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# THE WESTWELL FEE

163 September 2016



*Getting ready for the fête:  
How to put up a gazebo!*

**8th September**  
**10th September**  
**17th September**  
**25th September**  
**30th September**

**Charing History Society**  
**Ride and Stride, p13**  
**10am Big Breakfast at The Wheel**  
**Classic Cars at The Wheel**  
**Macmillan Coffee Morning, p6**

## September 2016

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Oct 2 Trinity 15 11am Family Worship St. Mary Westwell	3	4	4	1 R.F.W.G 9.15am Pilates No Dog training	2 10am Eucharist 10.30 Coffee The Wheel	3
4 Trinity 15 11am Family Worship St. Mary Westwell	5 1.30pm WI Painting 7pm Parish Council Parish Hall	6 7.30pm Players' read through	7 11am Over 50s Fistssteps	8 Re.F.T 9.15am Pilates 10.30am Dog training 7.30pm WI	9	10
11 Trinity 16 11am Iona Eucharist St. Mary Westwell	12	13 11am Book Club The Wheel 7.30pm Players' casting	14 11am Over 50s Fistssteps	15 R.F.W.G 9.15am Pilates 10.30 Dog training	16	17
18 Trinity 17 8am Holy Communion St. Mary Westwell 3 - 5.30pm Messy Church Parish Hall	19 1.30pm WI Painting Parish Hall 7pm Total Body Conditioning	20 7.30pm Players' rehearsal	21 11am Over 50s Fistssteps	22 Re.F.T 9.15am Pilates No Dog training	23	24
25 Trinity 18 11am Eucharist St. Mary Westwell	26 7pm Total Body Conditioning Parish Hall	27 7.30pm Players' rehearsal	28 11am Over 50s Fistssteps	29 R.F.W.G 9.15am Pilates 10.30 Dog training	30 Macmillan Coffee Morning WI Quiz	Oct 1

## From the Editor's desk...

Christine Drury has asked me to give a huge thank you to everyone to contributed to making the Westwell Fête another great Westwell day. Results will be published in the October Eye. but I think we should all thank Christine for all the work she did to make the fête such a success.

A singing course for men is taking place again this year, see page 5; also on page 5 there is a piece about the gardening group at Charing surgery which might interest those registered at the surgery who are not already members.

Charing History Society is back after the summer break, see page 16. You can read about the Macmillan coffee morning and the re-opening of the Yellow Fisherman on page 6.

Get out your bikes (or dust off your walking boots),and take part in the Kent churches Ride and Stride day on 10th September, see page 13, in fact that is the page to see various other goings on in the village.

Many thanks to Val Butcher (the 'official fete photographer'), her friend, whose name I don't know, and Leah Hutchinson for providing the photos.

Thank you to all of those who responded to my plea for punctuality last month, it made bank holiday weekend less frantic, but inevitably there are those who were still late and I plead with them to help my sanity!

*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.

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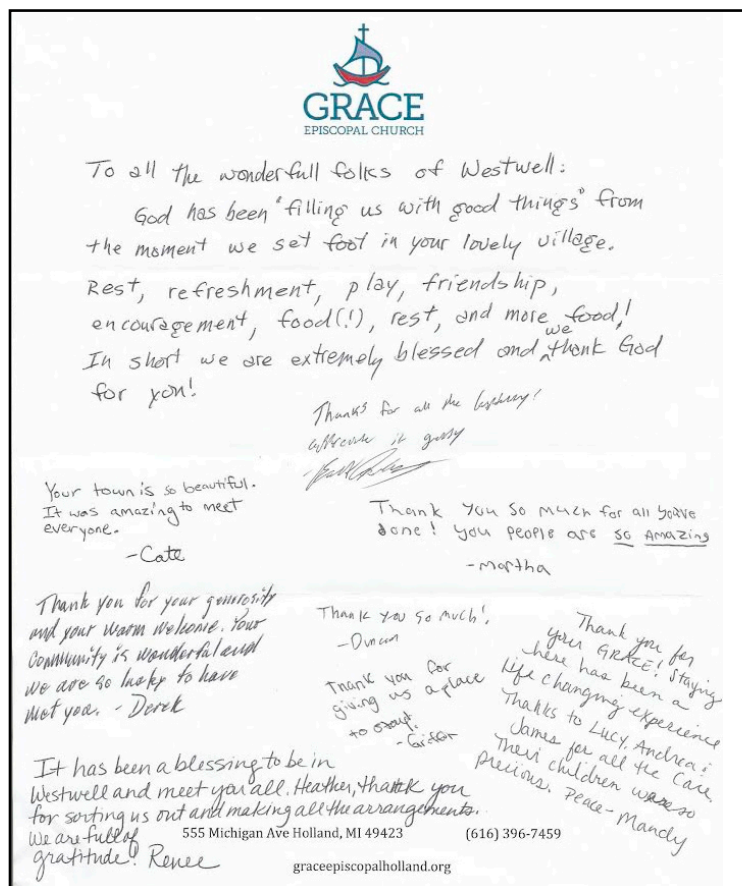
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## Grace Pilgrimage

A group of 10 pilgrims from Holland, Michigan; 4 leaders and 6 students aged 13 to 17 enjoyed time in Westwell on Wednesday 10th August. Leaders Renee, Derek, Mandy and Pastor Phil from the Grace Episcopal Church in Holland escorted Maddy, Martha, Cate, Brock, Duncan and Griffin. They flew into Edinburgh on Saturday, they slept in Lindisfarne and then in Durham before coming down to Kent to follow the Pilgrims Way to Canterbury. They spent the night in the Parish Hall, thanks to the Hall committee who offered a special rate, and enjoyed the hospitality of local families; Irene Gray, Lucy Farrington, Mary Penwarden and Saskia Leigh-Pemberton helped with showers; Julie and Ron Spicer and the Charing Scout group supplied mattresses and pillows. Christine and Jolyon Drury, Larry Krause and Sue Starkings and local well wishers helped pay for their stay. They were welcomed by Heather Lister and Sheila Cox who led a service of blessing on Wednesday evening. The Wheel Inn did its best to slow them down with a wonderful supper and full English Breakfast before they left on Thursday morning. They went on their way to Chilham after a short service in our church, St Mary, which has seen generations of pilgrims passing towards Canterbury since it was built in the 10th Century and offers its peace to all people passing through nowadays. The Pilgrims had a wonderful time and sent us a letter of thanks seen below. **Heather Lister**



## This is the 25th in the series

### Who do you know who has counted peas for a living and created one of the most iconic toiletry products?

Born in Cirencester, our mystery guest's Dad was a lorry driver at the local gravel pits. His Mum was Welsh, he was an only child. He went to Cirencester Grammar school.

In Sports, the school made him play rugby but wouldn't allow him to play football which he would have preferred. One of his hobbies was model railways. He thought he might go into agriculture and at 15 had a holiday and weekend job when he drove a tractor, ploughed and helped milk 20 cows. He became an Altar server at a local church for 3 years.

He attended Sheffield University studying Botany, Zoology and Chemistry. His transport then was a red Lambretta Scooter. He supported Sheffield Wednesday football team and during summer vacations worked at Batchelor's Food Factory in Sheffield in the Quality Control department. It was at this facility that they invented 'Surprise Peas'. In QC he counted the number of peas pricked by machine. He became interested in Folk Dancing at the University and in 1962 met a girl from the Teachers Training College and asked her to dance - romance blossomed....

In 1963 he graduated with a General BSc degree. First job was back to Unilever at Colworth House in Bedfordshire in the Research Labs - developing new machines to put skins on sausages. He remembers an intrepid trip to Birmingham in the snow on his scooter with his girlfriend on the back. In 1965 they married in Bury. As a wedding present, her mum gave them a Minivan registration TEN 30 (closing time!).

They lived initially in Rushden in Northants. but after only 6 weeks he had a job interview for PPL in Ashford and he got a job as a trainee Perfumer. They moved to Hamstreet.

Their first daughter was born in 1969. Two weeks later he was sent to Bombay for eight

weeks to work with Hindustan Lever.

They moved to Brendan Drive, Ashford, and their second daughter was born in 1971.

As a Family they were seconded to USA in 1975 for almost 5 years, living in New Jersey, 35 miles North of NY city. They took the opportunity to travel widely in the USA visiting San Francisco, The Grand Canyon, Yosemite etc. They often flew up to Niagara Falls for the day when they had UK visitors.

Returning to the UK in 1980 they moved to Westwell. He was a member of the Parish Council for 15 years.

At work he was responsible for developing toiletries and soap fragrances including Lux and Knights Castile. He developed deodorant fragrances and earned worldwide patents. This was used in 'Shield' and 'Lifebuoy' soaps in the 1980s, later Rexona and Sure deodorant.

He travelled the world in his job visiting Bangkok, Japan, Indonesia, Australia and South Africa. In 1976 Unilever sold the company to ICI and it became 'Quest'.

He helped develop odour calming fragrances, using electrodes on the head to measure effect of the odours on the brain. This technology was used in products like J&J's Bedtime Bath. He remembers meeting Princess Diana when she came to open a new building at Quest. His main hobby has been video filming since 1985. He has filmed over 50 Westwell Players productions, and made a video of The G7 Churches in 2008.

Despite early retirement in 2002 he worked as a consultant for 6 years and continued to visit Indonesia and Brazil to develop local fragrances for shampoos and soaps.

Now retired, he and his wife enjoy cruising for holidays including Alaska and Greenland, Norway, Indonesia and the Mekong River in Cambodia.

One Daughter has lived in Australia since 1997; they have two Grandchildren in the UK. He and his wife celebrated their Golden Wedding in 2015



## Community News

### Useful 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 and Charing - Dave Beckley	07811 271306
CROP	01622 851200
Library (Ashford)	620649
(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	angie.burden@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
Wheel Inn (landlord James Meire)	712430
Westwell Community Website:	
<a href="http://www.westwellpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/">http://www.westwellpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/</a>	

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## Charing and District Local History Society.

Meetings are held in the Parish Hall, Station Road, Charing TN27 0JA. The lecture starts at 8pm. Annual Membership: £9 for adults, £8 concession for senior citizens and a joint family fee of £15. Full time students are free. Non-members: £3 per meeting.

**8th September speaker: Rod LeGear *Underground Kent***, a look at the types of underground sites in the county from the simple deneholes to large mines, shelters and cold war bunkers.

## Downs View Cottages

If you see a skip on Downs View green it's there to service work about to be carried out on cottages in Downs View by Ashford Borough Council. So as to put right slippage of the concrete slabs and improve insulation, the cottages are to be reclad with a render finish. Afterwards they will be repainted

## Plans

KC/AS/0065/2016 Tarmac Works, Watery Lane, Westwell A decision is awaited from KCC  
16/00519/AS 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 Downsview Cottage, Westwell Lane, Westwell  
A decision is awaited from ABC  
16/00980/AS 1 Malthouse Cottage, Westwell Lane, Westwell A decision is awaited from ABC

Mystery Guest  
revealed:

David Hooper



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check out: [www.eastkentchorus.com](http://www.eastkentchorus.com)

## The Gardening Group at Charing Surgery

Since our last article, the vegetable sections of the garden have proved to be very productive and rewarding for the gardeners. We have harvested kale, garlic, carrots, courgettes, beans and more, and are beginning to think of ways that we could market surplus produce next year! We have saved one planting area for rhubarb, if anyone plans to divide their own rhubarb this autumn, we would be very grateful for any spare plants.

The new wildflower section had a slow start, but provided a good talking point, with some mixed comments, from everyone passing by.

In June, the Group received a Gold Award from the Ashford Access Group, in recognition of the easily accessible design of the gardens, which means they can be enjoyed and worked in by people with any degree of disability.

July saw a visit from Andy Garland of BBC Radio Kent's Sunday Gardening programme. He was very interested in the background to the Group, and amazed when he was shown their 'before' and 'after' photos. The interview was broadcast the following weekend, we are hoping Andy may follow this later in the year with an item emphasising the benefits of gardening for our general wellbeing.

We will be developing the area directly opposite the surgery reception doors this autumn and are in need of more help. If you are a registered patient at Charing Surgery, aged 16 or over, and are feeling unsure about what would be involved by being part of the group, please come along for a chat any Tuesday between 9-12, or give Jo'anne a call on 01233 713582.

## Revival of poet's corner, please submit your ditties

### Conundrum

Has anybody noticed

The dearth of gliders

In the skies over Westwell these days ?

Where are they all I wonder?

Is this some preternatural sign?

Or are they simply victims

Of a verbal ground - to - air missile

From Lady Anonyma Philistine?

*Barney Stay*

## Westwell WI

This month we learned about the Mysterious Marsh from Marian Eaton, and what mysteries there are! We first heard something of the history how the marshes were begun by the action of the waves depositing shingle, and by silting of the rivers that flow through it. This was augmented by the building of sea walls and the digging of drainage channels. Marian went on to tell us some of the smuggling tales – when wool was smuggled out of the country to avoid the high tax on wool in the Middle Ages. When the price of wool fell in

the 15th century, the flow of contraband was reversed and brandy and silk, among other things, was smuggled in to the country. We also heard some of the spooky tales – many of which may have been started in the heydays of smuggling to keep people from nosing around too much! Only two competition entries this month; Mary-Anne Pitt won with her very pretty steel decorative slogan and Marilyn Warner brought in a stainless steel christening egg cup and napkin ring.

*Marilyn Warner* 

**Next Meeting:** Thursday 8th September at 7.30pm.

**Members' Night**

**Competition** - Linen

**Hostesses:** June Scarfe, Sue Starkings and Joan Richards

**Vote of thanks:** tba

### Yellow Fisherman.

The Yellow Fisherman at Tutt Hill has reopened!

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### World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

You are cordially invited to join us for a delicious 'Macmillan Coffee Morning' on **30th September** in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support at Westwell Parish Hall from 9:30am until 12noon. Denise, Farrah, Katya and Jane

### Ashford Local Plan 2030

Many thanks to everyone who got in a comment by the 10th August deadline. For those who didn't there are more opportunities to do so. The next stage we expect is that all the comments are posted on the ABC website, after that ABC will publish its response to the comments, including amendments to the Plan. Next update will be in the October Eye, but if there is news earlier it will go on the Westwell Events email. To receive information this way sign up by emailing: westwell.events@gmail.com

If you have any questions contact the Parish Council – Sue Wood .

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## Westwell Players

The Social was such fun, we had four new members who bravely arrived to see what we were like and all went away with smiles on their faces and will be joining 'the team' for "Act Your Age", a brilliant title for our next production. We played some mime games and we drank some coffee and later some wine once Emma had been to retrieve it from our secret store! We also ate some delicious 'goodies' specially baked by Emma, we were really spoiled! Later we read one of the scenes from the Show and realised that it really is a farce and we are going to have to put a lot of work in to get it slick and as funny as it can be! All seemed really keen and as the evening progressed we realised that one of the newbies was there to get some volunteers for a scheme at the William Harvey Hospital where we will be taking the place of some 'dummies' to put a bit of excitement into the medical testing scheme. It sounded like a lot of fun and quite a number signed up to help out! We closed with one of our newcomers playing the piano for us, so a good time was had by all present. Our next Meeting will be on **Tuesday 6th September at 7.30pm** for a full read through and the following week will be the casting meeting and then straight into rehearsals every Tuesday from then on. We are hoping for a good turnout for 6th September so please all come along and let's show Neil some solidarity and real team spirit to put on the best show that we possibly can for our loyal audiences; we have all been watching the Olympics and seen the marvellous spirit that exists – that is the same spirit we have had in the past at Westwell Players and I am hoping, no, I am KNOWING that the same spirit will shine forth again. Up the Players!!

*Mary Anne Pitt* 

### 1st Charing Scout Group

Weeks after The Great Charing Firewalk and the money is still coming in. There is still more promised, but just looking at money in the bank after expenses we have already made just under £5000 profit on the day. This is a fabulous effort!

Many thanks to all who supported by firewalking, sponsoring, donating gifts, running stalls and turning up on the day to make it a very special occasion. The justgiving pages are still open, so if you speak to anyone about the day, especially after our write-up in the Kentish Express, please remind them they can still sponsor our firewalkers: [justgiving.com/1stcharingscoutgroup](http://justgiving.com/1stcharingscoutgroup)

The prize for the most sponsorship money raised went to Gerry Clarkson who is Charing's borough councillor and Leader of Ashford Borough Council. He was one of three firewalkers who sustained mild burns during the firewalk. I'm happy to say all are fully recovered.

The prize for the best dressed firewalkers went to Kent Police who walked in their riot gear (minus boots and shoes)

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*Terry Lister*

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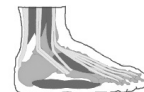
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# Letter to the Parishes

Greetings from the Rector.

“For I’m building a people of power and I’m making a people of praise” – words from the opening of one of the worship songs that became popular towards the end of the last century. It finished with the words “build your Church, Lord, make us strong, Lord, join our hearts, Lord, through Your Son; make us one, Lord, in Your body, in the Kingdom of Your Son”. Fitting words with which to start this greeting as we seek together how we can move forwards in this benefice in the light of fewer ministerial resources and age-related decline in congregational numbers.

Recognising that we have been unable to appoint to the assistant post held formerly by Rev Bob Weldon and knowing that Rev Chris Hodgkins would be leaving us to go to his new post at the end of his curacy, I have frequently pondered this question “What kind of a Church do we want to build?” Before we can answer this question, it is important at the outset to recognise that Church means people, not buildings. In fact, you will be hard pressed to find the word ‘Church’ in the Bible, the words Ekklesia and Kyriakos, sometimes translated as ‘church’, referring to the people of God, those who meet in the name of Christ, in other words, ‘disciples’. The parting words from Jesus to his disciples prior to his ascension into heaven were ‘Go and make disciples’, people who will form the Ekklesia, the gathered followers of Christ who are called to build the Kingdom. So, the questions that face us all at this time as we try to discern God’s leading for the future of the benefice is “What kind of community of disciples do we want to build”, “What kind of worshipping community do we need to be” in order to reverse the trend towards decline and to become a distinctive Christian presence that will bring transformation, healing and hope to the communities we serve? I cannot help noticing that the first Christian community, the first ‘Church’, grew out of a powerful encounter with God at Pentecost. Their meetings, both in the temple and in their homes were characterised by testimonies, vibrant and spontaneous worship, prayer, teaching and ‘the breaking of bread’. Their fellowship and their renewed faith in God led them to attend to issues of social injustice with a genuine concern for the needs of others and ‘day by day’, we are told, ‘the Lord added to their number those who were being saved’. His community of believers had gone back to basics. Their focus was on God, the rules that guided their fellowship were forged out of their relationship with God and with one another. Regulations that had determined their worship and their daily lives until this point were revised, not easily or immediately but often after much discussion and through much wrestling with the various religious leaders and local councils. We have been given the opportunity to seek a renewed vision for the seven churches of our benefice. We have the chance to redefine our identity as communities of Christ’s people. I believe that the Church we are called to build will be: A worshipping community whose true focus is on God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A hospitable community that recognises the barriers that are often created by buildings, liturgy and tradition and are willing to change in order to welcome all. A welcoming community that seeks to build relationships with all people both inside the church building and outside in the community. A loving community that looks out for the lost and the lonely and cares for them. A prayerful community that represents the needs of all people before God and that grows in faith through regular personal and corporate prayer. A missional community that is outward facing and seeks to make disciples and build the Church.

It cannot be God’s will that we continue to stumble on as we are with our often tiny congregations, our reduced clergy numbers, our lack of organists, our inability to fill all the posts required to populate the church councils. Please pray with me for a renewed vision for the benefice and for courage to embrace it

*Sheila*

## Etc

### Future Fund Raising events.

Harvest Supper and Auction of promises  
Saturday 1st October.

Bazaar. Saturday 3rd December.

### Coffee at The Wheel Inn

Coffee at The Wheel **Friday 2nd September**  
from 10.30 - 11.45am. Before coffee there will  
be Iona Eucharist at 10am in St Mary’s



### Gliding Evening

There is a change to the date for the Gliding evening. It is now on **Friday 2nd September**. Enjoy an exciting gliding experience for only £25 each. From 5 pm (may be later - to be confirmed). Bring a picnic supper.

To book your place, call Sue wood on 01233 623902. Proceeds to Westwell Playing Field improvement.

### Fitsteps - Dance as U Go

Fitsteps for the over 50s is back;

**7th September** 11am - 12noon and thereafter every Wednesday morning

### Ride and Stride. Saturday 10th September.

Ride and Stride is an annual cycling event on behalf of Friends of Kent Churches to raise money for the upkeep and provide facilities for Kent’s church buildings.

Just cycle between as many churches in the scheme as you can on the day with your friends pledging sponsorship on the forms which can be found in the church. At the end send your pledge forms and the money raised to me please. This is a very good cause: St Mary Westwell has benefitted by many thousands recently. **Jolyon Drury**, 07860 512793



### Book Club,

This month we met at The Wheel to discuss H.E.Bates as an author, we had all read a different book by him which made for a very interesting and stimulating discussion. Such varied works including:- Fair Stood the Wind for France, The Purple Plain, Pop Larkin Chronicles and Through the Woods and we all agreed that he was an excellent ‘read’ with an interesting life story. Joan and Celeste both met the author personally and Joan had tried to persuade Anne, H.E Bates’ remaining daughter to join us as she still lives locally. Sadly, she declined the offer! There were only six of us at the meeting but we had a good chat and were interested to learn that he lived at Little Chart Forstal and mentions the Kentish countryside in a number of his novels. The meeting ended with a delicious lunch provided by James and Andrea. Our choice for **September (Tuesday 13th)** is ‘**Driving Over Lemons**’ by **Chris Stewart** I hope all our ‘absent’ members last month had good holidays with plenty of time for reading and look forward to seeing you all again next month.



### Harvest Supper and Auction of Promises

The Harvest supper is on 1st October in the Parish Hall. The menu and cost remain the same as last year. Sarah Scarrett is organising the food this year and Martin Wyatt with Dave Harding are in charge of the Auction of Promises. Ring Sue Wood for tickets.

### Promises Promises...

Do you have a skill that you’d like to share? Sewing, baking, combine harvesting, wood whittling and more have been promised in the past. Could you offer a promise for this year’s Auction? Contact Dave Harding, with details please [dharding37@btinternet.com](mailto:dharding37@btinternet.com).



## Parish News

### Westwell Church Services for September

[www.g7benefice.org](http://www.g7benefice.org)

**Friday 2nd:** 10am Iona Eucharist

**Sunday 4th: 15th Sunday of Trinity**

11am Family Worship

**Sunday 11th: 16th Sunday of Trinity**

11am Iona Eucharist

**Sunday 18th: 17th Sunday of Trinity**

8am Holy Communion

**Sunday 25th: 18th Sunday of Trinity**

11am Eucharist

### Tuesdays:

9am The Eucharist - Charing

7pm Prayer and Bible Study - Charing Heath

### Baptism

Keira Olivia Lynds was baptised at St. Mary, on Sunday 7th August 2016

*May God make her home*

*Christian and loving*

### Funeral

Robin Balchin died on 8th July aged 92. His funeral took place at St. Mary, followed by burial in Bybrook Cemetery on 19th July.

*May God enfold Robin in his*

*tender love and care.*

### Family Church September 2016

All age service Sunday 4th September at 11am.

Pet Service. A fun morning to celebrate our Pets and their roles in our lives.



### Messy is back:-

3.30 - 5pm. Sunday 17th September Theme:- God's World, fun with crafts and games, quiet time with a story, songs and prayers and finishes with a snack. Specially for under 10's. All welcome with an accompanying adult.

## Church matters

The PCC discussed the changes that are coming to all the parishes in the G7 benefice; Charing, Charing Heath, Egerton, Hothfield, Little Chart, Pluckley and Westwell now that we have only one full time ordained minister between us. This is an ongoing discussion and although we know the issues, the solutions are still being worked out. Watch this space for more details as they are decided. Changes are also needed in the Church building as we adapt to new uses and needs. The relaid pathway to the church has been finished by the parish council with a contribution from the PCC and now we are turning our thoughts to the inside. We have asked our church architects to prepare some ideas for adding a toilet and a kitchen area to the north west corner of the church and hope to have some ideas for everyone to look at and discuss around Christmas time. We hope to make the church more user friendly for both the young and the old and those in between and to be able to use it more often for outside events like Choral evenings. Martin Wyatt is investigating ways to improve the efficiency of the heating system to make winter services more comfortable. The PCC also discussed the Harvest Festival service and the Auction of Promises at the beginning of October. Our next meeting is September 26th, if there are issues you would like to raise please contact [hlist@hotmai.com](mailto:hlist@hotmai.com). **Heather Lister**

### Church Cleaning Rota.

**Cleaning:** Wendy Bartlett

**Flowers:** Heather Lister

**Brass:** Suzanne Pier



## Patricia Crawford Associates for Hadlow College

### at Canterbury and Mottingham Campuses

### If you are a Professional Gardener, an Experienced Amateur, an 'Improver' or a Complete Novice - You will be Interested!

Gardening is one of today's most popular pastimes. Examine the positive audience ratings for TV and radio gardening programmes – they are a sure indication of how gardening has gripped the nation. Increasing numbers of children are starting at an early age – gardening appeals to single people, families, the retired, school groups, clubs and communities. Gardening is popular in the countryside, in towns, villages, hamlets and in cities. Courtyard gardens, window boxes, tubs and pots, large gardens and grand estates. There is a waiting list for allotment plots. The size of the garden doesn't equate to the level of enthusiasm.

Gardeners are avid for knowledge and learning is fundamental. Gardening-related magazines are among the best sellers and the membership of gardening clubs is booming. There is another fun way to learn alongside other gardeners – enrol for a Royal Horticultural Society course. Professional and experienced amateur gardeners will know all about the RHS but some new and inexperienced gardeners may perceive this elite professional body as 'frightening' and not for them!

RHS courses are for everyone – everyone! An amateur wishing to learn more, a professional wanting to add to their Continual Professional Development, Hadlow College offers RHS courses at Levels 2 and 3 at the main campus just outside Hadlow village and the out centres at Canterbury and Mottingham.

Whether a complete beginner, a novice, fairly experienced or very experienced, the college's highly knowledgeable and friendly tutors ensure that everyone can learn at their own pace. Focus, motivation camaraderie and fun are ingredients for success!!

Recognising that would-be students would like opportunity to find out what the courses involve, meet tutors, view the facilities, talk to current and past students – and generally network – the college is putting on an RHS Information Evening at Hadlow's Canterbury Campus, Spring Lane, Canterbury, CT1 1TB on **Tuesday 6th September** and the Mottingham Campus, Mottingham Lane, London SE12 9AW on **Wednesday 7th September**. Registration and a buffet supper (provided FOC) with opportunities for networking (from 6pm) will be followed by formal and informal presentations (7pm onwards), meet the celebrity guest and further opportunities to ask questions.

Although the events are being held at the Canterbury and the Mottingham campuses, course information and details apply to all three sites and gardeners from all parts of Kent are invited to attend. In order to facilitate catering, please register attendance by **2nd September**: [pat.crawford@hadlow.ac.uk](mailto:pat.crawford@hadlow.ac.uk) 01622 618628.

As one of the UK's foremost land-based colleges, Hadlow takes CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) very seriously and, as part of the commitment to the 2016 Year of the Garden, the college is offering truly unbeatable 'early bird' discounts for those who register for an RHS course at Hadlow College or an out-centre at Canterbury or Mottingham. (All courses commence September 2016.) Further details at the RHS Information Evenings or contact Pat Crawford as above.



## Fête 2016...



## Fête 2016...

