



The Escallop



St James the Great, Staple



June 2021

theEscallop@gmail.com

50p

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Articles and notices for the magazine to the Editor for inclusion in the next issue by 22 June 2021 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

July - 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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Please note that the monthly editions of Escallop are also posted electronically on the staple-online website at www.staple-online.com/escallop.html.

Rector's Letter

I am sitting down to write this letter after returning from our service for Ascension Day at Eastry Church. Ascension Day falls forty days after Easter and marks the climax of our Easter celebrations – Christ has died, is risen and now returns to be with his Father in heaven - so far so good.

But when someone leaves, whether it is a child going to university, or a friend moving to another part of the country, or indeed someone to whom we have been close dying, it leaves a gap – often a gaping hole. It is a hard time, a time of bereavement and readjustment; a time of sadness and loss. And so it was for the disciples of Jesus when he ascended to heaven.

For them, Jesus had been their teacher, confidante, mentor, leader. They had given up much to follow him, to learn from him and to grow through him; but now they were on their own and left to their own devices.

Any change, however small, can be challenging and disorienting; we need to allow time and space to absorb what is happening and to understand where it leaves us. But there also comes a time when we need to move on.

While the disciples gathered, as Jesus departed from them, two angels appeared in their midst and asked them why they were looking up to heaven. The angels, I think, were making the point that circumstances had fundamentally changed and simply looking forlornly on at what had gone before was not going to help. There was now a new reality that needed to be grasped and, after a period of appropriate reflection, it was necessary to take up the responsibilities which were to lie ahead.

The disciples rightly had a period to gather their thoughts, to pause and reflect; but this was to prepare and ready themselves for the new tasks, responsibilities and challenges in front of them.

Life never stands still and there will be times when we have to say goodbye. But one door closing means another can open; one person stepping down allows space for another to step up.

How can we grasp the moment and offer ourselves in service? It might be tempting to 'gaze up to heaven', pining after what has gone before. But we are all needed now and we each have a present task to do.

David Ridley

Announcement

Rev David Ridley has been appointed as Interim Minister at St Michael's Church in Sittingbourne. His last service in the benefice is likely to be Sunday 4 July but the date of his Licensing at St Michael's is yet to be confirmed.'

David came to the new Benefice of Eastry and Woodnesborough in April 2013, at a time of change and following some serious difficulties in some of the parishes which the new benefice brought together. It is thanks to his hard work and guidance that the benefice parishes now work well together and remain stable and supportive of their communities and each other – as amply demonstrated during the recent lockdowns. We hope to have an opportunity to express our thanks and to wish David well in his new post before he moves to Sittingbourne.

It is a real blow to lose David so soon after we have lost Sandra. Bishop Rose and Archdeacon Darren will be meeting with the Benefice Churchwardens in the near future, to discuss interim and future plans for ministry across our parishes.

Vanessa and Trevor



Useful Contact Numbers

Rector	Rev David Ridley	01304 619619
Curate	Rev Sandra Marsh Rev Robert Stevenson	01304 612686 01304 366003
Church Wardens	Trevor Bartlett Vanessa Nedderman	01304 813492 07980 300084 01304 812515
Staple PCC	Sue Coulson - Secretary Pat Heathfield - Treasurer	01304 812340 01227 713396
Parent & Toddler's Group	Heidi Stevenson	01304 812050
Staple Parish Council Clerk to Parish Council	Cllr Trevor Bartlett Chairman Jonathan Mount	01304 813492 01227 728490 <i>stapleparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk</i>
Staple Youth Club	Glen Missons Angela Chandler	01304 814088 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 Sue Coulson - Bookings	01304 813178 01304 812340
District Councillors	Cllr Trevor Bartlett Cllr Mike Connolly	01304 813492 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	01304 821199

Email: customerservices@dover.gov.uk

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.

St James the Great, Staple: Services for June 2021

Everyone is very welcome at all services – please do come along and join us.
 If you need further information please contact Vanessa (812515) or Trevor (813492)
 Details of services in other benefice churches can be found at www.ewbchurches.org.uk

Sunday 6 June STAPLE	Trinity 1 10.00 a.m.	Said Holy Communion
Sunday 13 June STAPLE Woodnesborough Eastry	Trinity 2 10.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	No Service Holy Communion Come and Praise
Sunday 20 June STAPLE	Trinity 3 10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion <i>(David's last service in Staple)</i>
Sunday 27 June STAPLE	Trinity 10.00 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 4 July STAPLE Eastry	Trinity 5 10.00 a.m.	No Service Benefice Service (TBC)

Church Rota

Date	Sidesman	Readers	Prayers	Verger
6 June	Mick	Trevor	Priest	Vanessa
13 June	No Service in Staple			
20 June	Russ	Roger, Pat	Andy	Trevor
27 June	Keith	Sue, Denis	Pat	Sue
4 July	Benefice Service in Eastry			

Flower Rota

to be confirmed

If anyone would like to join the flower rota,
 please let one of the Churchwardens know.



Private Prayer in the Church

The church building is open every day for private prayer from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Please wear a face mask when you visit the church, use the sanitizer provided and observe social distancing. Thank you!

ZOOM SERVICES

The benefice will continue to meet virtually at 10 each Sunday morning using Zoom. You can join a service by following this link -

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7360055669?pwd=UEVwSzJQSlYvTHNiVnBLK2VNTzliZz09>

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

We are sorry to report that Jean Graves from Barnsole had a fall last month and ended up in hospital. Sadly she died on Monday 24 May – she was 94. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.

A memorial service for Roy and Scarlett Freeman will be held in Staple Church at 11.30 on Sunday 31 May. Space is limited but if you would like to attend, please let one of the churchwardens know.



After the coldest and wettest May on record, we are all anticipating and hoping for a warmer summer of activity especially now as covid lockdown restrictions very much easing back and businesses, sports and social activities are returning for us all to enjoy.

With this in mind we would like to start the Church Coffee Mornings again and would like to hold the first one on the traditional second Wednesday in the month. If anyone would be willing to hold one on Wednesday 14th July would they please let Trevor Bartlett know and then we can advertise it in next month's magazine. (NB this is subject to the continued easing of restrictions).

Belated Congratulations to Ron and Sylvia Sear who celebrated their sapphire 65th Wedding Anniversary on 28 April and received a card from the Queen. They have both lived in the village all their lives and went to Staple School and were in the church choir and of course married in Staple Church.

We are going to have a feature on People and Places each month starting with Val Hollman and The Wilmshurst Family Baker, Wingham, you will find both in this month's edition.

We would very much like to include more features in future editions, especially one on Ron and Sylvia, so if you have any articles we could include then please let the magazine editor have them.

We did it!! Many thanks to all those residents who very kindly gave Val Hollman a card for her 100th Birthday not only did she receive one from the Queen she also had another 121 so she passed the target of 100.

Val would like to thank everyone for the wonderful wishes, gifts and cards she received and especially like to thank her wonderful neighbours living either side of her Carol & John Kirk and Michelle & Peter Beer for the love and support they gave by making the day so memorable as most of her family could not be with her because of the restrictions.



Have you seen the churchyard lately? It is looking amazing! Extremely neat and tidy, this is mainly due to the hard work and dedication of Mervyn Laker. We would very much like to say a huge thank you for all time you are spending making it look so smart, it is very much appreciated.

Spend the Bank Holiday walking in the countryside.

The traditional Benefice Whit Walk will take place on Monday 31st May. The walk is very kindly being organised by Michelle Beer and everyone is very welcome to join including dogs. We would love to see you all at the start or at lunchtime.

We will be starting off from Nonington at 10.00am and we will be taking a route that will take us to Eastry church hopefully arriving at 1.00 pm when we will stop on the village green area opposite the church for a picnic lunch Drinks will be provided in the church.

We will then set off to arrive at Woodnesborough church for a 3.00pm finish.

Special Staple Send-off for Sandra and Simon



On Sunday 16th April, we held a special Family Service in the church as we had to say a fond farewell to Rev Sandra and Simon Marsh - it was a lovely service however with mixed emotions.

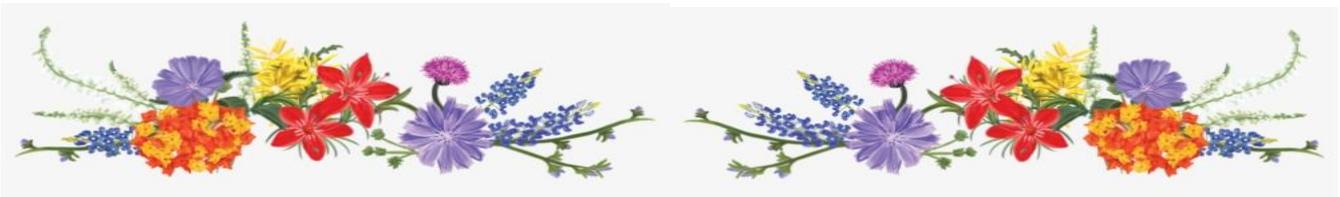
We gave them a fantastic 'send off' in true Staple style and it was encouraging to see the children take part and especially with helping giving Sandra and Simon the gifts that we had for them, which included a bird bath, bottle of Barnsole sparkling wine, tea for two voucher, a bright coloured Fuchsia and a rose from Layham Garden Centre called 'keep smiling' which really captured our thoughts on Sandra.



We thanked them both for the help, love, spiritual guidance and support they have given to so many of us in the village and beyond during the 3 years they have been here and wished them all the very best for the future as they start their new life and ministry together in Charing.

And a very special poem was read out by Angeli and Tilly Shaw.

Sandra's installation service is to be held in St Peter and St Paul's Church, Charing on Thursday 17th June at 7.00 pm. Due to limitations on numbers the service will be broadcast on zoom.



Val Holman's Birthday Celebrations

Val Holman celebrated her 100th birthday on 14 May 2021.



Val with her daughter Barbara on the left. Penny her daughter-in-law on the right

Val's daughter, Barbara writes:

On May 14th 1921 Val was born in Berlin, the first of two children to her parents Johanna and Ferdinand. It was a large family as Val had numerous Aunts and Uncles and Cousins. Her Father was an Electrician and Plumber, he installed electricity to all the flats in their block which was very modern, instead of the gas that was in many other apartments.

Val started school at 6. The school day was from 8am until 2pm Monday to Friday 8am until 12noon on Saturday. There were no school meals, just a break for milk and a sandwich bought from home. In secondary school children spent the afternoons playing sports. School ended at 14 unless you were gifted and proposed by your teachers for further education. Val stayed on and then got a two year apprenticeship in accountancy after that. During these early years Val remembers seeing Charles Lindbergh the American aviator who won the Orteig prize for flying nonstop from New York City to Paris He was driven through the streets of Berlin an open topped car. Val also took a picture of the airship Hindenburg as it flew over her street.



Aged 15 Val was part of a school gymnastic team that performed in the opening ceremony of the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games, where she watched the American Jesse Owens run and win a gold medal. At 18 Val was called up to serve six months near the Polish border in the German land army.

On her return to Berlin her firm decided to evacuate to Stendal to avoid the bombing. She remained in Stendal until the Russians advanced to the Elba River and then she decided to return to Berlin to check on her parents. A friendly Russian soldier hid her in his lorry under a blanket to get her over the river and from there she got home on the top of a very crowded train. Her parents were lucky to be in one of the few remaining apartment blocks after the bombing of Berlin. She helped her mother gather stinging nettles which were a good substitute for spinach. Her father swapped his cigarette ration for a few onions. When the Allies arrived in Berlin Val wanted a job with them as it provided better rations. Val already spoke French and Italian so she paid for English lessons, just enough to get through an interview, plus help from an English officer who after the interview translated anything she didn't understand. Val worked in accountants dealing with officers' mess bills. At work food, mainly soup was provided by the British Salvation Army. Val bought in a flash to take soup home to her family. While working she met her husband Bill on his first day in Berlin. He had come as a catering officer with the British Control Commission. The date was 19th May 1946 - Bill asked Val out for a drink - he walked her home and asked to meet her parents.

Bill and Val left Berlin in 1948 on an empty Dakota transport plane that had been bringing food into Berlin during the airlift. The Russians blockaded the roads in and out of Berlin From the 24th June 1948 until 12th May 1949. Bill and Val left fearing that if the Russians captured Berlin all non-German nationals would be interned.

They flew to Hanover - then, by train to Calais and on to England. The first day Bill showed Val the sights of London before introducing her to his parents in Kent. They married in the Malling registry office the day before Val's visa was due to run out!!! The pair started married life running a hotel in Ramsgate before going into partnership with friends from Berlin. The two couples bought a fresh fish and fish & chip shop with a large house in Potter Street Sandwich.

The partnership ended when the other couple got an opportunity to live in South Africa. Bill and Val continued alone and had two children, however they closed the business for a more settled working life. Val worked for Haden's on the site that was to be the new Pfizer plant. When that ended she worked for G W Finn & Sons Estate Agents in Deal. While working for them she found a new home in Eastry and the Family enjoyed a new life with a garden, dogs and time for needlework of all sorts. Val also supported Bill as they both got involved in village life Scouts, Cubs, Gardening club and much more especially since both Val and Bill were now working for Pfizer.

When the children left home Val and Bill downsized to the bungalow that Val lives in here in Staple. After retirement Val still worked hard organising outings and holidays for the Pfizer retirement fellowship and until recent years she was involved with the church and Staple village fayre.

Val continues to be an inspiration to her family of four grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren as well as to any others who know her. She has a keen interest in life in general that belies her age.

Should anyone wish to know her secret for reaching 100, she loves eating pickled Garlic!!!!



The Wilmshurst Family Bakery

There is a unique and tempting aroma every time the door opens during pandemic queuing. Yes this is Wilmshursts', "Bakers of Distinction since 1931". So, choose whether its Norfolk Crunch, Huffkins, spelt and honey loaves or those delicious pastries, Viennese fingers, gypsy tarts, hot lunchtime pies and many more such delights. This tiny, quaint shop and bakery behind gets an astonishing 1000 fans through its doors each week, as well as delivering all over East Kent. How come?



Edward Thomas Wilmshurst was from a Kentish family of bakers and butchers. In 1931 he bought a small bakery in Westmarsh and expanded it into a general stores and post offices. As his sons learned the trade, Edward bought the small rundown business in Wingham in 1951 continuing baking in Westmarsh and adding confectionary in Wingham where the little tearoom is now. It was all a bit "crummy!" The shop flooded regularly before the modern drainage was installed. That was the era of basket deliveries. Mum ran the shop. Dad up at 4.00 a.m., the boys helping after school. This was a time when a baker proudly advertised his products as "untouched by machine!"



By the late 1960's it was time for expansion, so the extension behind the cottage and shop was built in 1971. Over the years since this has allowed space for innovation and automated equipment such as a "bread plant" maker! Edward retired in 1972 selling the Westmarsh business and leaving the growing Wingham business to sons Brian and Terry. In 1964 Brian married Margaret, a Preston girl. For five years they lived "on the job" in the flat over the shop. This was convenient for the

early hours, Brian and Terry rotating the baking and the van deliveries, while Margaret managed the office. Terry retired in 2000, around the time Brian and Margaret's son, Richard began his training. The required skills are a good deal more than in Edward and Brian's days so in 1998 Richard attended the National Bakery School in London, winning the Renshaw prize. Practical training at various bakeries followed including a stint in a traditional bakery in France.

As Brian and Margaret have gradually retired, Richard has become the third generation of Wilmshurst bakers. The business has continued to thrive, with contracts all around East Kent and farm shops as good customers. A bakery is almost a 24 hour business so two bakers start at 9.00 p.m. and two more at midnight. Two van drivers begin at 5.00 a.m. and another at 6.00 a.m. There are seven part-time ladies who bake, run the shop or look after the accounts.

A privileged visit behind the scenes reveals a workspace and a work force "busting out all over". There are the two huge ovens, the bread plant, mega mixers, industrial dishwasher, massive freezers, bread slicers, wrapping and labelling machines. Out the back there is a stand-by diesel generator, tested every week in case of power dropouts. There's also just about room for worktables, staff facilities, including coffee machine, a pie warmer, hand wash basin, and all needing to be constantly swept and cleaned. Yet despite all the mechanisation, master baker Richard was hand-piping Easter pastry slices. After 90 years and three generations, the centenary seems certain.



And another generation? We'll have to see!

WILDLIFE NEWS

We do hope you will join us at Staple Churchyard on Saturday, 5th June to for a treasure hunt and nature trail. Churches Count on Nature is a national event, which is part of the 'Caring For God's Acre' initiative to highlight our churchyards as great habitats for wildlife.

Staple Wildlife Friendly Village Group are organising a 'hands-on' experience to inspire people of all ages to make nature count by studying trees, birdlife, flowers and lichen in the churchyard, plant wildflowers and learn how to make bird boxes and insect hotels for the garden.

The event is free! So come along the see what you can find in your churchyard.

Contact us on wildlife-friendlyvillage@outlook.com for further details.

Staple Wildlife Friendly Village Group



Invite you to take part in a

Churchyard Nature Count

Saturday 5th June 11am – 3pm

In St. James the Great Churchyard

By kind permission of The Rector and Churchwardens

All welcome!



Covid-19 restrictions observed



TURTLE DOVE SUMMER FIELD, STAPLE



We saw our first pair of Turtle Doves on the sanctuary on 28th April and by the 10th of May, the pair pictured above were madly in love!

It has been a very strange start to the breeding season. We did at one point see 5 T.D's at once on the sanctuary but the appalling weather has meant that we have not seen much of them since. We hear a couple of males calling occasionally but they are not showing on the sanctuary so regularly.

Hoping that more sightings will be evident when the weather is more friendly, we are going to hold open days from 3pm – 7pm on June 18th, 19th and 20th in 1 hour slots.

Please make your request for an hour in the hide to bridget.burridge@gmail.com

If these dates are not convenient for you, please make a separate request and we will do our best to open the hide for you.

David, Bridget, David and Ann.



Recycling and Waste Collections

Collections in Staple and Shatterling have changed and happen on different days across the village. You should have received an updated collection calendar. To check the collections for your property, please go to <https://collections.dover.gov.uk/property>

Garden waste collection dates in June are Tuesday 8 and Tuesday 22 May.

www.dover.gov.uk/recycling



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.*

Staunch Legion supporter and widow of Bill, a long serving stalwart of Staple Branch, Val Holman celebrated her 100th Birthday last month. Many members sent cards to add to the over 100 cards she received. We send Val our heartiest congratulations on achieving this significant milestone and look forward to seeing her again at Legion events this summer when we are released from Covid restrictions.

Val is not the only one celebrating a Centenary as the Legion itself was founded 100 years ago on the 15th May 1921. An amalgamation of four ex-service organisations:- The National Association of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers, The British National Federation of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers (formed by Tom Lister), Comrades of the Great War and The Officers Association. Field Marshall Earl Haig, together with Tom Lister, realised that they would be more powerful together and the British Legion was born. Earl Haig became its first President, serving until his early death in 1928. On the morning of 15th May, representatives of all four organisations gathered at the Cenotaph and laid wreaths. At the Unity Conference held on the previous day, the amalgamation was proposed by a soldier and seconded by a General to signify that rank was of no importance.

In 1921, over 2 million were unemployed. Six million men had served in the Great War and of those who came back, 1.75 million were disabled, over half of these with a permanent disability. Additionally, there was much hardship suffered by the widows and orphans of the huge number of those who never came home and by dependant parents who had lost sons. The Legion was established to care for those who suffered as a result of service. In the hundred years since, the aim of the Legion has remained the same – ‘Serving the Armed Forces Community’.

The symbol of the Poppy was adopted in the same year with Earl Haig ordering 9 million poppies for sale on 11th November. These rapidly sold out, making £106,000 – a considerable sum in 1921 – to help veterans with housing and jobs. Today over 40,000 volunteers distribute 40 million poppies. With 100K spent on the new, all-purpose logo at the top of the page, we’re not supposed to use any others, but Tim found this lovely one on a social media site so:-

“Happy Birthday” to the Legion



In Staple, a wreath was laid at the war memorial at St James The Great, Staple, on 15th May 21, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of The Royal British Legion. The wreath was laid by Mr Michael Sterba, Chairman Staple Branch TRBL and accompanied by Mr Michael Burr standard bearer. Prayers were said by Rev Michael Morris.



The Arts Society Sandwich

The Arts Society Sandwich is currently providing its 2021 programme of live monthly lectures over the internet via Zoom, each lecture starting at 7pm with log in from 6.45pm.

Monday 7 June

Paula Nuttall, 'Urbino, the Palace of the Courtier'

Paula Nuttall will focus on the Ducal Palace at Urbino and on Frederico da Montefeltro, Duke of Urbino, and his patronage of artists including Piero della Francesca, who painted the famous double portrait of the Duke and his wife.

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 membership.sandwich@theartssociety.org to enable you to log in.

Please visit www.sandwichdfas.org.uk for membership and programme information. You can follow us on Facebook@theartssocietysandwich

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR COMPANY.

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.

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
Staple Walking Group
Woodnesborough Gardeners Club**

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

The Sandwich Connect Bus Service - UPDATE

Those who have followed the machinations of the Sandwich Connect bus service since its inception will recall that it was one of five pilot schemes introduced by KCC in 2019 as a result of its Big Conversation rural transport initiative. The Sandwich pilot was originally conceived by KCC as a feeder-type service and at its design stage it had been proposed that the service should use Ash as an interchange point. However, at that time KCC was advised not to service Ash (The Street) with the pilot bus service due to fears of additional traffic congestion and the availability in Ash of regular Stagecoach services. Subsequently, after the bus service had been redesigned as the Sandwich Connect service and had been operating for several months, Staple again raised the proposal that the bus service should go into Ash, suggesting that the bus proceed onto the Sandwich bypass via Chequer Lane, thereby avoiding congesting The Street. KCC formally approached Ash Parish Council with this proposal and at its meeting on 6th January 2020 Ash Parish Council strongly supported the idea, believing it to be of great benefit. Unfortunately Covid struck before KCC was able to progress the proposed new route and everything fell into abeyance. With the good news that funding for the bus service would continue until March 2022, the revised bus route was once again broached by Staple, and KCC has indicated that it believes there would be merit in looking at this again and in a timeframe that means it can be a feature for a good proportion of the extended pilot period. A proposal to this end is currently being worked up with Britannia, the service operator, and it is hoped that the details will be able to be presented shortly.

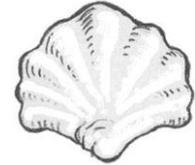
Staple- Sandwich - Northbourne - Mongeham				
Mondays to Fridays				
Staple, Three Tuns	0940	1110	1310	1440
Staple, The Street	0941	1111	1311	1441
Guilton Corner	0946	1116	1316	1446
Sandwich, Fire Station	0951	1121	1321	1451
Sandwich, St Marys Church	0952	1122	1322	1452
Sandwich, The Guildhall				
	Arr:	0955	1125	1325
	Dep:	0958	1128	1328
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

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
	Dep:	1042	1242	1412
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

Dover District Lottery



STAPLE CHURCH has joined



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.

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, or call 01304 812515 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.

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

JUNE 2021 Neighbourhood Watch WARNINGS

Kent Fraud Alert System

As a result of an increase in fraud offences there are multiple warnings for this month. (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 these types of scam.

Vaccine Scams

Please be aware of fraudsters sending out e-mails and texts offering vaccines such as "N H S 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) This takes you to a page with an official looking N H S 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 and address with the bank, No payments are made during verification. (There is a continue box)

If you receive anything like this or similar it is a SCAM. SO BEWARE.

British Gas Phishing E-mail

If you receive an e-mail from British Gas asking you to click a link as you due a refund it is a scam.

Action Fraud received 500 reports in a 24 hour period .

British Gas will NEVER contact you this way and ask you to click on a link. If you receive a suspicious e-mail like this then please forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk If you suspect you have fallen victim to this scam, then contact your bank immediately AND report it to Action

Fraud at www.actonfraud.police.uk or by telephoning 03001232040

Post Office Phishing E-mail supported with the Red oval POST OFFICE logo.

Dear receiver, Your package has so follow the Action Fraud advice as above, The same information applies if you should receive an e-mail or letter from the Chartered Trading Standards Institute notifying you are a victim of a scam by Verge Capital who offer loans and bonds. Instructions follow to make a refund. This is another Scam So use above advice again.

Prevent Fraud with abc Never Assume Never Believe Always Confirm



**Kent
Police**

Community Speedwatch Report May 2021

Over the last month up to 24th May we have carried out 5 Speedwatch sessions. We counted 221 vehicles on the roads that we checked of which 16 exceeded the 35 mph criterion.

Interestingly this is only 7% ~ which is pretty low. The numbers are not much down on the usual traffic counts when we carry out our sessions. We think drivers have noted our presence and are keeping speeds down. Our reporting accuracy is 81% ~ meaning that we do get the details of vehicles wrong ~ we do have to improve on this but dirty number plates make plates difficult to read despite this being a requirement to keep them clean.

Since the first lock-down in the UK the Department for Transport have noted that 53% of drivers exceed the 30 mph limit. 63% of all accidents are on rural roads so care must still be taken. We very seldom note any local vehicles exceeding the limit so we should not be complacent but be observant driving through our lovely Kent villages.

Whilst noting that speeds through Staple are below the National Average speeding puts lives at risk when more people are walking, cycling and riding horses. There are several villages considering the use of Radar Speed Devices and I have noted that quite a few villages around Staple have or are considering such devices.

Please feel free to send any comments about road behaviour to me and we will keep Kent Police informed of any problems.

Don't forget we are always looking for more volunteers and we would appreciate anyone with an interest in reducing speeds through the village to come forward. It only takes around 1 to 2 hours per month and the Parish Council are always appreciative of our work.

Usual contact email Roger43@gmail.com Telephone 01304 812306

SID (Speed Indicator Devices)

No report this month on the statistics ~ the SIDs are having a rest and will be deployed soon.



Staple Parish Council

The meeting of the Parish Council due to take place on 12 May via Zoom was cancelled. This is due to new regulations issued by the High Court affecting Council meetings which are open to the public to attend. These regulation state that these should now take place in a 'physical geographical location'.

Previously, the Parish Council has used the Village Hall for meetings, but the Village Hall Management Committee feel that this would not be viable until after the restrictions have been lifted in June.

The June meeting will be reported in the July issue.



Kent County Council Members Report to Annual Parish Meetings 2021 Sandwich Division

Reducing the activity of KCC over the past year into a shortish report is quite clearly somewhat of a challenge and we need absolutely no reminder that it has been totally overshadowed by the Covid 19 pandemic.

However I think it is very much worth saying that the year and the unprecedented situation has also shown very clearly the effectiveness and ability of local government to rise to the challenge and deliver on the Governments instructions for a huge range of support to residents, business and the care sector. That, of course, is not just the County Council but Dover District and Sandwich Town Council as well, the partnership between all levels has been vital to achieve delivery, solve problems and above all keep residents as safe as possible. The Kent Together helpline, which is still operating, provided a service that helped those who were in need of help and support during the pandemic, this was linked to Dover District Council's support services and community organisations.

Our community and voluntary organisations, local businesses and a huge number of individuals were absolutely amazing throughout and I would just like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who played their part in providing care and support to those who needed it during the pandemic. Throughout the year the challenges for Kent County Council have included sourcing and distributing PPE (which we did so effectively in Kent that the military came to see how we had done it) both for our own staff, but also for GP's, Care Homes and many more. Extending our IT systems to ensure that every member of staff could be connected to work from home. Developing protocols to ensure that face to face meetings with vulnerable adults and children could and did continue as safely as possible. Providing advice and guidance for schools and Headteachers. Virtual School Kent and The Education People developed a huge range of online learning and guidance that was available to all schools. A website that was updated continually with Covid advice, advice on financial support, advice for parents. KCC Public Health played a huge role in monitoring infection, advice to the public, setting up testing both symptomatic and symptom free testing and more recently the surge testing. Symptom free testing is continuing in Sandwich in the Guildhall through till June. The total amount of Covid grant from Government to KCC has been £139.1 million, some of which has been distributed and delivered as support by the Districts.

In addition all the implications of Brexit have had to be planned for with transition due to commence on 1st January this year. In fact, we dealt with a different completely unforeseen consequence of Covid when the French closed their borders for 48 hours and then required evidence of a negative Covid test before re-entry. The Kent Resilience forum planning for the New Year was implemented but there were additional problems which have all been well documented. Manston has been in use since that time for Covid testing for HGV drivers but has now been decommissioned which was welcome news. From the outset I spoke out about the use of Manston and the impact on our local communities and continued to get action taken on carriageway repairs and roadside litter (together with District colleagues). Overall the commercial activity across the 'short straits' is now back to expected levels.

There has also been 'business as usual' activity to keep our roads repaired and drains cleared, despite reducing government funding, this is an ongoing challenge particularly given weather conditions earlier in the year, but the response has improved. The five year highway maintenance plan has been published, anyone who is interested can look on the website and see what is planned for their local area in terms of renewal and maintenance. The pothole blitz continues to operate, please do report potholes through the website.

The past year also included the somewhat larger project to completely refit and refurbish the Sandwich Toll Bridge, the £500,000 project was completed last autumn and I would like to thank all local people for their patience during that time. The historic bridge now has new mechanism and paintwork to see it through another 25 years at least, with regular maintenance!

I have worked with parishes to develop and progress their Highways Improvement Plans, which prioritise the improvements they would like to see in their parishes. I have also been part of the A257 Group, supporting their ambitions for improved safety along that road. There are, of course, some local highways issues that continue to concern residents and I will persevere with efforts to find workable solutions.

The recent consultation on the Vision Zero strategy which is the plan to reduce fatalities on Kent roads to zero by 2050 but importantly to achieve a year on year reduction in serious accidents and to make sure that local communities feel safer using their local roads is an important step to address the concerns that I know are shared by many in our villages.

Our social services teams, both for adults and children, have worked under difficult conditions to keep people safe and work with the increasing number of those in need of help, including seeing many residents face to face with the appropriate protection. Many people have spoken to me about their concern for children following the past year and I was able to announce in March our Reconnect programme for all children and young people in Kent for the next year and beyond. The idea behind Reconnect comes from young people who told us they would prefer a positive programme focusing on opportunities rather than emphasising the 'damage' that may have been done to them or their futures by the pandemic. The programme aims to help them reconnect to:

- Health and happiness
- Learning missed
- Family, friends and community
- Sport, activities and the outdoors
- Economic wellbeing

There has been some significant environmental work done during the past year with the Net Zero Action Plan which commits KCC to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from its estate and wholly owned traded services to net zero by 2030, it is worth noting that KCC have reduced their greenhouse gas emissions by 54% since 2010. I was also a member of the working group that developed the Plan Bee pollinator action plan for Kent, which is designed to do what it says on the tin and take the lead and encourage local communities to improve habitats for pollinators. Through my members grant funding I have been able to support Gazen Salts Nature Reserve in Sandwich and it's good to see the recent work that has been done to restore the habitat there, a beehive in St Clement's churchyard, a small verge nature reserve in Ash, the cemetery in Stourmouth all of which contribute to our local environment. Whilst a slightly different environmental project, it was very exciting to see the sweeps turning on the Chillenden windmill last autumn after restoration, the first time since 1949 they had turned under wind power.

Finally our budget for 21/22 is focussed on maintaining frontline services despite the unprecedented financial context, and has regrettably had to include a rise in Council Tax of just under 2% and an additional 3% which is ring-fenced for social care, where we are experiencing substantial increases in both costs of care and demand and complexity of care. Social care accounts for 47% of the total budget and is a priority for the Council but was also identified as a priority by residents, both for adults and children, in the consultation that was carried out in the preparation of the budget.

Sue Chandler
06.04.2021

Sue writes:

I wrote my annual report in April when we were in the 'pre-election' period, I feel very privileged, since then, to have been re-elected to represent Sandwich and the Villages at Kent County Council and very much look forward to continuing to work with Staple Parish Council on a range of issues. As we move forward on the 'roadmap' I also look forward very much to hopefully attending some Staple events, groups and meeting and talking to some of you individually, but in the meantime please do get in touch if you need help with anything that is KCC related.

Contact details: Phone 07989134576
Email Sue.Chandler@kent.gov.uk

Dover District Council 2020/2021 - Report to Parish Annual Meetings

In a year like no other in living memory our council activities have been dominated by Covid 19. At the same time we have sought to maintain front line services and continue to work on the regeneration and future of our district by keeping going with our key pipeline projects aimed at increasing growth and investment. Before going into detail it is right to offer a huge thank you to DDC officers who have performed outstandingly in rising to the new and unexpected challenges which faced us. They have demonstrated flexibility, determination and resilience, as well as a willingness to work long hours in often unfamiliar activities.

Covid response: Within hours of the announcement of the first lockdown DDC established a Community Hub staffed seven days a week. This operations centre masterminded the Council's response to the crisis and was able to function because of the redeployment of many officers. At the peak of the crisis some 120 officers, around 40% of our entire officer establishment, were working through the Hub. To date 8078 vulnerable residents have been contacted by a variety of means with support provided as required, and working with partners in the public and voluntary sectors over 1800 food parcels have been delivered. From our own resources we set up an emergency fund to support community groups helping with the Covid response, quickly releasing £300K. As the pandemic continued the Hub maintained contact with residents and the wider community with weekly Covid updates. There are now over 36,000 subscribers to Keep Me Posted, with 9000 followers on Facebook and Twitter and we have issued some 100 Press Releases with updates.

Of course the pandemic has had a huge impact on businesses of all kinds across the district. As weeks and months went by the Hub took on the additional role of supporting businesses and over the past 12 months has managed the dissemination of Government Covid Support grants totalling £36.6 million, involving 7256 payments to hundreds of businesses, small and large, covering retailers, hotels, B&Bs, restaurants, pubs, gyms etc. Some 12 months on the Hub continues to operate, albeit at a lower level. We are, frankly very proud of all that our people have achieved.

Finances: Lockdown had a huge effect on both our costs and our income, and at the halfway stage through the year we were very concerned about how we would end up by year end. However we have been supported by a variety of Government grants and have had the reassurance of a sizeable General Fund Reserve which has been built up over several years through prudent financial management. This was indeed the proverbial rainy day. As a result we have been able to maintain all front line services and still end the financial year with a small surplus, as well as being able to budget for 21/22 with a manageable deficit and fully fund our three year Capital programme. We have also been able to maintain our position as the lowest council taxing authority in East Kent, restricting the 21/22 increase to 2.6% or £4.95 for a Band D property.

EU transition: One major problem we did anticipate at the beginning of the year was the effect on our district of the UK leaving the EU. Our ability to plan was not helped by the delays in finalising the nature of the trading relationship, but we worked throughout 2020 with a wide range of partners with the aim of keeping Dover and Kent clear of traffic following the end of the transition arrangements. The arbitrary French decision to close the border just before Christmas caused chaos and gridlock in Dover and the surrounding roads for several days. Our new CCTV network, together with the local knowledge of DDC officers, was a huge help to the authorities leading the UK response. Freight traffic levels have now returned to normal. A major problem for DDC was the volume of litter and other unwelcome detritus on the sides of the major roads in our district. This had been a growing issue throughout 2020, but the blockade exacerbated it. We are now working with Veolia, who have performed very well during the pandemic, and with Government support to clear this.

Also as part of the new arrangements the Government has announced it will be setting up an Inland Border Facility near Whitfield, now due to open in early 2022, to monitor inbound HGV traffic. This customs clearance facility for up to 900 vehicles at any one time will create new employment facilities including a new DDC Port Health Authority requiring 100 new staff. We are working with the relevant authorities to seek improvements to the road network around the facility, and also to provide the best possible screening of the site for the benefit of residents. The site is due to close in 2025.

Local Plan and Regeneration: Given all the difficulties associated with the pandemic in terms of face to face meetings we have been delighted with the response to the consultation which ended on March 17th. Some 10,502 people have visited the Local Plan website. Facebook posts have reached 70,000. There has been a series of on-line meetings with towns and parishes and high levels of engagement via e-mails and calls on the dedicated hotline. Feedback will now be assessed over the coming months. This is a hugely important piece of work which is key to underpinning the District's growth and investment agenda while meeting the Government's targets for new home building. Our regeneration projects include the Dover Market Square Coastal Community Fund with £2.44 million from MHCLG and the Welcome Back Fund which provides £170K to help re-open businesses as lockdown eases. We also expect to hear imminently that our bid for £3.2 million from the Future High Street Fund has been confirmed. Work on the Maison Dieu and Kearsney, funded by the Heritage Lottery, has continued and the re-making of the Sandwich Guildhall forecourt is also planned.

Climate Change: Two initiatives have started to help towards DDC's stated aim to be carbon-neutral by 2030, both aided by government grants. During the year we will be installing 49 EV charging points across the district and a programme has begun to de-carbonise the DDC offices at Whitfield. In addition KCC has given planning permission for the Dover Fast Track bus service which will be financed by a Government grant of £16 million. This will link Whitfield and the Connaught Barracks housing development with the town centre and Dover Priory. This will lessen the need to drive into town as well as stimulating visits to the High Street shops.

Dover Lottery: This has been running for two years now and in total nearly £68,000 has been given to 129 local organisations. We have also continued with our regular programme of Community Grants.

Social housing: On October 1st we, and the three other 'parent' councils, took back in-house management of our housing stock from East Kent housing, which had been performing so poorly that we were in danger of failing in our duty of care to tenants. This has resulted in a major change programme involving the setting up of new DDC Housing and Property Management teams with some 50 staff transferring 4318 rented dwellings, 888 garages and 439 DDC-leased dwellings back into our control. There has been a major task to complete in cleaning up data but we are gradually clearing the backlog of outstanding maintenance jobs and complaints are declining. Again great credit is due to our staff for their hard work in this area. We have also continued with our plan to build 500 social housing homes over the next few years.

Trevor Bartlett, Mike Conolly
April 2021



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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