



**"We will remember them."**

A grey stone gravestone for W.W. Lassetter, a Royal Engineer. The stone features a circular emblem at the top, a small eye-shaped carving on the right, and a large cross at the bottom. The text on the stone reads: 12586 DRIVER, W.W. LASSETTER, ROYAL ENGINEERS, 14th JUNE 1915.

12586 DRIVER  
W.W. LASSETTER  
ROYAL ENGINEERS  
14th JUNE 1915

## Village Contacts

**Ambulance, Fire, Police**      **999**

**Police Community Support**      101  
*and non-emergency Police*

**PCSO** - Sarah McGuinness  
[sarah.mcguinness@kent.police.uk](mailto:sarah.mcguinness@kent.police.uk)

**Community Warden**  
Peter Gill      07703 454190

[Peter.Gill@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Gill@kent.gov.uk)

**Neighbourhood Watch**  
Sheila Smith      611580

**Gas Emergency**      0800 111999

**Highways Fault Reporting**  
03000 418181

**UK Power Network**      105

**Doctors Surgery**      619790

*The Market Place, Sandwich*

**Emergency out of hours**      111

**Eastry Parish Council**

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[www.facebook.com/EastryPC](https://www.facebook.com/EastryPC)

Chairman: Mark Jones

Vice-Chairman: Deborah Russell

**Clerk to Council**

Mrs. Joanna Jones      01304 746036

[clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk)

*Thornton House, Thornton Lane,  
Eastry, Sandwich, Kent CT13 0EU*

**C of E Primary School**      611360

Head Teacher: Mrs. Sarah Moss

PTA Treasurer: Justine Crane

**Eastry Ravens FC**

Steve Booth      07864 925289

[email: 27srb@sky.com](mailto:email:27srb@sky.com)

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## **Eastry Young People's Contacts**

**EASTRY YOUNG PEOPLES CLUB**  
(next to the Gun Park) *Have fun and  
make friends - Admission free*



### **Meetings - NOW OPEN**

**Tuesdays and Wednesdays  
for 12-19 year olds - 7pm to 9pm**

**Contact** - For party bookings or hall hire -  
Monica in Bubbles Nursery on 07902 303397

**BUBBLES NURSERY - Contact Monica on 01304 615487**

### **Sandwich Amateur Boxing Club**

At Eastry Young Peoples Club - Monday and Thursday  
Evenings 6pm to 8.30pm

**Contact: Mac McCarthy on 07749 760520**

### **Incy Wincys - Baby and Toddler Group - Can you help?**

We need a new leader. The Youth Club has all the equipment and toys needed.  
All we need now is someone to run it.  
Contact Monica Laslett for more information.

**RAINBOWS** (age 5-7) and **BROWNIES** (age 7-10)  
Meet on Wednesdays

**GUIDES** (age 10-14) and **RANGERS** (age 14-18)  
Meet on Fridays

**Please contact us on** [Sandwichdivisiongg@gmail.com](mailto:Sandwichdivisiongg@gmail.com) **or via**  
[www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/)

### **10<sup>th</sup> Deal Eastry Scout Group**

**Group Scout Leader:** Graham Baker 07837 430167 or 01304 611487

**BEAVERS** (age 5½ -8)  
Monday 6.00pm - 7.15pm  
Leader

**EXPLORERS** (age 14+) Meet every other  
Friday from 7.45pm - 9.15pm and focus  
on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.  
Contact - Graham Baker

**CUBS** (age 8-10½)  
Tuesday 6.30pm - 8.00pm  
Leader  
Contact Graham Baker

**FOR BOOKINGS**  
Contact: Marion Wanstall (617854)  
or group leaders

**SCOUTS** (age 10½ - 14)  
Wednesday 7.00pm to 9.00pm  
Leader *Vacant*

**NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME**  
Scouting is fun for adults too.  
If you would like to help then please  
contact Graham Baker

## Poppy Appeal & Remembrance Sunday



Covid permitting, Eastry Branch of the Royal British Legion is anticipating a "normal" Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Sunday commemoration this November.

The Poppy Appeal will commence in late October and we invite your usual outstanding support please. We are short of door-to-door collectors and local volunteers should contact me directly. Our customary Poppy Table will, of course, be in place in front of the Village Hall.

Remembrance Sunday commemorations will take their usual form. Individual and group participants should muster in Church Street by 10.35 am at the latest. The Parade will march to the War Memorial at 10.45 am. For further info please contact Terry James on 01304 614245.



Firstly I would like to apologize to you all for the delay in reporting back the amount raised for the poppy appeal last year. This was due to restrictions put in place through Covid but also health and work commitments got in the way.

The final figure raised was **£2,125,72**. However other monies were paid directly to the appeal by BACs and by using the QR code. So thank you one and all for your contributions as they are all greatly appreciated.

This year hopefully things will be more normal and I am now preparing the order in readiness for remembrance day. Therefore if you require a wreath or anything else could you please let me know by email. Thank you.

Janet Kershaw, Poppy Appeal Organiser [janetkershaw00@gmail.com](mailto:janetkershaw00@gmail.com)

The **MOBILE LIBRARY** will visit on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 30<sup>th</sup> October and 27<sup>th</sup> November at 9.40 to 10.10. "Select and Collect only" **no on board browsing**.

### **EVN AGM is on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Parish Room**

This is an open meeting and all are welcome but users will need to sign in on Track and Trace Forms or use QR code and follow any Government Guidance.

### **Eastry Village News DEADLINE**

is the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication - i.e January, March, May, July, September, November. Please send copy to [evneditor@gmail.com](mailto:evneditor@gmail.com)



## The Price of the Poppy

It's not so much about the Poppy, but, more about what it represents  
 Resurrecting life from devastation, where the bloodiness of war was spent  
 At Flanders field where muck and sludge, buried death, the wounded, the lost  
 A barren wilderness of lifeless souls, the price of war, the sacrificial cost.

And yet out of this field of mourning, red flowers grew tall and proud  
 A duvet of red velvet poppies, blowing so quietly, yet spoke so loud  
 A testament to the fifty countries that fought so war would cease  
 The poppy represents our conscience and the forever hope of peace.

It signifies our gratitude, as we wear it, with utmost respect  
 For the continuing bravery of our forces, and those...lest we forget  
 The money raised from the poppy helps our soldiers when in need  
 Managed through The British Legion, a Charity which succeeds  
 In working hard to raise the funds, so that veterans might live  
 So whatever you pay for your poppy, it's a small price to give!



*Nick Smith photo*



*Working for the Residents of Eastry*



Following the success of the **July Litterpick**, Eastry Parish Council are organising another Litter Pick in Eastry on **SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021**.

The Village Caretaker, Richard, who you have seen around Eastry, does an excellent job in keeping the village clean and clear of litter, but there are some areas around the village that require more people to undertake a safe and effective litter pick.

So, take part in the litter pick and do your bit to keep your village neat and tidy and meet some of your Parish councillors at:

**The Main Eastry Car Park (by the Vets) at 10:00 am on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October. To give us an idea of numbers, if you wish to attend, please contact Eastry Parish Clerk on:**

**[clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk) or 01304 746036 or 07903 739792**

We plan to pick litter for a couple of hours in selected locations around the village, and then return to the 5 Bells for refreshments and a bacon or vegetarian sausage sandwich.

Please wear suitable clothing and footwear and also bring your enthusiasm to maintain a clean and tidy village, and you will be most welcome.

**Visi-vests, disposable gloves, litter pickers and rubbish bags will be provided.**

## Eastry Parish Council - Updates

Eastry Parish Council are keen to recruit more volunteers for 'Speedwatch'. Since they started in April 2021 the Eastry group have run 13 sessions, recorded 114 speeding vehicles, 4 have been recorded twice and another 4 more than twice! 12% of drivers entering the village are speeding and the maximum speed recorded was an unbelievable **50mph!**

Ideally there should be 3 volunteers for each session, 2 sessions are usually run on alternate weeks for a few hours on the roads entering the village, Sandwich Road, Lower Street and Lower Gore Lane.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Clerk, Jo Jones, [clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk), Tel. 07903 739792.



Eastry Parish Council are very keen for the Coffee Mornings to start again in the Village Hall, however they need volunteers if this is going to happen. The proposal is that the Coffee Morning will run on a Thursday morning from 9-12 noon with free tea, coffee and biscuits with everyone welcome.

You do not need to commit to help every week but as many times as possible would help to get this very popular event up and running again.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Clerk, Jo Jones, [clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk), Tel. 07903 739792

Eastry Parish Council are sorry to report that the Gun Park Play Area refurbishments are taking a lot longer than expected due to more work being required on the swings than anticipated which has required extra parts and long delays in the parts arriving from Wicksteed, the manufacturer, as well as some incorrect parts being sent which now need to be replaced.

and finally 'Your Village Needs You' poster for tidying the Village up.

Thanks very much, I do hope that there are lots of volunteers out there.

**Jo Jones.**

**Eastry kids say please SLOW DOWN!**

## Eastry Parish Council says: Your village needs YOU to help and do your bit!



**Kerbsides full of weeds?** Can you keep the area outside your property clear?



**Litter?** If a litterbug has dropped rubbish outside your property are you able to safely pick it up and drop it in your bin?

**Doggy Doos.**  
Responsible owners pick up after their pooches.



**Planting.** Are you able to join the gang to get the village looking beautiful? Weeding and planting around the village will not only brighten it up and make it feel welcoming but will help the environment at the same time.

**To volunteer please contact the clerk, Jo Jones**  
**[clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk), 07903 739792.**

### Dirty Road Signs

Please report to [Kent.gov.uk](http://Kent.gov.uk), Roads and Travel, report a problem, report a problem (again), please select fault type (highways signs only) - Sign Dirty or Obscured by vegetation.





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from Fri 24th

**October Sat 16th**

Curry Night. Fri

29th Halloween

Fancy Dress

Disco Karaoke

Night 8pm-late

**November Sat**

20th Live Music

TBC

**December Fri 10th**

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8:30pm-11pm. NYE -

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**Food Loyalty Card coming soon**



**Christmas Day & Party Menu out Now**

Please enquire for more details.



**Clairvoyant Eve-Thurs 16th Sept/Sat 23rd Oct/Thurs 18th Nov/Sat 4th Dec**

**Andy's Quiz Night Sat 25th Sept/Sat 30th Oct/Sat 27th Nov/Sun 26th Dec**

Keep up to date with our events &  
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## Son at Lumiere at Eastry Court Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021

On Friday Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> we were treated to a unique showing of the history of Eastry Court over the last 1400 years. Written and directed by the current owner, David Freud, it was presented in narrative and visual form and viewed from the garden by 150 lucky people. With spectacular visual and sound effects it included quite gory details of its colourful past including the murder of the princes and a scandal or two. We saw the church lit up when covering the story of Thomas Beckett staying for a week at Eastry Court in hiding on his way to France in 1164.

It covered visits by several kings and there were references to the presence in that place of nobility from Saxons through to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Eastry Court rightly boasts of being the oldest continuously inhabited building in Britain. David had created the work to celebrate his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday over a year ago but it was delayed by Covid restrictions. It was about 3 years in the making and was a real triumph.

He had a private showing on the Saturday but generously offered to let the Friday showing be a fundraiser for St Mary's Church. As a result we raised about £2,500 and were part of a truly memorable event marking the history of Eastry. We wish to thank David and Cilla Freud most sincerely for allowing us to witness the show in the beautiful grounds of Eastry Court. We thank the army of performers (recorded over a year ago) and the great skills of the professional sound and light technicians.

I thank the St Mary's Events Team for their help and Hillie and Sanjay at the Post Office who acted as ticket agents. What a great evening it was! **Alastair Carnegie**



# EASTRY SAFARI

The reasoning behind the **Safari**, which is basically a village wide Boot/Craft Fair, was seeing other villages do this. I asked around to see if anyone was organising one in Eastry but to no avail. As a former chair of the School PTA I have organised events before so I decided to have a go at doing it myself. A lady called Victoria Culshaw offered to come on board and help - we are now the best of friends - and all this was done through the amazing **Eastry Watch** Facebook page.

The School then asked us if they could get involved and serve refreshments and run a tombola. I approached the Eastry Young People's Club who presented an Open Day to promote their club, showing people in the village that they are there and what they do and what they can offer. They had free table tennis, pool and Eddie in the stocks!! (*Eastry Young Peoples Club is open every Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm*). Sandwich Amateur Boxing Club and Bubbles nursery also supported us by doing activities in the Gun Park.

Around 50 houses took part throughout the village and there were a few stalls at the pub. Landlady Mary Franks kindly offered use of the garden for those without garden space or from outside the village who wanted to take part and the pub opened early to the public and served breakfast.

We made an **amazing £260** for charities - Eastry Primary School, the Firefighters charity and Futures for Dogs in Sandwich. These were the charities chosen by people in the village using a poll on Eastry Watch. The money was raised from stalls (for which we asked £5), the sale of maps and the School also raised £106 on the day at their stall. It was great to see some of the local clubs, School and nursery get involved and it was fantastic to see the village so busy.

After such a success the village wanted another **Safari** which is currently being organised. It will take place on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October from 11.00am to 3.00pm and we are very much hoping it will be even bigger and better. **Please note that the Facebook link to keep updated is <https://fb.me/e/1z5mj1Mi8>**

The village also asked for a Craft Fair after Victoria did a craft stall and Victoria organised one on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September at the Village Hall.

**To register for a stall in your garden or at the Five Bells or at Eastry Young Peoples Club, please email Laura at: [laura\\_lewis\\_@live.com](mailto:laura_lewis_@live.com)**

If any local businesses in Eastry wish to get involved in this please get in touch.

*Laura Lewis*

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## Eastry Horticultural Society - Eastry Gardeners

We hope that you been enjoying at least part of the somewhat mixed up weather conditions experienced over the past couple of months, varying from extremely hot through very windy and to extremely wet, it would seem that there has been something for everyone. Sadly, due to these months of mixed weather conditions some excellent garden displays have been almost totally lost, many flowers have been beheaded by the wind, many Rose blooms completely mushed up by the torrential rains, even some veggies have been ruined. With everything now getting as near to normal as is possible the club's season recommenced on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August with our speaker for the evening Laura Brady giving us the lowdown on unusual (wonky) vegetables, that was a very interesting close to the heart subject.

With everything now getting as near to normal as is possible the club's season recommenced on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August with our speaker for the evening Laura Brady giving us the lowdown on unusual (wonky) vegetables, that was a very interesting close to the heart subject. Following on from that was our first major event for far too many months, our Autumn show, held on Sat 21<sup>st</sup> August for members only, though members of the public who visited really enjoyed themselves browsing through the two hundred plus exhibits.



The undoubted star of the show was Trevor B who won a magnificent 7 trophies, closely followed by Jacki, Brenda, Rob, Alan, Dennis, Olive and Sheila. All the exhibitors, the whole Committee and their many helpers really excelled themselves, making the event a true masterpiece. At the meeting after that, on September 14<sup>th</sup>, Katherine Hook was our speaker for the evening, giving an intriguing talk on Gin and Chocolate. There will also be meetings on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 9<sup>th</sup> November and 14<sup>th</sup> December but Jacki will e-mail more details on those events in due course.





By the time that these notes are published the days will already be much shorter and it will be getting to that time of the year when you should be seriously considering clearing your gardens of summer debris, preparing for your winter digging and cleaning and planning for next year, but of course there are those amongst you who are non-diggers.

This is a cult that more gardeners, even some farmers, are now coming to terms with and who seriously consider that considerable harm can be done by too much earth/soil disturbance. Having seen a smallholding on TV very successfully using this system I don't think that anyone can doubt it has some beneficial effects. It has been noticed that in many areas along the A2 & M2 roadsides and already in some gardens the wild plant known as Giant Hogweed is rampant and is apparently spreading rapidly.

If you do happen to come across it please **DO NOT TOUCH IT** as it can cause severe skin burns. Apparently there is a lot of valuable information regarding this dangerous plant on numerous web sites, please try to read them as they may well save you from a lot of serious aggravation.

**John Surridge**

## Dover Flower Club

**Our October meeting is on Monday 25th October at 19.15 in  
Whitfield Village Hall, CT16 3LY**

**Floral Demonstration - Autumn Floral Delights**, by Anna Evans from Anna's Flowers. These arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening.

Browse our sales table for floristry essentials. Refreshments available.  
Members will be free. Visitor tickets £8.

*Further information from*

Gillian Ogden Tel 01304 617848 and  
Maureen Edmond email - [edmondrandm@talktalk.net](mailto:edmondrandm@talktalk.net)

**Our November meeting is on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 19.15 in  
Whitfield Village Hall, CT16 3LY**

**Christmas Spectacular - Christmas Unwrapped** by Jacqui Arnold, a National Judge. These fabulous arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening.

There will also be a Christmas goodies raffle. The tickets will be £10 for visitors.  
Members free.

*Further information from*

Gillian Ogden Tel 01304 617848 and  
Maureen Edmond email - [edmondrandm@talktalk.net](mailto:edmondrandm@talktalk.net)

## Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society

### Annual Show

Given a certain amount of anticipation & excitement due to the lifting of further Covid 19 restrictions, the Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society recently held their Annual Autumn Show in Northbourne Parish Hall. The Show, which is open to both members & non-members, attracted a wide range of entries from the public which included classes for Flowers, Vegetables & Fruit, Cookery & Preserves, Handicrafts & a section for Children which was divided into age groups.

The committee would like to thank the following businesses for supporting the event. Messrs Intercrop & Tilmanstone Salads (Bakkovor) for kindly donating Produce and 81 Beach Street Restaurant for Meal Vouchers. The trophies were presented by the President of the Society Lord Northbourne, Charles James and were awarded as follows:

The Roger Fuller Cup (most points Vegetable section), The Hayward Cup (Best collection Vegetables), The Bell Cup (Most points flower section), The Northbourne Cup (most points in Show) & Sunflower Cup (Best bloom) were won by David Smith. Julia Pidgeon won the Miss R. Hogben Cup (best Petite Arrangement).

The Albert Marsh Cup (best Victoria Sponge) was won by Ian Denne who also shared the J & S Cup with Frances Smith (Photography section). Frances Smith was also awarded the Spinner Cup (Cookery & Preserves) & J & S Cup (Club Potato Competition). Gillian Ogden won the Ellis Cup (Best exhibit in flower section), Floral Art Cup (Most Points in section) & President's Cup (Best exhibit in Show).

Gill Harris the Vyes Cup (Most points Handicraft section). Victoria Cox won the Richard Coe Cup (Best Dahlia bloom). Alan Beer the Thomas Cup (best exhibit Handicraft). Children's section – Eliza Ward the Major Fabrications Shield (Best exhibit Children's section), Eliza Ward & Arabella Ward The Hogben Cup (Most points Children's section).



*Admiring the exhibits*



*David Smith receives the cup from Lord Northbourne*



*Some fine examples of Dahlias*



*Good Luck on the Tombola*



*Eliza and Arabella Ward*



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## From the archives - Eastry Village Action Plan 2003

In 2003 Eastry Parish Council undertook 'the Eastry Village Action Plan 2003 following the Government white paper (November 2000) which stated that rural communities should have a greater say in decisions that might affect them. A questionnaire was issued to 960 households and returned by 576 (a 60% response rate). Questionnaires were also given to a number of the young people of the village about what was liked and disliked and what in particular they would like within the village.

The issues raised by householders were: improved lighting on footpaths and at the Felderland Lane junction, Crime, Youth Activities, Parking, Traffic, Village Development, additional shops, better public transport, a better village appearance (dog fouling and litter in particular) and better social amenities. The Youth Survey revealed that younger people liked the Gun Park but yobs were making it unsafe. Liked the shops and the chip shop but thought the village a boring place to live with too few activities, disliked the litter, the vandalism and the yobs and thought the roads were dangerous. They wanted a better youth club, more warden patrols, a better skate ramp, better public transport, more activities and nets in the football goals.

Overall the Parish Council was pleased with the results and published an Action Plan to deal with the points raised. Since then some of the issues have been addressed but some things are still prevalent today. Parking, Speeding, Village Appearance, Village Development and Public Transport in particular. Some of these can only be sorted by the residents themselves and the rest need assistance from higher and various authorities.

The conclusion was " the document makes it clear that Eastry remains an attractive place in which to live. It is almost unique among East Kent Villages in the range of shops that flourish here. It boast an enviable range of sporting and other recreational and social activities, and is not without its own areas of natural beauty."



### **2009 Bob Priestley, KCC Community Warden for Eastry wins a Community Crime Fighters Award.**

Bob was nominated by Eastry Neighbourhood Watch and was presented with the top award at the Kent Police HQ in Maidstone. This is on top of two previous Kent Police awards.

Bob was one of the first 10 Community Wardens in Kent and from the start said that KCC had advised him to be non confrontational and he was glad his army training taught him how to achieve this. He soon became a familiar, popular and well respected member of our community. Involved with many local groups he chaired a Youth Action Group which won the Kent Youth Triangle Award 2004 for numerous activities provided for local youths. His efforts soon showed that past drug problems were dramatically reduced and that vandalism, crime and anti social behaviour were also on the decrease. He also tackled doorstep selling, telephone scams, any highway problems and promoted Home Safety.

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## FROM CHOLERA TO COVID



### THE MEDICAL STORY OF THE KENTISH VILLAGE OF EASTRY 1820 - 2020

Alastair Carnegie and Jean Johnstone

## From Cholera to Covid

### The medical story of the Kentish Village of Eastry 1820-2020

Copies of this new book by previous local GPs Dr Alastair Carnegie and Dr Jean Johnstone are now available to buy for £10.

Available at the Post Office or by contacting either of the authors. It covers a brief history of medicine from the time of Hippocrates but, more relevant, the history of local medical care in the past several decades.

It features plenty of local people but no confidentiality is broken!

*"This is a wonderful book full of detail and well researched with photos and anecdotes covering 100 years. Well done to Alastair and Jean it was a great pleasure to read. I completely recommend it"*

*Rose Beer*



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## Pigeons - remember too their vital role in warfare!

Both the homing pigeon and the carrier pigeon have many times proved their worth in times of conflict. As far back as 800 BC the Greeks were using them as message carriers and by circa 500BC the Chinese Emperors were regularly getting messages from outer areas as pigeons could deliver a message in as many hours as it took a horse and rider in days. Hannibal, Julius Caesar and Genghis and Kubla Khan all created their own Pigeon Posts spanning a sixth of the world. Their ability to 'home' was first recognised by ancient Mediterranean seafarers as pigeons have an aversion to large bodies of water and very quickly head towards land.

In WW1 the original Pigeon Service was evolved to help trawler crews patrolling in the dangerous North Sea to get important coded messages back to the Admiralty in the days before they had wireless communication facilities. The Navy Pigeon Service was later extended to include the Army and the Royal Flying Corps (forerunner to the RAF). At the battle of Verdun pigeons, at one stage, became the only working method of communication and on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1916 over 400 operational messages came in on pigeons from the front line of the Somme.



The Dickin Medal (the animal version of the Victoria Cross) is awarded to those animals displaying exceptional aspects of achievement whilst on active service. It was awarded to more than 40 pigeons during the later stages of WW2. During this conflict more than 17000 birds were dropped by parachute for message carrying purposes and were widely used by both British and American forces during the Normandy landings. Many 'downed' air crews and countless shipwrecked sailors were saved after releasing pigeons with messages indicating their last known whereabouts. One pigeon was parachuted into occupied France along with an SOE agent and delivered a message of vital importance to the War Office a few hours later having flown more than 200 miles over enemy held territory bristling with gun happy soldiers!



Many of these birds were killed during these conflicts and sadly more than 500 serving pigeon fanciers lost their lives during WW1 alone. This figure doubled in WW2 and many pigeon fanciers from our own (now defunct) Royal East Kent Regiment - The Buffs, served, suffered and died in action during the conflict. Let us not forget their contributions on Remembrance Sunday! *John Surridge*



## Some of the feathered Dickin Medal heroes:

- 1) "Billy" (10 months old) was released from crash landed bomber in the Netherlands and delivered his message early the following morning having flown over 250 miles through a gale driven snow storm.
- 2) "Kenley Lass" was the first pigeon to be used for secret communication from enemy occupied France and flew over 300 miles home on the same day.
- 3) "Gustav" was the first pigeon to bring back news from the Normandy landings. He served for more than two years.
- 4) "Scotch Lass" made over 40 excursions including one when she injured herself on a telephone wire in enemy held Holland yet still managed to get home carrying a vital message and important photographic material.



5) "White Vision" was one of the rarely used white pigeons. She carried a message from a downed Catalina flying boat through poor visibility and into a strong head wind. The 11 downed airman were saved just as their plane began to sink.

6) "Winkie" escaped from a ditched bomber in heavy seas off the Norwegian coast. She arrived at her distant base soon after dawn the next day having flown over 130 miles exhausted, wet and oil covered. She carried no message but staff at the Pigeon Service deduced, from the time of her arrival that they were searching in the wrong area. The redirected search rescued the crew who later held a dinner in honour of the pigeon who had saved their lives. Christening her "Winkie" because she seemed to be winking at them.

(Pictures Bing Images)

### Dover District Council - Bin Collections and New Dates 2021\*

#### Non recyclable waste

*Black topped wheelie bin, food bin & green/garden waste*

**Tuesdays** 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> October      9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> November

**Recyclable Waste** *Blue topped wheelie bin and Food Bin*

*Plastics, tins, bottles, paper and cardboard.*

**Tuesdays** 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> October      2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> November

Please check your dates in the printed 'Revised Waste Collection Calendar' or the **DDC website**

## Gardening on the other side of the fence (2)

Firstly this time, back to an old chestnut.....what is a wildlife-friendly garden? Do you just let things run wild and let all the weeds grow? Absolutely not. Some people have embraced this approach in the past couple of years, and it will help your local insects and birds but it is never going to enter mainstream gardening. But when asked, I always offer the following advice – use plants that provide pollen and nectar and try to have these available through as much of the year as you can; provide water – whether you have space for a pond or just a sunken dustbin lid, you will see increased activity in your garden; and, if you can, plant a tree – research has shown you will get more birds in your garden if they have a place to check out whether it is safe to land. Lastly, try to be a little less tidy. All the creatures that are at the bottom of the food chain, need somewhere to hide and Autumn is the time of the year is when you can make a big difference.

If you have been growing plants that have a strong upright structure, such as *Rudbeckia Fulgida*, leave them standing for the winter. Many have seed heads that provide food for birds and you will also see smaller birds foraging in the nooks and crannies looking for insects throughout the colder months. Those that have hollow stems also provide space for over wintering bees – it has recently been revealed that many crawl down to the bottom 15cm or so to hibernate. The stems also look great in the frost or especially when topped with snow.



*Rudbeckia Fulgida*

And what to do with all those leaves? Keen gardeners know that leaf mould (rotted down leaves) is one of nature's great free resources. But just swept into the bottom of your hedge or left on the borders will provide foraging for Blackbirds and Robins right through the winter. You will also be surprised by how many are taken down into the soil by worms. You can then tidy up in the spring. Some butterflies lay their eggs on tree leaves so you would also be helping them. It is these small things that can help improve the biodiversity of your garden. You can still

have a stripey lawn and neat edges and clipped hedges whilst also adding to your local habitat.

In my own garden, the new pond was completed and has already been found by one frog and several egg-laying dragonflies. I have finally rebuilt the greenhouse that I brought with me which will increase my bee-friendly plant growing next year. Some of you will have seen or met me on the Eastry Fete plant stall. All of the 145 plants that I donated, and were sold, will have been helping our village's pollinators this summer. Lastly, I have bought a scythe, so later today one man will be going to mow a meadow....more about that project next time.

**Jeff "the Bee-Friendly Gardener"**

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**Eastry 611320**



for photos, experience etc see

**TheWhistlingGardener.co.uk**



## Eastry WI



Eastry WI had its first meeting in the village hall for almost 18 months on September 1st. Apart from the usual notices of events received from National Federation and East Kent Federation it was an informal evening, the theme was Nosh and Natter and there was plenty of both.

Our second meeting will take place on October 6th, speaker Richard Goodenough from Chartham vineyard and we are keeping our fingers crossed for samples!

November is our AGM and members will be getting a new President as, after 4 years, I am standing down. I have loved my time as President, even through the pandemic we have devised ways of staying in touch, our treasurer has sent out a weekly newsletter, the secretary has stayed on top of all our paperwork which didn't seem to decrease despite restrictions.

I've assembled something known as a 'meeting in a bag', some goodies and craft items plus quiz sheets and recipes.

Members have been busy with displays in the bakery window and the post box topper. We now have plans for more of those over the next few months, including a Christmas display in the window of the chemist and we are always happy to welcome visitors who want to find out a bit more about us.

**WI meetings take place at Eastry Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at 19:15 for 19:30.** There is a change of date for our December 2021 meeting which will be on the 8th December.

Visitors can attend 3 meetings for £3.50 per visit, which we hope gives them a chance to decide whether they would like to join us. The current 2021/2022 subscription is £44, but there is a pro rata rate for those joining us mid year.

Sue Hankins - *President*

Tel: 01304 619414 email:

[eastrywi@gmail.com](mailto:eastrywi@gmail.com)

**'The Village Hall AGM is on 5th October at 19:00.  
Venue is the Village Hall.'**

### Memorial Service

The long-awaited memorial service for Revd. Philip Clements, who died on 31st May last year, will be held in Northbourne Church on Saturday 9th October at 12 noon.

**Alchemy...the basis of many political promises!**

*Anon*

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## The children of Eastry help out again!

Yet again the children of Eastry gave homes to the homeless baby toy animals that came to Eastry over the August Bank holiday weekend. This time it was toy tortoises whose parents could no longer house them. They were seen on the village hall railings and in the gardens of the parade. There have been many different toy baby animals over the years hoping to find new homes and all of them have been taken home and looked after by the wonderful and kind children of Eastry.



## Eastry Church of England Primary School

The final term of the last academic year was celebrated in style by the children and staff at Eastry. It has not been the easiest of years, but we are so proud of our children who have shown enormous resilience in handling all of the trials and tribulations, that go with learning in a pandemic. So in term 6, before the summer holidays, the children enjoyed a number of exciting activities - in and out of school.

There were trips to Wingham Wildlife Park, Howletts Wild Animal Park, the Beany museum, the Canterbury Roman museum, paddleboarding at Fordwich and a WW2 evacuation experience in school. Our Forest School went from strength to strength and all classes spent time in our great outdoors, learning a multitude of skills. Although our 2021 annual Sports Day had to take on a Covid- friendly format this year, it was thoroughly enjoyed by all of the children. We bade farewell to Year 6, but not before they presented an amazing version of A Midsummer Night's Dream and celebrated with a well-deserved leaver's party.

Staff and children would like to thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support and our PTA for the funds that they have raised for the school . **Finally, we are so grateful to those local businesses who have so kindly sponsored our trips and activities.** We hope you all enjoyed a happy and healthy summer.

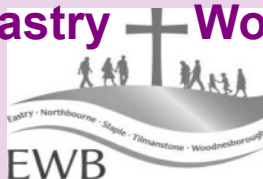
From all the staff and children - **Eastry C of E Primary School**

### Do you have some time to spare each week?

We are looking for volunteers to come in to our school to listen to our wonderful children read. This is a great opportunity to increase your skills, meet staff, help children with this vital part of their learning and gain an insight into the running of the school day. Support and training will be given to all volunteers, who will be subject to a DBS check before they start.

Please contact the school office or Mrs Inglis, Family Liaison Officer, on **01304 611360** for a chat and more details. We look forward to hearing from you.

# Eastry Woodnesborough Benefice



## Services in October and November

### First Sunday

10am Holy Communion at Eastry

### Second Sunday

10am Come and Worship Team at Eastry (October)

10.45am Remembrance Day Service at Eastry (November)

### Third Sunday

10am Holy Communion at Eastry

### Fourth Sunday

8am Holy Communion at Eastry

***No 10am Service at Eastry***

10am Holy Communion at Northbourne

10am Family Service Team at Staple

10am Morning Prayer at Woodnesborough

### Fifth Sunday

10am Benefice Service at Staple - live streamed (October)

3pm - 7pm All Souls at Eastry

Come to remember departed family and friends Light a candle in memory of your loved ones. Sit and reflect and stay for as long as you need to.

## Churches Open for Private Prayer\*

Our churches are open for private prayer and reflection as follows:

**Eastry:** 9am to 5pm Saturday to Monday; **Staple:** 9am to 5pm daily;

**Tilmanstone:** 9am to 5pm daily;

**Woodnesborough:** 9am to 5pm daily;

**Northbourne:** 10am to 4pm daily.

\*Subject to current Covid restrictions. Check Church website or Facebook for updates



**Please note that at this time your Eastry Woodnesborough**

**Benefice Church Contacts are:**

Alastair Carnegie email: [amcarnegie@hotmail.com](mailto:amcarnegie@hotmail.com)

Jo Slater email: [slater\\_jo@hotmail.com](mailto:slater_jo@hotmail.com)

Benefice Office Tel: 01304 611323 - ansaphone checked daily.  
email: [eastry.benefice@gmail.com](mailto:eastry.benefice@gmail.com) (checked daily)

**Details of our online Church Service are shown below**

## **Church Office - Tel: 01304 611323**

**Benefice Office**, The Church Hall, Church Street, Eastry CT13 0HH  
Wednesdays 10.45am to 12.45pm and Fridays 10.00am to 12 noon

## **Benefice Website**

Please visit our website: [www.EWBchurches.org.uk](http://www.EWBchurches.org.uk) and share your thoughts on progress so far to Michael Kinns.  
The new website is regularly being updated.

*NB there is also a new sub-page for "Eastry Church" on the Eastry Parish Council website which links to the benefice website.*

**Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/EWBchurches](http://www.facebook.com/EWBchurches)**

## **ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES - Access Procedure**

**To join, you will need to do one of the following:**

**Using a laptop or tablet**, copy this URL in to your web browser  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7360055669>

**On a smartphone**, dial: (the commas are important)  
+442034815240,,7360055669# or +442080806591,,7360055669#

**On a land line or old mobile phone**, dial: 0203 481 5240 or 0208080 6591  
When asked for your meeting number, enter: 7360055669#

Ignore the request for an ID – just press # again  
If you are asked for a password, it is 2 4 6 8 10

## **The Church Registers**

### **Baptism**

29/08/21 Lily-Anne Jackson

### **Wedding**

24/07/21 Carly Ripley & Carl Fisher

### **Funerals**

27/07/21 Richard Laslett

30/07/21 Jackie Potter



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## Beacon View Vets Update

Hi everyone! We hope that you have had a great summer with your pets. You may have read in the news recently about a shortage of veterinary surgeons affecting practices across the country. I'm pleased to say that at Beacon View we have actually welcomed two new vets to the team over the summer.

Katie joined Beacon View at the start of the Summer, after doing cover work for us, she fell in love with the practice and our clients. Having grown up locally in Deal, Katie moved back to the area after her time at Bristol Vet School.

Katie has always loved being around animals and after helping out at a veterinary practice when she was 13 she became fascinated with veterinary medicine and was certain she wanted to pursue a career as a vet. Katie graduated from Bristol Vet School with distinction, receiving an award for the highest grade in her year group! "I enjoy meeting different people and their pets and building relationships over time. I love the variety of working in veterinary practice and how no two days are ever the same. In veterinary medicine there is always something new to learn!"

Katie has a keen interest in Emergency and Critical Care; she particularly enjoys the fast pace of emergency medicine and the huge difference that you can make for the patient and owner. Katie is also pursuing her interest in diagnostic imaging. At home Katie has two dogs of her own, one very energetic Sprocker Spaniel called Rupert and a cheeky German Spitz called Freddie; both of whom entertain Katie at agility training. Katie also has a rabbit called Spot who thinks that she is a dog!

We also recently welcomed Sorrel to the team who grew up in Kent and graduated from Bristol Vet School in 2009. Throughout her childhood Sorrel was surrounded by sheep, cats and dogs, she had a keen interest in science so it was only natural that she pursued a career in veterinary medicine. Sorrel loves being a small animal vet and is passionate about internal medicine, particularly endocrinology. She also has a keen interest in emergency medicine and surgery.

"Quality of life is key to everything as a vet and I enjoy working alongside owners to find the best solution for them and their pet. It's wonderful when we see sick animals making a full recovery."

At home Sorrel has a young family and 40 sheep to keep her busy! She also has a cat named Batgirl who she rescued as a stray in her first month as a qualified vet.

Please give both Sorrel and Katie a hello and a wave if you see them in the village.

As always if you have any questions please get in touch by phone or social media channels.

Wishing you and your pets a happy and healthy summer from all at Beacon View,

*Claire*

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## Neighbourhood Watch - Halloween & Fireworks!



On the next page is a poster for your front door or window to deter Trick or Treating on Halloween. Please cut it out and use it. **You do not have to answer the door to them. Please display it!**

If you celebrate Halloween please read and follow this advice:

Always have an **adult** with you. Think! Would you call at **strangers'** homes at any other time? Only call at houses where people **know** you. Please **respect** older people - even a knock at the door can be frightening for them. If there's a notice asking you not to call then please **don't**. Throwing flour and eggs is not funny and you could end up in **trouble**.

**Have fun but take care and respect others. Let's keep Eastry safe!**

### Stay safe with Fireworks

Fireworks are dangerous. They can hurt and frighten people and animals. It is against the law for anyone under 18 to have them.

Follow the **FIREWORKS CODE**, visit [www.dti.gov.uk/fireworks](http://www.dti.gov.uk/fireworks)

It is safer to go to an organised display and if you use fireworks in a way that causes nuisance you could be fined £80. If you use fireworks dangerously you could end up in prison. The maximum is a life sentence.

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## Our Honey Bees - Ray Checksfeld

What a year for our honey bees. Thank goodness everything came good in July and August. My bees did me proud considering the changeable weather they were faced with. Alas in some areas not too far away, beekeepers have had a torrid time and have had no surplus honey. The bees need to have the flowers and fauna within 3 miles of their hive and did you notice the wild flowers all out in bloom along the roadsides. Lovely. All due to cutbacks in cutbacks (excuse the pun).

I did have one problem, probably caused by the recent wet and cold weather. On inspection I noticed that one hive's brood box had comb that contained 60% to 70% drone brood (males). Disaster for the colony. This hive contained a new queen, she had been laying eggs for a week or so but she had obviously not mated correctly and was laying unfertilized eggs, which develop into drones and not worker bees. The queen mates only once, with maybe 6 to 9 drones. This obviously had not happened. Amazingly the Queen decides which type of egg to lay normally but the miss mating meant no fertilized eggs, all drones and the hive would not survive long with no worker bees. I did have a spare nucleus of bees with a nice new queen and was able to join the two together.

This basically involves placing a sheet of newspaper on top of one colony, then placing the other hive on top. The bees will chew through the paper within a few days, all smell the same by then, mix and hey presto. All done. That is the theory.!

One question that often crops up from my honey buyers. What causes honey to set and the time it takes and why sometimes sets very coarse and some very fine.

My answer is . The type of plant the nectar and pollen comes from, maybe... dozens of different plants. Most honey's set in the end. I have no control over that. If it gets adulterated by man, that is different.

My honey is raw honey. Straight from the hive. No additives , no chemicals. All for now. Myself and bees are looking forward to an Indian summer. Maybe.

Ray

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## EASTBURY

PARISH COUNCIL



## Country Eye

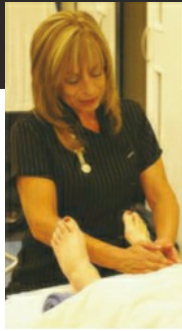


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## Climate Change

This is the second and more publicised threat facing the world. **Climate** is a description of the types of **weather** and the proportions of each type over the year for an area. **Weather** is driven by energy delivered from the sun and converted to **heat** here on earth.

There are three components to weather: The **temperature**; a measure of the heat energy in the air, water or solid surfaces around us. Any **precipitation**. This results from the **evaporation** of water from the earth's surface. The water vapour then rises and cools, eventually **condensing** into **mist, fog, rain, hail, sleet** or **snow** and falling to earth. Which form precipitation takes depends upon how cold it is at the height at which condensation occurs and as the droplets/ flakes fall. Mist and fog form where the vapour condenses close to the earth's surface, rain where condensation occurs higher, at lower temperatures, hail where the raindrops fall through colder air and freeze solid, snow where condensation occurs at temperatures below freezing, so vapour is turned directly to solid crystals of water. **Wind**, its **direction** and **speed**. The global wind system is driven by air, in the heat close to the **equator**, heating up, expanding so becoming less dense and rising. Towards the colder **poles**, air cools, becomes denser so sinks. This creates an air **circulation** with air moving, as wind from equator to poles higher up in the atmosphere and poles to equator lower down. This simple pattern is complicated by the **earth's rotation**, by **mountains and hills** obstructing air movements causing the to rise up and by local 'hot spots'.

**Energy from the sun** reaches earth as **electro-magnetic waves**, of different **wavelength and frequency**. the most energetic, highest frequency waves are dangerous **gamma** rays, then there is a **spectrum** of ever reducing energy and frequency: X rays, UV rays, visible light waves, violet through to red, then infra red (heat) and, finally, radio waves. These all move fairly freely through space but, on hitting the earth's atmosphere how much they can penetrate to the earth's surface varies. Happily, the most dangerous waves are soon mostly stopped, but visible light, heat and radio waves penetrate freely (and some UV, causing damage to tissues, including those of our skin).

On hitting the earth's surface waves are either **reflected**, back out towards space (this occurs particularly from smooth pale surfaces; photographs of the earth from space show how bright and colourful appear the oceans and vegetated areas) or **absorbed**, heating up the earth.

If the earth's surface is heated up it will **radiate** energy waves, just as the sun does, but, being much less hot, the waves are of lower energy, infra red waves. This process goes on day and night, whereas incoming energy from the sun is confined to daylight hours so, over a period the energy lost to space as infra red equals that gained from the sun and the average temperature of the earth remains constant.

Or so it did throughout the duration of human history.....until the industrial revolution really got going. Next time we will look at what has gone so horribly wrong.

*Terry Wood*

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## Bird Watching with Big Nick

This month I'm writing about the *Ardeidae* family, consisting of Herons, Egrets and Bitterns. Their diet is quite varied - fish, amphibians, insects and even small mammals or birds. We're quite lucky here in that in most years several species considered quite rare throughout much of Britain can be seen.

Starting with the three species of Egret now found here. The commonest is the Little Egret, a smallish ~60cm/23" bird compared to all but the Cattle Egret. All 3 species are white so you have to look for other distinguishing features to tell them apart. The Little Egret has a dark bill, dark legs and **yellow feet** and can often be seen feeding in ponds, streams, marshes and along the coast. They started to colonise the UK in the 1980s and are now relatively common.

Much less commonly seen is the Great White Egret – similar in size to the Grey Heron and considerably larger than Little Egrets at 94cm/37" It has a bright yellow bill and dark feet. First recorded as a breeding species in the UK in 2012 when a pair nested on the Somerset Levels; numbers have been increasing. The photo below was taken at Stodmarsh in September.

The smallest and scarcest is the Cattle Egret, which usually feeds amongst livestock in fields, picking off insects disturbed by the grazing animals. It is ~45cm/17.5" and has a yellow bill and yellowish legs and feet. It also now breeds in the UK and some birds spend the winter here, three were at Sandwich Bay in 2019/20 and one is on Worth Marshes at the time of writing.



Great White Egret



Little Egret



Cattle Egret

Much less frequently seen but still an annual visitor to the area is the Spoonbill. These are also large white birds but the bill is unmistakable with large flattened paddles at the end. They feed on small aquatic animals by sifting through mud with their specialist bill. The photo was at Sandwich a few years ago but they also turn up at Oare Marshes and Stodmarsh.

Possibly the hardest to see is the Bittern, its camouflage plumage and shy nature means that it is seldom seen, but if you are lucky you may get a glimpse as one breaks cover (as in the photo). It ceased to be a breeding bird in the UK in the 19th



century but numbers have picked up slowly with careful habitat management. They nest in dense reed beds and the males make a loud booming call to attract a mate.

Finally, the Grey Heron, which is by far the commonest of the family in the UK. Known to most people with ponds where they will take goldfish, they are usually seen at lakes and rivers, standing in shallow water poised to catch fish or amphibians.



*Spoonbill*



*Bittern*



*Grey Heron*

*Nick*

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We are lucky to live in a low crime area but if you or someone in your street has had any problems with break ins, cold calling or suspicious activity do let your nearest neighbourhood watch contact know. They may be able to advise and also to warn other folk.

**Please Note that this is a supplementary service offered by volunteers and your first point of call for major events should be the police or PCSO.**

Thinking of Halloween, have fun but please be considerate particularly of older folk who may not want to be disturbed and may even become frightened. Anyone not wanting to answer the door to should put our poster on the door or in the window.  
**Let's keep this village a safe and happy place for everyone.**

There will be a one off social tea/coffee morning one Friday in October. This is in lieu of the council reinstating the normal regular Friday get togethers. It will be organised by the Neighbourhood Watch team who will arrange for a speaker and display of statistics for crime in the area. Look out for posters *NHW Committee*



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## 240 pennies in a pound!

I remember the days of threepenny bits and a nurse in the school in search of our nits.

I remember the days of bobbies on the beat and just one pair of shoes we had for our feet.

I remember the days of 'Listen with Mother', our doors were left open as we helped each other. conkers and snowballing were safely permitted, jumpers and cardigans were always hand-knitted.

When children happily wore National Health glasses and milk was drunk in all of school classes.

Dumplings for dinner, bread and dripping for tea, our annual holiday was 'one day' by the sea.

Navy blue knickers and Vyella vests, the small of the Vick we rubbed on our chests.

A black and white telly with a 12 inch screen watching the programme 'Dixon of Dock Green'.

Mum swearing at the coalman cos his sacks were too small and doing handstand up against walls.

Leapfrog and rounders, marbles and cricket, using our coats for the stumps and the wicket.

It's done us no harm cos we've all survived and cos you're reading this you are still alive.

So many memories, so much to tell so I must get my pen out of this messy ink well!

**Rose Beer**



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## Rose Beer - Envy

Jealousy and envy are not nice qualities to have, but through life it's sometimes very difficult to overcome these feelings and emotions. Now...with the risk of you readers thinking 'here she goes again with another sob story' I will tell you about one of my earliest memories of jealousy.

I was brought up in a tiny two up two down with a scullery. The front door opened onto the pavement and immediately opposite our narrow, little street, was the stables for some of Shepherd Neame's horses. Every time we opened the front door we would be invaded by great horse flies and bluebottles and the smell of horse urine and the "rest!" became a natural smell to us.

We called the front room 'the other room' because if we couldn't find anything mum would say "it's no doubt in the other room" and it usually was as it was full of clutter. The middle room which most people called the dining room we called the kitchen. It had a big black fireplace with an oven on the side which was called a 'Kitchener'. It had a mantelpiece with a dirty fringe round it, and on the top were a big black kettle and a big black pot, like a witches cauldron. In the centre of the room was a big old table with about half a dozen tablecloths - a chenille one, an oil cloth one, a check one and a white one for when Auntie came to visit, yet when we sat down to dinner it would all be covered in newspaper so as not to get the tablecloth dirty!

The scullery was brown brick and was home to our only sink and cold water tap. There was a tiny little mottled, blue-grey stove which was rarely used because, in Mum's words, 'She hadn't got a shilling for the meter!' Both bedrooms had a sash cord window, one we couldn't open and one we couldn't close. We had a bucket and a chamber pot upstairs for 'night time visits' and I feel sure that's where the expression 'bucket and chuck it' comes from.

My mothers' domestic chores were non-existent. She spent most of the day standing by the front door, a skinny piece of paper (supposed to be a roll your own fag) hanging from the corner of her mouth, stockings rolled down to her ankles, her hair was either in curlers or under a head scarf. Our house was a hovel, no doubt about it, it stank, Mum stank and probably, so did I but when we were offered a new council house with all mod cons Mum said they were too common!!! So we had to stay put. The next door family had a daughter called Valerie who was a couple of years older than me moved to one and when I went to visit her she had her own bedroom with pretty pink curtains and an eiderdown to match.

She could have a bath everyday, everything was beautiful and she even had a pet kitten. Walking home I sobbed my heart out for all the things she had. I didn't want to go back to the squalor and slum of our house, with bed bugs and flies for pets. Mum said 'I 'spect they think they are high and mighty now' but I thought no it's us who are disgusting, disgraceful and downright dirty. So yes I have been the culprit of envy and jealousy. Off for a lovely hot bath now!

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