TRIO



July & August 2020

Contributions welcomed



"Follow [the Ark], so that you may know the way you should go, for you have not passed this way before." (Joshua 3)



The United Benefice of West Malling with Offham

Vicar and Rector Rev David Green

01732 842245

The Vicarage, 138 High Street, West Malling ME19 6NE

vicar@stmaryswestmalling.org.uk / rector@stmichaelsoffham.org.uk

Associate Priest Rev Mark Montgomery

01732 844194

The Vicarage, 19 Worcester Avenue, Kings Hill, ME19 4FL

mark.montgomery@stgabrielskingshill.org.uk

Lay ReaderMargaret Moore01732 841238Lay MinisterBecky Clifford01732 845634

St Mary-the-Virgin, West Malling (stmaryswestmalling.org.uk)

Churchwardens John Musker 01732 849109

Clare Innes 01732 843160

Sunday School Kerry Green 01732 842245

Tower CaptainNick Crutchfield01732 845187Mothers' UnionGail Crutchfield01732 845187

St Michael and All Angels, Offham (stmichaelsoffham.org.uk)

Churchwardens Stephen Betts 01732 843412

St Gabriel's, Kings Hill (stgabrielskingshill.org.uk)

Priest Missioner Revd Mark Montgomery 01732 844194

Church mobile 07421 264898

Girls Brigade Karen Webber 01732 875091

Pilsdon at Malling Community

Guardian Revd Viv Ashworth 01732 870279

Pilsdon at Malling, 27 Water Lane, West Malling ME19 6HH pilsdon@pilsdonatmalling.org.uk

Parish Magazine

Advertising Gemma Coupland

adverts@stmaryswestmalling.org.uk

Distribution: Terry Hill 01732 848100

This magazine is available for email distribution as a PDF. If you would prefer to receive it in this format, please email secretary@stmaryswestmalling.org.uk to be added to the mailing list. We NEVER supply your details to third parties.

We offer free publicity for any community events or charitable concerns. The Editor reserves the right to modify any material submitted for publication. The views expressed by contributors are those of the authors; copyright for articles rests with contributors. If you would like to use any of the material, please contact the Editor for permission. Inclusion of advertisements does not constitute endorsement in any way.



From David and Mark



Where do we go from here?

A number of retired Ministers, including our local, very lovely retired Clergy, have said to us recently "I'm glad I'm not having to make these decisions". We always take it as an encouragement and a compliment. As much as they may sense relief at being out of this particular firing line, they mean it kindly in empathetic solidarity with those of us who are the ones "having to make these decisions".

We're reminded of a story from the early part of the Book of Joshua. The people of God were about to enter the land of Canaan after many decades of scattered wandering in the desert.

They are told "When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God being carried by the priests, then you shall set out from your place. Follow it, so that you may know the way you should go, for you have not passed this way before." (Joshua 3.3b-4).

Sometimes we know where we heading. There are tramlines we follow, the liturgy we read, the well-trodden paths of our beliefs lie behind us as much as before us. We're just the latest pilgrim to walk where other saints have walked before.

As Christians and churches we are called upon to profess the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures. We're not asked to do anything new. Jesus is the same today as he was yesterday and will be tomorrow. There is our solid ground. He is the Rock on which we stand. But we're also called to proclaim that faith "afresh in each generation" and that challenge often

requires a willingness to embrace new things because sometimes we're faced with challenges where the road ahead isn't clear and like the Israelites, we have to admit "we have not passed this way before".

The answer for Joshua was not a route map. It wasn't a step-by-step dummies guide. It wasn't a Risk Assessment and there wasn't a manufacturer's Instruction Manual. They were simply asked to follow the presence of God, as that presence went before them in the Ark of the Covenant.

Just as they had been led by a pillar of cloud in the day and a pillar of fire by night (Exodus 13), God continued to go before in a new way as they entered Canaan. They just had to follow.

It wasn't always easy. It definitely didn't come without casualties and pain and loss. They sometimes felt abandoned and alone. But that didn't change the comforting reality of God's love and his plans to give them both a future and a hope.

If you're driving home, you don't need any help. You know precisely how to get there. But if you're going somewhere new, you have to trust that either the map is accurate, or the SatNav has the latest information, or the person sitting next to you knows the way. We have to put our faith in our guide.

We learn more about God, and about ourselves, in these moments when we don't fully know the way we should go, because then we have to choose to trust and believe. So come on! Walk with us. Let's seek God's presence and follow where he leads.

David and Mark

CCTV & SECURITY SPECIALISTS

INSTALLATION OF FULLY NETWORKED CCTV SYSTEMS REMOTELY VIEWABLE FROM YOUR PC OR MOBILE PHONE

SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF AERIAL AND SATELLITE SYSTEMS

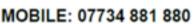
GARDEN AND SECURITY LIGHTING

EXTERNAL CCTV FOR SHEDS. GARAGES, POOL HOUSES ETC.

HD CCTV 1080P AVAILABLE



Freeview TEL: 01732 22 00 52







Professional Dog walking & Pet care services

Do you have a pet, but you're working all day or unable to manage long walks? With Wag Tails you can relax, safe in the knowledge that your pet will enjoy the great exercise it needs & will be in excellent caring & experienced hands.

Fully licenced, insured & CRB checked, Wag Tails also offers 'Feed & Play' drop-ins for cats, dogs & all other pets too. Wag Tails delivers the very best in quality & care & unbeatable prices in the whole local areas of Barming, Teston, Wateringbury, Mereworth, W. Peck, W. Mall & Kings Hill.

Please email for full details of pet services

wagtailsdogwalks@hotmail.com

~ Please support local quality business ~

MOBILE FOOT HEALTH

Professional Foot Care in the comfort of your own home

Treatment and removal of Corns, Callus, Cracked Heels, Hard Skin, Verrucas, In-growing Toe Nails, Thickened / Fungal Nails, Nail Cutting and Diabetic Care.

All treatments last 40 minutes and end with a relaxing foot massage

Contact Sharon Williams MAFHP MCFHP BSYA (AD. Reflex) 07974 953822 / 01732 674046 or email sharonengland@sky.com



Fresh Ideas with Beautiful Flowers

Based in the beautiful village of West Malling in Kent.

We supply fresh flowers with PASSION and STYLE



60 High Street West Malling Kent ME19 6LU T: 01732 874874

W: www.westmallingflowers.co.uk



News around the Cluster

Welcome to Rev Nicky Harvey on secondment with Wateringbury, Mereworth and West Peckham.

Amongst the many challenges posed by the Coronavirus pandemic, our Cluster friends in the parishes of Wateringbury, Mereworth and West Peckham were unfortunately waylaid in their search for a new Vicar.

Following the departure of Rev Pat Dickin in 2019, the new Benefice had prepared their Parish Profile and were not far from advertising and starting their recruitment process when the pandemic struck.

As we begin to re-emerge from lockdown, advertising and recruitment have now restarted. Please do pray for the parishes as they seek a new Minister.

However, in the meantime, we are pleased to welcome Rev Nicky Harvey who has kindly agreed to carry out a three-month secondment in the parishes to help them while they are in vacancy and re-emerging from lockdown.

Nicky is the Curate at St Mary's, Hadlow and having been ordained in 2017 is coming to the end of her curacy. She recently led St Mary's, Hadlow for a few months while their Vicar Rev Paul White was on sabbatical, and now while Paul gets back to parish life, Nicky has kindly agreed to help out down the road with Wateringbury, Mereworth and West Peckham. Since Nicky is still technically a Curate, Rev David has been asked to act as her supervisor for the duration of the secondment.



Rev Nicky Harvey

Nicky came to ordination from a career in education, having studied at John Moores University in Liverpool. She trained for ordination locally with St Augustine's College of Theology in West Malling.

Other than being out and about wherever possible as a priestly presence in the parishes, Nicky has been working alongside the three parishes as they seek to work out the best way to re-open buildings and re-establish public worship. She's also made a quick start in helping to establish a regular presence online with regular live-streamed services on Facebook. Please do pray for her as she gets to know the three communities and works with them. Pray also for the parishes as they seek their long-term future and seek to appoint a new Incumbent.

New arrangements in the wider Deanery

We know it's not technically "Cluster news", but as we think about our fellowship with the Church of England in the wider area, there's some important changes taking place in our Deanery.

Over the last few years, Malling Deanery has researched and written, discussed and debated a Deanery Mission and Ministry Plan (DMMP); aimed at best utilising the available resources and deploying Clergy strategically and in sensible groupings recognising that there will be fewer Clergy to go round in coming years as a bubble of retirements work their way through the system.

Two of the proposals in the DMMP are now in process with proposals to link East Malling with Larkfield under Fr Nick Williams, meanwhile Barming and Teston may become become a pair of parishes under Rev Wil North.

Previously Barming and Larkfield were single parishes with their own Vicar, while East Malling, Wateringbury and Teston were a team of three parishes under another Vicar. Wateringbury is now with Mereworth and West Peckham, as previously noted on p5.

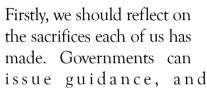
The changes will save one full-time post but they also create some more natural groupings for ministry. East Malling and Larkfield are a civil parish already, while the churches in Teston and Barming are just 2 miles apart along the A26.

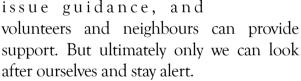
Inevitably such changes mean the forming of new relationships and working partnerships and we pray for all the parishes and Clergy involved as the consultation process continues, they get to know one another and seek to move forward together.



Tom Tugendhat MP writes for Trio

"Since we have all had to sacrifice so much over recent months, I wanted to have a more upbeat tone this month and recognise all the hard work that has gone into keeping us safe.





Thanks also need to go to those who have been running community support schemes. While Parish Councils have been active, in many areas support has happened on a street-by-street basis and we have come together to help one another.

While the Government has given significant financial support to workers and businesses affected, TMBC have helped many of the most vulnerable and should be thanked. There have been hundreds of people who have only been able to eat because of the Council's efforts.

Until Covid-19 is completely eradicated, we must stay alert. The recovery will take time and we must be prepared. I hope the 'R' number falls to zero quickly, and if we continue doing what we have been there is as good a chance of it happening here as anywhere.

Contact me at www.tomtugendhat.org



DQCdecoration

Painting & Decorating Interior & Exterior

City & Guilds Qualified Wallpapering Skimming & Plastering Domestic & Commercial

Sam Gregory mob - 07882 597433 home - 01732 873726

web - www.impact-decoration.co.uk email - info@impact-decoration.co.uk

Adam's Gardens

Let your garden be mine too

General Garden Maintenance

- Expert Pruning Ideas and Inspiration
- Plant Advice/Supplies

Friendly, reliable and fully insured Studied Horticulture at Hadlow (National Diploma - Distinction)

Ring for a free quote

07957 461958 01732 846796

adamurgardener@aol.com

* Please read my column for jobs to do in your garden this month.

VINER and SONS LTD

Keith Viner Family run since 1777



FUNERAL DIRECTORS and MONUMENTAL MASONS

All locations covered

PERSONAL DAY AND NIGHT SERVICE and PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST

54 HIGH STREET, WEST MALLING, KENT ME19 6LU

Website: www.vinerandsons.co.uk Email: info@vinerandsons.co.uk

Tel: 01732 842485



News from Offham & West Malling



The return to our buildings

We are delighted to announce that we will be returning to our church buildings to host services of Public Worship on Sunday the 26th of July.

Following recent Government announcements, the PCC, Churchwardens and Rev David have been working hard to make both of our buildings 'covid-safe'.

Both buildings are now both set-up with hand sanitation, sign-in slips, two metre distancing procedures and markings as required by Government and Church of England guidance.

It certainly will look and feel different, and while it may not be to your taste and may take something away from the beauty of our buildings, we hope you'll understand that it's necessary at present and does, at the very least, mean our buildings can be used once again for church services.

The biggest issue we face is one of capacity. With only a certain number of pews in use, it is possible that we may not be able to fit in everyone who wants to come, and we do not have any freedom to relax the capacity restrictions.

Working with our Lay Ministers and retired Clergy, Churchwardens, PCC and housegroup leaders, Rev David has put forward the following plan for our return and which PCCs have now agreed.

- 1. Initially there will be one service on a Sunday in Offham at 9.15 a.m. and one in West Malling at 10.00 a.m. Both services will last approximately 30 to 40 minutes. Both services will be a simple child-friendly Holy Communion using Common Worship. There will be a sermon.
- 2. There will be a *Book of Common Prayer* Holy Communion at St Mary's at 9.30 a.m. every Wednesday during August. There won't be a sermon. We will review it at the start of September as to whether the service can move back to Sundays.
- 3. Christenings will not take place in the Sunday service (because of what it does to capacity and because the services are already Eucharists, and what that would do to the duration of the service).
- 4. If there is a Christening in a lunchtime slot on a Sunday, the congregation present on Sunday morning will be asked to help sanitise the church after their service to help set-up for the Baptism.





5.Online Worship will continue every Sunday

as pre-recorded videos and pre-prepared web pages. Each week, the rota will allocate ministry leadership to the online environment - separate to the offline leadership of services that week.

What will services be like?

Every service will be a service of Holy Communion. If, as we expect with reduced capacities, people can only attend once in every two, three or four weeks, when they do attend, there needs to be the chance to take Communion otherwise it could be another three or four weeks before they get another chance.

Every service needs to be child-friendly. We cannot run Sunday School for the time being. The children's corner at St Mary's cannot be used. Neither can children use toys or busy bags (other than ones they have brought from home). So every Minister leading or preaching will need to account for the fact children will be present and sat in the pews alongside their parents.

Every service needs to be 30 to 40 minutes maximum. The risk of infection goes up the longer we stay together in the building, so we will keep things brief. This is not actually that difficult once you remove singing hymns from the standard liturgy.

Singing has been expressly prohibited by Government because there is some evidence that singing is a high risk activity.

Holy Communion will be distributed in one kind only (the bread), avoiding physical touch. We won't be able to share the Peace, or kneel at the altar rail and you must line up to receive 2m apart.

Face coverings are encouraged. Rev David won't be wearing one while speaking or preaching for the benefit of those who lipread. He will wear one during the



distribution of Holy Communion (which

has to be done without the Priest speaking).

How do we sign-up to attend?

Because of the restrictions on capacity, we cannot just open the doors on the 26th of July and see who turns up.

A survey is being circulated via email and (in some cases) via the post to everyone on the Electoral Roll. The survey is available online at https://bit.ly/EzraSurveyWMO.

You will be asked whether you wish to come and which service you wish to attend. We will also distribute the same survey to those people who come regularly but who are not on the Electoral Roll.

If there are more people wishing to attend than the capacity, you will be grouped and told which group you are in and which Sunday you can attend.

If someone is happy to stay at home for now and take part in the Online Worship, but then wants to start attending services in the church building at a later date, then we will happily accommodate them in due course when they wish to return. If restrictions are eased and the 2m rule is reduced, our capacity can expand accordingly.

A word about other activities

It is very hard to envisage any of our other church activities taking place. Ladies or Men's Meals in anyone's home, Housegroup meetings that are not either outside, held via Zoom, or in suitably managed and physically distanced spaces, Mothers' Union, bell ringing etc all face significant challenges.

Some of those activities will be subject to their own guidance and restrictions; for example bellringing will be guided by the national association as to what is permissible.

One river, many streams



If you have read the previous pages about the plan for the return to our church buildings and gulped, I don't think you will be alone.

I put this together for West Malling and Offham originally. But if you are part of St Gabriel's and wish that you could have such problems, you mourn for the lack of a building and space to meet at present, I don't think you will be alone either.

My Clergy colleagues and I been pondering what God may be saying and what resources there are in our history and theology that may give shape to our thinking over this next period.

I'm very grateful to my friend and colleague, Rev Richard England, now in the Diocese of Portsmouth for his thinking and conversation which helped inspire my thoughts. I am also grateful to him for a good chunk of the wording here that captures brilliantly what I think we need to be and to do at this time. It's used with his permission.

The phrase that I think describes what we will need to become in this next period of time, however long it may last, is this: "One River, Many Streams".

As churches we are used to being a river, flowing together as one. But for the next season, we won't be able to be that. Instead we will have to be one river flowing as many streams, like a river delta as it heads towards the ocean.

The streams all comprise one river (the Nile Delta is still the Nile), so there will be accountability, shared vision and a common

life. However, whether we are able to physically meet together in one place is probably not likely for some time.

Gathering and Scattering

The Scriptures teach us that God's people have always gone through seasons of gathering and scattering. Church history over the last 2,000 years tells much the same story.

Sometimes the decision to scatter is made deliberately, such as when a church decides to plant a new congregation. Often we are scattered due to events beyond our control, such as the persecution which followed the death of Stephen in Acts 7 and 8.

Most of us prefer seasons of gathering; it's comfortable and safe, there are lots of us and we're able to enjoy the best of everything we each have to offer one another and to God.

In the Western world, we have had an extended season of gathering for quite some time - decades, if not centuries of comfort. Some might argue that, without a sense of being scattered or sent on mission, the western Church has grown overly comfortable and inward-looking, focussed on our needs rather than the needs of those around us. 'Consumer Christianity' takes hold where other people become responsible for developing our faith. The Vicar is the professional Christian and so I don't have to do very much myself.

In contrast, seasons of scattering teach different lessons in Scripture and Church History. People once again have to learn to depend on the Lord more; we have to be



responsible for our own spiritual growth, both as individuals and households. Seasons of scattering often throw us into

contact with far more unchurched people than when we are gathered in our buildings. Churches become movements of mission to their communities.

So, there are three things I want us to take to heart at this time:

Everyone is a Spring

In John 4.14, Jesus said, 'Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' Then, again, in John 7.38, Jesus said, 'Whoever believes in me, rivers of living water will flow from within them.'

Most of us feel like leaky buckets. We come to church services or Housegroup meetings for a top-up from someone else's spring. But in seasons of scattering, we need to learn to cultivate the spring of living water that Jesus promised would flow from each one of us. What would it look like if each one of us – and our households – were springs of living water flowing into our lives and communities?

In seasons of scattering like this, we have the opportunity to learn how to dig a well of spiritual presence and power, flowing up in our lives.

Streams that make Glad

Psalm 46.4 says, 'there is a river whose streams make glad the city of God.'

The city of God is now the people of God.

Over the next season, I am inviting you to embrace the idea of 'Many Streams' that are part of the 'One River' that is West Malling and Offham and Kings Hill.

A River that reaches new People and new Places

In Ezekiel 47, we read a remarkable vision of river from the presence of the Lord.

The river deepens until it eventually plunges over the Arabah waterfall and into the lowest body of water on the planet, the Dead Sea. Yet when it empties into the sea, the salty water in the vision becomes fresh.

This is a picture of the missionary people of God, scattered and sent out from his presence to live, love and lead in our communities, households and workplaces.

In this time, many people are looking for reassurance and hope. There is an openness in our local communities to which we need to respond. It's my sincere hope that, as we

shape our future and seek to be attentive to the voice of the Spirit's guiding, we will find ourselves reaching people and places we have never reached before. Many of the constraints upon us at this time may not be to our liking, but if we will lean into God and lean into the opportunity that these

times bring, I believe that good can result

Over the centuries, the Church of God has lived through many seasons of scattering and disruption. It's just been a long time since we experienced one in the West. We have riches in our history and tradition and liturgy that we can draw on to strengthen us at this time. If we can be responsive to the Lord in these

times we live, not simply waiting until things go back to how they were, it may be that the Holy Spirit does something new here.

Rev David

With thanks to my friends and colleagues, Rev Richard England and Rev Mark Montgomery, for the conversations and to Richard for wording he used in his own parishes that helped shape this reflection.

from it.



News from St Gabriel's, Kings Hill

Website updates

Over recents weeks we have slowly been adding functionality to the St Gabriel's website trying to integrate many of the platforms we use. So you can now donate to the life and work of St Gabriel's (/donate), order a food parcel (/food-parcels/), catch up with our regular email newsletter (and *Trio* of course!) (/news), request prayer (although that's been there a while!) or subscribe to our daily prayer (celebrating our first anniversary this month) (/let-us-pray-for-you), plus of course catch up or join us for online worship (/worship-at-home) or Sunday School (/childrens-groups-at-home/).

Our social media pages are regularly updated as well, so if you are in any doubt about what's going on check our Twitter (@CofEKingshill), Facebook (stgabrielskingshill) or Instagram (cofekingshill) streams.

Thank You!

It was great to be recognised by Valley Invicta Primary at Kings Hill as a

community agency and receive a thank you booklet made by pupils form year five for all the enhanced community support we have offered during the Coronavirus lockdown. The booklet was formed of



letters and drawings thanking the church community for their role (see photo).

A return to public worship (but not quite yet!)

Many churches have returned from exile and come together for socially distanced worship or are making plans to in the coming weeks.

For St Gabriel's, because we do not yet have a building of our own, the question of when we can meet together for worship will always be out of our hands. We need to take into consideration access to the schools and their processes and decisions.

Currently we are looking in to options for how we may meet again before September, but with current Government guidelines specifying only a small number of people are able to meet outside in public spaces, ideas of outside worship are hampered for the time being.

However some of the work needed to make our services "Covid-safe" have been thought-through and at our last service

together in March, we had already put a lot of practical things in place to stop the spread of the virus.

There will be further steps needed, like cleaning chairs after use, that will add a burden to those able to attend.

I can't also now see us not offering an online service in the future, and this type of window to our worshiping community

will not only continue but develop. We

will also have to explore what things like for Sunday School and Messy Church moving forward. There is no question we are entering a new phase of worship and church-life moving forward.

Whilst we can't meet physically....

St Gabriel's not only meets weekly virtually for worship and coffee, but lots more as well.

Each week Sunday school is available, a short video which includes the week's Bible focus, questions for discussion and reflection and an activity linked to the theme is recorded and uploaded; normally with a challenge to email in your pictures.

This is not just a great opportunity for the the children, but offers an opportunity for all-ages to engage differently with the Bible text of the week. We also have been running story time for toddlers every fortnight over Zoom - if you have a toddler, pre-schooler or reception-age children at home and want to join in please call, email or message to get the link.

We have also run an Easter Garden and Bonnet Competition, and also the great St Gabriel's Bake Off. The doors may be closed but the church is definitely alive!

Group Bible Studies on Matthew's Gospel

Every Wednesday we are coming together over Zoom - via video or phone - to study that week's gospel passage from Matthew. You can join either at 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. It's been great joining together to discuss, pray, and delve deeper into the reading for the week. If you are interested in joining in, the Zoom link and phone number can be found in our weekly email e-newsletter www.kingshillchurch.org.uk/news.

Food Parcels

St Gabriel's are providing food parcels for individuals and families on or associated to Kings Hill whose income has been drastically reduced because of the coronavirus crisis, or are struggling at this time due to a reduction in free school meals or benefits etc. You can order one by going to www.kingshillchurch.org.uk/food-parcels/

Congratulations Tony!

Tony and his siblings were baptised at St Gabriel's a few years back and it's been

great to see him overcome the challenges h e f a c e s everyday.

During the month of June, inspired by Captain Tom Moore, he decided to use his new legs to walk 10 kilometres with the hope of raising £500.



You probably know that he achieved that and some, and at the time of completing his walk (in front of the world's media), Tony had raised over £1million pounds for Evelina Hospital London. At the time of writing, the total had risen to £1.25million.

Every year, Evelina London provides vital care and support for more than 95,000 children and young people from across London and the South East. Well done Tony!

TRIO

Advertising Rates for 2020

6.5 cm x 4.5 cm £10.00 / edition (1/8 page)

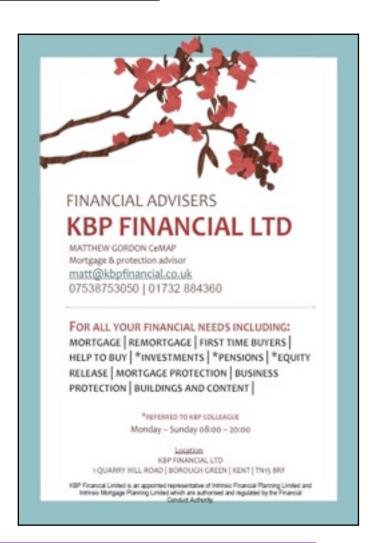
6.5 cm x 9.25 cm £15.00 / edition (1/4 page)

13.25 cm x 9.5 cm £30.00 / edition (1/2 page)

Full page £50.00 / edition

Reduced rates for 10 editions. Limited space available. First come first served. Deadline 25th of every month. For further details, contact the Couplands.

adverts@stmaryswestmalling.org.uk





"One of Kent's finest Residential Homes for older people"

Established in 1983, Lavenders is a family owned and managed care home for older people situated in West Malling, in the heart of the Kent countryside. We respect individual needs, abilities and aspirations and promotes independence of thought and action. A safe and happy environment enables each Resident to exercise choice in social, spiritual and occupational activities. The personal development of our dedicated staff is a priority; their skills enable Residents to achieve the greatest quality of life.

A choice of sitting and dining areas with tranquil views helps create a warm and comfortable home. Lavenders has a warm and friendly atmosphere and we are proud of our excellent reputation, we welcome your personal inspection.



- · All single rooms, with en-suite facilities
- · Excellent home cooked menu
- · Varied social, occupational and spiritual activities.
- A choice of comfortable sitting rooms and conservatory
- · Respite care and holiday provision available

www.lavenders.info

Lavenders, Lavenders Road, West Malling, Kent ME19 6HP ③ 01732 844744/848000



Civic news

Forty Acre Field Planning Application

On the 9th of July, TMBC's Area 3 Planning Committee will be asked whether they agree, in principle, to 250 homes being built on Forty Acre Field between East Malling, Leybourne and West Malling.

This land is due for inclusion within the Greenbelt if the Local Plan is adopted. However, until the Local Plan is agreed, the land is vulnerable to development.

Local councils and our MP are doing all they can to speed up the Tonbridge and Malling Local Plan, so there is certainty for all communities (whether you like the proposals or not).

Ahead of the meeting, please do get in touch with your Borough Councillors if you feel strongly about this. They have the opportunity to ensure that your views are heard and must ensure they can provide good reasons, as is required by planning law, for their decisions.

The Kent Test (11+)

Current year five children will be sitting the test on 15th October, a month later than normal. KCC says this is to allow them to settle back into school, and that is obviously welcome although questions remain this year about whether the children will have had the best chance to prepare this year.

Could your business use an electric van?

Kent businesses can apply to trial an electric vehicle for up to two months to see how the switch to electric could benefit their business and Kent's environment. Government funding of £1.5 million has bought 50 electric vans and 12 new electric

vehicle charging points for the two-year scheme. Businesses who want to register interest in the scheme should send an email to lowcarbon@kent.gov.uk.

Arundel House

An application for cafe and restaurant use, including garden service, has been made for Arundel House on West Malling High Street. The application can be viewed at TM/20/01107/LB on the Borough Council's website.

Getting a test for Covid-19

If you have either a high temperature, persistent new cough, or loss of taste and smell, you should get a test right away to see if you have Coronavirus. You can book a test at nhs.uk/get-a-coronavirus-test. You may be able to get a test kit sent to you. But beware! Scammers are ringing people offering to deliver a test in return for payment. Put the phone down. The tests are free, and any test for which you have to pay money will not yet been approved for use in the UK.

If your test is positive, you will be contacted about people with whom you have spent more than 15 minutes so they can be warned they are at risk and must self-quarantine.

Taking stuff to the rubbish tip

At present, you still need to book an appointment but more slots are opening up. You can now take any waste, not just stuff that needs urgent disposal. Ring 03000 417373 to book a slot or book online at www.kent.gov.uk/hwrcbook.

From the Parish Registers



St Mary's, West Malling

Funerals

4th June Trevor Fosberry 15th June Laura Childs 26th June William (Bill) Bruce

St Michael's, Offham

Funerals

1st July Arthur (Tony) Cook

St Gabriel's, Kings Hill
Interment of Ashes
29th June Freda Ryans-Smith
Funerals
1st July Audrey Ricketts



WE'RE OPEN! FOOD & DRINK SERVED EVERY DAY

Book a table at www.thefarmhouse.biz Call us on 01732 843 257

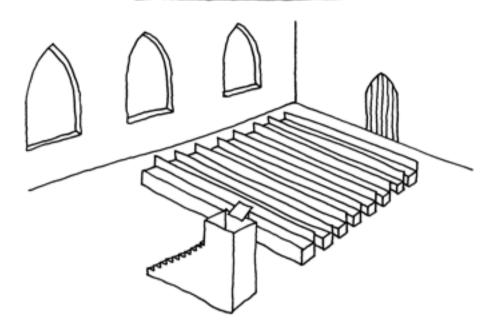
High St West Malling ME19 6NA Opening times: Mon - Thurs: 12 - 11pm (Food served: 12-9pm), Fri - Sat: 12 - 11pm (Food served: 12- 9.30pm) & Sun: 12 - 10.30pm (Food served: 12 - 8.30pm)

TAKE AWAY CLICK & COLLECT STILL AVAILABLE

If you contact this business, please tell them you saw their advert in Trio!

Cartoon Church

THE CHURCH IS EMPTY



THIS IS BECAUSE EVERYONE IS BUSY



HELPING AT THE FOODBANK



DELIVERING PRESCRIPTIONS



CREATING ONLINE WORSHIP





CartoonChurch.com

Church funnies



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.



In the Garden with Adam's Gardens

This article first appeared in the June 2014 edition of Trio. It is republished here (with adjustments for the Summer Solstice 2020) while Adam takes a sabbatical from writing in Trio.

Now the summer months are upon us it always amuses me when people say to me "I'd love to be a gardener" and "it must be wonderful working in the sunshine." It seems they think we gardeners work only 6-7 months a year but there is a lot of hard work before you can 'smell the roses'. It does make me chuckle.

The reality is that the summer months for us gardeners are not that glamorous. It's not much fun turning a compost heap in temperatures over 75°F, all that rotting matter can turn even the most cast iron of stomachs, or carrying watering cans to and from containers of bedding. Manual work in the mid-day sun can really take it out of you. Don't get me wrong, I wouldn't swap my work for an air-conditioned office! Far from it, I made a lifestyle change years ago; earning a living by doing what I love is brilliant.

Gardening to me is about bringing out the potential of a garden and at this time of year most gardens are just in need of a little TLC.

Most of my time is spent dead heading, mowing and, of course, weeding! The benefit of the strong sun is you can just hoe off the tops of annual weeds and they will shrivel and die. What's more, the organic matter will rot back into the soil and give further benefit.

If you have a pond then blanket weed

can be a problem as water temperature rises. Pull it out with either a rake or bamboo stick but, leave it on the side to allow all the pond life a chance to get back in the water. A day should be enough for the creatures to make good their escape, then you can add the weed to the compost heap.

Unless we have a wet summer, grass growing will stall. Make sure you don't have the mower blade too low as this will result in a straw coloured lawn. I would recommend a height of 4-5cm. This will keep your lawn looking lush. Also, make sure your mower blades are sharp so they cut cleanly. Dull mower blades can shred grass and cause discoloration at the tips because frayed grass blades lose moisture easily.

If you have summer bedding then they should be looking pretty good by now, so start giving them a well-balanced feed. Tomato feed is a good choice as the compost in the hanging baskets and pots will be running out of nutrients by now. Giving your bedding plants a weekly feed on top of the daily watering regime that should be in place by now will keep plants in the best of health.

So whilst you're lying on your sun lounger deciding whether to dead head your hanging basket now or after finishing that G&T, spare a thought for me impersonating a French Foreign legion soldier! But, then again, don't feel sorry for me: I'm as happy as a sandboy.

Adam McKay

J. Lawrenson

Tree and Fencing Specialist

- · Hedge cutting, reduction and removal
 - · Tree pruning, felling and surgery
 - Stump and garden clearance
- · All types of fencing supplied and erected, including panel and close boarded

Fully Insured All waste and cuttings recycled

Sales Sales Sales Sales Sales



Or email j.lawrenson@hotmail.com

TRIO

Advertising Rates for 2020

6.5 cm x 4.5 cm

£10.00 / edition

(1/8 page)

6.5 cm x 9.25 cm

£15.00 / edition

(1/4 page)

13.25 cm x 9.5 cm £30.00 / edition

(1/2 page)

Full page

£50.00 / edition

Reduced rates for 10 editions. Limited space available. First come first served. Deadline 25th of every month. For further details, contact the Couplands. adverts@stmaryswestmalling.org.uk

(INGSHILL Garage & Car Sales

Please visit us at, North Lodge, 584 Malling Road, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4PU.

We are an independent garage based at North Lodge on the A228 at the entrance to Kingshill. Since established in 1976 we have been providing vehicle repairs and sales to the local area. We continually invest in the latest tools and diagnostic equipment to ensure we can provide a wide range of services including,

- MOT's while u wait
- Repairs to all makes and models
- Tyres at competitive prices
- Servicing for all Cars & LCV
- Fault Diagnosis
- Air Con Regas and Repairs

We regularly stock 30-40 low mileage, one owner, hand selected vehicles prepared to the highest standards. All of our used vehicles come with a comprehensive parts and labour warranty ensuring peace of mind.

So if you require the services of a trustworthy and friendly local garage or are thinking of changing your vehicle, then please feel free to call in and we will be happy to discuss your requirements.

Garage: 01732 849322 www.kingshillgarage.co.uk

service@kingshillgarage.co.uk

Sales: 01732 220540 Mobile: 07841 919443

www.kingshillcarsales.co.uk sales@kingshillcarsales.co.uk





Worship calendar in July/August

St Gabriel's Church, Discovery School, Kings Hill

St Gabriel's remains open for Online Worship.

Please visit www.kingshillchurch.org.uk to find out more.

St Michael's Church, Offham

26th July	9.15 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
2nd Aug	9.15 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
9th Aug	9.15 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
16th Aug	9.15 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
23rd Aug	9.15 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
30th Aug	9.15 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Please check the website before attending worship to see if restrictions to capacity and attendance apply. www.stmichaelsoffham.org.uk

St Mary's Church, West Malling

26th July	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
29th July	9.30 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
2nd Aug	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
5th Aug	9.30 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9th Aug	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
12th Aug	9.30 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
16th Aug	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
19th Aug	9.30 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
23rd Aug	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
26th Aug	9.30 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
30th Aug	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
2nd Sept	9.30 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

Please check the website before attending worship to see if restrictions to capacity and attendance apply. www.stmaryswestmalling.org.uk