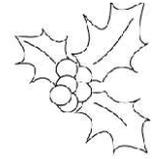


# *The Escallop*



*St James the Great, Staple*



*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
to all our readers*

*December 2020*

[theEscallop@gmail.com](mailto:theEscallop@gmail.com) 50p

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**Articles and notices for the magazine to the Editor for  
inclusion in the next issue (which will be a joint January/February edition)  
by 10 January 2020 please.**

### **Disclaimer**

The Editor reserves the right to cut, edit or refuse to publish any contributions and does not necessarily agree with opinions expressed in published articles.

All advertisements in the magazine are inserted in good faith, but the magazine committee accepts no responsibility for any statement made by the advertisers; nor endorses the products or services offered.

### **Editors**

January/February – Vanessa

If you are interested in joining the Escallop editorial team, we would love to hear from you. Please email [theEscallop@gmail.com](mailto:theEscallop@gmail.com) or contact one of the existing editors.



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Please note that the monthly editions of Escallop are also posted electronically on the staple online website at [www.staple-online.com/escallop.html](http://www.staple-online.com/escallop.html).

## Rector's Letter

The big caveat, as I write this letter in mid-November, is that I have no idea how things may turn out over the next fortnight – let alone into December!

Will the lockdown end at the beginning of December? Will it be extended? Will new restrictions be in place?

It is no surprise that the pagan festivals, which were adopted by the Christian faith in Europe, occurred around the winter solstice when the weather was at its bleakest. It was (and is) a time when folk needed a bit of a celebration to raise spirits and look forward to brighter times to come. Certainly, no exception this year.

So, today, the celebration of Christmas is an important time for us all. We delight in Christmas because it is an opportunity to get together as family and friends, to express our value of each, to forget our troubles and to look forward – at least that is how it should be.

So, the emergence of the virus, and the threat that our usual celebrations may not be possible – at least in the way we have come to expect – gives rise to a genuine sense of unease for us. It is not just the potential loss of an important time of gathering, but also the real uncertainty that we currently face and the difficulty in planning anything.

But coronavirus has also taught us that we can look at things differently and that there can be unexpected benefits. We have found that, in our local communities, we can look out more for the lonely and vulnerable and respond to their needs; we have discovered that we can use empty rooms to house the homeless; we have ensured that our foodbanks are well resourced; we have learned that we can pollute less and breathe cleaner air.

COVID-19 has reminded us that great wealth does not assure us of security, or that great power can fend off every threat; but it has also shown us that we may dare to hold a vision for the future which is different. Once the real threat has passed, it will be tempting to return to our old securities and try to hold on to what was once safe. But our eyes have now been opened to different possibilities, which require courageous faithful thought and bold faithful action. We have been offered the vision of a world of generous, neighbourly compassion – and we need to grasp it. This coronavirus, for all its unwelcome and damaging consequences, has also necessitated us to examine again old certainties which in turn has the potential to open new and hopeful futures.

So, as we look forward to our Christmas celebrations, they may well not turn out as we would have anticipated them to be last year. It does not mean that Christmas is cancelled; it does allow us to think carefully about why the celebration of Christmas is special. If it transpires to be a little less of a consumerist frenzy, and a little more of an open awareness of neighbours and friends, then the changes necessitated by this dreadful virus might just prove to have had a beneficial and perhaps lasting impact on us for the good.

In the meantime, may this Christmastide for you be a time of joy, peace and hope.

**David Ridley**





## Useful Contact Numbers

Rector	Rev David Ridley	01304 619619
Curate	Rev Sandra Marsh	01304 612686
	Rev Robert Stevenson	01304 366003
Reader	Mrs Hilary Baldwin	01304 613346
Church Wardens	Trevor Bartlett	01304 813492 07980 300084
	Vanessa Nedderman	01304 812515
Staple PCC	Sue Coulson -Secretary	01304 812340
	Pat Heathfield - Treasurer	01227 713396
Parent & Toddler's Group	Heidi Stevenson	01304 812050
Staple Parish Council Clerk to Parish Council	Cllr Trevor Bartlett Chairman	01304 813492
	Jonathan Mount	01227 728490 <i>stapleparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk</i>
Staple Youth Club	Glen Missons	01304 814088
	Angela Chandler	01304 812716
Staple Pre School	On Call contact	07816 841429
Footpaths Officer	Sue Coulson	01304 812340
Neighbourhood Watch	Peter Young	01304 812625
Staple Village Hall	John Kirk – Chairman	01304 813178
	Sue Coulson - Bookings	01304 812340
District Councillors	Cllr Trevor Bartlett	01304 813492
	Cllr Mike Connolly	01227 722979
KCC Councillor	Cllr Sue Chandler	01304 813688
<a href="http://www.staple-online.com">www.staple-online.com</a>	John Kirk	
Parish Magazine	<b>theEscallop@gmail.com</b>	01304 812515 (temporary)
Dover District Council	<a href="http://www.dover.gov.uk">www.dover.gov.uk</a>	01304 821199
	Email: <a href="mailto:customerservices@dover.gov.uk">customerservices@dover.gov.uk</a>	
DDC emptying Dog Bins 01304 872428 & maintenance Mr Barry Finch 01304 872394.		

For information about Baptisms and Weddings please contact the Benefice Office, Church Hall, Church Street, Eastry CT13 0HH Wednesdays 10.45 a.m.– 12.45 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m.- 12 noon. Contact 01304 611323 (with answerphone) email [eastry.benefice@gmail.com](mailto:eastry.benefice@gmail.com). Please note it is not possible to hold weddings and baptisms while the current situation continues.



## St James the Great, Staple: Services for December 2020



For the next few months, services will be held in Staple on the first and third Sunday of each month – see below for details for December. Everyone is very welcome. Services will also be held in the other benefice churches – please see the benefice website for details ([www.ewbchurches.org.uk](http://www.ewbchurches.org.uk)). Please note that everyone is required to wear a face covering while in Church for services.

**SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 2020 at 10 a.m. – Holy Communion**

**SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER 2020 at 4 p.m. – Brief Christmas Service in the Churchyard**  
*(Weather permitting - Bring lanterns and torches!)*

**SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER 2020 – No Service in Staple - Benefice Carol Service (online)**  
*(Please see details on the benefice website)*

**CHRISTMAS EVE at 11 a.m. - Christingle/Crib Service (by invitation only) – will also be streamed**

**CHRISTMAS EVE at 10 p.m.- Christmas Communion – all welcome – no booking necessary!**



One of the benefice clergy will be saying morning prayer each Monday morning at 8.30 a.m. in the church (and in the other benefice churches on the other weekday mornings.) You are very welcome to join them. The church building is open every day for private prayer from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The benefice will continue to meet virtually at 10 each Sunday morning using Zoom so even if you are not able to be in a church building you will still be able to join in the worship. If you wish to join a service, you will need to do one of the following:

Using a laptop or tablet, copy this URL in to your web browser	<a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7360055669">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7360055669</a>
On a smartphone, dial: (The commas are important)	+442034815240,,7360055669# or +442080806591,,7360055669#
On a landline or old mobile phone, dial:	0203 481 5240 or 0208 080 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 rector and the ministry team are also emailing regular newsletters and reflections. If you are not receiving these and would like to, please contact David ([davidridley@btopenworld.com](mailto:davidridley@btopenworld.com)), Trevor ([trevorbartlett1@outlook.com](mailto:trevorbartlett1@outlook.com)) or Vanessa ([vanessanedderman@googlemail.com](mailto:vanessanedderman@googlemail.com)). We also have a number of people ringing round those in the village who are finding it particularly difficult to get out at the moment. If you would like to receive a regular phone call, please do let us know. You are also welcome to contact Rev David or Rev Sandra at any time (see their details on the contact list)

### Visiting the Church – Please follow these instructions:

- In order to keep the church safe for everyone, please use the sanitizer provided when you enter and when you leave.
- If there are other people in the church at the same time, please ensure you follow current social distancing guidelines and wear a face covering.

Please note that not all areas of the church are open - we would ask you to respect the signs which have been put up. If you show any coronavirus symptoms within 48 hours of visiting the church, please let the Rector or one of the churchwardens know.

## Around and about in Staple and Shatterling

*Do you have a story to share? We would love to hear from you - new neighbours, new arrivals, get well wishes - please send details to [theEscallop@gmail.com](mailto:theEscallop@gmail.com)*

An extremely belated welcome to Neil and Emma Climo, who with their daughter Olivia moved into the Court Yard, Durlock Road just over a year ago. They moved from Maidstone but are originally from Wales and are enjoying living in the village.

We would also like to wish a warm welcome to Pat and Bob (sorry do not have your surname) who moved into Rose Cottage, Fleming Road from Folkestone - hope you have settled into your new home.

The gifts from the Harvest Festival Service this year were taken to the Dover food bank, and were greatly appreciated. Although numbers at the service taken by Sandra were less than normal it was encouraging to see many items being donated, many thanks to you all and special thanks to two local farmers for fresh produce PW Vickers & Son and AC Hulme & Sons.

Many Congratulations to Revd Sandra Marsh who celebrated her 60th birthday at the end of October sadly not being able to take the holiday that she had planned but a quite celebration at The Dog, Wingham instead.

John Kirk celebrated his 70th Birthday on 17th November and Jo Shrimpton celebrated her 60th on 24th November we hope you both had an enjoyable day.

Also celebrating his 60th birthday on 2nd December will be Revd David Ridley we would like to wish you a very Happy Birthday David.

We would like to pass on our best wishes to landlord of The Black Pig, Billy Morgan who at the beginning of November took over the Flying Horse, Boughton Lees, Ashford (opposite East Well Manor) Good luck with your additional new business.

We are sorry to have to report that Scarlet Freeman had a fall at her home at the beginning of last month and was taken into QEQM where she had another fall and consequently has broken her hip, we hope she soon starts to recover and gets the full care that she needs. Our thoughts and prayers are with her at this time.

At the time of writing this report Audrey Baker from Lower Road is due to go back into hospital to have a long overdue operation on her arm, we wish her well and hope she has a speedy recovery, especially as on 3rd December she will be 80 years young, so we would like to take this opportunity to wish her a many happy returns of the day.

Our thoughts are also with Donald Baldwin and his wife Hilary who many of you will know from coffee mornings and church services and events. Donald has been in hospital but should be home soon. We wish you both all the best.

They're back! Well not quite in the village but not too far away - Laura and Jamie Bounds moved into their newly built home at 7 Colliery Lane, Hammill Park, Woodnesborough. Wishing you lots of love and happiness in your new home.

It is with much sadness that in October John Stanley who had lived in Staple for over 50 years sadly lost his long battle with his illness and passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Sue, daughter Debbie and family.

We were also sorry to hear that Sue Coulson's mother sadly passed away on 10th November, our thoughts are with her and also her family.

Ron Sear has just returned from hospital following an operation, we understand that he is recovering well and we would like to send him our best wishes.

We bid a fond farewell to Olive Rae and her family who this month will be leaving their home at Yew Tree Cottage, Summerfield to move to Wales, we wish them all the very best for the future.



## STAPLE CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY APPEAL

In a normal year we would be enjoying lots of Christmas activities including the annual Church Christmas Fayre which is very well supported by the village and usually raises money for the Church Restoration Fund. This year, we are planning to do something a bit different and collect items and money for two deserving local charities whose resources are being challenged more than ever during the pandemic. These are Deal Foodbank and Dover Outreach Centre (see next page for more information about the centre's work).



If you would like to donate items or money, please come along to the Church any time between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday 13 December to deposit your items. If you want to donate online please go to our justgiving page at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/staplechristmasappeal2020>

If you need someone to come and collect any items, please email [theEscallop@gmail.com](mailto:theEscallop@gmail.com) or ring 01304 812515.

**All food, toiletry and cash donations are welcome but the following items are particularly needed:**



### Deal Foodbank

Peanut butter  
Chocolate spread  
Brown sauce  
Tomato ketchup  
Instant mash  
Desserts (not rice pudding)  
Mince pies (but not Christmas puddings!)  
Pot noodles  
Any toiletries

### Dover Outreach Centre

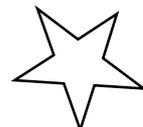
Coffee  
Sugar  
Paper cups (not polystyrene)  
Bathroom cleaner  
Face masks  
Disposable gloves (large)



While in the Church on 13 December, please take a moment to look at our lovely Christmas tree or write a prayer on the wooden stars provided. These stars will be hung on the tree over the Christmas period.



At 4 p.m. there will be short Christmas service held by lamplight in the churchyard - covid restrictions and weather permitting.



*Please wear a facemask while you are in the Church building and observe social distancing guidelines.  
Thank you!*

## DOVER OUTREACH CENTRE

The Dover Outreach Centre is a charity which was set up in July 2016 to help rough sleepers, the homeless and those threatened with homelessness. We do not want to support anyone to remain rough sleeping or homeless, our aim is to support them out of homelessness. Their needs are not simple, with many struggling with alcohol and drug dependency following some incident or trauma in their lives. Our key activities are:

- Day Centre – this is open weekday mornings for rough sleepers, homeless folks who are sofa surfing and those at risk of becoming homeless and provides:
  - Simple breakfast
  - Showers
  - Laundry facilities
  - Lockers
  - Postal address
  - Access to our Mental Health professional
  - Free use of a telephone
  - Access to computers
  - Help with CV writing
  - Benefits advice
  - Signposting to other agencies

- Winter Night Shelter – for rough sleepers only
  - Operates during the 3 coldest months of the year
  - Moves from venue to venue each evening, usually church buildings
  - Provision of hot meals, safe and warm place to stay
  - Try to create a “family” type atmosphere and environment
  - Capacity for 15 people per night
- Social Enterprise – Set up in July 2017 and currently have four people involved in this project:
  - Painting, decorating, landscaping, carpentry
  - Training and mentoring
  - A route back into regular employment
  - Short term contracts, 6 to 12 months
  - Restoring value, self-worth and dignity through work achievement
- Victory House Supported Accommodation – taken on in April 2019 and located at our base in Snargate Street and above our Centre and offices, comprises:
  - 17 Single occupancy en-suite rooms
  - Shared kitchens and laundry
  - 3 bedroom self-contained flat
  - Residents occupy rooms on a license basis and for up to 2 years

Since opening the doors of our Day Centre to our first guests on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016 we have seen over 600 different people. Of these we have helped to house 151 and found work for 48. This has not been done in isolation but with the help and involvement of other agencies, the Local Authority and charities. We are proud of these achievements but know that there is much still to do. We are currently developing plans for future initiatives as follows:

- Community Café - located in Snargate Street next to our Centre and Offices, this will be open to all with customers paying what they can afford. It will offer opportunities for training and employment and will hopefully open on 1 April 2021.
- Move On Houses – working with Hope into Action and local Churches this will be the next step on from supported accommodation. The first house will open in Summer 2021.
- Rehabilitation Centre – this will be primarily for drug users and we hope to open in late 2021. We are looking for 2 houses in rural locations in East Kent which will accommodate up to 8 in each house
- Housing developments – our main focus is to build good quality affordable homes with opportunities for the ex-homeless to work in the initiative and learn new skills. We will be working with Dover District Council and a Local Developer – this is in its early stages and we hope to start in 2022/23.



### ***A Christmas Thank You to our Distributors***



The Editorial Team and the Parochial Church Council would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who deliver the Escallop every month. We are really grateful to them for giving up their time to keep the village connected.

Thanks go to Andy Raggett, Trevor Bartlett, Anne-Marie Sidaway, Justin Harlow, Sue Coulson, Debby and Chris Chapman, Shelley Morris, Peter Young, Tamsyn Young, Keith Brammer and Frances Hillier

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE ESCALLOP 2021**

The Escallop is Staple Village Magazine which is produced by the Parochial Church Council on behalf of the village community. It currently has a circulation of 170 and in December the magazine is distributed to all homes in the Village. The magazine is aimed at a wide village audience and provides a means of sharing information for all residents and all community organisations.

If you would like to receive the magazine each month, please speak to your distributor, or email [theEscallop@gmail.com](mailto:theEscallop@gmail.com). If you would like to advertise in the Escallop please use the same email. Payments for advertisements for 2021 are due in January.

Subscriptions for the Escallop will be due in early January. The cost of the magazine will remain at £5.00 for the year. Your distributor will call to collect your money during January – but if you know who they are, please do drop the money through their door to save them coming to you. If you do not receive the Escallop at the moment and would like to, please email [TheEscallop@gmail.com](mailto:TheEscallop@gmail.com) and we will arrange for someone to deliver to you. If you want to pay online or to find out who your distributor is, please feel free to email us. Thank you!

# STAPLE BRANCH - THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



*In normal times we meet at the **Black Pig**, Barnsole Road, Staple on the second Thursday of each month. We welcome new members. You do not have to have served in the Armed Forces to become a member, only have the aims and objects of The Legion at heart: Comradeship, Welfare, Representation and Remembrance. Unable to have meetings due to the pandemic restrictions, please contact the Secretary for more details, by email at: [TRBLStaplesec@btinternet.com](mailto:TRBLStaplesec@btinternet.com) – watch The Escallop for special events. Do have a look at our website on: <https://rblstaple.wix.com/rblstaple> where there is much of interest, including Lost Sons of Staple profiles and the story and pictures of the construction of the Remembrance Garden.*



Last month saw us busy with Remembrance-tide duties: tidying up the War Memorial and the Garden of Remembrance which was treated to a new covering of bark, courtesy of the Banner Club and a donation, and new reflective poppies in the trees.

The Poppy Appeal has been quite different this year, due to COVID-19 restrictions on what we were allowed to do and, of course, it has missed the huge boost it usually gets from the generosity of Rex's guests at his Fireworks Extravaganza, another casualty of the restrictions. We were reduced to two tables, one outside The Dell and the other at Gander Court, plus a collection box at the Black Pig, which, between them, raised £458.90 – with a few promised donations still to come.

This despite the fact that some sad soul saw fit to steal the contents of the collection box outside The Dell. Faith in human nature was restored in that so many people were horrified by this that a flood of donations came in, in all likelihood, far exceeding the lost contents of the tin. A big 'Thank you' to all who donated.

Branch Member, Barbara Rampton, is the Poppy Appeal Organiser for Nonnington and district where she collected the magnificent sum of £1,954.12. Well done, Barbara, especially for standing outside the village hall in such terrible weather.



With new restrictions in place, Remembrance Sunday had to be even more scaled down. With only the Padre and official Wreath Layers allowed it was gratifying to see so many villagers 'passing by' on their morning exercise and joining safely in the Act of Remembrance. Fr Michael led a moving service precariously perched on the soggy slope above the War Memorial and the sad little forest of crosses on the 'Field' of Remembrance.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour saw a goodly number again gathered at the Garden of Remembrance.

Looking beautiful, in the heart of our village, the Garden had already been visited by some to plant a cross at a particular tree and by Sharon's little charges to place their hand made poppies and touch the trees. Thank you, Sharon, for starting them early on learning how significant to our way of life the sacrifice of these young men was.

Another little heartening episode: a van driver, with the usual tight schedule of deliveries, nevertheless stopped and switched off his engine until the Reveille.

Unable to hold an AGM this November, we have kept the same Committee until such time as we can all meet again properly. Perhaps – we may be able to have a meal together in the not too distant future.

Christmas, to date, is as undecided as everything else this year. We can only wish our Members, and our neighbours in the village, a Happy and Healthy one, however we must celebrate.

And finally – on the subject of health – our President, Ron Sear, after a brief spell in hospital to have a pacemaker fitted, is back in Sylvia's care. Trust you'll be marching to a new healthy rhythm soon, Ron.



## Chillenden Windmill

Many in the parish may have noticed that the sweeps have recently returned to nearby Chillenden Windmill. However the sweeps have not just been returned after repair to this local landmark but they are now capable of turning thanks to restoration work from Kent County Council. Indeed on 22<sup>nd</sup> October the sweeps turned under wind power for the first time since 1949. The work was undertaken by Suffolk Millwrights who have also repaired the unique spring shutter mechanism on each sweep and have also repainted the weatherboarding to the main structure.



Local residents in Chillenden were excited to see the historic local landmark restored and the windmill turning once again. Margaret Holyer, Chillenden's oldest resident aged 91 said "I am just so amazed to see the sweeps back on the windmill. I've never actually seen them go round!" Her late husband, Ron, will have done so as he was one of the last people to work at the Mill. As a youngster in the 1940's he used to assist the last miller, Norman Laker. Kate Gibson was also surprised to see the sweeps turning as she went past. She has lived in the village for 50 years and said "The windmill has always been part of the Chillenden landscape but I had never expected I would witness the sweeps turning".

For anyone who would like to witness the sweeps turning there is some excellent drone and video footage on the Chillenden Village website [www.chillenden.org.uk](http://www.chillenden.org.uk)

The intention is that the sweeps will turn again on open days next year. The Grade II\* listed is managed by the Friends of Chillenden Windmill, a local group of volunteers who open it at weekends and show visitors around. The Mill is open on Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays from 2.30pm to 4.30pm from May till the end of August. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer should contact either Paul Allen (tel 01304 841970) or Sue Baker (tel 01304 812054).

Chillenden Windmill, owned by Kent County Council since 1958, is one of only four post mills to survive in Kent, and the last one with an open trestle. It was built in 1868 to replace an earlier post mill and extensively rebuilt following storm damage in November 2003. Many will recall seeing the landmark completely blown over, either in person or on the extensive television coverage.

Whilst not open to the public in 2020 we are looking forward to an exciting 2021.

Paul Allen,  
Chillenden Mill Manager

## CHRISTMAS PUZZLES

### **CHRISTMAS EMOJI** Movie Guessing Game

1.  \_\_\_\_\_
2.  \_\_\_\_\_
3.  \_\_\_\_\_
4.  \_\_\_\_\_
5.  \_\_\_\_\_
6.  \_\_\_\_\_
7.  \_\_\_\_\_
8.  \_\_\_\_\_
9.  \_\_\_\_\_
10.  \_\_\_\_\_

### Christmas word scramble

- 1 ogsntcik \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 ilesnt \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 adceln \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 hawtre \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 dneierer \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 esitnpaoti \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 ggbeeranrdi \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 eimlostteo \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 taans \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 brceedme \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 lneo \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 fetrucika \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 njlieg \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 iokcsoe \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 spnteer \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 eeglds \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 tomraenn \_\_\_\_\_
- 18 ganle \_\_\_\_\_
- 19 pirafeelc \_\_\_\_\_
- 20 soclar \_\_\_\_\_



## The Investigation of Fly Tipping

On 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 Dover District Council were notified of an incident of fly tipping on the land off Grove Road, Staple.

An officer from the Environmental Protection and Crime Team attended to conduct initial enquiries in relation to the waste deposited and obtain images of it. As a result of those enquiries a number of individuals and properties were identified in relation to where the waste may have originated from. The case was investigated which resulted in a specific individual and address of interest. This individual was written to by the investigating officer and asked to call the team. The individual failed to make any contact within the specified time frame. As a result, written interview questions were sent to the individual in accordance with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. These questions were responded to and identified that the individual had paid unknown persons to remove the waste for a small fee. The individual failed to make any checks to see whether they held the required license to be able to transport another person's waste.



Unfortunately, due to lack of checks undertaken by the individual and no details of who had removed the waste the person responsible for fly tipping the waste has never been identified. By not making these checks the individual failed to fulfil their duty of care in relation to waste and therefore committed a criminal offence themselves.

As a result of a review meeting the individual who transferred the waste was issued with a fixed penalty notice of £200 for failing to make the required checks to ensure the person(s) who removed the waste held a waste carriers license.

The Environmental Protection and Crime Team would like to remind residents that they should be checking that any person who removes waste from their property holds a waste carriers license with the Environment Agency. Failure to do so is a criminal offence and could result in unlimited fines if the matter was taken to Court and the person found guilty.

Householders can check that a person/business holds a waste carriers license on the Environment Agency online public register (<https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers-regime?regime=upper-tier>) or by calling the Environment Agency on 03708 506506.

To report fly tipping please visit the Dover District Council website ([www.dover.gov.uk](http://www.dover.gov.uk)), call 01304 872289 or send an email to [envcrime@dover.gov.uk](mailto:envcrime@dover.gov.uk)

**Guess the Church...how did you do?!?! (all part of the Ride+Stride event)**



1. Preston



2. Ickham



3. Patricbourne



4. Chillenden

## Staple Preschool Update December 2020

What a fantastic start to the new term, the weather has been good and we've been continuing our community walks and outdoor play sessions. This week we've been celebrating Diwali making lanterns and rangoli patterns.

There are a few more children joining us after Christmas so we have taken this opportunity to look at recruiting some new staff. We are pleased to announce that we have recruited a fully qualified level 3 early years practitioner to add to the team as well as taking on an apprentice who is very keen on a career in early years learning. Our apprentice will learn from the existing staff as well as take a fully funded level 3 early years learning qualification. We are delighted to have been able to acquire 2 excellent members of staff who will enable us to slightly increase our numbers of children whilst still keeping a very high ratio of staff to children compared to other settings.



Continuing our outdoor learning theme, we are pleased to say that we have received a grant from DDC to become an Eco School, the first of its kind for an early years setting in Kent. The principle behind the eco school is that the children run the committee and after learning about different types of eco schemes and bio-diversity projects they select the path that the preschool sets in creating legacy projects.

The children have already introduced a litter picking scheme for the village hall grounds and are keen to develop schemes to help the local wildlife. They have also expressed a wish to create some wild areas for them and the community to enjoy with one of the current projects to introduce a small wild flower orchard.

We are very pleased to say that amongst our parents we have an ecologist who will be looking at how we can encourage more wildlife including birds and bats to the area and the type of native planting that we can introduce to help the process.

Also, due further development is our forest learning area with the introduction of some willow tunnels and a fire pit in anticipation of the colder weather.



During the course of 2020 we have had to cancel both of our jumble sales, this usually brings in some well needed funds for the preschool. Hopefully 2021 will allow us to return to some normality and we can introduce these fundraising events as well as a few other ideas throughout the year.

Whilst the situation this year has prevented many events we still intend to have a Christmas party for the children but sadly we will not be able to invite any parents into the setting or indeed have a visit from the North Pole. We will have a party lunch and play a few games before they finish the term to spend the festivities with their families.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and remember if you see us walking around the village don't forget to give us a wave.



Kind regards  
Staple Pre School Committee, Staff and children

## If You Go Down To The Woods Today



Did you know Staple Village has its own Woodland Trust?

Lea Wood lies to the west end of the village opposite Staple House (the old Three Tuns PH) and its entrance is via Bates Close.

### Why does Staple have a Woodland Trust?

Creating a Community Woodland in the village was suggested by the Kent Rural Community Council in 1992, as a way to celebrate the upcoming Centenary of Parish Councils in 1994. The village was canvassed and enough local people were prepared to support the scheme. A committee was formed and the Staple Woodland Trust was born. In 1993, with Parish Council support, local fundraising and a grant from British Telecom, 1 ¾ acres of neglected market garden land were purchased by the newly appointed Trust from Mr Frank Bates for the sum of £2,500. The name Lea Wood was decided upon by the committee and was a link to Mr Bates, whose bungalow was called Orchard Lea. The original Trustees are shown in this photo; l-r, Peter Stark, Julia Brammer, Jill Raggett, Diana and Roger Burges



### What is its purpose?

The objects of the Trust are; to preserve and enhance the rural landscape within the Parish of Staple; to acquire areas of land for the above purpose; to create woodland areas providing additional habitats for birds and other wildlife, informal recreational areas for the villagers and educational opportunities for village children; to foster interest and a sense of pride amongst residents in the appearance and rural amenities of their village. The woodland also allows villagers to plant memorial trees for their loved ones and provides a very peaceful setting in which to do this.

### What's in the Wood?

The site was originally a market garden, part of which was an orchard with boundary hedges of hawthorn. It had become overgrown and neglected and work began in the autumn of 1993, with the help of local volunteers, to clear it. The first trees were planted in March 1994 and these included 30 oak and ash saplings. The main bulk of tree planting was carried out in early 1995 with the assistance of Ash Cubs and Scouts and other volunteers. Initially over 400 young trees were planted, representative of native trees local to the area; oak, ash, beech, hornbeam, sweet chestnut, wild service, whitebeam and small-leaved lime as well as a variety of smaller trees. By 1997, 700-800 saplings had been planted and some wild flowers were planted in an attempt to establish them. Over the following years bird and bat boxes were sited in the woods too and benches were installed, made by a local villager Brian Beer.



In 2012 a Ginkgo Biloba tree was planted to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This photo shows Cllr Trevor Bartlett along with Doris Newman, Julia and Keith Brammer, President and Avril and Denis Stephens – all great supporters of the Wood over the past 25 years.

### So that was then, but what about now?



Planting has continued, with a recent emphasis on berry bearing trees and shrubs in order to encourage bird life in the Wood. In 2006 it was clear that some areas of the trees were becoming overcrowded and selected thinning and pruning commenced. The work continues to this day, with the felling of old plum trees an ongoing part of the work in the Wood. This year we have installed three new picnic benches for anyone wishing to enjoy a drink and a rest – this photo shows our Chairman, Mike Sterba with Treasurer Peter Beer and his wife Michelle, enjoying a well earned break from woodland working!

## Who is responsible for Lea Wood in 2020, 27 years after its inception?

The Wood still has a dedicated committee, which meets once per year for its AGM and twice monthly in the winter in order to continue the important work of keeping the Wood accessible. In the summer it is only once a month, due to nesting birds, and the emphasis is on the ground – keeping the paths mown and the brambles and nettles at bay! Our working parties are always great fun; there's usually a large bonfire and, if we are really lucky, our lovely neighbours provide us with hot drinks and a marvellous array of biscuits to keep us sustained.

## Would you like to join us?

We are always keen to welcome new volunteers and, if you have ever wondered what goes on behind that hedge, perhaps you would like to come and find us. We are in the Wood from December to April on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of each month from 10 am. Please contact Secretary Annette Tomlin ([aetomlin1@gmail.com](mailto:aetomlin1@gmail.com)) if you would like further details.



I-r: Andy Raggett, Michelle and Peter Beer, Mick Burr, Keith Brammer, President, Mike and Chris Sterba, Dave Newman (and Annette behind the camera!)

*(The historical information in this article was taken from 'Lea Wood: The creation of a community woodland in the Village of Staple: the first 13 years', compiled by Marjorie Punnett.)*  
Staple Woodland Trust – Registered Charity no. 102880



## The Children's Society

Hello Everyone, I am Hema Shaw and I will be taking over from Pip Russell as the Local Co-ordinator for The Children's Society for Staple. Pip has asked me to include this short message from herself.



*"I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the Children's Society whilst I have been the Local Co-ordinator. I will still be around to help, in which ever way I can, towards raising money for the Society. In the meantime, I ask everyone to continue to support this wholly deserving charity."*

Pip Russell

I will try my best to follow in Pip's footsteps by organising fundraising events and helping and supporting all local residents in their individual fund raising efforts, in order to raise a significant contribution to The Children's Society every year.

I have lived in Staple for just over 4 years now, with my husband Paul and twin daughters Anjali and Tilly and have got to know many of you in that time. I am looking forward to making a contribution to the local community and would be happy to hear any ideas or suggestions that anyone may have as to how I can continue Pip's great work, particularly at this difficult time.

Usually at this time of year, we would be preparing for various village events which would be great fund raising opportunities, but, unfortunately, most of these have been cancelled this year and with us being in lockdown for another 2 weeks and then facing more unknown restrictions, it is very difficult to organise any fund raising. However, many of you may have Children's Society collection boxes that need emptying or would simply like to offer a donation. If so, then please get in touch with me and I will be happy to help.

Of course you can also contribute to The Children's Society online, either a one-off or regular donation, it's very easy to do at the website; <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>

I look forward to doing my bit in supporting you all and helping The Children's Society.

If you would like to get in touch, I'd love to hear from you in person or by email @ [hsegolam@yahoo.com](mailto:hsegolam@yahoo.com)

Best Wishes for the Festive Season

Hema Shaw, Sycamores, The Street.

## A Wildlife Friendly Village starting in our own gardens



You may have read my article last month proposing that we make Staple a wildlife friendly village. One of the aims in achieving this purpose would be for each one of us who has a garden, however small, to set aside a special place just for wildlife.

As we put our gardens to bed for the winter, why not leave those untidy leaves in a corner where grubs can hibernate. Instead of using all the wood for our fires or wood burning stoves, create a woodpile. You will be amazed how many beetles, woodlice and spiders will make their home there.

Our endangered hedgehog, *Erinaceus europaeus*, needs to roam during his nocturnal hunt for food or a mate come the spring. Many of our gardens are neatly fenced to keep out unwanted visitors, but the hedgehog is a creature who should be welcomed as they happily eat slugs and snails. The Hedgehog Street Campaign: <http://www.hedgehogstreet.org> is encouraging us to ensure that hedgehogs can pass freely from one garden to the next. A small hole in a fence 13cm x 13cm is sufficient, or a gap left under the fence will help our hedgehogs to forage. If you do want to offer them greater hospitality a hedgehog box is often appreciated. As hedgehogs are lactose intolerant, they must not be given milk to drink but please leave a shallow bowl of water out for them. Cat food, wet or dry is very acceptable to supplement their diet, unless you want to buy specialist hedgehog food from a pet shop. In these small ways we can support our wild creatures and provide precious spaces and corridors to keep them safe and fed.

If you wish to become more involved in the Wildlife Friendly Village project please email me: [shelleyhartmorris@gmail.com](mailto:shelleyhartmorris@gmail.com)

Thank you.

Shelley Morris



### **The Arts Society, Sandwich**

During the period of restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, The Arts Society Sandwich is providing its Autumn programme of live monthly lectures over the internet via Zoom, each lecture starting at 7pm with log-in from 6.45pm.

**The next lecture will be on Monday 7 December 2020.**

**'Celebrate, Rejoice, Rise Up! Johann Sebastian Bach`s Glorious Christmas Oratorio.'**  
**Sandy Burnett**

*In this illustrated talk Sandy Burnett will explore how Bach brings the Christmas story alive. An overview of Bach`s life and achievement will precede a close look at the forms of music on which this work draws.*

If you would like to participate please email your request to [info@tasss.org.uk](mailto:info@tasss.org.uk)

New members welcome though a £5 contribution per lecture would be appreciated. For membership and programme information please visit <http://www.sandwichfas.org.uk>

## Barnsole Vineyard Review of 2020

November is a relaxing month over at the vineyard.

Sally and Phillip have completed their 9th harvest and the 2020 wines have finished fermenting in the tanks.

This season, we have made 2,000 bottles of sparkling Rose from 100% Pinot Noir. Plus 10,000 bottles of three different still white wines. Volumes are down from the usual 20,000 bottles as we have grubbed up a third of the vineyard and replanted with more Pinot Noir. A grape that appears to be performing extremely well on our site with some great still Red Pinot Noir wines in the pipeline.

The year started with expansion works. Another building is being added to the rear of our current facility, where the agricultural equipment will be stored. That will enable us to enhance the customer facing area at the front and to improve our offering.

Interestingly, we had to dig down a few metres to install a much bigger soakaway for rain water run-off. To my surprise, we're sitting on Thanet Sands.

February became a record wet month with the footings for the new building filling up with two feet of rain water. Then Covid.

Fortunately, our team tends to be out in the field on their own, pruning the vines until early April. A great way to self-isolate.

April, May and June were inevitably very quiet with very few visitors. But to our surprise, online sales took off.

Making wine is all about the weather and it was great throughout the early and middle part of the 2020 growing season. The main reason that Barnsole Vineyard is where it is, is to avoid late frost. Situated at 15 metres altitude and being 4 miles from the sea, we rarely get late frosts. It's the maritime influence. But in early May, many other English vineyard were hit hard with a series of frosts, severely damaging the early growth and impacting badly on their yields. We survived unscathed.

The summer turned out to be hectic. We're beneficiaries of these strange times with English wine on the up. Local sourcing being popular and fewer people travelling abroad. All coalescing into the best summer season in the vineyards' 27-year history.

At harvest, rather than risk using volunteers, friends and family, we chose to employ a small pod - or bubble - of six Romanian pickers. We kept our people, Brandon, Gabby and Andy safe. The diligent Romanians kept their distance and stayed safe too. Harvest was two weeks earlier than normal, due to the warm spring weather. So, we were done just as the rest of the English vineyards starting picking and all the available labour was subsumed by the bigger vineyards. Phew, all done just as the weather broke in October. And it's been raining ever since. We still haven't been able to get the tractor out onto the land to plough and to suppress the weeds. Talking of which, you may have noticed an explosion of a new weed - Fat Hen. That's a problem for the future. That, along with a new invasive fly species, spotted wing drosophila, has made us rethink our land husbandry strategy.

We'll soon be seen out in the vineyard pruning. Pottering along, lost in thought. Or consumed by an interesting podcast whilst trying to keep warm. We are accompanied by flocks of finches, meandering partridges, strutting pheasants, pesky pigeons, darting hawks and magnificent buzzards. We love spotting the hares that seem to find comfort with the line of sight that our rows offer.

Nature continues to flourish and we roll with the gentle respiration of the seasons.

Phillip Watts

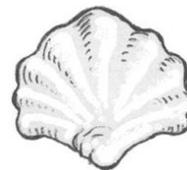


BARNSOLE  
Barnsole Vineyard Limited

## Dover District Lottery



## STAPLE CHURCH has joined



### DOVER DISTRICT LOTTERY

You can now buy tickets for the lottery and support the  
Church's Restoration Appeal  
*[www.doverlotto.com](http://www.doverlotto.com)*

During 2020, we have not been able to hold most of our fundraising events. This has meant that the next phase of the restoration work is currently on hold as we are unable to raise the funds required. One way in which you can continue to support us is through the Dover District Lottery. Please do consider buying some tickets – we will have raised over £600 this year in this way.

Dover District Lotto is an exciting weekly lottery that raises money for good causes in the Dover district. All good causes supported by the lottery will benefit the Dover district and its residents. Play the lottery, support Dover District - it's that simple!

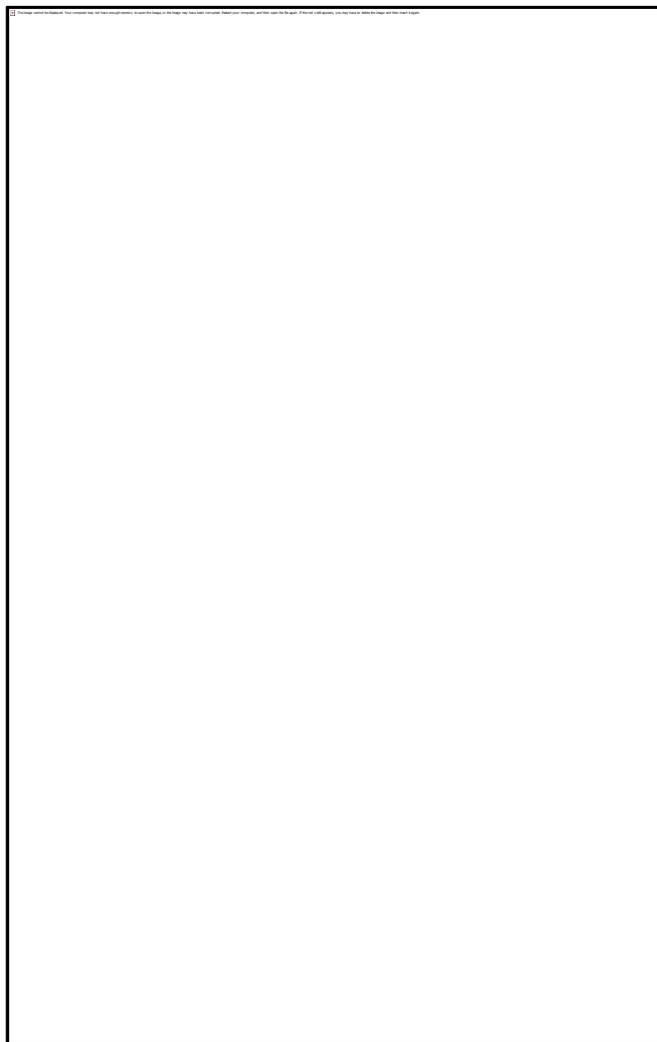
Tickets for the lottery cost just £1 per week. Each ticket has a **1 in 50** chance to win a prize each week, with a top prize of £25,000! That's a better chance of winning than the National Lottery or the Health Lottery!

Each ticket will consist of 6 numbers and each number will be between 0 and 9. There will be a draw every Saturday night when a 6 digit winning combination will be picked. Prizes will be given to players with tickets that match the first or last 2-6 numbers from the winning combination. Match all 6 and you win the JACKPOT!

#### How the lottery will support Staple Church

From every £1 ticket sold 60p will go to good causes in the Dover district! To put this in perspective when you play the National Lottery 25% goes to good causes – in the Dover lottery the ticket percentage that goes to good causes is more than **doubled**.

If you choose to support Staple Church through the lottery, the Restoration fund will receive 50p of the 60p (the remaining 10p will be distributed to other good causes).



Please do support us. Go to [www.doverlotto.com](http://www.doverlotto.com) to search for Staple Church and buy your tickets.

## Staple Helpline



If you are self-isolating or vulnerable during the current difficulties, there is a team of people in Staple able and willing to help you in a number of ways:

Picking up shopping.  
Posting letters.  
Walking dogs.  
A friendly phone call.  
Pick up prescriptions.  
Any other errand you are unable to do.

If you need any help, please email The [Escallop@gmail.com](mailto:Escallop@gmail.com), call 01304 812515 (Neddermans) or text 07702 068488 and we will do what we can.

There is also a team of helpers to ring round people in the village on a regular basis to check in with them. If you would like to receive a phone call, please let us know. If you would like to volunteer to help, please get in touch.



## Recycling and Waste Collections



### Collections for December 2020



<b>Garden Waste</b>	Tuesdays	8 and 22 December
<b>Refuse and Food</b>	Wednesdays	9 and 23 December
<b>Recycling and Food</b>	Wednesdays	2, 16 and 30 December

*You can subscribe to free email reminders telling you whether it is recycling or household waste at:*

[www.dover.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.dover.gov.uk/recycling)



In the current crisis, events and activities organised by local societies have been cancelled including:

**Staple Parent and Toddler Group**  
**Staple Youth Group**  
**Pipe-Dreamers**  
**Staple Short Mat Bowls Club**  
**Sandwich Local History Society**  
**Ash Guides**  
**Ash Bowling Club**  
**Staple Walking Group**  
**Woodnesborough Gardeners Club**

When local societies are able to restart, we will ensure that details are included in the Escallop

## Community Speedwatch Report December 2020

After shutting down again for a few weeks the Police have allowed us to recommence Speedwatch sessions as long as we use just two operators for each session. There appears to be a lot less traffic passing through the village and speeds are dropping ~ Good News!!! Hopefully this reduction will continue as dusk is ever earlier and villagers are walking in the dark. Please wear reflecting jackets or light clothing so you can be seen by drivers who cannot see dark clothing easily. We can only carry out Speedwatch duties during daylight hours.

We can always accept more volunteers; so please come and assist if you have time available and want to help your community. Remember you only need to be available for about 1 to 2 hours per month. Please contact me if you want further information:- [roger43@gmail.com](mailto:roger43@gmail.com) or 01304 812306

Instead of the usual SID report I am including our Speedwatch report for the last 2 years as we started in November 2018 and have just completed 2 years of Speedwatch. I really appreciate the help of those in our group and thank them very much for their support.

### Town/Parish Council Report for Staple Speedwatch Group.

Reporting between 01-11-2018 and 24-11-2020

Current Volunteers = 12 Active = 8 ( 2 are administrators and 2 have withdrawn services currently)

#### Summary for this Period

Number of Sessions this period = 64

Total Vehicles exceeding limit = 256

DVLA Valid vehicles = 236

Accuracy = 92%

Maximum Speed recorded in 30 limit = **53 mph(+76%)**

#### Police Actions this Period

1st Record Observed = 197

Letter Sent FO1 = 7

Letter Sent MO2 = 28

Letter Sent MO3 = 2

Letters are sent by the Kent Police for exceeding the speed limit (more than once) and for exceeding the speed limit by more than 50%

## Highway Improvement Plan

We know that many residents have concerns about traffic in our village, and through the good work of our Speedwatch team we are aware of increasing numbers of vehicles using our roads, often at high speeds.

There are measures that could be taken to increase safety and improve the environment – although all of these involve considerable costs.

We have an opportunity now to put forward proposals to the highway authority (Kent County Council) through a Highway Improvement Plan. The parish council is intending to produce a plan identifying schemes, but before we do so we would like to hear your ideas.

There are a number of options that might be suitable, ranging from traffic calming, to a speed limit change, or different types of signage. A document giving details of all the possibilities is on our website <https://stapleparishcouncil.co.uk/> - you will see it also includes indicative costs, some of which run to several thousand pounds.

It should be emphasised that as a parish council we couldn't afford to implement any schemes on our own; we can make recommendations to KCC who would need to agree to fund the works, perhaps with a contribution from the parish council.

We would welcome your thoughts – please email [clerk@stapleparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@stapleparishcouncil.co.uk) and we will consider ideas to put forward. Thank you.

Staple Parish Council

## DECEMBER NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WARNINGS 2020

### Kent Fraud Alert System

As a result of an increase in courier fraud offences last month a press release has been issued (see below). I would ask that you share this with family and friends and make aware anybody whom you feel susceptible to becoming a victim of this type of scam.



### Courier fraud reminders of incidents recently

Elderly and vulnerable people have been asked to hand over their bank cards, cash or personal information in order to assist with bogus investigations. A courier is then sent to the victim's address to collect the money or items, often travelling via taxi. Sometimes a taxi is sent to the victim's home so they can be taken to a nearby bank to withdraw their savings.

A vulnerable resident handed over his bank cards and pin after being told by a man over the phone there had been an attempt to steal cash from his bank account. Within two hours the card had been used to withdraw more than £2,000. Cash and purchase more than £600 of goods from a retail store. The same day an elderly woman was visited by a man who asked for her bank cards after which she had earlier disclosed her pin number over the phone. However, she grew suspicious and closed the door on him. Afterwards she contacted the Police.

Detectives of Kent and Essex Serious Crime Directorate Said "while it is encouraging that many potential victims are now growing wise to the ways in which criminals operate, the high volume of reports we are receiving demonstrate those responsible are not giving up and they are, unfortunately, successful on occasions. It remains as important as ever we all continue to look out for our neighbours and family members. Especially those who may be elderly or vulnerable are made aware of the appalling lengths offenders will go to in order to steal their hard earned savings.

To report a non-urgent crime online [www.kent. police.uk/report](http://www.kent.police.uk/report)  
Talk to us on LiveChat-available 24/7 [www.kent. police.uk/contact](http://www.kent.police.uk/contact)  
In an emergency if crime is in progress or life is in danger call 999  
If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to 60066  
[www.kent. police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk)

### REMBER YOUR A B C ...

**A** never Assume  
**B** never Believe  
**C** always Confirm

### Fake News circulating on social media.

I have had several reports this week of the following message being circulated on social media. This is FAKE NEWS and no such scam is currently occurring or been reported by the City of London police. If you see this message or someone, you can safely ignore it. This was previously circulating back in March of this year as well and seems to be something that keeps recurring every few months.

### Fraudsters Impersonating Citizens Advice

I have become aware of scam calls from fraudsters impersonating Citizens Advice. If you receive one of these call's, then please disconnect the call immediately. Citizens advice will NEVER ASK you for MONEY or FINANCIAL INFORMATION. If you receive a call, you can report this directly to citizen advice via clicking the following link –

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/reporting-a-scam/>

Additionally, if you think you have been a victim of this scam and have parted with monies or the scammer is known to you, then report this to Police on 101. If you feel threatened or unsafe, then call Police on 999.

### New Post Office Phishing Scam

The below phishing email is currently circulating in the UK and we have had reports of this this being received by Kent residents.

The email informs you that you have missed a package delivery from HMRC Revenue & Customs and gives a link to reschedule the delivery. It is a scam. Do not click on any links or enter any details.

The below link will take you to the Post Office web site which contains further information on this scam and how to report any incidents to

them. [https://personal.help.royalmail.com/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/6905/~/\\_what-email-%2F-text-%2F-facebook-message-scams-should-i-be-aware-ol](https://personal.help.royalmail.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/6905/~/_what-email-%2F-text-%2F-facebook-message-scams-should-i-be-aware-ol) If you believe that you may have been a victim of this scam, then contact your bank and report to Action Fraud.

## Staple Parish Council

### **Councillors present**

Cllr T Bartlett (Chair)

Cllr S Coulson

Cllr N McCollum

Cllr G McCollum

Cllr D Kirk

Cllr J Kirk

Cllr R Loukes

Parish Clerk: J Mount

		Action
1	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies from Cllr G McCollum who will be late.</p>	N/A
2	<p><b>Declaration of interest</b> There were no declarations of interest</p>	N/A
3	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting</b> Cllr Loukes requested that "Kent Police request details as and when required" be added to his report in the appropriate place. Proposed by Cllr Loukes, seconded Cllr D. Kirk. Passed unanimously.</p>	JM
4	<p><b>Public Session</b> Mrs Lynn Ewart said that both she and her husband are very grateful to the Parish Council for their help in trying to resolve the problem with flooding. Very disappointed with KCC who they have chased on several occasions, but no success. No response as yet. Very disappointed with KCC lack of involvement. Water on the Nash Road better...does anyone know what the drainage works are for? Cllr Loukes...we don't know any more details than what is on the KCC website. Some work is due to take place on 16<sup>th</sup> November, but it is not too close to where Mrs Ewart lives.</p>	None
5	<p><b>District Councillor's Report</b> Cllr Conolly and Cllr Sue Chandler to be invited to attend the meeting in future. Dover Council Waste and Recycling Officer has sadly died. Huge loss. Community Grant...no one in Staple applied except for Staple Preschool. Lorry park at Whitfield has not been 100% confirmed. Letters sent, but not much thought has been given to the impact on our roads. Do not need gridlock happening in and around Dover. Local Plan is going ahead. Members considered the new draft of the Local Plan, it goes to a Cabinet Meeting in December and it then goes out for consultation. Much work has gone into it. Various new homes to be built on brownfield sites. Contract has gone to a local firm (Jenners). Question from Cllr G McCollum...how are the food banks going, are they getting continued support? Cllr Bartlett went down to the Dover Food Bank, they are very well stocked. They turned down a grant because "they don't need it". No Christmas Fair this year at the Church. The Church will accept food parcels which will go to the Dover food bank instead of having a Christmas Fair.</p>	JM

**6 Finance**

**6.1 Financial statement**

Bank Reconciliation has been circulated to Council Members up to end of September. In future the Reconciliation will be right up to date.

Details from Barclays to change the address etc. to whom bank statements should be sent have not yet been received. Thanks to the manager of Ramsgate branch who put wheels in motion to enable the Parish Clerk to access on-line banking. Forms were received as a result of the Manager's help, these were sent off but no reply received as yet.

**6.2 Cheques to be approved**

Cheque No. 200357	Clerk's salary	£190.00
Cheque No. 200356	Lead acid Battery	£ 33.98 + £17.95
Cheque No. 200358	RBL Poppy Appeal	£ 50.00

It was proposed by Cllr Bartlett that for the past month, owing to the amount of extra work that was done, that the Clerk's salary be raised to £250 for the past month.

Cllr Bartlett proposed, Cllr D Kirk seconded. Passed unanimously. Parish Clerk recorded his thanks to the Parish Council for their kindness.

**6.3 Other financial Items**

The old SID appears not to be working. Might be able to do a reset. Cllr Loukes to investigate.

Discussion about cheque made out to Pat Heathfield. No invoice received as yet so no information about amount of the cheque or what it was for.

Remembrance Sunday. This year Staple was represented by Cllr Bartlett.

Discussion about how much should be given to the Poppy Appeal. £50. Proposed by Cllr J Kirk and Cllr G McCollum, seconded by Cllr S Coulson.

The Parish Clerk read out an email received from Pat Heathfield in which she said that whilst she could help with this year's accountancy, she would not be able to continue owing to a change in circumstances.

Discussion about who could take over from Pat Heathfield for accountancy.

Clerk to contact Karen Wright (advertisement in Escallop) to ask if she would be willing to take it on.

RL

JM

**7 Correspondence Received**

Email read out from Nick and Sonia Parsons in which they supported the Parish Council's decision with the naming of Bartlett Close.

No other correspondence received.

**8 Reports**

**8.1 PCSO Jacqui Brookes**

Report attached to agenda was read and noted by everybody.

Cllr Loukes asked if the PCSO could be invited to one of the speedwatch events?

**8.2 Village Hall and Recreation Ground updates**

Nothing to report.

Village Hall Maintenance... wooden gate to side of village hall needs repairing. Cllr D. Kirk has repaired it.

**SID/Speedwatch**



### Town/Parish Council Report for Staple Speedwatch Group.

Reporting between 01-11-2018 and 08-11-2020

Current Volunteers	=	12
<hr/>		
Summary for this Period		
Number of Sessions this period	=	62
Total Vehicles exceeding limit	=	254
DVLA Valid vehicles	=	235
Accuracy	=	92%
Maximum Speed recorded in 30 limit	=	53 mph(+ 76%)
<hr/>		
Police Actions this Period		
1st Record Observed	=	196
Letter Sent FO1	=	7
Letter Sent MO2	=	28
Letter Sent MO3	=	2
Supersceeded	=	1
<hr/>		
Overall		
My group started Recording* on	=	12-12-2018
Number of Sessions since start date	=	62
Vehicles recorded exceeding limit since start date	=	255
Maximum Speed recorded in 30 limit	=	53 mph(+ 76%)

8.3

An MO2 is a letter for 2 offences of speeding 35 mph or above and MO3 is for 3 offences.

An FO1 is for excessive speed i.e. more than 50% above the speed limit.

We will very happily accept any new volunteers who would like to see a reduction in speeds through the village.

Please contact me if you want further information:- [roger43@gmail.com](mailto:roger43@gmail.com) or 01304 812306

#### **SID report (for October')**

##### **The Street ~ West direction**

85th Percentile Speed = 32.9 MPH

85th Percentile Vehicles = 19,183 counts

50th Percentile Speed: 22.2 MPH

**Total Vehicles = 22,568 counts**

Average Speed: 20.4 MPH

**Max Speed = 60.0 MPH on 05/10/2020 12:50**

##### **Lower Road ~ Direction West**

85th Percentile Speed = 35.1 MPH

85th Percentile Vehicles = 13,261 counts

50th Percentile Speed: 29.3 MPH

**Total Vehicles = 15,601 counts**

Average Speed: 28.1 MPH

**Max Speed = 60.0 MPH on 08/10/2020 18:55**

Cllr R. Loukes ...Police have advised that speedwatch sessions can start Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

November at 2 chosen sites. But only 2 volunteers at each site. Police have also advised that there have been a number of cars that have been removed from people's front drives, using devices that pick up the signal from keyless fobs.

35 letters to people caught speeding have been sent out by the Police on behalf of the village. Speeds of 57 MPH are still being recorded.

Cllr G McCollum pointed out that there are no speed limit signs along Lower Road. It was pointed out that the speed signs shouldn't be needed owing to the street lights; the Highway is clear, but people are either unaware or ignoring it.

Discussion about more speed limit signs. Parish Council can try again to get them installed. There is information from Cllr Loukes about the speed people are going, so there is now evidence. It should go on the Highways Plan.

Brake Week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> is a Safety organisation week. There have been accidents in the village, but no serious ones as yet. Police will not acknowledge it is a high risk village until there is a KIL.

8.4

#### Highways and Transport Update

Streetlamp at entrance to village Hall

Thanks to Roger Wright for pointing out that the new street lamp is not working, it is bent. Reported to Dover Council. Contractors will come out when available.

Water Meter damaged at the entrance to the driveway up to the Village Hall. There is a log on top of it at the moment. Clerk to follow up and see if a letter has been written to Southern Water, if not then send one.

New entry signs to the village... Clerk has received an invoice for £349.26 for the placement of the signs. Invoice for payment was proposed by Cllr N. McCollum and seconded by Cllr J. Kirk. All agreed.

The junction of Rusham Road and Beaute Lane has been successfully repaired. No further signs have appeared on the Nash Road of the A257 at The Old Endeavour. Cllr Sue Chandler will chase this with KCC to see if they can change their decision on additional signs. A vehicle was stopped from going into Beaute Lane from the A257 by husband of Yvonne Leach otherwise it would have got stuck at both the junction and Gypsy Court Cottage with further damage to property. This vehicle was going to A C Hulme and claimed his Satnav sent him down Beaute Lane. Hulmes were informed very quickly by the Ewarts. The Ewarts are very unhappy that they have received no response to their complaint (about the HGV problems) from KCC. Cllr Sue Chandler will chase this

The drainage problem may have subsided along Rusham Rd near Gypsy Court Cottage but KCC are to carry out drainage work along the Nash Road on November 16<sup>th</sup> for one day. The Environmental Agency are not responsible for land drainage and the Ewarts have passed this back to KCC. Cllr Sue Chandler has discussed with the Council

Euroforest cleaned up the mud from the Nash Road even though they claimed it was from Potato lorries.

Euroforest are no longer using the Nash Road storage yard and will not be accessing the site until after Christmas

8.5

The complaints will be logged and added to other complaints.

#### Planning Applications/decisions

None received.

Clerk to check that planning applications are being received, since some have been posted in the village and not received by the Clerk.

Footpaths

Footpaths are very mucky with the weather.

Mr Alan Cook has asked the council to look at a couple of problems...a still opposite Little

JM

JM



	Shatterling Farm (near Hulme's farm). A stile has been destroyed. Landowner is responsible for maintaining the stile. Public footpath in field on the right of Grove cottages. Footpath has been closed off in order to keep the sheep in. The farmer should provide access for walkers. This has happened in the past. Cllr S Coulson will write to him on behalf of the Parish Council. Query has been raised by villagers about horses using footpaths. It was pointed out that permission cannot be given for people to use a footpath as a bridleway. Councillors to monitor the situation.	SC
9	<b>Items for discussion</b>	
9.1	<u>Wildlife Village Proposal</u> Cllr Loukes reported that Shelley Morris has received very positive responses to the article in the Escallop from two residents, one offering to join the working group and the other suggesting areas of the village that we could look at as potential sites for re-wilding and the planting of wildflowers seeds. She has contacted Kirsty at Staple Pre-school to discuss possible ways of working with the children on wildlife initiatives. She is also meeting with the teachers outside to look at the proposed sites for planting orchard trees and to discuss working together. In order to attract more interest in this project, Shelley proposes to write another short article for The Escallop to encourage ways in which residents could make their gardens more wildlife friendly as they prepare their gardens for the winter months and in preparation for next spring. Cllr G McCollum asked if there have ever been any allotments in the village? None as far as anyone is aware. Would anyone have land available?	
9.2	<u>CCTV for Village Hall Area</u> We need a system that can zoom in on the preschool and parking area. There is a wifi system there. Cameras are available for a few hundred pounds. Powered to the mains. Estimates to be obtained. Cllr Loukes will look into it and come to the next meeting with proposals.	RL
9.3	<u>Insurance for Defibrillator</u> Parish Clerk reported that he could not find any insurance company that would insure just the defibrillator, normally this is covered by the building insurance of the building where it is situated. Cllr J Kirk will contact David Facey to see if Village Hall insurance will cover it.	JK
9.4	<u>Salt Bins</u> The one at the end of school lane is ¾ full, also the one at end of Chapel Lane also Buckland Lane is OK. Cllr S Coulson will check the salt bin in Shatterling. No more salt needs to be ordered.	SC
9.5	<u>Proposed visit to Kent Renewable Energy Plant 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> December</u> Would anyone like to visit the biomass plant? Parish Clerk, Cllrs S Coulson, N McCollum, T Bartlett, Mr and Mrs Ewart expressed an interest. Cllr R Loukes to contact the firm and report back.	RL
10	<b>Confidential items to be discussed</b> There were none.	N/A
11	<b>Additional correspondence as permitted by the Chair</b> No additional correspondence	N/A
12	<b>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020</b>	

Mr Jonathan Mount (Clerk to Staple Parish Council)



**Are you living in a cold home?**  
Are you struggling to pay for your energy bills?



If so, several different funding opportunities are currently available.

**Dover District Council** has funding to help residents who live in privately owned/ privately rented properties and who are in receipt of benefits, or on a low income with someone living in the household that suffers from a health condition who is adversely impacted by living in a cold home. The measures on offer are loft, cavity and external wall insulation, connection to mains gas (properties within 23 metres of gas main) and first-time gas central heating system, air source heat pumps. The Council's website has further details,

<https://www.dover.gov.uk/Environment/Energy-Advice/Grant-Schemes.aspx>.

For application forms email [Amanda.martin@dover.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.martin@dover.gov.uk) or telephone 01304 872128.

The Government **Green Home Grant** offers funding primarily for low carbon heating and insulation is also open for applications. More information can be found on the Simple Energy Advice Website,

<https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/pages/green-homes-grant>, or telephone 0800 444202.

**The above funding streams are time limited, therefore early application is encouraged.**

The Council also operates a collective energy switching scheme, **Energy Deal** – an easy, supported and no obligation way of checking whether you can obtain a cheaper energy tariff. Auctions are held 3 times a year - February, May and October. Registration opens again on 1 December 2020. Register online at <https://www.dover.gov.uk/Environment/Energy-Advice/Cut-Energy-Bills.aspx>, or leave your contact details on 01304 872428 to receive a call-back.

**Village websites**

- [www.staple-online.com](http://www.staple-online.com)
- [www.stapleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.stapleparishcouncil.co.uk)
- <https://rblstaple.wix.com/rblstaple>
- [www.ewbchurches.org.uk](http://www.ewbchurches.org.uk)

	<b>Staple</b> A Facebook presence for Staple's residents / friends of Staple.
	<b>The Black Pig</b> Events and takeaway menus
	<b>Staple Country-Fayre</b>
	<b>Barnsole Vineyard</b> <a href="http://www.barnsole.co.uk">www.barnsole.co.uk</a>
	<b>Layham Garden Centre and Nursery</b> <a href="http://www.layhamgardencentre.co.uk">www.layhamgardencentre.co.uk</a>

## Staple Village Hall

(<http://www.staplevillageHall.com>)

The Village Hall and the Recreation Ground are owned by Staple Parish Council and are managed on behalf of the parishioners by a committee of elected members, plus appointed representatives of village organisations. Through regular, preventative maintenance and the timely rectification of day to day problems, the committee ensures that the Hall and the grounds are always kept in tip top condition. This is particularly true of the Recreation Ground's play equipment, which recently received a much-needed major refurbishment. Subsequent regular maintenance, plus annual safety inspections by the manufacturers (Wicksteed) ensure that every element of the play equipment is kept in a safe condition.

Regular central heating maintenance, an excellent cleaner, and the use of a local multi-skilled tradesman mean that the Hall is always warm, clean and in perfect working order. This provides excellent value for money for the Hall's long-term hirers and also attracts short-term hirers / maintains levels of income. The committee secretary's vigilance ensures that the Hall is always warm and that the heating is only on during hire periods; thus, keeping costs to a minimum. The committee's Treasurer and Booking Officer make sure that the Hall is always cost-effective. (With booking income matching/exceeding expenditure). The largest regular expense is the Hall's annual insurance. The Hall's regular long-term hirers include Staple Pre-School, Staple Youth Club, Staple Parent & Toddler Group, Staple Short Mat Bowls Club and the Staple Country Fayre Committee.

For Hall booking enquiries please contact

The Village Hall Bookings Officer:

**Sue Coulson Tel. 01304-812340 ([enquiries@staplevillageHall.com](mailto:enquiries@staplevillageHall.com))**

For general (or website related) enquiries, please contact The Village Hall Chairman:

**John Kirk Tel. 01304-813178 ([info@staplevillageHall.com](mailto:info@staplevillageHall.com))**

The Village Hall Comprises:

**The main Hall:** Clean, spacious and well maintained. Standing capacity for up to 128 people / Seating & tables for up to 106 people.

**A well-equipped kitchen:** With a serving hatch into the main Hall. (Crockery & cutlery for up to 108 people).

**A small side room:** Adjacent to the main Hall and kitchen, useful as a dressing room for productions, a storage area for food & drink, a waiting room etc.

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Officer

Sue Coulson 01304 812340

Or email [Enquiries@staplevillagehall.com](mailto:Enquiries@staplevillagehall.com)

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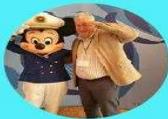
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# STAPLE CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY APPEAL

*In aid of Deal Foodbank and Dover Outreach Centre*

Please bring your donations to the church  
anytime between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on

## Sunday 13 December 2020

If you would prefer to donate online please visit  
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/staplechristmasappeal2020>

*All food, toiletry and cash donations are welcome but the following items  
are particularly needed:*

Deal Foodbank	Dover Outreach Centre
Peanut butter	Coffee
Chocolate spread	Sugar
Brown sauce	Paper cups (not polystyrene)
Tomato ketchup	Bathroom cleaner
Instant mash	Face masks
Desserts (not rice pudding)	Disposable gloves (large)
Mince pies (no Christmas puddings!)	
Pot noodles	
Any toiletries	



Come and see our lovely Christmas tree,  
leave a prayer on a star and join us at 4 p.m.  
for a brief Christmas service  
by lamplight in the churchyard  
(*covid restrictions and weather permitting*)

*Please wear a facemask while you are in the Church building  
and observe social distancing guidelines. Thank you!*