

The  
**Eastry**  
Village News

February  
March  
2022



*Nick Smith photo*

## 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**

[www.eastry-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastry-pc.gov.uk)

[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)

**Eastry Cricket Club**

[chairman@eastrycricketclub.com](mailto:chairman@eastrycricketclub.com)

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

# BICKERS

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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 Vacant

**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





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Join us for **Valentines Day**, Sat 12th or Mon 14th Feb, **Mothering Sunday** - 27th March



**BEER and MUSIC FESTIVAL, Easter Weekend, 15th– 18th April**



**Clairvoyant Eve – 6:30 for 7pm, Sat 19th Feb, Thurs 10th March, Sat 9th April**

**Andy's Quiz Night – 7pm Start, Sat 26th Feb, Sat 26th March, Sat 30th April**

Keep up to date with our events &  
for more info find us on social media



The Five Bells Eastry



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## Can you help?

The Eastry Village News committee is looking for delivery volunteers to cover - Upper Gore Lane, Centenary Gardens, Woodnesborough Lane and Hill Drive. This is every other month and involves delivering the Village News to the roads above.

If you would like to help please contact the editor, Patrick Clarke by telephone on 01304 611224 or by email [evneditor@gmail.com](mailto:evneditor@gmail.com)

The EVN committee would like to say a grateful thank you to John Waring and Stan Smith for their sterling work as delivery volunteers.

## The Eastry Book Club Group 2022

has been successfully launched, meeting on the third Wednesday of each month in the Five Bells at 7pm.  
New members welcome.

**Please PARK considerably in Eastry**

**Eastry kids say please SLOW DOWN!**

## Dover District Council - Bin Collections 2022

### Non recyclable waste

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

**Tuesdays** 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> February 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> March

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

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

**Tuesdays** 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Please check your dates on the **DDC website**

The **MOBILE LIBRARY** visits on the Village Hall Car Park between 0940-1010 on Fridays 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

## 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)



# EV FASTCHARGE



**Do you have an electric vehicle** or are you thinking about the benefits of changing to hybrid or fully electric? Drivers are taking advantage of rising energy prices with EV tariffs and solar panel energy to charge their car at home. This is considered to be the cleanest and most cost effective way to put miles into the battery.

## **What are the benefits of a dedicated home charging unit?**

- Charge the vehicle 3x faster than using a traditional 13A plug
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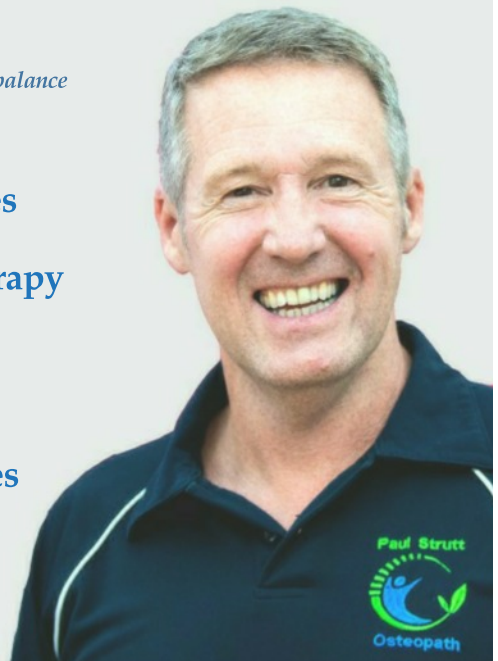
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## Eastry Horticultural Society - Eastry Gardeners

Goodbye 2021. And the very Best Wishes for 2022 come from all of your very enthusiastic and hard working Committee. 2021, well that was certainly a year of unwelcome happenings. Different variants of the coronavirus, with Delta, Beta, Alpha the 'Kent' variation and the still rapidly spreading Omicron, has kept us all on our toes, but hopefully we have managed to complete the year in relative safety. The club's end of the year meeting/American supper despite being numerically restricted due to the last minute government guide lines was still a very enjoyable evening. It was very obvious that all the members present had arrived with a more than adequate supply of food and drinks. Apart from the food and the companionship the undoubted highlight of the evening was without question the two hours of entertainment which kept us all toe tapping and finger clicking.

The man in command was one Barry Goss, a regular visitor to our festive meetings. His magic guitar and great vocals kept us all enthralled by singing and playing just the right range of music for our generation, mainly ranging from the 50's through to the eighties whilst throwing in some of the later stuff as well as being open to any requests from his audience. Well done Barry you made our evening a real pleasure. What a pity that many of today's songs are unlikely to pass the same test of time.

Our club secretary, the young(ish) glamorous Jackie (when you get to my age all ladies are young and glamorous) has already booked for us an entire year of speakers and events so, fingers crossed, there will be plenty to keep everyone interested and active. In the fullness of time Jackie will let everyone have the years' calendar. Our first big competition includes of course the annual pot grown Daffodil. I am 100% certain that at least twenty of you members already have the potential winner growing strongly in your pots. Just looking around my own garden the early daffs are already sprouting up everywhere. Hopefully we are in for a pretty spectacular spring display.

There are certainly hundreds of excellent reasons for growing your own food produce, I find one of the easiest and most satisfying is my thick homemade Leek, Potato and Stilton soup - it never fails. By the time that these notes are published most of your pruning should be behind you, so what's next?

Sowing outdoors between February and end of March you can get broad beans, beetroot, summer cabbage, carrots, leeks, lettuce, parsnips, spinach, spring onions, rocket and radishes underway. That should certainly keep you busy, weather permitting of course. Mind you there are plenty of other seeds that you can start off indoors earlier than that - tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and aubergines for example.

I guess that will be sufficient for now so I am off for a nice glass or two of the "falling over" liquid and a peaceful night. Best wishes to you all.

John Surridge

## Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society

The first get together will be in the Parish Hall on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February for a home grown evening presented by Chairman David Smith, Sue Harris (head gardener at Quex Park) and Sheila Smith. This is a week early as the chairman celebrates a birthday on the following Monday.

Ray Sedgwick has kindly offered to demonstrate daffodils for growing and showing at the next meeting at 7.30pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March, so that we are prepared for the Spring Show on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

All will be invited to visit and enter the show and the schedule will be available from Ian Denne (01304 374975) or Sheila Smith (01304 611580).

## The first bumble bees of 2022

The 6<sup>th</sup> January dawned with a sharp frost but calm and sunny and there on my Mahonia bush was a queen bumble bee. Such a lovely sound as she worked the yellow aromatic blossoms. The garden also has a white flowering honeysuckle that would be most welcome to the bees.

It is too early for hover flies and honey bees but it won't be long before those insects find the snowdrops, crocus, pulmonaria and hellebores. It all makes winter feel so much shorter as the new life begins.

Sheila Smith

## Dover Flower Club

**invites you to join us for our monthly meeting on**

Monday 28th February at 7.15pm at Whitfield Village Hall.

**We are looking forward to a floral demonstration by Karen Hart. She is the owner of a flower shop at Archers Low near Sandwich. Her title is "New Beginnings". These arrangements will be raffled off at the end of the evening.**

Our sales table will be open for all those essential flower arranging accessories. Refreshments will also be available.

**Dover Flower Club members free, entry for guests £8.**

We look forward to welcoming you all. For further information please contact Maureen Edmond [emond.randm@talktalk.net](mailto:emond.randm@talktalk.net)





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## Eastry Parish Council

Eastry Parish Council are delighted to present their recent improvements to the Parade, hand rails on the steps, a bollard installed by KCC Highways to discourage drivers from mounting the pavement to enter the layby. The Parish Council are grateful to the European Regional Development Fund who funded the ramps to improve access to shops on the parade.



# **Eastry Village Coffee Morning**

***Village Hall 9.00-12 noon***

Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> February
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> April
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May

**All welcome, free tea, coffee, squash and biscuits.**

**Hi Kent Hearing Charity will be in attendance  
10.00 -12 noon, providing free NHS hearing aid  
aftercare, advice and battery supply.**



**For more info: Contact the Clerk, Jo Jones 07903 739792**

# EASTRY EVENTS

**Breakfast Morning - Thursday March 3rd at Eastry Village Hall.**

Choice of breakfasts available with free tea and coffee.

Tickets to be bought in advance.

**Saturday March 12th - BINGO at The Five Bells, Eastry 4-6pm.**

Fun for all the family with a cash prize!

Tickets to be bought in advance from the pub.

**Craft Fair with Café - Saturday March 26th 10-3pm at Eastry Village Hall.**

**Eastry Safari - Sunday April 10th 11-2.30**

which includes an Easter egg hunt for children.

**Eastry Queens Platinum Jubilee Fete Thursday June 2nd 2-9.30**

with the beacon lighting ceremony at 9.15. At Eastry Gun Park.

**The above events are all to raise funds for the fete.** For tickets, to book a craft/safari stall, fete volunteers or more information on any of these events please contact **Laura Lewis on 07368957235** or email [eastryevents@gmail.com](mailto:eastryevents@gmail.com)

To keep up to date with our events please visit [www.eastryevents.co.uk](http://www.eastryevents.co.uk) or on Facebook, Eastry Events.



**EASTRY**  
**QUEEN'S JUBILEE FETE**  
**AT THE GUN PARK 2ND JUNE 2PM**

**STALLS BBQ TRADITIONAL FETE GAMES**  
**CRAFT STALLS BEER TENT LIVE MUSIC**  
**ARENA FOOD STALLS BEACON LIT 9:15PM**

The poster features a yellow background with various illustrations of fete activities: a Ferris wheel, a crown, a hot air balloon, a person on a high wire, a tug-of-war team, a person playing a guitar, a person on a bungee, and a large fire. The text is in a mix of blue and red fonts.



## Eastry Primary School - Mud pies anyone?

Last year, we were excited to share details of the Forest School that was being established at Eastry Primary. The value of the learning opportunities that the outdoor environment provides; the enthusiasm of our children and the passion of our Forest School Leaders, has ensured that even a global pandemic could not prevent this venture from growing and flourishing.



Outdoor learning has become embedded in the learning of all of our children and since September, our Forest School Programme has been extended to ensure that children from reception to Year 6 participate in at least one Forest School session per week. Going forward, two further members of our staff are receiving training to be forest school leaders, with a view to leading additional activities for small groups of children.

Would you be able to help us with the maintenance of our outdoor classrooms? In particular we would be very grateful to receive donations of old pots, pans, blunt utensils for our very popular mud kitchens.

Maybe you have had some trees cut down in your own gardens and have large logs that we could use for log seats, or wood chips that we could put down to keep our pathways from getting too muddy and slippery.

Please do get in touch with us if you can help in any way, your donations would be gratefully received.

**Tracy Inglis    Family Liaison Officer    01304 611360**



**Eastry kids say please SLOW DOWN!**





# ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CRICKET?



## ***Eastry Cricket Club***

Players of all ages and experience welcome

Friendly, inclusive club, where everyone gets a game

Feel free to come and watch

Come enjoy our picturesque ground

Join us for net practice in April

Updates available on social media



<http://www.blog.eastrycricketclub.com>

## What is Dover District Council doing about climate change?

Dover District Council has acknowledged the serious impact of climate change globally and in our everyday lives. The Council declared a Climate Change Emergency recognising the need for urgent action. Outlined below are some of the current/ most recent initiatives and actions it has taken to reduce emissions:-

The Council has Grants/Schemes available to help residents in receipt of certain benefits, or on a low income with a vulnerability to living in a cold home (age/ health conditions) to improve the energy efficiency and increase the heat retention of their homes which decreases the need for energy and as a consequence reducing carbon emissions. More information can be found on the Council's website (<https://www.dover.gov.uk/Environment/Energy-Advice/Grant-Schemes.aspx>), or by calling 01304 872414.

New council housing built in the district will include solar Photovoltaics (PV), electric heating and provide additional insulation. These measures will significantly reduce the environmental impact of the developments and help reduce the long-term heating costs for the tenants.

The Council's Green Energy Grant Scheme is available for local businesses to help small businesses save carbon, become more energy efficient and save money. Recently DDC has given a grant of almost £10,000 towards the cost of new solar panels at a local farm shop.

Following a successful funding bid to the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV), 49 electric vehicle charging points have been installed across the district (in car parks and on-street). A new fleet of electric buses will operate on Dover Fastrack when it's launched in 2023, which will become Fastrack Kent's first zero-emission bus service. Key works have been given the go ahead at St Margaret's Bay to help boost sea defences and continue to protect the area for the future.

Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens owned and managed by DDC have been awarded The Green Flag Award, in recognition of the enhancement of wildlife habitats, re-planting the orchard, and the provision of facilities for people to learn about parkland heritage and biodiversity. The Council celebrated National Tree Week by planting native trees to create a woodland walk at North Deal recreation ground. The trees offset the manufacture of 25 eco dog waste bins installed across the district by DDC. A further 14 trees gifted to the district from the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St.Andrews following the 149th Open at Royal St George's have also been planted in Sandwich, at a community garden in Aylesham and Kearsney Parks adding to the 63 new fruit trees planted recently.

DDC will continue to take action to reduce emissions over which it has control and influence to meet the ambition of becoming a net zero emitter by 2030 and to support the district to become carbon neutral by 2050.

## Eastry WI



Wishing a very Happy New Year to one and all. Hopefully this year 2022 will be a better one.

Our Christmas meeting didn't go quite to plan but we managed to have an enjoyable evening playing board games and doing quizzes and a buffet was arranged by the committee. Sadly we lost a dear member just before Christmas. She was a brilliant writer and crafter and will be greatly missed. Some of our ladies have been poorly so we wish them a speedy recovery.

We have a full agenda for the year ahead, all being well. Our first meeting is Wednesday 2nd February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. New members welcome.

Looking forward to seeing you there. **Kate Hobbs President 07512 873005**

## Year round Recipes

### Lentil Dhal

*1 tablespn vegetable oil      1 large onion finely chopped*  
*1 garlic clove peeled and grated*  
*1 inch of peeled root ginger grated*  
*2 teaspn Garam Masala*  
*Level teaspn of ground cinnamon*  
*400g tin of chopped tomatoes*  
*400g tin of coconut milk      150 ml of vegetable stock*  
*250g of red lentils      Juice of 1 lemon*  
*A good handful of baby spinach or shredded chard*  
*1 finely chopped carrot*

### METHOD

Gently saute the onion in the oil until soft  
 Add the ginger, garlic and spices for a minute or two  
 Add the tinned tomatoes, coconut milk and stock  
 Stir before adding the lentils and carrot  
 Simmer for about 20 minutes, check that the carrot and lentils are soft  
 Add the lemon juice and spinach/chard

Serve as a side dish or with rice or naan breads as a main.

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To find out more about this amazing new theatre school you can email us at [performinmotion.pa@gmail.com](mailto:performinmotion.pa@gmail.com) or find us on Facebook [@performinmotion](https://www.facebook.com/performinmotion)

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## Poets' Corner

### The Nit Nurse

As a child, on the whole I was happy at school,  
 Just, as long as I remembered to follow each rule.  
 Always having a handkerchief, a strange one today,  
 But back in the fifties that was the customary way.

Wearing plastic aprons when happily painting,  
 Then waiting for teacher to give you her rating.  
 Queuing up, for inspection by the dreaded Nit nurse,  
 This was the most truly fearful curse.

My long hair neatly styled into one plait each side,  
 With pretty slides and colourful ribbon bow ties.  
 She'd have no time to waste,  
 Out came my plaits and accessories with such haste,

Her fat sausage fingers just ploughing through my hair,  
 No respect for my plaits my mum constructed with patience and care.  
 What was she looking for? Or was I too neat,  
 She wasn't stopping until she'd complete.

That dreaded Nit nurse gave back my accessories,  
 And simply said "next, move on now if you please".  
 With my hair like a birds nest discarded, a mess,  
 It left me this child totally distressed.

So whatever that Nit nurse was looking to obtain,  
 She never ever found it in my now tangled tousled mane.

*Shirley Hopkins*

## The Razzmatazz of Spring 2022

As winter throws off its overcoat, and prepares to greet the sun  
 Daffodils blow their trumpets, as though heralding what's to come  
 Proud trees dress for the occasion, refreshed with the morning dew  
 A chorus of faithful violets, harmonise with the bells so blue  
 A colourful extravaganza, as the whole world begins to sing  
 Welcoming the colour burst and the glorious razzmatazz of spring

*Linda West*

## Omicron Variant

So here it is again wearing a different disguise  
 Surely it can't fool us, as we now must realise  
 If we are to keep each other safe and further more lock down  
 We need to have the booster to stop it spreading around

We all have a moral duty, to protect our N.H.S.  
 Already under pressure, and oh so much duress  
 So come on all you people, take heed to what I say  
 Keep yourself protected, and live another day!

*Linda West*

## The Midwife

I saw the district nurse today, riding her bike,  
 You know the lady I mean, the one everybody likes.  
 She has a little black bag, I wonder what's inside,  
 Maybe I could ask her, I will have to decide.

I have my suspicions, but I don't know for sure,  
 Perhaps its tablets from the doctor for a cure.  
 I continue to wonder, mum will know, no doubt,  
 My curiosity has got to me, I have just got to find out.

But before I had a chance, I overheard mum say,  
 The nurse delivered next doors baby, a boy today.  
 All delivered safely without the slightest snag,  
 Well, who'd have thought it's a baby in her bag.

*Shirley Hopkins*

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# Current Scams

Here are a few of the current scams in circulation nationally and internationally:

- Door-to-door scam where a visitor claims to be from the Health Authority to test you for Covid-19. **You do not have to open your door to anyone you don't know and aren't expecting.**
- Telephone scam where someone claiming to work for the police, hospital, a bank or other service cold calls and says they are raising money or require payment for a local cause or service. **Never respond to an unexpected call by giving away cash, cards, PINs, bank details or personal information – no matter how tempting or convincing the caller may seem.**
- Text or Email scams asking you to click on a link in order to obtain a Covid Passport and requesting payment and/or asking for your personal and financial data. **Remember Covid Passports are free of charge and the NHS would never request a payment or ask for financial/personal data.**
- Text and email scams claiming to be from HMRC, saying you are eligible for a tax refund. **Never click a link or give out your bank details or personal information in response to an unsolicited email or text – no matter how tempting or convincing the message may seem.**
- Text and email scams offering a separate covid test for Omicron, which requests that you click on a link and then requests a payment and/or personal and financial data. **Remember Covid PCR and Lateral flow tests are free of charge from the NHS and they would never request a payment or ask for personal/financial data.**

If you receive a suspicious email then forward to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) and suspicious text messages to 7726 (SPAM).

Never **assume** or **believe** a message or offer is genuine – always **confirm** by contacting a trusted number or team like Action Fraud, a family member, friend or your bank's fraud department to check.

Report scams at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) – and contact your bank's fraud team straight away if any money or bank details have been handed over.

Get the latest scam advice by following @KentPoliceECU or @Kent\_Police on twitter.



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## Eastry Neighbourhood Watch 2022



At this time of the year it is a pleasure to thank the Eastry team for all their support and vigilance to make Eastry a safer environment in which to live. Please note the new logo for 2022 especially as NHW is the largest UK Crime Prevention Charity.

There was no lull in crime over the Christmas period - someone started the new year by having their blue badge stolen. Obtaining a blue badge for the disabled is no easy matter and it is a very precious document that allows the disabled to retain a degree of independence. The disabled parking places are invaluable as the extra space allows for car doors to be opened fully and also allows for wheelchairs to be unloaded at the rear. Someone is enjoying the benefits of the blue badge or it has been sold on to someone who is not entitled to use it and, quite frankly, doesn't need it.

It is so important to ensure that any car is locked and all valuables removed from the vehicle. We so often hear of satnavs, purses, wallets and other valuables being snatched from the front of the car as there is a ready market for such items. As this year progresses the cost of living is going to rise and there are people who are looking for any opportunity to make easy money. Many are probably in debt having overspent at Christmas.

I recently renewed my blue badge and had difficulty recalling the name of my GP. When did you last see your GP? I have just learnt that for any form filling it is not necessary to name a specific GP. The Market Place Surgery in Sandwich "works as a team" and patients are directed to the most appropriate GP available. So when filling in forms just name the practice. It would be advisable to check this is the same with other local surgeries. Gone are the days when our doctor knew our history and who our parents were and so had a better understanding of their patients and their family histories.

Please be aware that there has been several thefts of vehicles spare wheels in the Dover area - especially from vans. Please visit the Kent Police website at [www.kent.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/](http://www.kent.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/)

**Is your phone safe?** I know many of you may have had a new mobile phone for Christmas but, if your phone was taken, could you identify it if it was found? I would highly recommend you record your IMEI number and keep your receipt.  
**HELP US HELP YOU!**

### Veterans' Mess Tin & Banter events.

Roll call to all veterans to come along to these events which take place every second Wednesday 10am - 12 noon. Veterans can not only receive a free breakfast but also get advice and socialise with other veterans too. This is at the Royal Marines Association, 37 the Strand Walmer, Deal CT14 7DX. For further info contact [communitycovenant@dover.gov.uk](mailto:communitycovenant@dover.gov.uk) or call 01304 872408.

**Sheila Smith**

# Eastry Woodnesborough Benefice



## Services in February and March

### Services in Eastry

<b>First Sunday</b>	10am Holy Communion
<b>Second Sunday</b>	10am Family Come & Praise
<b>Third Sunday</b>	10am Holy Communion
<b>Fourth Sunday</b>	8am Holy Communion 10am Holy Communion

**Services at other Benefice churches are listed in the weekly Church Notices and displayed on the EWB Benefice website**

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## Reverend Kirrilee Reid

A Happy New Year to you all. Thank you so much for the very warm welcome I have received since my arrival in early November.

We are now in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany means 'a moment of sudden and great revelation or realisation'. Epiphany is full to overflowing, with deep theological themes and challenges. One of these is that of the journey. At Christmas we journeyed to the manger to see Jesus, Son of God, born in a stable.

This season we remember the Wise Ones, stargazers, the Magi, and their long and arduous journey, following a bright new star. They followed the star and their pilgrimage eventually led them to the child and Mary his mother. They knelt and worshipped him, offering gifts – Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. They were changed by this Holy Encounter and went home a very different way, by a different route.

Another arduous journey was also undertaken- that of the Holy Family. The threat from Herod meant that Mary, Joseph and Jesus had to flee the country of their birth and they found refuge in Egypt, until it was safe to return. We often forget that Jesus was a refugee. Does this information soften our hearts to those making arduous journeys - to our shores - at this time? Epiphany is a season to reflect on journeys both outer and inner.



Journeys and Holy encounter. What new things might be revealed to us this year? How will we receive these revelations?

What new journeys are we called to travel on?

We are still journeying through the winter as well as the COVID pandemic, but we hope for brighter days ahead. For some this winter has

been a dark journey, but Spring will come again. I hope you will find comfort in the warmth of the love of God, in the following days and weeks.

Kirrilee

### Churches Open for Private Prayer\*

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

**Eastry:** 9am to 5pm daily;    **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 - Funerals**

**03/12/21     Sheila Lowther**

**04/01/22     Heather Harle**

## Our Honey Bees - Ray Checksfield



My bees are all tucked up in their cluster and keeping warm, I hope. (Another two months before I can open the hive for a little look). It is early January. We are in a cold snap and it is a lovely change from the wet and dismal December. Bees can cope with the cold but not damp conditions. I do visit my bees once a week, just to check to see that they are all standing and no damage from woodpeckers etc.

This winter I have found a 'tame' robin in among my hives. Over the 60 odd years that I have kept bees I have found many tame robins on many apiary sites and have food on hand to feed them. Other bee keepers have had the same experience. When I had my bees at the late Mr Jack Bones farm at Selson, that one would feed from my hand and fly onto my bee hat for food. Made me jump. I hope this one now gets as tame as that.

The bee smoker is a vital implement in keeping bees. Its just a small bellows type tool with a spout. This makes the bees panic and they then gorge themselves with honey, thinking they have to vacate the hive and like us, when we have a full tummy, we are very friendly just like the bees. I never attempt to go near bees without my smoker chuffing away. Years ago we all used rolled up corrugated paper as fuel but then that became a no no, as it had weird chemicals added. Dangerous to the bees. I then went on to dead and dry wood gathered from the woods but the best fuel that I have ever used was dried flowers from the Sumach Tree.

Over the years we have often walked past the allotments in our village and noticed the Sumach trees in the corner smothered in these flowers. Too hard to get in and pick them sadly. Then, this year, hey presto, some new allotments right beside them. So, anyone on the new allotment site I could be grovelling to you for the flowers this autumn. Swap for a jar of honey?



**Sumach Tree**

All for now and lets hope for a lovely Spring. **Ray**

### Helping to Keep the Kent Countryside Safe

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## Gardening on the other side of the fence (5)

The winter lull in the garden gives a gardener a chance to take stock. We are looking forward to our second Spring in Eastry so I thought I would give a summary of the garden and the plantings and changes we have made in our first year. A new wildlife-friendly hedge is establishing well along an internal boundary fence. It is made up of mixed native hedging plants which can be bought very cheaply as young whips, 64 in all – 50% Hawthorn plus Spindle; Wild Privet; Hornbeam; Field Maple and Dog Rose. Using native plants will provide more food for local birds – more insects in the spring for foraging parents and berries during the colder months and, maybe, some new nesting opportunities.

15 new trees, or large shrubs will be the structural future of the garden. 4 Silver Birch ( 2 native saplings I'd collected) and 2 *Betula jacquemontii* (the ones with the very white bark) and a Chinese Red Birch; one new apple tree (Jupiter); three crab apples (Red Sentinel and Golden Hornet and one wilder variety); two varieties of *Amelanchier*; a *Cornus Kousa*, 2 "Red Cascade" spindles (*Euonymus europaeus*) and a Rowan. A good collection of hazels, cobnuts and berry plants (redcurrants; gooseberries; chokeberry; chuckleberry) will provide the understory in and around the existing apple trees. Further ground cover planting under these is made up of comfrey; wild strawberry and sweet violets. This multi-layered approach is the focus of "Forest Gardening", a relatively recent trend in food growing that also benefits the ecology of your garden.

A more relaxed, less "tidy" garden is being widely promoted in the gardening media and, both in horticulture and farming, much more research is being undertaken into soil science and health. The more of the year that you have something growing or keeping your soil covered with mulches of leaves; woodchips etc the healthier your soil will be. Not digging and allowing natural processes to take over means increases in worms and soil microlife which in turn helps hold onto more water and nutrients. With the help of an enthusiastic daughter, here for a few weeks in the summer, we dug and installed a new pond. The spoil has been neatly stacked in a sunny corner and will be a "beetle bank", offering a habitat for these beneficial predators to hide. I have also converted an inherited wooden compost bin into a hedgehog and amphibian hibernaculum. The bottom has a covered area for hedgehogs to nest in and this is surrounded by some builder's rubble and topped with shrub prunings to provide as wide a variety of nooks and crannies as possible for newts or slow worms and maybe, bumblebees to nest in.

The last major addition is the provision of dead wood, either as log piles or longer sections used as a border edge in the less formal area of the garden. You can do this very neatly and will increase the biodiversity of your garden at the same time.

I will be giving a talk to Eastry Horticultural Society on March 8<sup>th</sup> so hope to meet some of you there. Enjoy your 2022 gardening year.

*Jeff, the "Bee-Friendly Gardener"*

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## Beacon View Vets Update

Hi everyone! We sincerely hope that you had a relaxing and slightly more normal Christmas than last year?

We saw an amazing response to our Christmas Charity appeal, with lots of generous donations for [Cats Protection: Deal and District Branch](#) and [Retired Greyhounds Canterbury](#). We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our clients and know that your gifts will be much appreciated by these deserving charities.



Sadly we have been seeing a lot of cases of a nasty parasite called Giardia. Giardia is a parasite that attacks the lining of the intestines and causes very watery, strong smelling diarrhoea. It can infect older dogs, but more frequently infects puppies and makes them feel rather unwell. Dogs become infected when they swallow Giardia that may be present in water or other substances that have been soiled with faeces.

If you suspect that your pet may have Giardia we have a rapid test that we can run in our laboratory to confirm the infection. Fortunately there are effective treatments to combat the disease but it is very easy for dogs to reinfect themselves. Giardia can be passed to humans so it is important to practice good hygiene if your pet becomes infected.

We would also like to say a very warm welcome to three new team members that have joined us since we last updated you. Tessa joined us in January and brings our vet team up to five, she has two dogs of her own named Rufus and Vino. We were also delighted to welcome two new nurses to the team before Christmas. Emma lives in Sandwich with her fiancé, and lurcher Dingo. Gemma joins us with 21 years of experience as an RVN and is kept busy by her two daughters and Border Terrier Woody.

Thank you for all your support in 2021, we now care for almost 3000 local pets! Due to team expansion we are now registering new clients, this can be easily done on our website. 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 new year from all at Beacon View,

*Claire*



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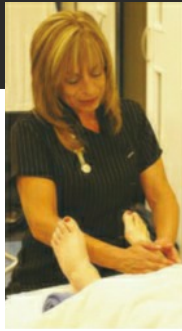
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## Rewilding

It is generally accepted that, overall, British farming is amongst the most efficient in the world. It is also an established fact that wildlife in the UK is among the most degraded anywhere. Sadly these two facts are causally linked. To produce the maximum of food per hectare of land requires large fields, growing monocultures, requiring the intensive use of fertilisers and pesticides. There is no place in such a regime for hedges, woods, ponds or any non economically productive areas. The result is massive loss of farmland wildlife. The almost complete absence of skylarks, yellowhammers and corn buntings, iconic farmland birds, in many areas symbolise this loss. It can all be rapidly reversed. I have surveyed a 1 km square close to Easry for breeding birds for years. In one field I have recorded one, occasionally two skylarks each year until one year the crop failed early and was abandoned to natural regrowth. I recorded five skylarks!

Rewilding is carried out mostly on failing agricultural land. It involves human interventions, blocking field drains, restoring natural waterways, dykes, ponds etc and initial animal introductions. These may be mammals which once lived in the area but have long been locally extinct; wild boar, beavers, pine martens, otters, even bison, hardy cattle, like English Longhorns, Highland and Belted Galloway breeds and sometimes hardy Konic ponies. These grazing animals help create uneven, tussocky plant growth, perfect for, among other species, ground nesting birds, providing cover for nests in the tussocks and shorter vegetation between for feeding. Bird re-introductions include red kite, cranes, white storks, sea eagles and ospreys. Following these initial interventions the area is left overwhelmingly untouched for natural regeneration of plants and animals. The aim is to create a web of such areas across the country providing a network of corridors for wildlife linking more formally managed nature reserves.

Critics of such schemes lament loss of food production 'requiring more imports of food', but many of these areas are lamentably poor for food growth. One classic example is that of hill sheep farming, a feature of many upland areas of the country. Such farmers invariably make a loss as poor soils support little grass growth so sheep numbers are severely limited. They are dependent upon government funding to survive but also are tempted to graze too many sheep on the hill, leading to destruction of the grazing and soil erosion. Rewilding here allows growth of scrub and mixed, native woodland, rich in plant and animal species.

Criticism is also as to how anyone can afford to introduce such schemes, but, as listeners to 'The Archers' will know, provision of camping and 'glamping' facilities and charging admission along marked paths do provide sources of income. The government plans subsidies to encourage such schemes to replace the old EU agricultural subsidy systems.

Should you wish to see all this first hand a visit to the Knepp castle estate in West Sussex is fascinating and they have a variety of websites explaining their activities. Enjoy.

*Terry Wood*



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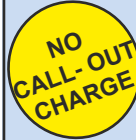
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## Bird Watching with Big Nick

Happy New Year to everyone, let's hope it is an improvement on 2020 and 2021!

My latest 'grab your camera' moment was for a bird we rarely see in the UK, a White Stork – apart from a recent reintroduction project in West Sussex only about 20 are recorded each year. This one turned up on Worth Marshes before Christmas and is still showing well at the time of writing. It is most likely to have stopped off here on migration rather than a locally raised bird as it has no leg rings or wing tags, indicative of a bird 'from the wild'.



However, before the Stork appeared I'd already decided that I was going to write about some much smaller birds, in fact the UK's smallest birds. The Goldcrest is usually quoted as the smallest, weighing in at 5 to 7g or to put that in perspective, somewhere between the weights of a 20p and 2p coin. The closely related Firecrest is on average just a little larger, but there's not much in it.



**Goldcrest** – when displaying, the crest can be raised and appears much brighter and larger

The Goldcrest – (formerly inaccurately known as Gold Crested Wren) are widespread and common throughout the UK but their tiny size means they are often overlooked. They particularly favour coniferous and yew trees and good places to look for them are in churchyards and parks (Kearsney Abbey gardens are usually a very good place to look). Their call and song are very high pitched and many people can't hear them, but if you are fortunate enough to be able to, this will often alert you to their presence.

The very similar Firecrest (it's most obvious distinguishing feature is a bright white line above the eye, which is not present in Goldcrests) is a recent arrival in the UK. They were first recorded breeding in Hampshire in 1962 but can now be found in coniferous forest in much of south-east England though in very small numbers. The call and song are similar to the Goldcrest, and it may be a bit difficult to tell them apart. Many birds arrive in the UK from Europe in the winter, so this is a good time to look out for them; one or two usually turn up at The Elms, the small wooded reserve at Sandwich Bay.



**Firecrest** – note the white stripe above and a little below the eye.

Nick

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## Rose Beer - What a load of nonsense

Now, although I never actually saw them, because at all times she wore an old brown hairnet, my mother was convinced she had eyes in the back of her head. If that wasn't enough she was convinced that I had too because she would say to me "have you seen the back of your neck?" and "have you seen behind your ears? There's enough dirt to grow potatoes." can you really imagine that happening? Now apparently I was found under a gooseberry bush and yet when Mrs. Smith had her baby the stork had brought it! I'd never seen a stork flying around let alone one with a baby in its beak yet when my aunt had her baby the nurse delivered it in a little black bag.

I'm sure she lived in fantasy land because she was always 'going to see a man about a dog' but we never owned one. We had a cat for many years but it never grinned at me so it hadn't come from Cheshire and, talk about dreaming of doing the impossible, she said she could make me laugh 'on the other side of my face'! On a really angry day she would threaten to knock me into the 'middle of next week' or to 'kingdom come'. My hair stayed dead straight even though I ate my crusts and there's never been a fruit tree growing inside me after I swallowed a few stones. My brother was told to eat his greens to 'put hairs on his chest' but I ate them too! If I drank vinegar my blood would dry up and I was in danger of falling over my bottom lip if I sulked.

After all that the only thing she was right about was if I pulled a funny face and the wind changed I would stay like it. Now I defy anyone who has read this not to recall all the things your mother told you....oh and watching too much TV will make your eyes go square!

**Rose**

## So sad.

Closer to my heart at this moment is that Alzheimers and Dementia are such sad and cruel things that deeply affects both the sufferer and their families. A very dear friend Ron, who I have known since I was seven years old when we went to school and Sunday School together, who became a lay preacher at the same local church is suffering from Alzheimers disease. We have kept in touch on and off over the years and periodically I would go to his church to listen to his beautiful sermons.

Roy was a lovely listener, a true confidante and, more importantly, a truly loyal friend. Due to Covid we have only been able to speak on the phone and gradually I got this feeling that something was not quite right - it was funny when he called me his "little old lady friend who lives in Eastry" - yes it is funny but not when it's said five times in a ten minute conversation - alarm bells started to ring and I was very concerned about him. Sadly his son confirmed that he had this awful illness and this really touched my heart.

My heart goes out to anyone who is "with this" at the moment but, let's hope that for the person suffering from it that 'ignorance is bliss' but for their loved ones and friends I would like to say my heart is with you and God bless you all.

**Rose**

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