dogs both on and off the screen.

As a dog owner, it is lovely to be able to meet people whilst out walking the dog- whether they are doing the same or not: quite often people will be more willing to smile or respond to a greeting or conversation when you give it with a dog on a lead. The poem "Love is Like Owning a Dog", has this verse:

*But love makes you meet people wherever you go.  
People who have nothing in common but love  
stop and talk to each other on the street.*

This poem was read recently at the wedding of a local postman in the parish - not out of irony, his new wife (as well as himself) is an animal carer and loves dogs. I used it as the basis for my sermon, and referred to our family dog Lola, an elderly Labrador. Sadly, just two days later my family had to say farewell as she went for a long sleep and passed to the eternal field of endless walks. Lola was a huge part of our family for fourteen years (a constant rock in many changes) and was so loved and loved so much in return.

The poem "Love is Like Owning a Dog" ends with:

*But most of all, love needs love, lots of it.  
And in return, love loves you and never stops.*

Whether or not you are blessed with a four-legged furry form of love, or the treasured memory, we are hard-wired to need to give and receive love and this can be done in so many ways. The poem reminds us that we all need to find that moment to stop and talk and share our common but very differently lived experiences of life, a simple way of showing love and care to our neighbours. It might be on a dog walk, stopping to admiring someone else's 'love on a leash', or simply extending a friendly greeting to a short conversation. Like love, and dogs, we all need others and to share in the passing on of the gift of love.

*God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. 1 John 4:16*

God Bless, *Blessings Chris*

## STOUR DOWNS PARISH – JULY SERVICES

<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Mersham	9:30am	Sunday Communion Service <i>Live feed</i>
	Brabourne	10.am	Sunday Service Story and Praise
	Monk Horton	6pm	Evensong (now moved from 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday)
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	Smeeth	9.30am	Sunday Communion Service <i>Live feed</i>
	Stowting	9:30am	Sunday Family Service
	Smeeth Oak Room	10am	Mini Church for the Under 5s
	Mersham	4.pm	JAM (Jesus and Me)
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	Brabourne	9.30am	Sunday Communion
	Mersham	9.30am	Morning Praise (featuring Open the Book)
	Smeeth	4pm	Songs of Praise
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Stowting	9.30am	Sunday Communion
	Smeeth	9.30am	Sunday Morning Praise
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	Sellindge	9.30am	Sunday Communion

## ARTS AT St MARY'S SELLINDGE

I daresay it may be of interest to the number of kind residence who kindly donated compact discs and DVDs to create the installation which was at St Mary's.

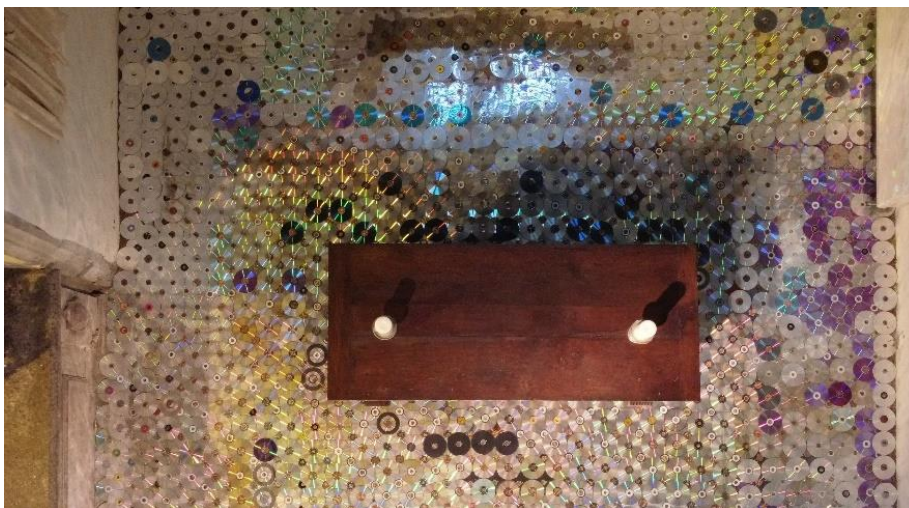
It was possible for anyone to go in and see it as the church is open most days.

But for those that missed it, I have attached a couple of images. I especially like the photographs taken from above, it shows the church in a totally different perspective.

I also took the artwork outside into the old graveyard and attach an image or two.

In some form or other this work will be again on display as part of *Art in the Park*, Victoria Park, Ashford on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August.

Over the summer break, St Mary's will be hosting a series of Cyanotype workshops by Jayne Simmonds a local artist.



And *Our Home*, a couple of exciting FREE family sessions to draw/collage images of their homes, to place on a large village map.

**CYANOTYPE**  
**WORKSHOPS** St Mary's, Sellindge TN25 6EG

Sat 29.7 & Wed 9.8.23  
10-12.30 & 14-16.30

£18.00 or  
Child FREE with an  
accompanying adult

Please email to book your place with Jayne Simmonds:  
jaynesimmonds3@icloud.com

Together you will explore the power and beauty of the botanical world

**Our HOUSE**  
Fun for all the family  
at St Mary's

**Tuesday 8 or 15 August / 10 - 12.00 or 14 - 16.00**

To book your FREE place email - [info@lorrainmaller.com](mailto:info@lorrainmaller.com)  
Bring a picture of your house to create a collage (paper & fabric arranged & stuck down to make an artwork)  
We will provide basic materials - so do bring any additional elements you want to work with  
One of your final pieces will be added to our village community map at St Mary's, opposite Stone Hill