

SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS



DECEMBER 2023

Edition 716

INDOOR TABLE TOP SALES – Sellindge Village Hall 9am to 1pm. Sat December 2nd 9am to 1pm
Many stalls already booked a mix between household stalls and different crafts. Tables are £6 a 6 foot table. Refreshments available to purchase. Parking and entry are free. Book/info contact Jeanette 07753 283 575.



GRAND OPENING!!
Premier
Amazing Value Locally

Sellindge
Your new Premier Store is now opening on the
2nd of December !!
at 12PM

WELCOME

COFFEE HERE!!

MONDAY - SUNDAY
7AM - 10PM
4 ST KATHERINE'S CRESCENT,
SELLINDGE, KENT
TN25 6FW

sellindge23@gmail.com
Sellindge Premier

PayPoint, Mastercard, THE NATIONAL LOTTERY, VISA

THANK YOU!



Sellindge School
Association
Christmas Fayre
2nd Dec 1-4pm

Sellindge Primary School

Grand Raffle, Tinsel Cafe, Elf Post Office, Elfidges
Craft stalls, shopping, games and much more!

Parentkind
Member Association



SELLINDGE
Farmers & Craft
Christmas
Market

Sunday 17th
December
Open from 10am-1pm

Over 25 Food &
Gift Stalls

Seasonal Food - Festive Gifts & Crafts
Local Produce

Village hall,
Main Rd,
Sellindge.
TN25 6JX



St Mary's, Sellindge
Carols on the Green

5pm
Saturday 23rd December
Sellindge Village Green

Followed by refreshments in the village hall kindly
provided by Sellindge Scouts



Free Parking
on Saturdays

9, 16 and 23 December 2023

Folkestone & Hythe

Saturday 2nd - Sunday 3rd December
Christmas Tree Festival: at St John the Baptist, Mersham

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

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN (FOR FREE PARKING)

Residents and visitors can deck the halls in Folkestone & Hythe thanks to a gift of free Christmas parking. Charges in district council car parks and on-street pay and display bays are once again being waived on the three Saturdays leading up to the big day:

Saturday 9 December – Saturday 16 December – Saturday 23 December

Cllr Polly Blakemore – Cabinet Member for Transport, Regulatory Services and Building Control – said: “Our district is home to a wonderful range of independent traders with amazing gift ideas. We hope this initiative will generate even more of a buzz ahead of the Christmas season.

“This time of year is especially important for local businesses and we hope this small present will bring them – as well as our residents – some festive cheer.”

Limited waiting (free) and controlled parking zone restrictions are still in place on the days listed above. This is to ensure people are able to park close to their homes and allow for a sufficient turnover of spaces.

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 December 12th 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.



Sellindge Parish Council held a meeting on 22nd November in the school hall following concerns from many about speed through the village to see whether we could get a Speedwatch team running once more. This meeting was very well attended and we now already have a number that have taken the training and will soon be ready to start.

If you could not get along to the meeting but are interested in being part of the team you can following these details to find out

1. Type <http://www.communityspeedwatch.org> <<http://www.communityspeedwatch.org/> in web browser.
2. Click on the [Register] tab and choose [Registration].
3. Click on [Join Existing Group].
4. Click on [Join Existing Group as an Operator].
5. Choose [Kent] from the pull down and click [Continue].
6. Choose [Folkestone] from the pull down and click [Continue].
7. Now choose [Sellindge Speedwatch Group] from the pull down and click [Continue].
8. Finally complete their details in the registration form and follow the emailed instructions.

Complete your details, Click the link on the email once received to verify your email address and then undertake the training, when you have completed your training, your coordinator will be updated and will then be in touch. (Please check your Spam folder as sometimes emails drop in there).

MOBILE LIBRARIES DATES and TIMES FOR DECEMBER 2023

www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/visiting-a-library/mobile-libraries

Lay By on A20 at the bottom of Swan Lane.

Thursdays – 9.15am to 9.45am on December 7th & 21st

Lay by in Swan Lane at the entrance to Greenfields.

Fridays – 2.50pm to 3.20pm on December 8th & 22nd



Kent Libraries

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.

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 Main Hall, Village Hall on **Tuesday December 12th 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.

F&HDC NORTH DOWNS WEST WARD 🌲

Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee Contact: jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk (*Conservative Party*)

Mobile 07887 918 458  @jennyhollingsbe

Housing Developments in Sellindge – at the Parish Council Meeting on 14 November 2023 I agreed to ask the Planning Team at the District Council if they would attend a Public Meeting to address some of the concerns of residents and to talk about the Core Strategy (Local Plan), Housing Assessment Needs, the current planning applications as well as possible future applications for the Village. The team have agreed to do this, subject to resources being available. This meeting will be planned for the New Year, probably on a Tuesday evening.

Stagecoach Route No 17 – At a recent lunch, I sat next to the Operations Director for Stagecoach and took the opportunity to discuss the No 17 bus timetable. He was quite optimistic that an evening service could be re-introduced with support of additional funding KCC received from Government. He'll keep me updated.

Otterpool Park – The District Council continues to seek a strategic partner for the project in order to bring in additional finance and to 'derisk' the Council. The current project team is undergoing restructure and a new Managing Director will be appointed shortly. As previously stated, I will be following closely as it is important that the Council do not lose control of the development, also that the original Charter is adhered to. Over the last month as well as the Parish Council Meeting, I have attended the Sellindge Sports & Social Club Monthly Meeting, Sellindge Primary School Governors' Meeting and the Sellindge Surgery Patients Participation Group Meeting.

From our Ward Budgets, Elaine & I have supported the Sellindge Under 16 Football Team with £200 each and the Sellindge Bowls Club for essential electrical repairs with £475 each.

Christmas is a time to thank all volunteers and organisations in the Ward for their work and support during the year, and to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

Cllr Elaine Martin Contact: Elaine.Martin@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk (*Green Party*) 🌲

F&HDC have made a successful bid and have been awarded a Safer Streets government grant of £335,546.64. The fund will be used to invest in crime prevention initiatives that focus on reducing levels of crime in the district, anti-social behaviour and violence against women and girls.

There has been a very poor take up of the Folkestone and Hythe Green Business Grant Scheme. The grant helps small businesses to save carbon, become more energy efficient in turn, to save the business money. All the info regarding the scheme can be found on the Folkestone Works website (<https://folkestone.works/>).

F&HDC are continuing their progress in looking for a strategic partner for Otterpool Park. Without this extra funding the development of the project would be in jeopardy. They are only looking to enter into agreements with those partners who have a track record of facilitating development at scale, and a commitment to delivering the Council's vision for Otterpool Park.

An early Christmas present from F&HDC for you; the Free Parking in Folkestone and Hythe District will be back on the 9th, 16th and 23rd December. Plenty of time to buy those Christmas goodies!

Wishing you all a happy, peaceful and joyous Christmas.

KCC COUNCILLOR Susan Carey, Elham Valley Ward. susan.carey@kent.gov.uk 01303 670 561 🌲

Financial challenges continue at KCC and the County Council Network (CCN) which represents 20 county councils and 17 unitary councils in England is making the case for more funding for councils that have social care duties. CCN has also been drawing attention to the exceptional costs faced by councils for transporting children with Special Educational Needs to school. These are issues faced by all County and Unitary Councils not just KCC and, if not resolved, they will undermine the financial stability of local government. The Government's Autumn Financial statement on 22 November will set out the broad outlines of public spending but the financial settlement for each council is only announced just before Christmas. We still expect we will need to make substantial savings and more details of these will start to be published before we agree our budget for the 2024/25 financial year.

There has been no further update on the various court cases concerning Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and the situation remains that KCC is considered responsible for the care of these young people as soon as they arrive in Kent.

Turning to some good news. It was 5 years ago that KCC was first awarded a Gold Award by the Ministry of Defence for our support for veterans and reservists. A recent re-evaluation by the MoD has confirmed an award of Gold - the highest level of recognition. This makes KCC one of only two employers in Kent to achieve the gold standard two times in a row.

KCC's Country Parks have also been winning awards. Brockhill Country Park in Saltwood was named the Country Park of the Year for the sixth consecutive year and gold awards went to Lullingstone, Shorne Woods, Trosley with Pegwell Bay awarded Silver in this year's South and South East in Bloom Awards.

Storm Ciaran hit the south coast of Kent hard at the start of November. There were 100 emergency drainage problems as well as 573 emergency calls concerning fallen trees and other problems on the roads. A wind speed of 78mph was recorded near Dover. Kent Highways teams were out in this dreadful weather dealing with the problems and there have been many messages of thanks from those affected. We now face winter weather and Kent Highways gritters have already been out and will continue to run whenever road surface temperatures are predicted as falling below zero. The grit bins have been refilled across Kent and there's a map of where they are located on the KCC website. Do please report potholes on the website or to the call centre the number is 03000 41 81 81 (emergency outside office number 03000 41 91 91) and keep a note of the reference number in case the problem needs chasing.

I attended Sellindge Parish Council meeting on 14 November and support the call made there for a public meeting with the District's Planning Officers to explain what is happening with the many planning applications coming forward in Sellindge.

Should you know of anyone in need, remember KentTogether can provide help and advice and is available online at www.kent.gov.uk and by phone 03000 41 92 92. Thank you to all in the village who help with the parish council, the school, the church, the Sports & Leisure Club and all the many activities that make a community.



*My best wishes
to you all for
Christmas
and the
New Year.*



THE SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB – 🌲

www.sellindgesportsclub.co.uk 

Every Sunday – **The Sunday Roast is back !!!**

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

Thurs Pizza nights, **Fri** Fish and Chips, takeaway & local delivery available.

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

Monday – Crafty Crafters – 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

Tuesday – Whist Drive – 7pm

Wednesday – Pilates — 9.30am

Wednesday – Youth Club for ages 11 to 16 from 5pm to 7pm – (Term time) **Thursday night BINGO 8pm**

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



We have these coming up soon, please don't forget to book in advance, use the number for the clubhouse on picture or text 07876 794323 to book your tables 🌲🌲🌲

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES AT THE CLUB

Christmas Eve – 12 Noon to 6pm *** Christmas Day – 12 Noon to 2pm ***** Boxing Day – Closed**

New Years Eve – 12 Noon to Late * New Years day, Jan 2nd & 3rd Closed * Jan 4th 3pm to close

SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB Under 16's Football Club 🌲

The Under 16's Football team 2023 / 2024 season Fixture list December.

| | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---------|
| Saturday December 2 nd | Away V Mersham U16 – | KO 10am |
| Saturday December 9 th | Home V Wye Juniors U16 Spitfires – | KO 10am |
| Saturday December 16 th | Away V New Romney U16 – | KO 10am |
| Saturday January 6 th 2024 – | Home V SC Passmove U16 Black – | KO 10am |



SELLINDGE LADIES FOOTBALL CLUB 🌲

Sellindge Ladies Football Club play on a Sunday afternoons at 2pm they compete in the Southeast Kent Women's League in Division one.

Fixture list December.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Sunday December 10 th | Away V Aylesford Ladies – | KO 3.30pm |
| Sunday December 17 th | Home V Faversham Strike Force – | KO 2pm |
| Sunday January 14 th 2024 | Home V Castle Colts – | KO 2pm |



Village Hall Weekly Events

MONDAY

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--|
| SUPERSTRIKERS | 9.30am -10.30am | Main Hall www.superstrikers.co.uk |
| 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 – 9pm | Main Hall – 07753 274 913 |

TUESDAY

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| COFFEE & COMPANY | 9am – 12.30pm | Main Hall |
| MOTHER & BABY GROUP | 1.30pm – 3pm | Main Hall |
| LINE DANCING | 6pm – 7pm, 7.15 – 8.15pm | Main Hall – 07989 210 449 |

WEDNESDAY

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| BABY MASSAGE & TUMMY TIME | 10am – 12.00 Noon | Durling Hall |
| BEES BODS | 5.45pm – 6.45pm | Main Hall - 01303 813 274 |
| AEROBIC BODY BLAST | 7pm - 8pm | Main Hall - 01233 820 109 |
| LANGUAGE CLASSES | 6pm – 8pm | Durling Hall |

THURSDAY

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| TINY TALK | 10am – 11am | Durling Hall |
| PILATES | 9.30 – 10.45am | Main Hall |
| LINE DANCING | 11.30am - 1am | Main Hall – 07989210449 |
| LANGUAGE CLASSES | 6pm – 8pm | Durling Hall |
| TAEKWONDO | Various classes from 5.15pm | Main Hall 01303 814 635 |

FRIDAY

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| RUGBY TOTS | 9.15am – 10.15am | Main Hall |
| 1 st SELLINDGE SCOUT GROUP Both Halls | CUBS - 6 -7.30pm, SCOUTS - 7.30-9.00pm, 01303 813 250. 1stsellindgesg@gmail.com (Term time) | BEAVERS - 6.00-7.15pm, EXPLORERS 7.30—9.00pm. |

Village Hall Monthly Events

TUESDAY

| | | |
|----------------|--|----------------|
| PARISH COUNCIL | 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm Parish Clerk 01303 813 271 | Durling Hall – |
|----------------|--|----------------|

WEDNESDAY

| | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------|
| GET TOGETHER CLUB | 2 nd Wednesday of the month 2pm – 4pm | Durling Hall |
|-------------------|--|--------------|

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

| | | |
|------------|---|-----------|
| TABLE FAIR | 1 st Saturday of the month 9am – 1pm | Main Hall |
|------------|---|-----------|

SUNDAY

| | | |
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| FARMERS MARKET | 3 rd Sunday of the month 10am – 1pm | Main Hall |
|----------------|--|-----------|





Stour Downs Parish Brabourne, Mersham, Monks Horton, Sellindge, Smeeth & Stowting Churches

Rev Chris Denyer 07526 688 826 / 01303 761 972 / vicar@stourdowns.org.uk

Rev Susan Manners (Curate) 01233 500 414

www.stourdowns.org.uk also on Facebook

STOUR DOWNS PARISH Vicar's letter – 🌲

Dear all,

Do you have a favourite Christmas Carol? One you remember from when you were a child, you love to sing. This year the Church of England invites us at Christmas to "Join the Song".

At Christmas we have Carols and one of the great things about those Carols is they help us tell the story of Christmas, to rehearse the well-known story of Jesus birth. There is something about singing together which helps us feel happy, it is widely recognised that singing in a group is good for our mental health. It brings us joy and listening to people singing and brings joy to others.

So, this Christmas why don't you join the song as a family, a group of friends or come and join us at one of our organised events. We have Beer and Carols at the Dukes Head in Sellindge on 15th December at 7:30pm or on the village green at 5pm on Saturday 23rd December so why don't you come and join the singing.

In Sellindge church we will also be having a crib service at 6pm on Christmas Eve so come along and join in the story. Come along to one of these events and 'join the song' and remember what Christmas is really about. Too often it feels like the world around instead invites us at Christmas to Join the commercialism...

Invites us to spend, to stress, to worry...

But, being invited to join the song is an invitation to discover in the words of the carols we sing the story of what is behind Christmas - the true meaning.

Join the song is a Celebration of that story.

--- Rev Susan and Rev Chris

Beer & Carols
With St Mary's, Sellindge at
The Duke's Head, Sellindge
7:30pm on Friday 15th December

St Mary's, Sellindge
Carols on the Green
5pm
Saturday 23rd December
Sellindge Village Green

Followed by refreshments in the village hall kindly provided by Sellindge Scouts

The complex block contains two event posters. The top poster is for 'Beer & Carols' at The Duke's Head, Sellindge, on Friday 15th December at 7:30pm. It features a glass of beer with a Santa hat on top. The bottom poster is for 'Carols on the Green' at Sellindge Village Green on Saturday 23rd December at 5pm. It features a festive background with snowflakes, a lantern, and snow globes. Both posters include the 'Follow The Star Join The Song' logo.

Christmas Eve
Crib Service
6pm
St Mary's, Sellindge

The poster for the Christmas Eve Crib Service at St Mary's, Sellindge, on 6pm. It features a dark blue background with silhouettes of palm trees and a stable scene with a manger. The 'Follow The Star Join The Song' logo is in the bottom right corner.

**Advent & Christmas 2023
in the Stour Downs Parish**



Saturday 2nd- Sunday 3rd December

Christmas Tree Festival: at St John the Baptist, Mersham

Sunday 3rd December

Christingle: 10am at St Mary's, Brabourne

Evensong with Advent Carols: 4pm at St Peter's, Monks Horton

Sunday 10th December

Carol Service: 4pm at St John the Baptist, Mersham

Carol Service: 6pm at St Mary's, Stowting

Sunday 17th December

Lees Court at Christmas: 4pm at St Mary's, Smeeth

Carols in the Pub: 6pm at the Five Bells, Brabourne

Saturday 23rd December

Bringing Light to Loss: 3pm at St John the Baptist, Mersham

Carols on the Green: 5pm at Sellindge village green

Nine Lessons and Carols: 7pm at St Mary's, Brabourne

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

Communion & Carols: 9:30am at St Mary's, Stowting

Crib Service: 3pm at St John the Baptist, Mersham

Crib Service: 4pm at St Mary's, Smeeth

Carol Service: 5pm at St Peter's, Monks Horton

Crib Service: 6pm at St Mary's, Sellindge

Midnight Communion: 11:30pm at St Mary's, Brabourne

Sunday 25th December Christmas Day

9am at St Mary's, Smeeth

10am at St John the Baptist, Mersham

December 2023

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 3rd December Advent Sunday | Mersham 9:30am Communion Live-Stream | Brabourne 10am Christingle | | | |
| 10th December Advent 2 | Smeeth 9:30am Communion Live-Stream | Stowting 9:30am Family Service | Mersham 4pm Carol Service | Stowting 6pm Carol Service | |
| 17th December Advent 3 | Brabourne 9:30am Communion | Mersham 9:30am Christingle | Smeeth 4pm Carols Lees Court | The Five Bells, Brabourne 6pm Carols | |
| Saturday 23rd December | Mersham 3pm Bringing Light to Loss | Sellindge 5pm Carols on the Green | | Brabourne 7pm Nine Lessons & Carols | |
| 24th December Christmas Eve & Advent 4 | Stowting 9:30am Communion with Carols | Smeeth 9:30am Morning Praise | | | |
| | Mersham 3pm Crib Service | Smeeth 4pm Crib Service | Monks Horton 5pm Carols | Sellindge 6pm Crib Service | Brabourne 11:30pm Midnight Communion |
| 25th December Christmas Day | Smeeth 9am Christmas Day Communion | Mersham 10am Christmas Day Communion | | | |
| 31st December 1st Sunday of Christmas | Sellindge 9:30am Communion for the 1 st Sunday of Christmas | | | | |