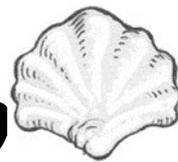




The Escallop



St James the Great, Staple



January-February
2021

theEscallop@gmail.com 50p

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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.

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Editors

March – Belinda

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



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Rector's Letter

In 'normal' times, whatever they may be, the beginning of a New Year would be a time of looking forward and planning all sorts of events and occasions as the spring and summer approaches.

This year, it is very different indeed. Whilst planning and preparation are of course always necessary, it is difficult to look ahead very far – it has become more a case of getting through the next week or two than worrying too much about what the next month will bring.

For some, and here we think particularly of key workers, life has taken on whole new demands and pressures – and we remain hugely grateful to them and recognise the extraordinary responsibility and stress which is placed upon them. However, life for many other people has meant an enforced slowing down – we are not allowed to travel far or socialise much and are largely confined to home. For a lot of people this has been extremely hard and isolating, but perhaps we can also try to embrace it as a chance to slow down, take stock and appreciate our homes, our hobbies and our environment.

For our churches life has become in many ways very different, but during this last few months two important lessons have been learned - or at least reinforced.

First of all, there has been a deeper recognition of the simple need for human contact. A very fundamental part of our Christian understanding is that we, as humans, made in the image of a God of community, are meant to be in community. So to be apart from other people and lonely is a denial of our humanity.

Both as a Church and as society, as a result of the pandemic, we have become more aware of those who are alone or isolated, and we have tried to respond as best we can. But this is a lesson we must carry with us. It is so easy to forget about, or ignore, those who are not able to engage or interact in a way that they once did. We must make every effort to ensure they are still included and valued.

Which brings me neatly to the second lesson learned – namely, how rapidly the Church (probably fairly change averse) has been able to adapt to very different circumstances and embrace new technology. Of course this transition has not been without its teething troubles and there is a lot still to learn and do, but the fact is that within a fortnight of churches closing we were live-streaming services, first from our homes and later from the church buildings when that became possible.

So if you thought the Church was a rather stuffy organisation stuck in its ways – think again. Of course, change is not necessarily good or helpful; but when it is important we have shown it can happen very quickly – and that is a vital lesson to hold onto.

The embracing of 21st century communication has not simply meant that aspects of life can go on, but it has enabled those who otherwise would be left out to participate. People who are housebound can join our services either online or by telephone, and meeting together is possible for those who find it difficult to get out on a cold winter's evening.

None of this is a substitute for human face-to-face contact or for human touch, but it is a means by which enhanced contact can be maintained and people included.

So two lessons for both the Church and society as a whole: first human contact is fundamentally important; and second, change is not just possible, but can happen very quickly when necessary.

Let us not forget either going forward.

May this New Year bring us all renewed hope and purpose as we look forward.

David Ridley



Useful Contact Numbers

Rector	Rev David Ridley	01304 619619
Curate	Rev Sandra Marsh	01304 612686
	Rev Robert Stevenson	01304 366003
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
www.staple-online.com	John Kirk	
Parish Magazine	theEscallop@gmail.com	01304 812515 (temporary)
Dover District Council	www.dover.gov.uk Email: customerservices@dover.gov.uk	01304 821199
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. Please note it is not possible to hold weddings and baptisms while the current situation continues.

St James the Great, Staple: Services for January/February 2021

Following the announcement that Kent had moved into tier 4 restrictions just before Christmas, clergy and churchwardens across the benefice agreed to close all churches for communal worship. As a result all our Christmas services planned for Staple were cancelled and the new national lockdown means that ongoing services have also been halted. This decision was not taken lightly – church services are still permitted but it was felt with the spiralling local infection rate and the new, more transmissible strain of covid, continuing with face to face activities was not safe. We have therefore reverted to online services which will be held at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings and will be streamed from benefice churches. Details of how to join are given below. This will continue until further notice. Please see <https://www.ewbchurches.org.uk/welcome.htm> for further details.

Staple Church remains open every day for private prayer from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.– please feel free to drop in anytime. Please can you ensure you follow the guidelines below when visiting the Church.

To join an online service on zoom please follow the instructions below:

<i>If you use this link, then no password should be required:</i> https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7360055669?pwd=UEVwSzJQSIYvTHNtVnBLK2VNTzliZz09	
Using a laptop or tablet, copy this URL in to your web browser	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7360055669
On a smartphone, dial: (The commas are important)	+442034815240,,7360055669# or +442080806591,,7360055669#
On a 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), Trevor (trevorbartlett1@outlook.com) or Vanessa (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.

CHURCH NATIVITY SCENE

Hopefully people noticed the lovely flood lit crib scene outside the Church over the Christmas period? This was made by Mick Burr with help from Pip Russell and was lovely to see lit up each night – particularly as we weren't able to hold the services we had planned. Mick has plans to add more nativity figures next year – we look forward to seeing them!

Thank you both for your efforts!



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

Despite the circumstances we all find ourselves in, the village did look extra lovely this year with all the bright and colourful festive lights over the Christmas period, it did create a feeling of peace and goodwill and cheered us all up.

The gardens of David and Phyllis Kingsford and Jason and Heidi Stevenson's in Durlock Road as always looked extremely Christmassy.

The Church also looked very festive – thanks to Sue Coulson and Vanessa and Katie Nedderman for their flower arrangements and to the Beggs family for decorating the Christmas Tree. Although



Christmas services were cancelled, a Christingle/Crib service was streamed to the benefice from Staple Church on Christmas Eve and people were able to collect a Christingle kit from the Church.



Thank you to all those who baked cakes and goodies which were distributed to those in the village who live on their own or who have been having a particularly tough time recently. 45 boxes were distributed by a group of volunteers and there has been some lovely feedback from those who received a box.



It has been a difficult time for many of us lately and generally Christmas is a happy time for families but for some it can be a time of grief and loss.

We were so sorry to hear that Mags Burr and Barbara Verner both lost brothers, our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families.

At the beginning of January, Chris Chapman's mum sadly passed away our condolences to Chris, Debby and all their families.

We are sorry to hear that Pat Heathfield has not been too well again and we send her our best wishes and hope that she soon starts to feel better soon. Also best wishes to Ursula Timpson who has also been ill. There have been many families affected by the coronavirus in the village and have had symptoms we hope that you are recovering well.

Despite all the doom and gloom it was lovely to see that in the Queen's New Year's Honours List that Laura Bounds was awarded an MBE for services to international trade.

Laura who now lives at Hammill Park, Woodnesborough is the managing director of Kent Crisps of Bridge, near Canterbury. Her nomination is in recognition of her work done through her company she has been the driving force behind growing the business with a focus on export.

The company now supplies international airlines, trains and ferry services and 10 markets across the globe which include Germany, America and Asia.

Many Congratulations Laura from us all, what a wonderful and very well deserved achievement.

<https://buylocalfoodanddrink.co.uk/kent/news/kent-crisp-owner-laura-bounds-awarded-mbe-in-the-queens-new-years-honours-list>

Many thanks to Peter and Michelle Beer coming to the rescue with their chainsaw after we lost a cherry tree in the front of the churchyard during storm Bella.

They very quickly got to work on sawing and clearing the tree away from the pathway, this caused a lot of interest from passers walking by and some residents have given donations to church funds for



some of the logs.



Staple Woodland and Trust

Further to the article in The December 2020 edition of The Escallo p, please note the



another 6 villagers making up the original committee, which included Julia Brammer and Jill Raggett.

STAPLE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Staple Christmas Appeal was held on Sunday 13 December and we were delighted at the response from local people who brought lots of items to the Church and donated £300 cash all of which has now been passed on to our two charities – Deal Food Bank and Dover Outreach Centre. The event was followed by an outdoor carol services which was attended by about 35 people – in spite of the cold and drizzle. Thanks go to David and Sandra for the service and to all those who helped organise the event and donated.

Noel Beamish at the Outreach Centre sent the following thank you
“On behalf of the Trustees and staff at Dover Outreach Centre, please accept our thanks for the donations that you collected for us before Christmas. All of the items collected are very useful and help to replenish our stock. The cash donation is very helpful for the general running costs of the Charity as we rely significantly on the generosity of Church groups and individuals to enable us to continue working with some of the most vulnerable in our community. Thank you so much and God bless you.”

following:

The founding Trustees of the Staple Woodland Trust were Des Cowley (Chairman) , Keith Brammer (Treasurer), Peter Ebden and Diana Burges with another 6 villagers making up the original committee, which included Julia Brammer and Jill Raggett.

Thanks to Mrs Diana Burges for correcting this error.

SCARLETT FREEMAN

The very sad news that Scarlet Freeman, long-time resident of Rowan Close and friend to many of us had died of Covid-19 in hospital came at the end of November just as the last edition of the Escallop had gone to press. Scarlett had been in hospital for a little while having fallen at home and broken her hip but her death was a shock to many of us. It is hoped that it will be able to hold a memorial service for her once the current restrictions are lifted.

We asked her son Danny to give us a few words to share about Scarlett's life:

My mother was born in Lebanon in 1942 and her family moved to Golders Green in London, while she was still at high school. My parent's meeting was before my time, but my recollection of the family folklore is that my mother worked in a Sherrards Bakery in London. I remember a funny story that when she started working there - the manager of the shop allowed my mother to eat as many of the cakes and pastries as she wanted. But she ate so many on her first day that she lost her appetite for them. Which is exactly what the manager had intended.

My father was a manager at a Singers Sewing machine shop who was enchanted by this exotic woman in the cake shop. She told me that he bought her a lovely polka-dot dress when they were dating. I was surprised - I wouldn't have a clue about buying dresses, so I wondered how my father managed.

We lived in London. (Not far from my mother's parents) My early childhood was in Golders Green and then we moved to Ramsgate in the early 70s). My parents bought properties in Ramsgate, and ran the business together. They had two guesthouses, and a third house that was converted to holiday flats. It was in Ramsgate that my mother first attended art college, and eventually went on to complete her degree at the Canterbury College of Art (now the University of the Creative Arts) They moved to Staple at the end of 1987 just after the Great Storm



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 200 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. If you would like to advertise in the Escallop please use the same email. Payments for advertisements for 2021 are now due.

Subscriptions for the Escallop are now due. The cost of the magazine will remain at £5.00 for the year. Your distributor will call to collect your money during January or February – but if you know who they are, please do drop the money through their door to save them coming to you (particularly in the current situation). You can email the Escallop to find out who your distributor is if you do not know.

Online payments for subs can be made direct to the PCC bank account
Parochial Church Council of Staple
Sort Code 60-18-34
Account Number 97211524.
Please use the reference "Escallop Subs"

To help us to track online payments, please could you email the Escallop@gmail.com to confirm that you have paid this way, including your name and address?

Thank you very much.

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 – 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.*



A Happy New Year to one and all!! Under normal circumstances, many of us would have been ‘first footing’ at Gander Court and then meeting for our Post Christmas Dinner at the Black Pig. With the restrictions of this strange year just gone, it has been ages since we have been able to meet up and this year has started no better but, at least, we now have the possibility of a near normal life in the not too distant future, with the arrival of the vaccine and, let’s face it, most of us are old enough to be near the head of the queue! So we travel forward into this New Year with hopeful hearts. If you are aware of any veteran or their families in need, the Legion is there to help. Contact the email address above, or the Veteran’s Gateway on 0808 802 1212, or Legion (Welfare) Contact Centre: 0808 802 8080.

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 1 February 2021.

Shirley Smith, ‘Caravaggio: The Master of Light and Shadow’

Shirley Smith will study the dramatic personal life and revolutionary style of painting of this enigmatic man and will consider his influence on later artists.

If you are not yet a member but find this interesting

We welcome non-members but would appreciate a £5 contribution per event for participating in our online lectures. If you would like to participate please email your request to info@tass.org.uk to enable you to look in.

Please visit <http://www.sandwichdfas.org.uk> for membership and programme information.

Circumstances outside the Committee’s control may require the lecture programme to be altered. Copyright©2021 The Arts Society Sandwich. All rights reserved. The Arts Society Sandwich is a branch of The Arts Society which is the operating name of the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts (NADFAS), a company limited by guarantee (04307984) with charitable status.

The Sandwich Connect Bus Service

KCC has indicated that the Sandwich Connect bus service will continue for the immediate future with funding secured until June 2021. A decision on the long-term future will be made in due course but KCC cannot yet confirm when this will be.

Staple- Sandwich - Northbourne - Mongeham				
Mondays to Fridays				
Staple, Three Tuns	0940	1110	1310	1440
Staple, The Street	0941	1111	1311	1441
Guilton Corner	0946	1116	1316	1446
Sandwich, Fire Station	0951	1121	1321	1451
Sandwich, St Marys Church	0952	1122	1322	1452
Sandwich, The Guildhall				
Arr:	0955	1125	1325	1455
Dep:	0958	1128	1328	1458
Northbourne, Updown Lane	1003	1133	1333	1503
Northbourne, Crossroads	1003	1133	1333	1503
Mongeham, Church Close	1009	1139	1339	1509
Mongeham, Church	1009	1139	1339	1509
Mongeham, Village Hall	1010	1140	1340	1510
Dep:	1015	1145	1345	1515

Mongeham - Northbourne - Sandwich - Staple				
Mondays to Fridays				
Mongeham, Village Hall	1018	1148	1348	1518
Mongeham, Church	1019	1149	1349	1519
Mongeham, Church Close	1020	1150	1350	1520
Northbourne, Crossroads	1024	1154	1354	1524
Northbourne, Updown Lane	1024	1154	1354	1524
Sandwich, The Guildhall	Arr: 1035	1205	1405	1535
Dep:	1042	1242	1412	1542
Sandwich, St Marys Church	1043	1243	1413	1543
Sandwich, Fire Station	1044	1244	1414	1544
Guilton Corner	1051	1251	1421	1551
Staple, The Street	1056	1256	1426	1556
Staple, Three Tuns	1057	1257	1427	1557

Staple Preschool Update January 2021



STAPLE PRE-SCHOOL

We hope you all had as good a Christmas and New Year as possible in the current circumstances.

As the rules dictated we had a preschool party outdoors this year turning our garden into a winter wonderland and hiring a snow machine. The children had so much fun which was great to see after a difficult 2020

The new term has started and preschools will remain open for all parents. We have 2 new members of staff, both local, and are pleased to say that one of them is on an apprenticeship to become a fully qualified early years practitioner.

We are very grateful to all of the parents for their continued support for the preschool and are hopeful that before the end of this school year we will be able to return to some sort of normality.

With so much more of our school day now spent outside of the setting we are embarking on a few projects over the next month. Since the return to school the children have been busy making bird feeders and feed balls ready for our participation in the RSPB big garden bird watch.

The saplings will arrive shortly for our wild flower orchard. We have some work to prepare the area and then will begin wild flower seed planting in early spring.

The children have formed an eco-committee and we are now in full flow with our accreditation to become an eco-school. We are working together with the Wildlife Friendly Village committee and the topics the children will be covering are:

Biodiversity	Caring for all plants, animals and insects
Energy	Reducing energy use and investigating greener energy sources
Global Citizenship	Working with others on local and global issues
Healthy Living	Improving mental and physical well-being
Litter	Reducing the amount of litter in your local area
Marine	Protecting all rivers, canals, lakes and oceans
School Grounds	Enhancing where you work and play
Transport	Finding more environmentally-friendly ways to travel
Waste	Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Recycle
Water	Protecting an important natural resource

We will be continue to do our walks around the village, so don't forget to give us a socially distanced wave if you see us on our travels.

We still have spaces available for immediate starters and are booking places up until the end of 2021. If you or somebody you know are looking for an early years setting that will provide young children with a fantastic start to their education then please contact us on 07816 841429 or email us at info@staplepreschool.co.uk

Stay safe everyone.

Kind regards
Staple Pre School Committee, Staff and children

A Wildlife Friendly Village starting in our own gardens

WHAT'S IN YOUR HEDGE? HAVE YOU EVEN GOT ONE?

Boundaries are important for many reasons and there are many types of boundary, but having a living boundary is much more exciting than having a fence or a wall. Now I hear you all saying 'it's too much work' etc etc and yes it can be but I am not talking privet hedges which need to be cut to within an inch of their lives every season - I am talking about a hedge that is a little on the wild side, a hedge with a personality, a hedge that is a home, a hedge that is a larder – because yes, hedges can be and are all these things. They can be a larder for you and they can be a larder for wildlife. And seeing wildlife's need on the food front is more pressing than yours, we are talking wildlife here.

I do have to say that there are several hedges in the village that are very fine larders but these are in the minority shall we say. And unfortunately there are many boundaries in the village that wouldn't provide anything for anyone.

So what makes a good hedge? Well you can forget privet, think more hawthorn perhaps, think clematis, think honeysuckle. What about *Trachelospermum jasminoides* or just jasmine. Basically a mix of evergreens and deciduous with fruits for the birds and nectar for the bees.

Boundary hedges are not just food sources for the birds and the bees, they can be homes for our creatures, safe havens and safe highways. Having isolated areas for wildlife is fine, but these areas need to be linked up so that hedgehogs and other small mammals can move around in safety away from the prying eyes of buzzards, kestrels and sparrow hawks.



So where to start? There are a lot of boundaries in the village which are just "post and rail". Now that is a good start, a good framework to get going because these can support the plant material you have chosen. But make sure the posts are robust enough to support your jasmine or whatever. If you don't have any existing boundary at all, make sure you put in some stout uprights and laterals. If you have a wall or a panel fence, you can always plant along the wall/fence, but remember to water your chosen hedging material. Areas against walls/fences can be in what are called 'rain shadows' – they may not receive enough rain water and until your shrubs get established, you will need to water them. Also, always tie in your plant material with soft string – never, ever use wire – you can but your plants will most likely die.

So off you go and have a happy hedge!

PS there is a great hedge on the path up to Crixhall Court where you can get inspiration and there is also a good hedge on Lower Road opposite the camp site.

Caroline Mason



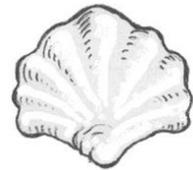
If you wish to become more involved in the Wildlife Friendly Village project please email:
shelleyhartmorris@gmail.com



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

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 to search for Staple Church and buy your tickets.

**Be in the draw on the 27th of February for your chance to WIN 1 of 5 £100
Etsy vouchers PLUS a £100 donation to your supported Good Cause.
Remember there are also chances at weekly cash prizes up to £25,000!**

Support Independent Sellers & Your Community

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, call 01304 812515 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 January and February 2021

Garden Waste	Tuesdays	19 January 2 February 16 February
Refuse and Food	Wednesdays	20 January 3 February 17 February 3 March
Recycling and Food	Wednesdays	27 January 10 February 24 January

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

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 January 2021



Unfortunately the Pandemic is still with us and for the sake of health and safety we are not doing any Speedwatch sessions for the foreseeable future.

Kent Police will keep us informed of the any developments, and as we are governed by them we will abide by their rules.

However, the Speed Indicator Devices are still being deployed to remind drivers of the 30 mph speed limit through the village and with more people walking to exercise, awareness of other road users is paramount.

Please be careful around our roads and wear light coloured clothing or HiViz bands or jackets ~ especially if you are cycling.

The following SID results are for December before the increased lockdown was imposed on us. There are just figures for Lower Road this month.

Lower Road direction East

Traffic Report From 1/12/2020 through 31/12/2020

85th Percentile Speed = 32.6 MPH

85th Percentile Vehicles = 14,020 counts

Max Speed = 65.0 MPH on 17/12/2020 22:00:00

Total Vehicles = 16,494 counts

Brief explanation: 85th percentile speed means that 14,020 vehicles were travelling at 32.6 MPH or below.

This also means that 15% (2,474 vehicles) were travelling at more than 35 MPH .

Volumes - weekly vehicle counts

	Time	7 Day
Average Daily		551
AM peak	9:00 to 10:00	236
PM peak	6:00 to 7:00	32

50th Percentile Speed: 21.5 MPH

Good news!! Of the 14, 020 vehicles ~ 50% were travelling below the limit at 21.5 MPH (or lower).

Over the period March 2020 to Dec 2020 the average vehicle count has been around 14,500 vehicles ~ except for November when the number dropped to just under 10,000 vehicles.

Guess the Riddle

1. The more of this there is, the less you see. What is it?
2. What has lots of eyes but cannot see
3. What has legs but doesn't walk
4. What kind of coat is best put on wet
5. What has a head and a tail but no body?
6. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What are they?

Answers on page 23

The more of this there is, the less you see. What is it?

Answer: Darkness

JANUARY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WARNINGS 2021



Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Vaccine scams

Please be aware of fraudsters sending out emails and texts offering vaccines.

The following is an example of such a message that was received by a Kent resident in last couple of days –

"NHS: We have identified that you are eligible to apply for your vaccine. For more information and to apply, follow here:"

(there is a link provided)

The link takes you to a page with an official looking NHS heading on a blue background & headed ' We need to prove ownership of address '

Please get a debit / credit card ready, you will need

Sort Code –

Account Number –

Long card number -

We use this to verify billing address with the bank

No payments are made during verification

[There is a ' continue ' box.]"

Preventing fraud

Together,
let's stop
scammers.



Remember, ABC:



never Assume



never Believe



always Confirm

Get the latest
scam advice: 
@KentPoliceECU

If you receive this or anything similar, it is a scam. The NHS will never ask you for account details. PIN numbers etc. If you receive any messages like this, then please report to Action Fraud either online at –

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime>

Or by calling - 0300 123 2040

Additionally, if you think you may have fallen victim to this scam, then please contact your bank immediately.



**Kent
Police**

Contacting Kent Police

Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report

Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 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   

Staple Parish Council

Minutes of a virtual, on-line meeting held on Wednesday 9th December 2020, at 7.30pm via Zoom

Councillors present

Cllr S Coulson Cllr N McCollum (Vice Chair)

Cllr G McCollum Cllr J Kirk

Cllr R Loukes Cllr S Chandler

Parish Clerk: J Mount

1 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies from Cllr. T Bartlett. Cllr N McCollum will Chair the meeting.

Apologies from Cllr. M Conolly

2 **Declaration of interest**

There were no declarations of interest

3 **Minutes of previous meeting**

3.1 Approval of Minutes: Proposed: John Kirk

Seconded: Roger Loukes

Passed unanimously

3.2 Matters Arising: There were none

4 **Public Session**

Village Wildlife Proposal

4.1 Mrs Shelley Morris...Thanks to those that have shown support. Positive inaugural meeting. Many would like to contribute in some way to the project. Who oversees and is responsible for the recreation ground? Cllr. J. Kirk...The Village Hall & Recreation Ground Management Committee oversees and is responsible for the Recreation Ground. The Parish Council arranges the regular mowing and border trimming. Cllr G McCollum...what would the Wildlife proposal want to do in the area, and how could the Parish Council help? Maybe planting on some verges. Discussion about which areas of the village could be developed and ways of funding. Cllr. R Loukes will represent the Parish Council on the working group.

Mrs Shelley Morris ... Who has control of the verges? Cllr J Kirk...surprisingly, KCC have control of the verges. Cllr S. Chandler... KCC do control the verges and maintenance, sub-contracted to DCC and local contractors. There can be some collaboration between everyone. Start in a small way, identify suitable areas and then go forward from there. Mrs Morris...sites have been identified and can be indicated to the Parish Council as well as KCC and DDC. Information to be sent to Cllr S Chandler and she will then forward it to the relevant people. Also looking at other private areas that could be utilised. 2 articles have been written in The Escallop. J. Kirk...There are some small areas that apparently don't belong to anyone...could they be incorporated? There is an area near Cllr S Coulson's land that could be used near the chalk pit, but no one seems to know who actually owns it. Cllr J Kirk...Is its common ground, so could we use it, how do we stand legally? It already has some natural growth and local wildlife is already using the site, the site is very boggy. Cllr G McCollum proposed that the council recognises the group and is willing to support the project and the group?

Seconded: Cllr. S Coulson

Carried unanimously.

Paul Wells...The Community wild orchard (in a small area behind the container) will be going ahead and they will be doing some work at the far end of the recreation ground, this will not interfere with events happening on the rec. ground. Discussion about whether the Village Wildlife Group could use the area as well...yes.

Caroline Mason...has received information from the Tree Council "branching out fund" that there is the possibility of an offer of trees/fruit trees and plants. Mrs Morris will write an article to be put on to the Staple website by Cllr J Kirk.

Jacqui Brook...could pass contact number of Elliot to R. Loukes ref. grants etc.

5 **District Councillor's Report**

5.1 1. Brexit: A huge amount of work has been going on (rather belatedly in the view of some observers) to prepare the county, district and Dover Town for the end of the transition period on Jan 1st. The process has been complicated by the large number of stakeholders and the continuing uncertainty on whether or not there will be a deal. The Dover MP. Natalie Elphicke, has led a group called 'Keep Dover Clear,' which aims to prevent the town being gridlocked by lorries trying to find back ways to the port. A presentation by KCC and Highways England to an all-member meeting of the Council was given last week. This illustrated the complexity of the

documentation which will be required by goods vehicles but also showed the plans for holding vehicles waiting to enter the port if and when a backlog develops. The use of Manston as a last resort remains on the table despite DDC's long expressed concerns about the ability of the A256 (single lane in places and with tight roundabouts) to handle port bound traffic. The overall impression left was that the plans are reasonably sensible, but highly vulnerable to unexpected problems (e.g., a blockade of Calais by French fishermen if they don't like any 'fishing deal' between the UK and the EU.) A further all-member presentation will be given later this month

As part of longer-term arrangements, the Government is planning to open a Border Control Point at a site near Whitfield on July 1st. This has caused great concern among local residents, especially those in the hamlet of Guston. Local DDC councillors are working to mitigate the impact on residents.

2. Budget: The normal timetable for producing the 21/22 Budget is compromised by the large numbers of uncertainties, both in costs and income, where judgements have to be made. It is clear that we will have to draw on some of the reserves which have been accumulated over recent years, and that a number of planned investments, such as the replacement or revamp of Tides, will have to go on the back burner. A skeleton Budget has been agreed but will be subject to a lot of 'tweaks' over the next three months as more information becomes available.

3. Covid: When the second lockdown was introduced, we reactivated the Community Hub which had worked very effectively first-time round. Demand for support has been much lower than earlier but we have made hundreds of outbound communications, by phone, e-mail and letter, to those identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. The effect of Tier 3 remains to be seen, but cases of infection in Dover are still rising.

4. Formal consultation on the Ash Neighbourhood Development Plan has started.

The KCC Plan Bee can be found here:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/nature-and-biodiversity/kents-plan-bee-pollinator-action-plan>

Report received by the Parish Council

5.2 Cllr. Sue Chandler KCC

Report has been circulated to councillors.

Discussion about the "Plan Bee" document.

Anything Brexit related of which we should be aware? There is a cascade management for vehicles at Manston. KCC are looking to enforce traffic management (lorries illegal parking). The roundabouts at Dover will be manned 24 hours to ensure local traffic can get through them. Local haulage firms have received permits to travel directly to the port of Dover. Plans are in place for a "worst case" scenario. The M2 is not an HGV designated route, traffic will be directed down the M20. M2 is designated as a tourist route for cars, not lorries. In the long term, pressure is on to finish the part of the route through Lydden etc. There are no plans to turn the M2 into a smart motorway.

5.3 PCSO (Jacqui Brook)

Has been PCSO for 11.5 years. Monthly PC report is sent each month.

Cllr R Loukes...We would like to see more Police cars in the area, could you attend when the speed watchers are operating? Problems with locations. Cllr. R. Loukes to send an email to PCSO saying where the PC would like to position speed watchers. Speeders are recorded on sheets. These are forwarded to the Police; they usually answer within minutes. There are 2 SIDs that record speeds through the village. Speeding is one of the main problems with the village and this is the subject that residents are most concerned about. Cllr. R Loukes to forward to PCSO the most affected roads by speeding. Cllr G McCollum...there have been many accidents, but no action has been taken to make the roads safer. With reference to the pursuit of hare coursing...not surprised to read that it is a problem in rural areas. Rural task team has been doing a lot of work to tackle this problem. There is a lot of it going on, also in other areas. Important to

gather the information and pass it on to the Police. PCSO to raise the possibility of using a drone to identify those responsible.

Thanks to PCSO for attending the meeting.

6 **Finance**

6.1 Financial statement

Proposal to adopt the Bank reconciliation:

Proposer: J Kirk

Seconder: D Kirk

Passed unanimously.

Approval of AGAR (not possible since not ready)

Cheques to be approved

6.2

Cheque No. 200361 Clerk's salary

Proposer: J Kirk

Seconder: R Loukes

Other financial Items

6.3

Appointment of new accountant.

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had explored the possibility of Karen Wright taking on the accounts, but she said she was unable to do it since she was not an accountant. He then approached another accountant at Bachelor Coop, but they said they would be too expensive and not worth paying for. In view of the computer program that is currently being used, it may be unnecessary to employ an actual accountant to do an internal audit (as required). Tony Kilby has offered his services for a modest sum, the Clerk recommended that this arrangement should go ahead.

Passed unanimously

Report on progress of Barclays Bank details

Word has been received from the bank that the new mandate has been set up, however they forgot to include online banking and got the Clerk's details wrong. This has now been rectified and we should hear soon that the new arrangements are in place.

7 **Correspondence Received**

7.1 Staple and Barnsole Parish facilities

7.2 Email from Dover.gov.uk ref. locking the bins at the Village Hall to prevent fly-tippers using them.

7.3 Cllr. J Kirk approached by P Wells, could they be adapted to recycling? There are no bins that the DC could empty. They would need to be hired which is very expensive.

8 **Reports**

8.1 Village Hall and Recreation Ground updates

Village Hall opened once but has now been closed again owing to Covid, so no pre-school has taken place.

No report on maintenance.

8.2 SID/Speedwatch

Report from Cllr. R Loukes...more sessions have taken place, some cancelled owing to the weather. Speed information will be reported in The Escallop. The Parish Council owned SID does not work. Cllr. R Loukes will try and get an estimate to get it repaired. Cllr. J Kirk to have a look at it and see if it is repairable. Cllr. R Loukes to get a new containment bag.

8.3 Highways and Transport Update

Various emails and letters read out to the Councillors and discussed. They will be further discussed at a later meeting when the Highways Improvement Plan is put forward. Yvonne Leach represents the A257 group. The A257 plan was submitted last year to KCC. Discussion about a speed limit possibly being imposed through Shatterling area. KCC cannot do this without significant cost. Cllr. R Loukes...the figures given do not really make any sense at all. Not sure what the management reasons are for not reducing the speed. Wingham Wildlife Park is a really dangerous spot with children etc. Cllr G McCollum...where does the group's influence end? It stops at the last part before Sandwich. Cllr D Kirk, what is the next move, what would you like the Parish Council to contribute? Possibly funding. We as a Parish Council would be supportive of trying to find a solution. An article concerning the Highway improvement Plan was written by Cllr G McCollum and posted in the Escallop. The Highway Improvement plan will reference the A257 group findings.

Proposed: Cllr G McCollum

Seconded: Cllr J Kirk

Passed unanimously

8.4 Planning Applications/decisions

8.4a 20/00623 Conversion of Kent Barn

Looked at in July and fully supported then. Support again.

Proposed: Cllr. J Kirk

Seconded: Cllr. S Coulson

8.4b 20/01338 Extension of single storey rear extension

8.4c 20/001340 Change of use of land to equestrian

8.4d 20/00339 Single storey extension

All supported: Proposed: Cllr. D Kirk

Seconded Cllr. R Loukes

Passed unanimously

8.4e 20/00406 Appeal decision, just for information. No need for discussion

8.4e Discussion about email sent by Mr Burrige to Councillors...it does not actually come under Staple jurisdiction. Cllr J Kirk...it does not comply with biodiversity requirements. Proposal for 2 substantial houses on the land is not compatible with the rural neighbourhood. The Parish Council can still provide a comment since the Parish borders the land. Clerk to make representation to the planning portal and to use the phrases, "over development in a rural location" and "unsustainable and inappropriate development in the countryside".

Motion: That the Clerk should comment to the planning portal on behalf of the Parish Council.

Proposed: Cllr G McCollum

Seconded: Cllr S. Coulson

Clerk to let Mr Burrige know the council's position.

8.5 Footpaths

Cllr. S Coulson... query last time about broken stile opposite Little Shatterling Farm; it is on

Jeremy Smith's land. Messages have been left asking for him to make contact about the stile. Horses using a footpath that goes towards Crixhall...the footpath starts at the Church and then veers off to the right. Horses have allegedly been using the footpath. Contact with Julian Plumptre to see who has been given permission to use the footpath. He is not actually allowed to give permission to use the footpath. No further action can be taken at the moment. Discussion about trying to persuade the horse riders not to use the footpaths in wet weather. Should also not be used by cyclists. Cllr S. Coulson has some signs that can be put up to remind people that it is a footpath, not a bridleway. Some footpaths have been blocked off in the past owing to sheep in the fields, but they are now accessible since the sheep have been moved.

9 **Items for discussion**

9.1 Wildlife Village Proposal

Dealt with under item 4

9.2 CCTV for Village Hall Area

Cllr. R Loukes presented information on commercially available CCTV devices that could be used. Parish Council considered various alternatives and decided to go with the one recommended by Cllr Loukes. Cllr G McCollum...will it be installed high up? Yes, the higher the better. The Village Hall committee to be contacted to see if they would finance a second one for their area. Get the biggest memory card available.

Proposed: Cllr. N McCollum

Seconded: Cllr. J. Kirk

9.3 Insurance for Defibrillator...Cllr. J Kirk contacted treasurer of Village Hall committee, anything fixed to the Village Hall is covered up to £5000 it can be added to their insurance. Cost implications? Wait for D Facey to get back to Cllr. J Kirk.

9.4 Proposed visit to Kent Renewable Energy Plant 7th/8th/9th December...this is not happening. Postponed to January at the earliest.

9.5 Report on salt bin at Shatterling...It is broken, there was one there, possibly been run over by a tractor. Cllr. T Bartlett to find out who is going to replace it and the cost of a new one. The bins were originally bought by the Parish Council.

9.6 Progress on repair of water meter cover...The water Company have been contacted by the Parish Clerk but have so far not responded.

9.7 Community Grants...amount to be given to local causes...to be deferred to January meeting. Agenda item on its own for January meeting.

10 **Other items to be discussed**

Posts still at the "welcome to Staple" signs...should the posts not be removed? Cllr. D Kirk to look into chopping them down. Ask KCC to move them to behind the Staple signs. Added to Highway improvement plan.

Cllr. D Kirk...salt bins can be made from recycled material...approx... £109

The next meeting's Zoom link will be from the Parish Clerk.

Happy Christmas to all members of the Parish Council.

11 **Additional correspondence as permitted by the Chair**

None

12 **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 13th January 2021



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 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
- www.stapleparishcouncil.co.uk
- <https://rblstaple.wix.com/rblstaple>
- www.ewbchurches.org.uk

	Staple A Facebook presence for Staple's residents / friends of Staple.
	The Black Pig Events and takeaway menus
	Staple Country-Fayre
	Barnsole Vineyard www.barnsole.co.uk
	Layham Garden Centre and Nursery www.layhamgardencentre.co.uk

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)

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

John Kirk Tel. 01304-813178 (info@staplevillageHall.com)

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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.

An Entrance lobby: With Ladies & Gents Toilets, ample parking for hirers and their guests.

Guess the Riddle Answers (page 15)

1. Darkness
2. A potato
3. A table
4. A coat of paint
5. A coin
6. Footsteps

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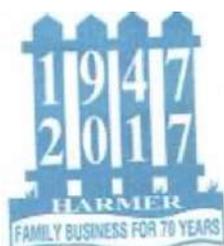
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Sue Coulson 01304 812340

Or email Enquiries@staplevillagehall.com

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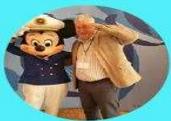
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