



The Wheel

**10% off all food, at any time,
on any day in November**
Maximum 4 people (not including children)
All locals, on production of the Eye

2nd November - Steak Night

10th November - 1st Anniversary

23rd November - 7pm Pub quiz -
Quiz £2 per person, cash prize

30th November - Pie Night

Contact: 01233 712223
info@thewheelinnwestwell.uk



THE WESTWELL EYE

189

November

2018



2nd November
5th November
12th + 26th November
13th November
23rd November

10.30am Coffee in The Wheel - all welcome
7pm Parish Council - Parish Hall
1.30pm Art Group - all welcome
11am Book Club - The Wheel - p13
7pm Quiz - The Wheel

November 2018

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
2 All Saints 8am Holy Communion Messy Church	3	4	5	1 Re.FT 9.15am Pilates	2 10am Iona Eucharist 10.30 Coffee Wheel	3
4	5 7pm Parish Council 7pm Fitness	6 7.30pm Players	7 11am Fistssteps - Dance as U Go	8 R.F.W 9.15am Pilates 7.30pm WI Meeting	9	10
11 Remembrance Sunday 10.45am Remembrance Service 2pm Players - Parish Hall	12 1.30pm Art Group 7pm Fitness 8pm Players	13 Book Club - p13 7.30pm Players	14 11am Fistssteps - Dance as U Go	15 Re.FT 9.15am Pilates	16	17
18 2nd Sunday before Advent 11am Family Service	19 7pm Fitness 8pm Players	20 7.30pm Players	21 11am Fistssteps - Dance as U Go	22 R.F.W NO Pilates	23	24
25 Christ the King 11am Eucharist 2pm Players - Parish Hall	26 1.30pm Art Group 7pm Fitness	27 7.30pm Players	28 11am Fistssteps - Dance as U Go	29 Re.FT 9.15am Pilates	30 5pm Set up Bazaar	Dec 1 Christmas Bazaar

From the Editor's desk...

Another lovely warm month – what's in store for us this winter?!

Have you visited the church yet to see the waterfall of poppies and read all the information about Westwell and WW1, if not you must, it's very interesting; thank you Heather.

Do read the Westwell Players piece on page 10, it gives you information on how to order your tickets and even a bottle of wine!

There is an update on lorry parking on page 16.

The Charing Cubs experienced sleeping rough. 29 young people and 5 leaders from Charing slept out with hundreds of cubs and scouts from Ashford to draw attention to the problem of homelessness.

You can also read about the importance of the 'flu jab, page 9.

Thank you to all contributors who got their copy to me in time for me to put this issue to bed early.

Make a note in your diaries **1st December Christmas Bazaar.**

Photographs on front page

Left: Berries and Kestrel taken by Val Butcher.

Right: Sun rise over card board city! Poppy waterfall

Carolyn Thorneloe 

The views of any contributor to this publication may not necessarily be those of the editor and team, nor can the Westwell Eye accept any responsibility in connection with any companies or organisations mentioned or any advertiser.

Correspondence to: Carolyn Thorneloe, Gaoler's Retreat, 5, Faversham Road, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent ME17 2PN. Tel: 01622 859376, Email: westwellye@gmail.com

COPY DEADLINE - 20th of the month

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE WESTWELL EYE

Classified ads from £3 p/issue - Business block ads from £60 p/year.

Prices include free design, illustration and layout.

Copy & payment to be received by the 20th of each month.

Payable to:- The Westwell Eye, either direct to bank or cheque

Sue Wood, 14, Sandyhurst Lane TN25 4NS

Would you like to receive the Westwell Eye but don't live in the area?

You can now receive it every month by post. For an annual subscription, simply send the editor your name and address and pay £8 to Sue Wood, cheque payable to The Westwell Eye

Printed by Print Junction - 01233 624462 - info@print-junction.co.uk - Drum Lane, Ashford, TN23 1LQ

Useful Contacts

Telephone Numbers

Age UK	642094
Ashford Volunteer Bureau	633219
Bees (swarming)	
Andy Bithell	740650 / 07933892413
Borough Councillor:	
Larry Krause	01233 643497
CAB	626185
Carers Support Group	664393
Childline Freephone	0800 1111
Cinema	0871 2208000
Citizens' Advice Bureau	626185
Cruse Bereavement Counselling	878225
Doctors (Charing)	01233 714490
(Hayesbank)	624642
Dog Warden	01233 330340
Hospital (William Harvey)	633331
KCC Community Warden for Hothfield, Charing and Challock, Dave Beckley	0797798199
CROP	01622 851200
Library (Ashford)	03000413131
(Charing)	713177
MS Therapy Centre	01227 470876
NHS Direct	0845 4647
NSPCC	0800 800500
Parish Hall Booking	01233 712016
doriscackett@btinternet.com	
Parish Council (clerk, Sue Wood)	623902
Pilgrims' Hospice (Admin)	504100
(Patient enquiries)	504112
PCC Secretary (Heather Lister)	712981
PCSO	lee.sinden@kent.pnn.police.uk
Samaritans	610000
Shopmobility	621196
Solicitor (Thorneloe & Co.)	01622 859416
Victim Support	0845 30 30 900
Water Supplies Queries	0333 000 0002
Water Leak Line	0333 000 3330
Wealden Wheels	01233 840000
Westwell Community Website:	
http://www.westwellpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/	

AZ CARING SERVICES



For all aspects of care and support work,
Daily and Live In
please contact Arthur and his team on
07552 766428
email: arthurzvik@hotmail.co.uk.
Excellent local references

Oil Boiler Service

established 1987

Family friendly business
Professional, efficient service



For servicing, breakdowns and
commissioning contact: P&V Quenby Ltd
01227 760428 www.oilboilerskent.co.uk

CHIROPODY & PODIATRY

+Nail cutting
+Corns +Verruca
+Hard skin Ingrown nails
+Community group talks
+On-site group Chiropody visits

Podplus Shop & Clinic
Julie Rose Stadium, Ashford, TN24 8NG
01233 660 851 www.podplus.co.uk

NHS Public Events to Explore Potential Options for Change in East Kent

The NHS is holding eight public events to discuss potential options for changing hospital and local care services in east Kent.

At these events, doctors and other NHS leaders will discuss with local people: the benefits change could bring; how services outside hospitals are developing to maximise the care people get locally; how the two options for hospital services might affect people across East Kent; the next steps towards public consultation.

Caroline Selkirk, Managing Director of the four NHS clinical commissioning groups in East Kent*, said: "This is the next step in conversations we've been having with staff, patients and the public over recent years about why change is needed to health and care services in East Kent and how services could be improved.

"We have done a great deal to respond to what people in East Kent have told us they need, such as access to more appointments with GPs and nurses, including in the evening and at weekends; joining up care for people with the most complex conditions; and starting to hold more outpatient clinics in local communities.

"We have also been looking in depth at two potential options to improve hospital services in East Kent.

"These informal meetings with local communities, ahead of any formal public consultation next year, are a chance for local people and organisations representing patients to hear more about our work so far, and to help us understand the potential impact of the options we are currently looking at. We want to continue to gather a range of insights on the latest phase of our work. What people tell us will be considered by the joint committee of East Kent clinical commissioning groups, before it decides whether both potential options for changes to hospital services go forward to public consultation." If you cannot make it to the events, there will be more information about the proposals added to www.kentandmedway.nhs.uk/eastkent shortly and an online survey will be open from mid-October.

You can register for one of the events online at www.kentandmedway.nhs.uk/eastkent.

Alternatively, you can email info.eastkent@nhs.net or call 01622 211940 to reserve a place
***Wednesday 31st October**, 9.30am registration. 9.45am – 12.45pm. Club Room, Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford TN23 1RD

***Thursday 15th November**, 6.15pm registration. 6.30pm – 9.30pm Holiday Inn (Ashford Central), Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford TN24 8QQ

Contact:- Amanda Crawford, nelsu.media@nhs.net NEL CSU 03000 424499

STOP PRESS

Westwell Lane temporary closure at Tutt Hill

Tutt Hill is having mains gas replacement work from 26th November to 14th December and access to the A20 will not be possible through Tutt Hill. The works are taking place outside the the small whiteboard Cottages half way up Tutt Hill, and diversions will be put in place.

TO LET

TO LET

TO LET

TO LET

TO LET

We are an Independent Residential Letting and Property Management company based in Ashford, Kent.

Established in 2004 Classic Lettings has grown to become a leading Residential Letting Agency in Ashford, the surrounding villages and the wider Kent area.

We offer Letting Only, Rent Collection or Full Management services.
Give us a call for a chat and see how we can help with your investment property.

Your property investment in trusted hands



Classic Lettings
Residential Letting Agent

01233 623534
info@classiclettings.co.uk
www.classiclettings.co.uk


CURTAINS

CUSHIONS

ROMAN BLINDS, ETC

01233-713130 07788-600262

DAWNLEONARD63@BTINTERNET.COM



SOFT FURNISHINGS
WINDOW TREATMENTS FOR BEAUTIFUL HOMES

Country Funerals



Ashford's only independant Funeral Directors

For a caring 24 hour service contact Leah Hutchinson

01233 712222
07708407229



Pre-paid funeral plan available
Yonderway, Westwell, Ashford, Kent TN25 4LE

CHIROPODIST

CHRISTINE GRIFFITHS
MSSCh MBChA
HPC reg

FOOT CLINIC
Mon - Sat including evenings
Home visits available
Tel: 01233 664702
07958 328525




Suzie's Care Service

Personal Care and Support

Sitting Service

Transport to Dr's and Hospital

Housekeeping



07581 013899 / Suzieusher12@gmail.com



Thorneloe & Co.

Solicitors

Now part of Hallett & Co

Based in Lenham, we provide a
friendly, high quality, personal service tailored to your specific needs.



For you and your family.....

- * Wills, Probate and Tax Planning
- * Trusts and Estate Administration
- * Lasting Powers of Attorney
- * Family Law and Employment Law
- * Buying and Selling Your Home
- * Court of Protection
- * Dispute Resolution / Property Litigation
- * Personal Injury

For you and your business....

- Agriculture
- * Commercial Property
- * Buying or Selling a Business
- * Business Contracts / Finance
- * Employment Law
- * Dispute Resolution / Property Liigation

01622 859 416

Lenham@Hallettandco.co.uk www.thorneloe.co.uk

St Mary's House The Square Lenham Kent ME17 2PH
Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Registered Number 50485



carpets direct

SELECTA TWIST

40oz WOOL TWIST
MADE FROM 80% PURE
NEW BRITISH WOOL

£19.95

sq.m
INCLUDING FITTING

VISIT US TODAY AT
SELECTA HOUSE
CHARING HILL
CHARING
KENT TN27 0NL
8AM - 6PM MON-FRI
9AM - 5PM SATURDAY

CALL 01233 714 999

CARPETSDIRECTCHARING.CO.UK

CARPET

WOOD

LAMINATE

VINYL

Lorry Parking Update

Those of you who live on or close to the A20 will be wondering whether we are back to the bad old days with traffic noise all night. This is actually the diversion from the M20 for night closures so that Highways England contractors can make progress with turning the west bound M20 hard shoulder into a 4th lane for “hard shoulder running in emergency”. This is not the same as the smart motorway conversion that is going on further up between junctions 5 and 3. The hard shoulder running work is being done as part of Brexit contingency planning. The idea is that Highways England and Kent police could work out a way to run traffic both ways on the west bound carriageway; two lanes each way - hence the 4th lane to make this possible. The East bound carriageway could in this contingency be used as a lorry park: two lines of parked trucks with one lane in the middle to move them forward selectively. This would operate on the 14 miles between junctions 8 and 9 with managed crossovers before the junctions to use the existing and entrance slip roads. We are suffering night disturbance while this is being made possible by a 4th lane.

The day time disruptions are occurring because there have been rather a lot of accidents - vehicles getting caught in the narrow lanes while this work is going on. It is said there have been over 50 accidents; as the road is particularly busy with HGV's the accidents sometimes take several hours to clear.

Through all this the overnight lorry parking ban and clamping trial for the 5 miles of the A20 from Drovers to Charing is continuing. The clamping teams are out. There are always more lorries in October. It is important to always remember it is a overnight parking ban. During the day lorries can park, and do, for their short breaks. The trial was discussed at the Joint ABC/KCC transport meeting recently and there is a strong commitment to it continuing. It is seen as a success and as a model of what could and should be done in other parts of the country that are HGV traffic hotspots. All three elements are important: the community demand for action; the provision of lorry park capacity and the well organised enforcement. ABC, KCC and the Department for Transport are all involved.

ABC are willing to turn out for another community meeting, it is important we maintain our active interest, look out for Westwell events and Westwell facebook for the next meeting at the Hare and Hounds. We will try for November, but it may be later. *Christine Drury*

Godinton House and Gardens



Winter Art Fair

30th November - 2nd December

10.00am - 4.00pm, free admission

Local arts, crafts and paintings will be on sale in the Great Hall and Old Billiard Room. Chat to artists from Ashford's Visual Artists (AVA) whilst browsing for that unique gift.

01233 643854

www.godintonhouse.co.uk

**ADVERTISE
IN
THIS SPACE**



WESTWELL WI

Regrettably the speaker that had been booked for this month was unable to attend, so we were very fortunate to have a young lady fill the gap.

Shakira, the 16-year-old daughter of our secretary Tracy, is working towards a silver arts award parts one and two for UCA in Canterbury. As a part of this she has to deliver a photography workshop to a group of people, so we benefited from her endeavours.

The workshop was entitled 'To Be or Not to Be a Photograph'. We were first shown some examples of her work in which she had experimented with moving light and long exposures. Shakira then showed us some of her photographic montages whereby a large picture is cut up and stuck back down on a plain sheet of paper, but with overlapping to create a variety of effects. This was what we were going to do ourselves. From a large photograph of flowers we each created our own picture and it was surprising how the same photograph could be treated in a similar way yet turn out differently.

Shakira showed herself to be a very able and confident young lady who will go far in her studies and future career.

For the benefit of those who had not been able to attend our quiz night, a member gave a report, telling of the fun that was had, and the quizmaster was thanked for putting together a well-balanced quiz (Phew! - as quizmaster I always worry that members will hate me for making it too hard!)

Members were reminded about our Centenary Dinner next month and our Carol Service on 4th December (is it really that close to Christmas?)

The competition was for an amusing memory of WI from the past, and Mary-Anne Pitt won with her photos of a past event, *Catherine Hazelden*

Next Meeting: Thursday 8th November.

This will be our **Annual Meeting** but we will also have

Work of the Children's Courts by Judge Richard Scarret

Hostesses: Mesdames Pat Warren, Ros Williamson and Pat Westhead

Vote of thanks: Teresa Wood

Competition: Most words from 'Bonfire Night'



1st Charing Scout Group



I am sending this as we get ready to spend the night sleeping out in cardboard boxes.... Madness perhaps, but we are doing our bit for homelessness week. The wind is getting stronger as I write.

Our scouts are camping in Gilwell Park, the home of scouting.

November brings us to Remembrance Day and the service at Charing Church. Our young people have made hundreds of poppies which are being displayed in the waterfalls of poppies in Westwell Church. It is a spectacular sight and well worth a visit.

The Gardening Group at Charing Surgery

When we last reported on the gardens at the Charing Surgery, we had just been to Sarah Raven's garden in Sussex, which resulted in us re-thinking the grasses planted on the apex of the bank opposite the Surgery's main entrance. The group greatly admired the *Molinia Caerulea* *Arundinacea* 'Transparent,' so the decision was made to place five plants on the top of the bank in November 2017. Although young, they are just beginning to resemble those at Sarah Raven's, and will be a lasting remembrance of our 2017 outing. This year, a new rose (Hot Chocolate) will remind us of our 2018 outing to Pashley Manor.

Like most gardeners this summer, the low rain fall made it a hard year for both flowers and vegetables. Somehow, we had a good display of roses and not too bad croppings of tomatoes, beans and potatoes. This being our first year with the green-house, we were lucky enough to have been donated a number of cucumber plants, which gave us an excellent crop.

We are very grateful to all who take time to thank the gardeners, the group love to know that their hard work is appreciated and that it brings pleasure to so many. It is always lovely to talk to members of the public and patients at the surgery as they pass by.

We have again entered the Kent Wildlife Trust Community Gardens Competition. The judges visited us in early July, yes right in the hottest part of the year! The gardens were looking very sad, with plants just about surviving, but we were reassured by the judges that we were not alone as most gardens were in the same position. We have again been awarded a Silver Gilt medal for 2018. The Parish Clerk in Charing had entered the village in the South East in Bloom Competition, and as part of his tour, the judge was shown our gardens. His comments were very encouraging, and he suggested that we should enter the category for Community Gardens. To our delight, the Charing Gardening Group was awarded the Royal Horticultural Society Neighbourhood Award of Level 5 - Outstanding.

The Gardening Group always welcomes new members, whether you are green fingered or not. There is no obligation to commit to every week, or even to all of the three hours the group meets every Tuesday between 9am - 12noon.

Finally, just a little reminder that the Group is always happy to receive spare tools, in particular:- Garden forks/spades, Pruning saws, Loppers, Automatic vents for greenhouses would also be great!

Please contact Jo'Anne Munro on 01233 713582 for more information or to donate items.

Heather Lister

A big Hearfelt Thank You To Heather Lister for such a wonderful tribute to our fallen (poppy flags) and those who survived (sunflower flags) the Great War – 1914-18. Have you all seen the boards in the Church with so many details about our ancestors who lived in our beautiful village during this conflict – the details are awesome and so interesting? If you haven't already been into the Church to see this marvellous effort please try and pop in at any time as the Church is still open during the day. You can also see the poppies loving made by Heather herself and her team of helpers (all kept going with cups of tea or coffee and delicious home made cake or special biscuits) the Charing Scouts have contributed in a big way too with boards full of their lovely creations, some of which are on the cross too. Do make time to admire Heather's labour of love as we remember those who lived so long ago. *Anonymous*

Kilby's Chimney Sweep

All Types of Fires and Stoves
Swept Using Brush and Vacuum

Pots, Cows
and Birdguards
Supplied and Fitted.



07756 007428 / 01233 840948

ICS Registered - Fully Insured
Certificates Issued

Airport Transfer & Chauffeur Service ETM Cars

Competitive Prices

Professional Service

Safe Comfortable Journey

Bottled Water Provided

Free Wi-Fi

Dave Hopper

01233 629551

info@etmcars.co.uk



ANP Security



Supply, install and maintain
security systems, including

Intruder Alarms
CCTV

Free no obligation
survey and quotation

Andy Peddle 01233 224874 - Westwell

KINGSLAND CARPENTRY

Flooring, Doors, Windows

Kitchen and Bedroom Furniture

Quality Bespoke Carpentry and

Cabinet Builds



City and Guilds Qualified

Call Simon (Westwell)

07899 968179/01233 612242

COUNTY PROBATE SERVICES

Easing the Stress of Bereavement

- We are practical and fast and above all sympathetic
- Less costly than banks and most solicitors
- Part of Malcolm Horton Chartered Accountants Practice so expert on Inheritance Matters and Trusts
- If there is no will can advise on Intestacy
- Free Initial Consultation

Contact: 01233 712112

Info@countyprobateservices.com www.countyprobateservices.com

Accredited by ICAEW C004168781



W
C
W
S

Westwell Community Watch Scheme

Keeping you Safe and Secure
Neighbourhood Watch

The national Neighbourhood Watch organisation has published a report, sponsored by Co-op Insurance into how communities see each other and how a few simple steps can build and strengthen our society.

In his introduction the NHW Chief Executive points out "As a grassroots organisation with 2.3 million member households, our aim is to create safer communities where local people look out for each other."

The report reminds us of how easy it is to be a good neighbour:

Neighbourly behaviour has always been the building block of the community. From having someone over for a cup of tea, to helping out with odd jobs, taking steps to become more neighbourly can make the communities we live in stronger, safer, and happier.

(NHW/Co-op Guide (<https://hub.co-opinsurance.co.uk/good-neighbour-guide/>)

Something we, in Westwell, can be proud of but never complacent about!

Police

As a new "Uni" year starts, living away from home becomes a new experience for many of its students. Whilst savvy over their use of social media they need be made aware that the fraudsters are just as savvy and will use it to try and trick them out of their money.

The Police ask that, as parents or guardians, part of the "dos and don'ts" package we all burden our fledglings with, should make them aware of the following guidelines to minimise the risk of them being a victim.

Remember:

- Police will never ask you to withdraw money in order to transfer it so "it can be checked", neither would they demand money in order to cancel an arrest.
- Do not be tricked into giving a fraudster access to your personal or financial details no matter who they say they are; protect your information and have the confidence to question and refuse unusual requests.
- If you have made a payment to someone claiming to be the police or government department, and you think you might be a victim of fraud, you can report it to Action Fraud any time of the day or night using our online fraud reporting tool. You can also get advice about fraud or cyber-crime by calling 0300 123 2040.
- If you are a student you can ask your Student Union or University for advice, help and support.

Visit: westwell.community.watch@gmail.com

Also indicate whether you would like to get Westwell Events news including updates from the Parish Council

Keep Vigilant - Tony Bartlett - WCWS Co-ordinator

Shear Pawfection Mobile Pet Grooming Service

No mess, no stress.

I require 2 parking places +
hook up to power

New customers £5 off
ref: Eye10



07592 779502

info@shearpawfection.co.uk

Facebook

www.ShearPawfectionMobilePetGroomingSpa

Simply Gardens



General Garden
Maintenance
One off or Regular

Andy Jenner
07584060447

info@simplygardensashfordkent.co.uk

Proud members of

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

French Polishing Furniture & Antique Restorations

**Some Upholstery Repairs
Old Furniture Refurbished**

**Gordon Forster
35 years experience**

**01233 712665
07973440309**

www.rga-forster.co.uk
gordon@rga-forster.co.uk



B & B in Westwell The Lodge - at Glebe Cottage



Self Contained Annexe,
Twin Room, Ensuite Shower,
Continental Breakfast

£60pn,

<https://www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/13655402>

Ring Geraldine Bortoli
01233 713919/07852 271886

High Quality Painter and Decorator

for all your domestic needs



David Farnfield
**Excellent Westwell reference
available**

www.davidfarnfield.com
07710 130275/01233 750450

PARISH HALL RENTAL

Would you like to hire the Westwell Hall
for your next event? Equipped with:-
Full Catering Facilities,
Stage with lighting and Piano

Rates from - £8 per hour

Table and chair hire also available
(to take away)



Please contact:

Doris Cackett (01233) 712016
doriscackett@btinternet.com



Letter to the Parishes

Greetings from the Rector

November is a month of contrasts in terms of the church calendar. We enter through the celebration of All Saints Day on November 1st but almost imperceptibly we move into All Souls Day on November 2nd where we commemorate the faithful departed. A few days later, people will gather in churches all over the country to take part in services of Remembrance as we remember those who have died in past and present conflicts. November 26th ushers in the celebration of Christ the King as we worship Jesus risen, ascended and glorified before returning once again to the beginning of the church calendar with Advent Sunday. These milestones in the church's year remind us that we are a community of pilgrim people, travelling together on a journey, learning, sharing, supporting and rejoicing.

In 2014, I began my Remembrance Day Sermon with these words: "On 3rd August 1914, Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey, explained to the House of Commons why Britain was now obliged to go to war. Returning to the Foreign Office he worked at his desk till dusk. Looking up from his desk at the Foreign Office on the evening of 3rd August 1914, Sir Edward Grey, Foreign Secretary, saw the man outside his window lighting the gas lamps in St. James's Park. Aware of the inevitability of war, turning to his companion he said "The lamps are going out all over Europe and we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime". During these last 4 years, we have observed anniversaries of some of the major battles of World War 1, the Somme, Passchendaele, Ypres to name but a few, our reflections fuelling our regret and remorse but maybe also leading towards a new resolve. On 11th November this year, we approach another anniversary, the end of World War 1. How shall we acknowledge this? We cannot and must not forget the past, but we cannot remain in the past. We can allow the past to inform the future but to do so we must step boldly out of the past and resolve to create a future build on peace. But how do we do this, when the carnage of the past revisits us in the many conflicts currently affecting our world, Syria, Israel, Yemen, Democratic republic of Congo, Afghanistan, Iraq to name just a few.

In the 2018 Reith lectures, historian Margaret MacMillan asked if war was an essential part of being human. God created human beings in his own image, male and female he created them. Surely this suggests that war was not part of the original design of our peace-loving creator. And yet, as early as the 4th chapter of Genesis we witness Cain killing his brother Abel in cold blood. There is little doubt that war is a complex concept and to offer simplistic answers to these questions does not do justice to the subject. However, I am certain that God calls all his children to be peace-keepers and peace makers and I urge us all as did the Apostle Paul in his correspondence with Timothy "to pray for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."

Sheila Cox 

Church Cleaning Rota.

Cleaning. Sarah Scarratt
Flowers. Rosemary Heddle
Brass. Valerie Hooper



Etc

Dates for diaries

December 1st Bazaar

Coffee at The Wheel Inn

Coffee at The Wheel, **Friday 2nd November** from 10.30 - 11.45am. All welcome.



Charing History Society

8th November Smarden, A Village in Kent speaker Martin Brooks. Historically Smarden's wealth was based on wool, the production of Broadcloth and the cheaper Kersey cloth which was mainly used for everyday clothes of the working people. Martin will be giving us the history of this important Weald village and telling us of the interesting people connected with Smarden.

WAGS – Westwell Art Group

12th November, with a tutor subject 'A Snowy Scene'
26th November.



Book Club October 2018

Exposure, by Helen Dunmore. This is one of the writer's thrillers. Taking place in England of the early sixties and reminiscent of The Railway Children. Cold war at it's greyest and the climate seems to be grey as well. A man who works at the Admiralty takes a Secret Dossier home. We don't quite know why. Later that evening he has an accident after drinking one too many, falls and breaks his leg, ends up in hospital. Worried the file would fall into the wrong hands, he asks an old friend/lover to get it from the flat and place it back at the office. Things don't go as hoped, the second man ends up leaving it at his home, gets arrested and imprisoned and his wife has to deal with the repercussions and turns out to be a very clever teacher indeed, with fantastically-behaved children and they move to live in Kent!

The story is very readable, most of our group enjoyed it, though not quite of Le Carré standard. Our only disappointment was that our friend Joan Hazell did not make it as we had been promised. She and Peter were on a fleeting visit but his back problems stopped them coming to Kent. So we enjoyed a lovely cake made by Stuart's mother intended to celebrate Joan's birthday, on our own with a coffee. Lovely meeting at the pub, as always. Next book 'The Things I could not Tell my Mother', by Sue Johnston, **November 13th**, and for **December 11th** 'Before the Oil', by Susan Hillyard, a memoir about Abu Dhabi. Happy reading, as always.

Christmas Bazaar - Help needed

The coffee morning was well attended and we have come up with some new ideas.

There will be *a gift stall* instead of bric a brac and a few new and exciting stalls. We are looking for any *volunteers* to help set up on the Friday, run stalls and clear up.

We are also looking for

Raffle and Tombola prizes, any unwanted gifts preferably still in their boxes,

Homemade Cakes and other delicious goodies, *Jams and Chutneys* and anything Christmassy to get us in the festive spirit.

Can anyone play the *piano* or any other instrument? Please come and play for us, we love a Christmas tune.

All are welcome for Christmas shopping, and fun and delicious bacon sandwiches. Maybe a surprise visitor will appear for the children!

Many thanks and

please contact me if you are able to help.

Looking forward to seeing you all .

Penny Knatchbull

07976 522908 / 01233 714983

pennyknatchbull@gmail.com

Parish News

Westwell Church Services for November
www.g7benefice.org

Friday 2nd

10am Iona Eucharist

Sunday 4th: All Saints

8am Holy Communion

Sunday 11th: Remembrance Sunday

10.45am Remembrance Service

Sunday 18th: 2nd Sunday before Advent

11am Family Service

Sunday 25th: Christ the King

11a.m Eucharist

9am Charing – The Eucharist

7pm Charing Heath – Prayer and Bible Study

Family Church in November

Messy is dressing in the Armour of God to fight the good fight this month, celebrating Saints and Heroes. **4th November** 3.30 - 5pm in the Parish Hall. All Welcome for Crafts, activities, songs and prayers all round a bible theme.

Family Church on **18th November** has service as its theme.

This month's coffee donations go to Help for Heroes.

Westwell Remembers has achieved its aim of showing how WWI impacted on the village with 43 flags showing households impacted by the war, following names on the Roll of Honour. Poppies show where men died and sunflowers indicate men who served and returned to the village. Some flags have several sunflowers showing that several family members fought. There will be a "There but not There" soldier in the Wheel from early November. Do look for it when you visit.

I've learnt lots of interesting facts, identified family members and talked to lots of people about their relatives and the Great War.

The flags will be up for a while longer and the display will remain in church at least until mid November. The church will close except for services or special requests after Armistice day until Easter so get in and visit whilst you can!

Confirmation

It is the turn of the G7 Benefice to host the service. Bishop Trevor Willmott will be coming to the benefice on Sunday 25th November to conduct a Confirmation Service. The service will take place in Charing Church at 4pm. Although we may not have any candidates this time from the benefice, it would still be good if you could be present to welcome members of the deanery churches, and also to offer hospitality. If you are able to make a cake, offer some savoury finger food your offerings would be gratefully received.

A Time to Get Ready".

Advent is a time of preparation, of reflecting on the birth of Jesus Christ and looking to His second coming. Advent services often feature candlelight, a reminder of Christ the Light of the World, and hymns that suggest waiting and hoping. As well as all the morning services taking place in each church in the benefice (see list of Services for details) there will be an ecumenical service at Charing Methodist Church at 6pm. All are welcome.

Bishop Trevor Announces His Retirement

The Rt Revd Trevor Willmott, Bishop of Dover and Bishop in Canterbury, has announced his intention to retire in May 2019. He has served in this role since February 2010, taking on additional responsibilities for the Channel Islands in 2014. Bishop Trevor will conclude his public ministry on 12th May at Canterbury Cathedral.

There will be an opportunity for the Diocese to say farewell to Evensong in Canterbury Cathedral and a reception afterwards on 11th May. Bishop Trevor will then conclude his public ministry by celebrating Holy Communion and preaching in the Cathedral on Sunday 12th May. Further details will be made available in early 2019.

Don't Put Off the Flu Vaccination –

It's Free Because You Need It

Flu vaccination is part of the Stay Well This Winter campaign, a joint initiative from NHS England and Public Health England, supported by Kent County Council, to help the public ward off common winter illnesses.

Flu is a highly infectious disease and can lead to serious complications if you have a long-term health condition like COPD; bronchitis, emphysema; diabetes; heart, kidney or liver disease or have suffered a stroke. Flu on top of health conditions like these can easily develop into something very serious and could land you in hospital. People with these and other long-term health conditions are eligible for a free flu jab through their GP or pharmacist.

Pregnant women, children aged two and three, as well as school children from reception class through to year five, are also eligible for the free flu vaccine. For eligible children, the flu vaccine is not an injection, just a quick nasal spray.

Kent County Council's Director of Public Health, Andrew Scott-Clark said: "Flu can be horrible for little children, and if they get it, they can spread it around the whole family. Children who get the flu have the same symptoms as adults – including fever, chills, aching muscles, headache, stuffy nose, dry cough and sore throat. Some children develop a very high fever or complications of flu, such as bronchitis or pneumonia and may need hospital treatment. The flu vaccine can help protect you from flu and also reduce the chance of flu spreading to others."

If you have a child aged two or three, get them vaccinated against flu with the free nasal spray flu vaccine from your GP. School children from reception class through to year five will get their vaccinations through their school.

Pregnancy naturally weakens the body's immune system and as flu can cause serious complications for you and your baby, pregnant women who get the flu may be less able to fight off infections, increasing the risk of becoming ill. The flu jab is the safest way to protect you and your baby against flu and you can have it at any stage of pregnancy, however fit and healthy you might feel.

Over the coming weeks, KCC social care workers will also be have the flu vaccine. KCC Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, Graham Gibbens, has taken up his invite for the flu jab. He said: "To ensure robust protection across the community, the flu vaccination will be offered to frontline health and social care workers including those caring for patients in nursing and residential care homes.

"This invite is also going out to health and social care workers offering direct patient care in the voluntary managed hospice sector, as well as clients living in long-stay residential care homes or other long-stay care facilities where rapid spread of infection is likely. If you are eligible for the flu vaccine get it now – it's free because you need it. Contact your GP, pharmacist or midwife to get the flu jab." For more information, visit

www.nhs.uk/staywell and

www.kent.gov.uk/winterhealth





Westwell Players

Players rehearsals are going well and we have some really exciting news in that we have purchased our new wardrobe and props container at a reduced price and from a Westwell home, the sleepers for it to rest on are on order and we should have it on the field in a month's time which is a great relief to all our members. Well done to Neil and the team who have managed to organise this and special thanks to Christine Drury, Chairman of the Parish Council who has helped to make our dream a reality, we are all so grateful. Another exciting happening is the new arrangement for ticket sales for our next show. We are already down to only 20 left for Thursday and people are managing the new technology really well so - another plus. To those of you who have not yet ordered your tickets please go to www.westwellplayers and you will have some options, double click on Ticket Sales and fill in the form, you can even order a bottle of wine to be delivered to the nearest window sill to your seat number! You can also read all about the show 'Fly Me' which is a romp through an airport, an aeroplane, and an hotel in Spain, we have lots of sticky situations and with laughter all the way so please come and see us at the beginning of December – **Thursday 6th, Friday 7th and Saturday 8th December, at 7.30**, Please arrive promptly at least by 7.15 to get your drinks at the bar and purchase your raffle tickets and be ready for **Curtain Up!!** There is also some songs for you to listen to or sing along to and we hope – something for everyone although it is not really suitable for very young children. See you in the Hall!

Mary Anne Pitt

November 11th in Westwell – 100 years on

You may by now have seen the very moving poppy trail through the village to commemorate those who served – the white pennant with a poppy denotes someone who went to war and did not return, a yellow marker with a sunflower shows who went and survived to come home. Inside the church there is the War Memorial which lists the names of Westwell's fallen, and a display giving the names of all who served together with some background information. You can also see a poppy waterfall, inspired by the tribute at the Tower of London, comprising over 700 poppies and flowing from the window in the north wall. In addition there are the three silhouettes, 'There but not there', a poignant reminder of those who did not come home. The church is open every day until November 11th, do please go and see these tributes.

On November 11th there will be a Service of Remembrance in St Mary's Church at 10.45am, during which the 2-minute silence will be observed at 11am, marking exactly 100 years since the guns fell silent.

Later in the day Westwell is taking part in the international commemoration: 'Battle's Over'. Throughout the country Beacons of Light will be lit – Westwell's will be lit at 7pm signifying the light of peace that emerged from the darkness of four years of war. The church bells will ring out at 7.05pm, 'Ringin' Out for Peace'.

Planning applications

The following application will be discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council:
18/01466/AS 35 Sandyhurst Lane, Westwell Erection of single-storey outbuilding at the rear of the garden for incidental and home-office use.



Kent Wildlife Trust : November



Autumn is well underway; fruits and nuts have either been eaten, or stored away for an animal's winter supply. This is the perfect time of year to go looking for signs of wildlife, and get some idea of the wildlife that is around you.

The best place to start is under a hazel tree, where the multi stemmed branches will hopefully have produced a good crop of hazel nuts. If you search on the ground you can find the empty shells that the small mammals will have discarded after munching all the insides.

With a bit of practice you can tell exactly who has been eating your hazel nuts

Species	Description	Picture of Hazelnut
Grey Squirrel	The majority of nuts are gobbled up by squirrels, with the shell split in half or roughly bitten off. Squirrels are not very subtle, and will quickly crack the nuts in half with their powerful jaws.	
Wood Mouse	Neat hole with parallel teeth marks on the edge of the hole, and messy teeth marks on the surface of the shell. These small rodents can take up to 20 minutes to get into a hazel nut.	
Bank Vole	Round hole, with neat parallel teeth marks on the edge of the hole, but no teeth marks on the surface of the shell.	
Dormouse	Very neat hole, with teeth marks on the shell running at an angle to the hole. The dormouse is the rarest of these mammals, and unlike the others hibernates over winter, so doesn't need to store food for the winter (apart from in its tummy!)	

Woodpeckers and nuthatches If you find a hazelnut jammed into a tree, is likely it was put there before being pecked by a woodpecker or nuthatch.

As with most nuts, the outside shell is not nutritious, and the animals have to work hard to get at the tasty insides. What does the hazel tree get out of this? Most of these small mammals need to store food for the winter and some of the nuts are hidden away. If they are forgotten about, a new hazel tree will germinate from the hidden nut.

If you would like to know more about small mammals and the other work that Kent Wildlife Trust is involved with, please visit our website www.kentwildlife.org.uk or call 01622 662012