

The  
**Eastry**  
Village News



February  
March  
2023

*Lovers' Lane Walk*

*Photo by Alice Clarke*

## Village Contacts

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

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

**PC - Mrs Debbie Bishop**  
[debbie.bishop@kent.police.uk](mailto:debbie.bishop@kent.police.uk)

**Community Warden**  
Peter Gill      07703 454190

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

**Neighbourhood Watch**  
Simon Dundas      611320

**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

Your local Shop, Newsagent and Post Office

- Your first stop for newspapers & magazines
- Wide range of confectionary
- Good selection of greeting cards & stationery
- Milk & essential groceries
- National Lottery
- Motor Vehicle Tax and Council Tax payments
- Foreign currency and travel insurance
- Banking facilities - no fee payable (Barclays/ Giro/ Co-op/ Lloyds TSB)
- Cash withdrawals (Mon-Sat only)

Now - Wines, beers and spirits!

**OPENING HOURS** - Still open 7 days a week

**Monday to Saturday 7.00am - 5.30pm      Sunday 7.30am -12pm**

**Tel: 01304 611258 (shop)    01304 621864 (Post Office)**



## Eastry Young People's Contacts

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



### **Meetings**

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

**Contact** - Chairperson of Eastry Young People's Club  
**Monica Laslett on 07902 303397**

**BUBBLES NURSERY - Contact Kirsty Francis 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**

**RAINBOWS** (age 5-7) and **BROWNIES** (age 7-10)  
Meet on Wednesdays in the Church Hall

**GUIDES** (age 10-14) and **RANGERS** (age 14-18)  
Meet on Fridays in the Church Hall

**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 - Scout Hut**

**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



The Cross, Lower Street, Eastry, Kent, CT13 0HX

Tel : 01304 611188

thefivebellseastry@yahoo.co.uk  
www.thefivebellseastry.com



## A Traditional Old English Village Pub with B&B and a lot to offer

**Valentines Day**  
Menu available Sat 11th & Tues 14th  
Feb. Booking advised.

**BINGO!**  
(Raising money for Eastry Events)  
Sat 18th Feb 4-6pm



**NEW to the pub**  
**Gourmet Burger Night**  
Fri 24th Feb



**St Patricks Day Fun & Games**  
with Live Music from Matt Brooks.  
Fri 17th March

**Mothering Sunday. Sun 19th March**  
Bookings advised to avoid disappointment



**BEER, CIDER & MUSIC FESTIVAL!**  
Coming Soon - Easter Weekend.

**Clairvoyant Eve 7pm start, Thurs 16th Feb, Sat 18th March**  
**Andy's Quiz Night 7pm start, Sat 25th Feb, Sat 25th March**

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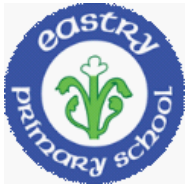
## **Eastry Village Coffee Morning** **Village Hall 9.00-12 noon**



Fridays 3rd & 17th February  
Fridays 3rd, 17th March & 31st March

- All welcome, free tea, coffee, squash and biscuits.
- Mobile Library in car park from 9.30-10am.
- Hi Kent Hearing Charity will be in attendance 10-12noon first coffee morning in the month, providing free NHS hearing aid aftercare, advice and battery supply.
- PCSO & Community Warden in attendance 9.30-11.30am

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



### **Eastry Primary School**

Are you interested in gardening? Could you commit to volunteering in our school for a few hours a week? We have a lovely wild life area within our grounds and we would appreciate some help to keep it under control.

No experience required and we would organise your DBS check. We just need you to have the enthusiasm to help us maintain a little wildlife oasis in the village for the benefit of all of our children.

### **The Eastry Book Club Group 2022/2023**

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

### **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)

### **Dover District Council - Bin Collections 2023**

#### **Non recyclable waste**

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

**Tuesdays 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> February      14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> March**

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

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

**Tuesdays 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> Febuary      7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> March**

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

Eastry Theatrical Company presents.....

# ***FOUR WEDDINGS AND AN ELVIS***

**At Eastry Village Hall**



**A hilarious romantic comedy – great for  
Valentine's Day.**

Showing on

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm)**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 2pm (doors open at 1.30pm)**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm)**

Tickets are available to purchase for £8 each (cash only)  
at Eastry Post Office **from January 2023.**

Alternatively, you can call or text Hannah at the booking office to  
reserve tickets at any time on 07842107754 and pay for them  
in cash on the day of the show.

Contains the occasional use of strong language and mild sexual references.  
Parental guidance advised.

## Eastry Horticultural Society - Eastry Gardeners

Well here we are, finally at the end of another very mixed year. Severe frosts, dramatic winds and gallons of rain but at least our gardens finally got some truly seasonal weather, though fortunately we did not (fingers crossed) get bogged down with the snow that many of our near county areas have experienced. I know that a lot of people, particularly the more senior amongst us, are not overly happy with Siberian temperatures but following the last couple of years of unnaturally relatively mild winters the soil and our gardens really did need something special to kill off many of the bugs and beasties that were taking over. Personally I am happier with the colder weather than I am with the heat, but thankfully we are all different or the summer seaside holiday resorts could really suffer.

The clubs' Christmas 'meeting' was, as is now almost the norm, another real food-fest. Upon entering everyone was issued with a personalized name tag, this was to help you all mix and chat more freely, boy did it work. All of you, the members, contributed to the occasion by bringing in a wonderful supply of home-made food and drinks which was shared, and really enjoyed, by all present. Highlight of the evening was the 'photographic display', an event made up of over thirty photographs of you the members, all taken at a very early age. The aim was for all of those present to try and guess the names of the subjects, many remained unidentified as the years had changed some faces, always for the better of course. It did have the desired effect though, that was to make it easier for members to mix and to chat freely and amusingly. Whilst the evening meal was being enjoyed a full screen presentation, prepared by our photographic genius Rob, depicting all of your photographs was running continuously so that members had plenty of time to look around, assess and make the decisions on who you thought was who. The whole evening was a wonderful response for all the very hard work put in by your committee, particularly Rob, Jacki, Brenda, Trev, Lynn, Bob, Anthea, and of course the multitude of willing helpers – a big thank you goes to you all, but we are always trying to entice new members to come and join us, you do not have to be a professional or even a very talented gardener, just as long as you enjoy your garden and like mixing with folk.

Having had the opportunity for a quick glance at our '23 programme,

it would seem that Jacki has already been very busy. We start the year off relatively smoothly with an always popular quiz night when you will also get your '23 show schedules etc. This is followed in March by what appears to be an intriguing talk by Jeff and Sylvia Wagner entitled Phantasmagoria – your guess is as good as mine on that one. Then in April of course, comes our always eagerly awaited Spring Show when I am sure that you and your gardening prowess will all make it another super show stopper event, that is followed by another very mysterious talk on “how to commit the perfect murder”, that is presented by Guy Deakins (if he hasn't been locked up by then), the mind really boggles on that one.

By the time these notes are published I am sure that many of you will have enjoyed your usual family Christmas get together, sampled a few glasses of your favourite tipples ate far too much cheese and chocolate and even stayed up late to celebrate bringing in the New Year with family and friends. Before closing for the year I am sure that you will all join me in saying a really big thank you to Patrick and his unseen team for all their hard work in giving our society and the village as a whole a very welcome and much enjoyed space in the excellent magazine each month.

A Happy New Year to you all. **John Surridge**

## Dover Flower Club

**Dover Flower Club meets every fourth Monday of the month at Whitfield Village Hall, Manley Close (off Sandwich Road), Whitfield, Dover CT16 3LY**

We have a full programme of events for 2023 including Flower Arranging Demonstrations, Workshops, competitions and visits. New members are always welcome. Our next events are as follows:

### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 - Free Floral Workshop**

flowers, apparatus and mentoring will be provided for both experienced and novice flower arrangers. *Tutor: Mig Kimpton. Free and open to ALL*

### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - Demonstration**

*Demonstrator: Jilly Griffin Title: Whatever Next!*

**Competition: “Something Surprising”**

For all enquiries please contact:

Mig Kimpton 07831 838851 or [mig@migkimpton.com](mailto:mig@migkimpton.com)



## Senior Youth Leader Required



**Eastry Young Peoples Club seek a new Senior Youth Leader**  
**Tuesday or Wednesday evening 7.00 - 9.00pm**

**We are looking for someone who is passionate about supporting young people and helping them grow into confident members of the community.**

If you are interested please contact Wendy Tutton  
 ([wendytutton07@gmail.com](mailto:wendytutton07@gmail.com) or 07598561886)

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**Perform in Motion Theatre School** is opening in September 2021 at  
 Sandwich Technology School, Deal Road, Sandwich CT13 0FA and Sandwich  
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## Eastry Primary School's link with Christian charity



Our children have been learning about the work of a Christian charity called Starfish Malawi which seeks to make a difference in the education, vocational training and health awareness of young people in the African country of Malawi.

The charity's vision is a world where every child is educated, healthy and cared for. Its mission is to reduce extreme poverty and build the kingdom of God in the lives of children, through collaborative work within communities, school and churches in the UK and Malawi.

"We cannot change the world immediately, but we can make a difference.....one life at a time. *Chris Knott (Founder & Chairman)* .

Through our partnership, Eastry children now have an exciting link with Kaphatenga Primary School in Malawi. This link will enable our school to share experience, knowledge and skills with pupils and teachers across the globe. It will enrich the learning of our children and allow them to understand the world in which they live through the eyes of others.

You can read more about the charity here :<http://starfishmalawi.com>

Before Christmas, the children at Eastry spent time thinking about questions they had about Kaphatenga school, they learnt some Chichewa and made some Malawian food. We look forward to continuing the partnership with the school.

## Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society

The Society meetings will resume on Monday the 13th February when Adrian and Sue Sullivan will bring us up to date on the proposed developments at Betteshanger Park. Meet at Northbourne Parish Hall, just beyond the Church, for 7.30 p.m. start.

March 13th the Society presents a Homegrown evening which will include a talk on Tomato growing by Sue Harris, Head Gardener of Quex Park.

The Spring Show will be staged on Sunday 2nd April – all will be welcome to compete and visit in the afternoon 2 – 4 p.m. Schedules will be available from Sheila Smith Tel: 01304 611580.



# 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?

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- Schedule charging times to take advantage of cheaper tariffs
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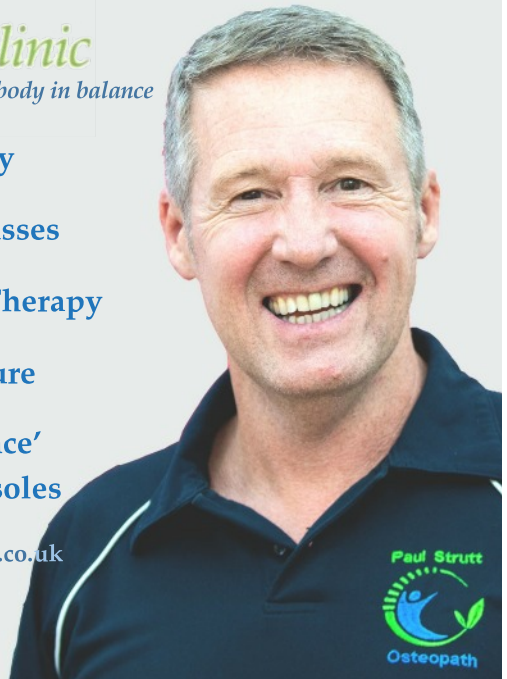
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Telephone: 01304 852588

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Station Road, Martin Mill, Kent, CT15 5JX







**Email: [eastryevents@gmail.com](mailto:eastryevents@gmail.com)**  
**Facebook: Eastry Events Team**

### **2023 “Family Fun” Fundraisers:**

**18th February and 22nd April, Bingo - 4.00pm at The Five Bells**

Tables can be booked at [eastryevents@gmail.com](mailto:eastryevents@gmail.com) or The Five Bells

£5 adults, £2.50 children

**2nd April - Safari**

**3rd June - Eastry Family Fun Day** at the Eastry Gun Park

### **New for 2023**

#### **\*\*Eastry's Got Talent\*\***

Auditions on March 12th and 26th 10.00 to noon at The Five Bells.

Entrants to attend either morning

Open to all ages and all performances but no animals.

For info and application forms email [eastryevents@gmail.com](mailto:eastryevents@gmail.com)

The final will be held at the Fun Day on 3rd June in the Gun Park

### **Calling all Eastry Clubs and Groups**

Showcase and fundraise for FREE at the Fun Day!

Email us to reserve your free pitch!

For more info or to book tickets for the fundraisers and register for the Safari/  
Easter egg hunt - please email us.

To get involved - join us at the Five Bells at 7pm February 16th or March 16th

## Eastry Organisations and Businesses

The Parish Council and The Rector would like to thank the many Eastry Organisations and Businesses who attended the Eastry Networking Event , a very successful evening was held and thanks to Mary for allowing us to meet in the Dining Room at The Five Bells.

Jo Jones, Clerk to Eastry Parish Council

01304 746036 or 07903 739792

### **EASTRY VILLAGE HALL HIGH ST EASTRY CT13 0HE**



## **TABLE TOP SALE MAKERS MARKET**

**Refreshments available all day**

**SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> February**

**SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> March**

**10:00 – 15:00hrs**

**TABLES FROM £10.**

**TO BOOK A TABLE PLEASE**

**CONTACT 07850114566 or**

**[evhevents@outlook.com](mailto:evhevents@outlook.com)**

Eastry Village Hall is a Registered Charity No: 272720



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[havingaballtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:havingaballtreasurer@gmail.com)  
 or  
[havingaballsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:havingaballsecretary@gmail.com)

## Bungalow at the Greville Almshouses GREVILLE ALMSHOUSE CHARITY Reg No 215079

Notice is given that a two bedroom bungalow is available at the Greville Almshouses in Mill Lane, Eastry. Persons of good character of not less than 50 years of age who have resided in the Parish of Eastry for not less than 5 years are eligible for appointment. (A couple may be appointed).

Application forms are available from the Secretary to the Trustees or can be downloaded from the Eastry Parish Council website [www.eastry-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastry-pc.gov.uk) and must be returned on or before Friday 10th February to:

Secretary to the Trustees,  
Mrs S Wells, 3 Gore Terrace, Gore Road, Eastry CT130LS.  
email: [grevillehomes@yahoo.com](mailto:grevillehomes@yahoo.com)

1. Residents are required to contribute a weekly sum towards the cost of maintaining the almshouses.
2. Canvassing of the Trustees or Offices is strictly forbidden. **Failure to comply with this requirement will preclude an applicant from selection.**

## Eastry CAN

Eastry CAN was founded in Autumn 2022 to look at ways of supporting the village through the cost-of-living crisis. Unfortunately, it appears that it will extend well into, and perhaps beyond, 2023. We have been successful in raising money with grants from Eastry Parish Council and the Sandwich Deanery of Church in Society, as well as private donations from Steve Manion, Effective Training Ltd and Select Technology Ltd, and individual donations at fund raising events. In total we have so far raised just over £2,000.

Our initial proposal is to distribute vouchers which can be used in Baitup Butchers, Bickers Post Office, The Baker's Dozen, Eastry Fish Bar, Infinita Tea Shop and The Five Bells. Our goal is to work with partners such as social clubs, charities and the local schools and other services - we will provide them with the vouchers, and they can pass them on to households and individuals who may benefit. Importantly, Eastry CAN does not ask for verification, and we do not ask for names. We deliberately do not keep track of who receives the vouchers, only the partners we give them to and where they are spent. Giving out the vouchers, and spending them, is entirely confidential.

Each voucher is worth £6.50, meaning we have funding for around 300 vouchers, and we continue to seek funding through various channels including events and the Dover Lotto. If you'd like to know more, please come along to a group meeting - we meet on the third Sunday of every month in the Five Bells at 7.00pm.

If you think you might be able to help getting vouchers to people who would benefit, please go to [www.eastrycan.org.uk](http://www.eastrycan.org.uk) or email [hello@eastrycan.org.uk](mailto:hello@eastrycan.org.uk) and we will call you back.



## Parish Council Update (see page 2 for email and website)

We've been busy at Eastry Parish Council, some of the activities that we've been working on recently are listed below. We consist of eleven Councillors and a Clerk, including myself as Chair. We are all proud residents of Eastry and work for you! The Council provides the funding for the village caretaker, Richard who keeps our village communal areas clean and tidy.

If you want to know more about what we do or to raise an issue or concern about your local street or perhaps volunteer your time, then please join us at our next meeting. We meet on the first Monday of every month at 7.30pm – 9pm in the Parish Council meeting room, Church Street (the hut on the green between the Church and the Bowling Club).

***Mark Jones, Chair Eastry Parish Council***

**Brand new Play Area for Gun Park** - work to replace the tired play equipment with exciting modern equipment for younger children will begin late January 2023 and complete by March 2023 just in time for the warmer weather. The playpark will be closed when the works take place. Check website for photos and updates.

**The Skatepark** Did you know that skateboarding is now an Olympic sport? We are currently reviewing tenders for repairing the tarmac at the skatepark.

### **Funding for Eastry CAN and the Short Mat Bowls Club**

Two local organisations have been awarded £500 each from EPC to support good local initiatives.

Eastry CAN provides **free food vouchers** to support local residents grappling with the cost of living which can be spent in local shops - see page 16.

The Short Mat Bowls Club will use its funding to upgrade its outdated indoor equipment. They meet at the Village Hall, Fridays 7.00pm. Everyone welcome.

### **Local Plan**

Consultation on the new Dover District Local Plan to 2040 closed in December. The Plan guides decisions on future development proposals across the district including setting aside land for housing. The Parish Council sent a flyer to every household in the village encouraging residents to make their views known. The Parish Council's role is to provide views on future planning applications in Eastry, however the final decisions are made by the DDC Planning Authority.

### **Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)**

The HIP is used by the KCC highways authority to consult with Parish Councils for improvements required within the local area. Ideas for improvements are prioritised with information for KCC Highways to investigate and cost. The HIP is reviewed annually and often only 1 or 2 projects will be able to go ahead depending upon budget and agreement from KCC and any consultation required. The projects are funded either jointly, or by Eastry Parish Council or KCC.

This year is dominated by measures to tackle excessive speed and anti-social driving behaviour on the approaches to Eastry. We have also asked for 'dropped kerbs' outside the Village Hall to help elderly residents. If you have ideas on how to improve Eastry's local roads, please get in touch [clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastry-pc.gov.uk)

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## Eastry WI



Welcome to the New Year. Hope you all enjoyed Celebrating with family and friends.

Our December meeting was a party night with games, quizzes and making merry with Refreshments and Secret Santa. A great evening had by all.

We have a varied programme for the coming year starting in February. Hopefully something for everyone. New members are always welcome.

**Kate Hobbs, President 07512873005**

### Year Round Recipes - Meatballs and Pasta

#### INGREDIENTS

1 onion, finely chopped, 1 garlic clove, finely chopped,  
200g Turkey mince (or any other type of mince), olive or sunflower oil  
1 tin chopped tomatoes (400g), 150ml water, tbsn tomato purée,  
large pinch of mixed herbs, any veg like mushrooms peppers/diced carrots  
200g any type of dried pasta.

#### METHOD

1. Mix some of the chopped onion and garlic with the mince. Shape into balls (golf ball size is about right). Heat the oil in a non-stick frying pan and brown the meatballs on all sides. Remove and put on to a plate. Add remainder of onion / garlic to pan and cook for a few minutes, don't allow to brown.
2. Add the tomatoes, tomato purée, herbs, mushrooms, peppers, diced carrots to the pan with 150ml water. Bring to the boil, then add the meatballs. Reduce the heat, cover with a lid and simmer for 30 minutes.

After about 20 minutes put pasta onto cook in boiling water, when cooked put into dishes, put meat balls on top and pour over sauce.

**Sue Hankin**



### Eastry Bowling Club - Short Mat Bowls

Eastry Short Mat Bowls has started again. Commencing at 7pm and finishing at 9pm every Friday over the Winter in the Village Hall. If you would like to have a try just come along on the evening- we can provide bowls if you don't have any.

Short Mat Bowls is a fun and social activity for all ages. Come and have a go, it doesn't matter if you have played before or not- all welcome.

Short Mat Bowls equipment has kindly been grant funded by Dover District Council Community Grants"

## Beacon View Vets Update

Hi everyone! We 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 the charities.

Sadly we have been seeing a lot of cases of a nasty parasite called Giardia which 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 like to say a very warm welcome to three new team members who have joined us. 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 2022 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**

### Helping to Keep the Kent Countryside Safe

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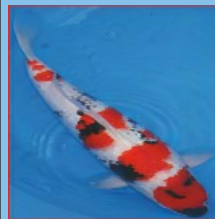
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## Eastry Neighbourhood Watch 2023



### Who Are We?

We are a relatively small but very active group who keep our ears to the ground for issues that might affect the Eastry community. We meet regularly and get information from various sources including daily police reports. Our contact details are at the front of this magazine.

### How do we communicate issues

Through an email distribution list to members, in Eastry Village News, on Facebook's Eastry Community Watch page and by socialising at the free coffee mornings every other Friday in the village hall.

### Latest News

Most recently there have been some thefts of motor vehicles and catalytic converters. Below is the latest from the police.

**Theft of red Yamaha motorbike (YZF125, red) from Mill Green. A couple of catalytic converter thefts from cars in Sandwich and several stolen in Dover. Converters can be more valuable from hybrid cars.**

### To help prevent catalytic converter theft:

1. **Park off the road else leave your car closer to kerbs or fences.** Restrict access to the catalytic converter. If possible, it's even better to have the exhaust facing the side of the kerb. That will make it even tougher for thieves.
2. **Park in a well-lit area.** To make it much more visible to passers-by and surrounding properties, acting as a deterrent to potential thieves.
3. **Buy a catalytic converter clamp.** Toyota in particular offers some specifically designed clamps for some of its models, but plenty of aftermarket options are available too.
4. **Have your catalytic converter marked.** It's possible to have a serial number marked on your catalytic converter, which is designed to help identify it if stolen. As well as acting as a visual deterrent, it will also help scrapyards identify a stolen item.
5. **Have a garage weld the bolts.** If your car's catalytic converter is held on with screwed bolts, it's worth taking it to a garage to have them welded. This will make it much more difficult to remove for thieves — requiring serious tools to cut the metal rather than simply unbolting it.
6. **Improve your home security.** If you park your car directly outside your house, investing in some security cameras and lights are a good way to help prevent theft. As well as giving you an extra eye over your car, simply having a camera on your home can act as a visual deterrent.

***Simon Dundas, Eastry NHW Chairman***

Eastry Parish Council requests that the free dog poo bags that are available at the allotments entrance to the Gun Park are only used in an emergency please, rather than for every day consumption as the Parish Council only have a limited supply available.

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## Gleaning in Eastry helps save food wastage

David Bradley of Selson Farm, Eastry estimates that around 15% of his fruit crop is typically left unharvested - too small, too big, too green or with too many marks to meet supermarket specifications even though the goodness of the fruit is just the same! This 10-16% wastage is an issue all over the UK and equates to up to 37,00 tonnes of food a year. This is why David invites the East Kent Gleaning Group on to his farm whenever he has a glut of apples, pears or cherries that he can't sell. He would much prefer his fruit to be eaten than be left to rot on the ground.

The experienced pickers of the East Kent Gleaning Group distribute the fruit they pick to those in need via community kitchens, food banks and primary schools across East Kent. Gleaning - the gathering of crops left over after the main harvest - dates back thousands of years. There are references to it in the Bible with God directing farmers to leave their "gleanings" for the poor as an act of charity. In this country, from around the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the rural poor relied upon gleaning to supplement their incomes and any leftover cereal crops were used for baking bread. Mechanisation saw gleaning tail off in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and it had disappeared by the 1950's but now it is back to help those in need and to help address the challenge of food waste.

For more information about gleaning and finding your local gleaning group visit [gleaning.feedback.global.org](http://gleaning.feedback.global.org) Source [www.countryfile.com](http://www.countryfile.com)



## Rector's letter - A New Year, a New Beginning!

As we enter the second month of the year, many of us will have come to the realisation that our New Year's resolution is more difficult than we originally believed and may have already decided to give up. A new year comes with many opportunities and fresh beginnings, but they are not always the easiest times in our lives. Many people will be facing 2023 in a completely different light, having changes within their circumstances, or recently losing a loved one over the past year. Now more than ever we need our community and places where we can gather and be with people who have experienced something similar at some point in their lives. If the pandemic has taught us anything it is that we need community and cannot survive in isolation. We thrive on the opportunity to share our story with others and in turn, listen to those around us tell their own story.

Since arriving in the village, I have been very lucky to have met and been able to hear the stories of some of our oldest and "original" villagers, one of whom will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday later this year. Hearing how the village has grown and developed over the years has been a great privilege and has highlighted how we need to try to keep the village mentality alive. Doing what we can to break down the little silos that we have created and engage in how we both support and encourage each other and the activities that are planned for the year ahead.

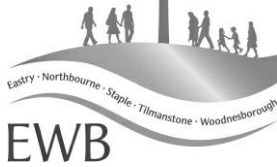
In our village, we have an amazing amount of both social and community events, and earlier this month in Eastry, we were able to gather representatives from many different organisations in the village to discuss how we can support each other. Working together to not only run events but to build up what it truly means to be a community. From a simple meeting we have been able to see various charitable organisations really gain much-needed support and hope to see this cooperation continue to flourish. All I can say is that all of our villages in the Benefice (Eastry, Tilmanstone, Woodnesborough, Northbourne and Staple) are the places to be this year as we start a new chapter filled with hope and a desire to serve our community in whatever way we can.

Now in the final section of this article, I would like to include a short plea for our local churches. Many of our readers will have heard me mention that our local churches are like many places, struggling financially and are running at a major loss. Our churches have been there for weddings, funerals and christenings throughout the years, and we hope with the support of our community, we will be able to turn this around, leaving the church in a stronger financial position for future generations. Whether you are religious or simply see the church as a historical building, we want to encourage you to consider helping us to preserve what has historically been the heart of our village. In the coming months, we will be launching a "Help Your Church Campaign" which will have options for people to donate as much or as little as they are able, every little helps to ensure that our wonderful building can continue to be part of village life.

**Andrew Brown**



# Eastry Woodnesborough Benefice



**February - March  
at St. Mary's Eastry**

## ***SERVICES IN FEBRUARY***

- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February** 10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February** 10am Family Come & Praise  
***(Service in the Church Hall)***
- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February** 10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February** 8am Holy Communion  
***(1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent)*** 10am Holy Communion

## ***SERVICES IN MARCH***

***(2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays in Lent)***

- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March** 10am Holy Communion
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March** 10am Family Come & Praise  
***(Service in the Church Hall)***
- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March** Mothering Sunday Family Service
- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March** 8am Holy Communion  
10am Holy Communion
- 

## **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:**

**Rector - Reverend Andrew Brown**

01304 273836 [rev.andrewewb@gmail.com](mailto:rev.andrewewb@gmail.com) (*Andrew's rest day is Friday*)

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)**

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

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**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**

4th December 2022 Theo Porter

**Funerals**

19th December 2022 Nora Stiles

4th January 2023 Phillipa Cooper

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## Walter Bertram Durden (Wally) 1930-2022



The late Wally Durden was well known locally as the Treasurer for many local societies - Eastry Horticultural Society, Eastry Bowling Club, Wingham Short Mat Bowling Club and Eastry Art Club as well as making sure the local British Legion books were ready for approval. Born in 1930 in Walmer he was affectionately known as 'Juni' not only because he was the younger son but because at 5ft 6" tall he was always looking up to his elder brother at 6ft. He loved sport - he was the fastest runner in the school, played table-tennis, darts, snooker and, his favourite, lawn bowls.

He had various jobs before ending up working for the National Coal Board where he decided to improve his chances of promotion by going to Night School to learn Accountancy. This is where he met the love of his life, Roz, who he married in Eastry Church in 1952. In 1955 Trish was born and in 1957 they rented a brand new Council house at 35 Cooks Lea, Eastry where they set up their home. Bridgette arriving in 1959 to complete their family unit.

One of his jobs at the Coal Board was to collect the wages. He would travel in a Police convoy to collect the money and return to his office to count it out - a huge task and responsibility. Not so glamorous was the job to collect the rents from the miners houses. In the 1970's he was promoted to the prestigious post of auditor of the National Coal Board. He had some lucky escapes - during the Second World War he was walking down a street in Walmer when a Nazi plane fired a hail of bullets at him. A passing man grabbed him in time and pulled him into a shop doorway. On another occasion he was on a train at Betteshanger Colliery when the driver shouted "Jump" to Wally as the train was beginning to derail. He jumped from the train, expertly rolled and got up without a scratch.

Wally took early retirement at 60 through ill health and the failing coal industry. He loved photography, taking cine films of family events. He and Roz played bowls all over the area winning many trophies and he was very proud to be made Honorary President of Eastry Bowls Club. He and Roz took many European holidays making friends along the way but sadly, after Roz died, his life changed dramatically. He had dementia and began to rely more and more on "his girls" yet at the same time becoming more talkative, telling them stories from his life. He liked the simple things in life. He loved his food especially KFC and desserts like Knickerbocker Glory, ice cream, banana splits and always enjoyed a coffee and a large slice of cake when he was taken out. He loved Christmas and Christmas decorations, covering his house with lights, rarely taking them down because "They made him smile" he also collected teddies ending up with a large collection that filled an armchair.

He was the perfect family man. Grateful for "his girls", his three grandchildren and three great grandchildren. A quiet man, a listener rather than a talker. He never raised his voice, never angry, always a gentleman. He often used these simple but meaningful words "Thanks for all your doing". That was Wally.



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## Poets' Corner

### Where art thou Valentine?

Oh! to have a Valentine, declaring their undying love  
 They say it's made in heaven, sent from God above  
 To have a bunch of flowers pressed firmly in my hand  
 Hear a card drop through the letterbox, oh so very grand!

To feel the pure excitement, smell the sweet aroma of his love  
 Two hearts fitting together, like a pair of rubber gloves  
 Someone to share my life with, make me a cup of tea  
 Filling my hot water bottle, cosy picnics by the sea.

Oh yes, if only I had a lover, my life would be complete  
 But, Wait! I see a flower van, driving down my street  
 He's down my path, I'm beside myself, and I have a lover for sure  
 Sorry to bother you, can you take these in; they're for her next door!!!!

*Lin West*

### Nana's China Cabinet

Nana's china cabinet was always jam packed,  
 With all kinds of trinkets and lots of bric-a-brac.  
 Everyone of us grandchildren had contributed to the display,  
 Buying Nana a gift from days out, or our holiday.

She always loved the gifts we each bought for her,  
 Displayed them with love, because of who we were.  
 Even things we made, were shown with the same delight,  
 Loving each curio as only a Nana might.

And now all these years later I do the very same,  
 Displaying all my grandchildren's gifts in my hall of fame,  
 There is a dream though, only a grandchild could have wished,  
 Having something like Nana's, china cabinet.

*Shirley Hopkins*

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## Ragwort: a controversial plant

Ragwort is a common plant, a relative of dandelions with yellow 'flowers' (strictly inflorescences, each 'petal' is a flower in its own right). Like dandelions it scatters its seeds by producing 'clocks', whole sets of fruits attached to each flowering head, each with a feathery 'parachute' to aid dispersal. This is a very efficient dispersal mechanism so ragwort plants can frequently dominate areas of pasture or hedgerows.

It (actually there are four species of ragwort but, as the name suggests, the common ragwort dominates) is a native British species, its flowers and their pollen and nectar forming a valuable food source for thousands of insect species. However, the body of the plant is very toxic, containing alkaloids which, if eaten, can kill cattle and horses by damaging the liver. Happily it also has a very bitter taste so livestock avoid eating it unless desperate when pasture is poor or over-grazed.

If the plant is cut down or uprooted it loses its bitter taste but not its toxicity so all attempts at eradication from a field must involve rapid removal of the plants and their destruction, often by burning.

The Cannabar Moth enjoys a fascinating relationship with ragwort. The moths lay their eggs on the plant leaves and they hatch into caterpillars which eat the plant, unharmed by the toxins rather, in turn, accumulating them in their own tissues making them toxic to animals if they eat them. To capitalise on this toxicity the caterpillars have evolved a striped yellow and black colouration which serves as a warning; animals learn to avoid potential prey showing such colouration. Yellow in insects is pretty well universally a warning colour; think of the wasp.



The story does not end there. Cuckoos are migratory birds, overwintering in Southern Africa and breeding in Britain and other European countries. As is well known the cuckoo is a nest/ brood parasite, laying its eggs individually in the nests of other species of bird. These 'foster parents' then hatch and feed the cuckoo chick, to the detriment of their own chicks. (This seems bizarre to us. It results from the fact that birds' behaviour is largely innate/ inborn; a series of invariable responses to particular stimuli, rather than the learned behaviour, based on trial and error or copying others, found in mammals including ourselves). This cuckoo breeding niche requires that the adults migrate North early in the year, to be present in Europe when other birds start to breed. They then return to Africa as early as mid August, so are here for a limited period. Given this they need to feed up rapidly ready for the flight back to Africa. This is made easier by the fact that they have evolved immunity to the ragwort toxins in the cinnabar caterpillars, which they eat in huge numbers.

**Terry Wood**

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## Gardening on the other side of the fence (11 )

We have now been in Eastry for just over two years and are looking forward to our third season with this garden. It is quite hard not to 'wish your life away' in gardening terms and always want to see the end result of your labours but I took the decision to only plant very young trees and shrubs and to grow as many of my own plants as possible, so it will still be some years before the garden "re-matures".

I have continued to invest in organic bulb buying and another 225 went in last autumn – Narcissus 'Thalia'; Tulip 'Ballerina' & 'Ronaldo' (for the colour, and NOT my football allegiances); Dog's Tooth Violet; more Crocus tomassinianus; Tulipa sylvestris, a naturalising 'woodland' tulip and lastly, 100 Camassia 'Quamash' into my meadow area.



New additions of bee-friendly shrubs have been Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) 'Red Cascade'; Flowering Currant (*Ribes sanguineum*) 'King Edward VI' and *Buddleia globosa*. On the edible wildlife- friendly front, Sweet Cicely, hardy Kiwi fruit 'Hayward' and Chilean Guava (*Myrtus Ugni*) are all first-time plants for me. And at ground level I have been filling in 'waste-ground' behind the garage and greenhouse with Sweet violets and other wildflowers and propagating young Bugle (*Ajuga*) plants for an "amphibian highway" along the edge of my tarmac driveway ( my neighbours in that direction have lots of the local frogs and I want to provide a route for the young frogs to disperse to my pond).

The meadow was less interesting last summer due to the prolonged hot weather and although a few more Yellow Rattleflowers appeared I have sown another generous batch of seed in the past autumn. And I will plug-plant some Ox-Eye Daisies that I have sourced from another garden to add to some young seedlings that have grown from 2021's seed sowing.

Wildlife wise, there were no new bird visitors in 2022. Having reached 27 species in the first year, that has been a bit disappointing. I have been seeing far fewer small birds in and around the garden. Neither myself or my neighbour have seen a hedgehog since the mid-summer. We don't know whether to blame the hot weather or the scrub/bramble clearance in Eastry Court Farm where the contractors have been very busy tidying up prior to its planned sale and development. I have yet to see a toad or slow worm in this garden. Other long-time residents have also seen a decline in these once common garden visitors so Eastry appears to reflect the nationwide trends for these species.

The Kent originated 'Bugs Matter' survey reported continued declines in insect numbers and Butterfly Conservation also reported another quiet summer. I have now identified 134 types of moth visiting the garden but moths have also declined by 48% in the south-east in the past 30 years or so.

Your garden is one of the few places that you can individually try and make a difference. Enjoy your gardening in 2023.

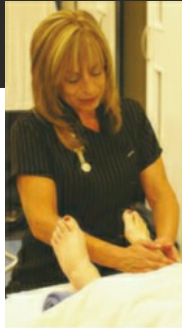
*Jeff the "Bee Friendly Gardener"*



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## Bird Watching with Big Nick

For various reasons I haven't managed to get out much with my camera over the last month or so, but I did make a brief visit to Restharrow Scrape at Sandwich Bay the other day, which gave me the inspiration for this column. At this time of year the Scrape is home to many birds that move south for winter, species such as Lapwing, Greylag Geese, Curlew and several species of duck – Shoveler, Tufted Duck, Gadwall, Mallard and lots of Teal (often numbering several hundreds). Every now and then something spooks the birds and they rapidly take to the air in a great flurry of splashing and wing beats; circling overhead until they perceive the danger has passed, they will then return to the Scrape. Sometimes it's difficult to know what has disturbed them, but it is commonly a bird of prey in the area that causes their panic.



Mainly Teal ♂♀



Teal in Flight



Part of a large flock of Lapwings

Common Snipe are also regularly found on the Scrape during winter, best seen when they are out in the open, feeding by probing the wet ground with their long bills for worms and grubs. If they are resting up in the clumps of grass and reeds you might easily miss them, their stripy brown and yellowish plumage is very effective camouflage. However, spend a few minutes searching the vegetation on the little islands and you may suddenly see one – and then another, and another. Once you've 'got your eye in' you realise there are quite a few. On one occasion, I established there were probably 25 Common Snipe in the undergrowth. Suddenly a military jet fighter screamed overhead and put all the birds into the air. As birds tend to flock together roughly by species this gave me an opportunity to count them –there were 75 Snipe. That's three times the number I'd managed to find on the ground!



Common Snipe – note long bill.



Jack Snipe – note shorter bill and golden stripes

If you are very lucky you may see a Jack Snipe, a little smaller than the Common Snipe with a shorter bill and quite noticeable golden stripes down its back. They have a very peculiar habit of constantly bobbing up and down as if on a spring – the reason is unknown, but the movement can often be the first thing that gives them away to an observer. They breed in the far north of Europe and Russia, spending their winters anywhere from the UK, across Europe and into tropical Africa. One or two turn up at the Scrape most years, you just have to be there at the right time.

*Nick*

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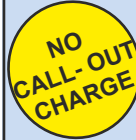
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## Rose Beer - Detective Rose?

Oh dear I am beginning to think I have some kind of sinister psychotic powers. Everyone knows how obsessed I have been over the years about the Lord Lucan subject. I have a chock-a-block box full of newspaper cuttings, I've given talks on the subject and even a radio programme.

Roy Ranson was the Detective Superintendent at Scotland Yard on the case at the time and many years ago he published a book, 'Looking for Lucan'. I've read it many times but can't help feeling he had missed some important facts out, so I wrote to him. Shortly afterwards a lady from St.Margaret's Bay popped in to Martin's shop and, knowing I was interested in the case, told me that Roy Ranson had died. 'Oh No' I thought, Scotland Yard hadn't solved the case but some frumpy woman who worked in a Village Farm Shop had it sussed! The shock must have killed him!

A few weeks ago the Associate Editor of the Daily Mail printed a story about the case reviving all my old interests, so I wrote to him too offering my views and opinions. As of yet I haven't heard back from him but even more weird is the fact that there have been no more articles on any subject printed in the Daily Mail since, I do hope that, by some strange twist of fate, my letter had the same result on him as it did Roy Ranson!

*Rose Beer*

**Women have many faults,  
Men have only two,  
Everything they say  
and everything they do!!!**

A woman rang the local newspaper and asked for something to be put in the Obituary column. She said she hadn't got much money so could she just put **'Bert is dead'**.

The editor , feeling sorry for her told her she could have three more words at no extra cost. She thought about it for a moment and then said - Can I have **'Bert is dead, Toyota for Sale!'**

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