



The Escallop



St James the Great, Staple



March 2021

theEscallop@gmail.com 50p

Contents

Rector's Letter	3
Useful Contact Numbers	4
St James the Great, Staple: Services for March 2021	5
Around and about in Staple and Shatterling	6
SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE ESCALLOP 2021	7
<i>STAPLE BRANCH - THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION</i>	8
THE ARTS SOCIETY SANDWICH	11
Brainteasers for March!!	11
Dover districts' Virtual Fairtrade live event	12
Wildlife Friendly Village	13
Warning from the Kent Lost Dog team	14
The Sandwich Connect Bus Service.....	15
Dover District Lottery	16
Staple Helpline	17
Recycling and Waste Collections.....	17
Staple Parish Council	18
Are you living in a cold home?.....	23
Village websites.....	24
Brainteaser answers.....	24
Staple Village Hall	25

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

April - 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

Twelve months ago life was very different. We were aware that a new virus had emerged in Wuhan Province in China, and news was emerging that it had spread to Europe and taken hold in Italy and Spain causing the health services to be stretched to breaking point. But I doubt if many would have anticipated that a year on, and the UK would still be locked down with the route over the next year still far from clear.

This dreadful virus has impacted people in many terrible ways; but amid all the appalling situations individuals, families and communities have had to face, there have also been good outcomes which have emerged.

For me, this has included finding myself having to embrace and learn new things – in particular those involving communications technology. I had never envisaged myself making videos for YouTube or livestreaming or video-conferencing or producing online surveys. These, I assumed, were tasks for a younger, more enlightened, generation. But being forced to put in the time and effort to learn something new has not just been most helpful, it has also proved to be quite satisfying (albeit also frustrating at times).

For other people there will have been different challenges: getting to grips with working from home; online supermarket shopping; the art of home-schooling the kids; FaceTime, or other similar means of keeping in touch with friends. I think a lot of people, out of necessity, have discovered new possibilities – and the old adage holds very true 'Nothing ventured, nothing gained.'

What this has, I suppose, taught me is to be more prepared and open to embrace change and to learn new things. A few months ago, I would have considered that the time commitment to try to understand how to grasp some of this newer technology much more effort than it was worth. Now I find myself with some very useful tools. I just wonder how much more I could be achieving with a little bit more openness and imagination – and willingness to commit the time and take the opportunities.

But as well as embracing the new, it is also important to hold onto old truths and traditions which have served us well over centuries. One such tradition is the keeping of Lent into which we enter through the month of March.

Lent is often associated with 'giving something up'; but that is just part of a practice of self-discipline and self-examination as we prepare for the celebration of the resurrection at Easter.

Reflection and self-examination are of course helpful daily practices, but also good as a special focus in our yearly rhythms as the seasons and cycles change.

Part of our reflective time in Lent might helpfully focus upon our established practices and routines in life – thinking about what is good and beneficial to us and others and needs reinforcing. At the same time, we may discern areas in our lives where we have become rather staid and set in our ways and where we might helpfully learn anew and embrace new ideas.

And as we look at ourselves, as individuals, we need also to examine how together we can make essential structural change possible – whether that be in addressing racism, poverty, exploitation or the climate crisis.

COVID, for all the damage it has wrought, has also helped us see how looking at things in a different way can be possible.

For Christians, Lent is also a time to enter more deeply into our life of prayer. There is much for which our prayer is now needed – perhaps that is something we may all wish to embrace more fully.

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	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. Please note it is not possible to hold weddings and baptisms while the current situation continues.

St James the Great, Staple: Services for March 2021

Services will continue online until Palm Sunday when, subject to infection rates continuing to fall, we hope to restart services in the Church as below. Full details of this and Easter services will be sent round via email, posted on the Church gate and included in the April Edition of the Escallop. They will also be listed on the benefice website - www.ewbchurches.org.uk

SUNDAY 28 March 2021 at 10 a.m. – Holy Communion

THURSDAY 1 April at 7.00 p.m. – Maundy Thursday Communion (TBC)

SUNDAY 4 April at 10 a.m. – Easter Holy Communion (TBC)

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

ZOOM SERVICES

The benefice will continue to meet virtually at 10 each Sunday morning using Zoom. If you wish to join a service, you will need to do one of the following:

Using a laptop or tablet, copy this URL in to your web browser	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7360055669?pwd=UEVwSzJQSIYvTHNtVnBLK2VNTzliZz09
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@bopenworld.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.

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

It is with much sadness that we start this month's article with the sad passing of Dr Ken Smith of Staple Farmhouse, Durlock Rd on 8th January 2021.

After leaving school, Ken joined the RAF where he became a Radar Instructor, he went on to study Physics at London University, obtained his degree, then on to research into Molecular Spectroscopy resulting in his PhD.

After a period of teaching at Holloway School in London he joined the newly opened Electronics department at the University of Kent where he lectured and researched in astronomy and electronics, this resulted in the move to Staple in 1969 and some years later he moved his mother from London to also live in Staple.

Ken also served on the Parish Council and was also a regular visitor to the youth club with his telescope which the members always found extremely interesting.

As an amateur radio enthusiast, call sign G3J1X, and keen to popularise science with the public, he together with the Hilderstone Radio Society, set up a radio station at many a Staple Country Fayre. On one of these occasions a contact with Australia was made.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Michelle, children Jamie and Hanna and all his relations and friends.

Congratulations to Robyn and Chris Garton, on the birth of their daughter Olive who was born on 16th February.

This addition to Jenny Marsh's family is her 17th Grand Child, warmest wishes to you all.

Many Congratulations also to Greg Chick of No 37, The Street, Ash, not only has he just celebrated his 40th Birthday on 7th February but his wife Antonia gave birth to twins on 30th January, Finlay 6 pounds 4 ounces and Florence 5 pounds 4 ounces.

Get ready for lots of laughter and noise, big hugs and so many joys.

We have to say a fond farewell to Laura and Trevor Cumberland and daughter Louise Pilcher and husband Terry who at the end of last month sold the Frog and Orange, Shatterling after 14 years. Laura says on behalf of them all that they will be sad to say goodbye but their move is filled with lots of happy memories and they have made some lifetime friends who have become family forever.

They would like to take this opportunity to say thank you all, to everyone for their support, during that time they raised over £15,000 for different charities over the years from Frogfests and charity days.

Laura also served as a Staple Parish Councillor and her knowledge of Shatterling was invaluable.

They are not going far, for now so they are sure they will see you all in other pubs soon.

We would like to wish you all much happiness and health for the future.

We also say farewell to Andrew and Linda Rigg, Chapel Lane who after twenty five years have just moved to the north of Kent to be closer to one of their three daughters.

And we wish a very warm welcome to Barry and Mary Phelps who have moved from Herne Bay into their house. We hope you have settled in well and we will soon see you out and about in the village.

Congratulations to Billy Morgan who has now also taken over the running of The Red Cow, Sandwich. We wish him all the very best for another successful business venture.

Reece Foley has now been promoted to General Manager of The Black Pig.

We are very much looking forward to lockdown restrictions being lifted and hopefully will not be too long before we can all have a drink and meal in these establishments.

Belated Birthday Wishes to Phil Newcombe who celebrated his 60th on Saturday 20th February, unfortunately not having the party that he was planning on holding but still had an enjoyable day.

Well done and Congratulations to Polly Abbott of The Anchor, Wingham who graduated in 2019, has now just completed her ASYE and is now a fully qualified Social Worker.

It is with great sadness that we pass on the news that Donald Baldwin died peacefully on Thursday 18th February.

Donald was for many years, a loyal member of our church congregation at Woodnesborough and Staple, serving the Church in a number of capacities and was a much loved member of our Church fund raising events, especially the monthly coffee mornings, where he was well known for his homemade marmalade. Donald was also a regular and much appreciated contributor to the Escallop.

Donald was a Church reader and as a representative to the Deanery Synod, he was deeply committed to his faith, conscientious and generous, he will be sadly missed.

We remember Hilary and the family in our thoughts and prayers.



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.

Thank you to everyone who has paid their Escallop subs – either by giving them to their distributor or by paying online. If you haven't yet paid but still wish to receive the magazine, please could you ensure that we receive your payment by the end of March. After that, we will only deliver to addresses from where we have received subs. Please drop your payment into your distributor if you know who they are or pay online. Please feel free to email theEscallop@gmail.com with any queries.

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.

Pandemic restrictions may seem to have little to recommend them, but they have been instrumental in many of us learning to embrace technologies we would previously thought beyond us. Principally, I'm thinking of Zoom. Most of us, with the necessity of keeping in touch with friends and family, colleagues and interest groups, have now managed to connect with the aid of this technology and the Legion Branch here is no exception. After a trial with just the Committee, we have now had a Branch Meeting, with 14 present, and intend to keep this up monthly and hope that many more branch members will join in.

The Royal British Legion has a "New Brand Identity" - Logo! Launched in this, the Legion's Centenary year, we were all taken slightly by surprise by this. Despite assurances that this expensive venture had been done in consultation with members (not Staple Branch) and was completely necessary for a modern age, it did seem an inappropriate time to be considering such a move. The new logo will supersede all the others, a 'consistent and clear identity for the future' and the familiar poppy at the top of this page will no longer be seen.



The 'Legion' was formed in May 1921. Its main purpose was straightforward: to care for those who had suffered as a result of service in the Armed Forces during the Great War, whether through their own service or through that of a husband, father or son. The suffering took many forms, from the effect of a war wound on a man's ability to earn a living and support a family to a war widow's struggle to give her children an education. By the time of the Legion's foundation the tradition of an annual Two Minute Silence in memory of the dead had been established. The first ever Poppy Appeal was held that year with the first Poppy Day on the 11th November.

The Legion is honoured to have Her Majesty the Queen as its Patron. While having royal patronage from its beginning in 1921, it received its Royal appellation in 1971, its Golden Anniversary.

Uncertainty over Pandemic restrictions have cramped their style somewhat when considering ideas to celebrate the Centenary. One of the early plans was to ask branches to submit stories from their own areas, "Telling Our Story", which would be on display at the National Conference to be held at the Albert Hall. This may well be on hold, with the Conference being held digitally from the National Arboretum.

Staple Branch submission to "Telling Our Story" follows:

STAPLE BRANCH TRBL

No 2021

Est 1926

Staple is a small and historic village in Kent, about halfway between Sandwich and Canterbury. In May of 1921, after a village meeting, a faculty to erect a War Memorial in the Churchyard was applied for. In anticipation of this being granted, a memorial was made by a Sandwich stonemason and was erected and dedicated within a week of the faculty being granted in August 1921.

There were seven names inscribed on the Memorial, two of them brothers. For a small village of mostly agricultural labourers this was a heavy loss.

Five years later, Staple formed its own branch of 'The Legion', meeting in the 14th Century Black Pig PH. The father who lost his two sons is in this picture. His granddaughter still lives in the village and is a staunch supporter of the Legion.



Farming and Smallholding are frequently solitary occupations and the newly formed Branch was a source of comradeship. In the 94 years since it was established, the Branch has had very few Standard Bearers, most serving many years., with one, George Beer, serving for more than 50 years. Our recently retired Poppy Appeal Organiser also served for over 50 years, following her father who had been the first PAO.

In 2014, with the Centenary of the start of WW1 looming, the Branch wanted to do something special and involve the whole village, especially the younger residents. We started by researching the stories of the names on our War Memorial. Familiar names, read out on every Remembrance Day, they had become just names carved in the stone. We wanted villagers, particularly the children, to be able to know these young men, where they lived, what their work was, who their families were and, of course, how they died so that when the two minutes Silence came, they would have someone to remember. We called them "The Lost Sons of Staple". We devised a concert, held in the Village Hall, where the profiles of our young men could be read out, interspersed with sketches, sing songs and poetry with pictures and photographs on a large screen behind. We had lots of enthusiastic help from Friends of the Legion with varying areas of



expertise. The interval saw ladies of the WI dressed in WW1 costumes, serving cakes and biscuits from authentic period recipes. The audience bought pennies and halfpennies to pay for their refreshments at WW1 prices. The evening was rounded off with a rousing sing song, aided by the Scouts and Cubs, and a moving rendition of 'Sunset' – not a dry eye in the house!

Concurrently with all this activity, one of our members had the brilliant idea that we could

create a 'Garden of Remembrance' on a derelict piece of land opposite the Village Hall. Something of an eyesore, this site had once been a Council dump for road scrapings then a recycling area with attendant debris. Permission was obtained from the Parish Council and a flurry of fundraising ensued to gather the considerable sum required to clear the site and import some topsoil. A huge amount of very hard work by members, a generous donation from a local business of a Memorial Stone and nine smaller stones, one for





each Lost Son and nine Silver Birch trees saw the work completed in time for the Service of Dedication and official opening by County Chairman, Ozzy Walker MBE, by 27th September 2014. Each year since, we go to the Garden with the Standard at the 11th hour of the 11th day of November and observe the Silence and lay a wreath.



Many villagers join us and many stop by on a daily basis for rest and contemplation at such a beautiful site. It has since acquired a hedge of roses, a stone bench, a 'Poppy' bench and a silhouette soldier. We are very proud that the Garden has become such a focal point and favoured site with so many residents.

At a 'do' in the churchyard in the summer of 2017, an elderly resident approached the Chairman to ask if he knew that a soldier was buried in the churchyard. He did not, and they immediately went to investigate. It turned out to be the grave of Sidney Vickers, MBE. RAF who, while still serving in the RAF, had died in 1949 as a direct result of his suffering as a Prisoner of the Japanese in Java. He had a full Military Funeral in Staple where many members of his family still live. It seemed to the Branch that this man richly deserved to be numbered among the Lost Sons of Staple and a lengthy campaign ensued. Sidney's name was finally added to the War Memorial, a Silver Birch tree was planted in his name in the Garden of Remembrance, even another granite stone was found for him. All were dedicated, with family members present, on Remembrance Sunday, 11th November 2018.

The Branch has continued to thrive although not so much excitement, or hard work, recently, although the terriers on the Committee recently lobbied successfully to have the discrimination of 'Connected Persons Serving on Committees' rescinded from the Membership Handbook. We continue to support vulnerable residents in the village and keep a weather eye out for our Veterans but also have outings and quite a few Dinners where we all meet with families and Friends of the Legion. Pandemic restrictions have cramped our style somewhat but we keep in touch with our members and with neighbouring Branches and help out where we can.

We are a typical small rural Branch, doing our bit and enjoying the comradeship that membership provides.



During the period of restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, The Arts Society Sandwich is providing its 2021 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 March 2021

Neil Faulkner, Lawrence of Arabia: Excavating a Legend

Neil Faulkner will revisit Lawrence of Arabia, looking at sensational new evidence from archaeological fieldwork which contrasts the legend with the true story of what happened in the famous desert war of 1916 to 1918.

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 lock in.

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

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.

THE ARTS SOCIETY SANDWICH



Brainteasers for March!!

- 1) What word begins and ends with an E but only has one letter?
- 2) What type of cheese is made backward?
- 3) What can be seen once in a minute, twice in a moment, and never in a thousand years?
- 4) Mike is a butcher. He is 5-foot-10-inches tall. What does he weigh?
- 5) Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
- 6) Imagine that you are in a boat, in the middle of the sea. Suddenly, you are surrounded by hungry sharks, just waiting to feed on you. How can you put an end to this?
- 7) When you have me, you immediately feel like sharing me. But, if you do share me, you do not have me.
- 8) What can you hold without ever touching or using your hands?
- 9) First, I threw away the outside and cooked the inside. Then I ate the outside and threw away the inside. What did I eat?
- 10) You walk across a bridge and you see a boat full of people, yet there isn't a single person on board. How is that possible?

(answers on page 24)

Dover districts' Virtual Fairtrade live event



Join us at Dover districts Virtual Fairtrade live event

Wednesday 3rd March 2021
2.00pm - 3.30pm

Guest speaker, Adam Gardner, Head of Campaigns of Fairtrade Foundation will speak on the topic 'Fairtrade, Climate and You' the principles of Fairtrade and the effects the climate change are having on producers.

For further information please email:
pambrivio@ntlworld.com

To watch, copy and paste the following link to your browser:
<http://dover.gov.uk/Fair-Trade>



Wildlife Friendly Village



We should all now be well aware that our beloved Hedgehog is officially classified as vulnerable! What a sad state of affairs!

So how do you know if you have a hedgehog in your garden?

Well, you could put some food out for him (see below for what to feed Hedgehogs) – but not very reliable.

You could put a camera trap in your garden – a bit expensive (but great fun).

However, there is one tell-tale clue to the presence of Hedgies in your garden.

We all have snails in our gardens which you may well completely ignore or chuck over the fence (it doesn't work by the way, they WILL come back).

Well take a look at some empty shells.

Now we know that Thrushes pick up snails and bash them on the ground in an attempt to get at the snail inside. Well Hedgehogs can't really do that so what do they do? Well the crafty little hedgies bite a hole, just one hole, into the shell. This allows air into the shell, breaking the vacuum that the mucus creates. This enables the Hedgehog to extract the juicy soft body of the snail – mmm delightful!

So, get out in your garden and check out all your snail shells and see if any have just one hole – apart from the normal aperture of course. And you can start helping him out by putting out some Hedgehog food.

By the way – if your garden is fenced Hedgehogs cannot get into your garden – so maybe cut a small, small hole in the bottom of the fence or dig out the soil under the fence – thus creating a little Hedgehog Highway.

PS try NOT to leave shed and garage doors open at dusk especially if that shed or garage is rarely used. Hedgehogs can go inside, get shut in and starve. Nobody wants that!

PPS If you do have a Hedgehog in your garden, please do NOT leave milk out for them, water is what they need. And as for food you can get specific Hedgehog food which will best for them rather than anything else – apart from snails of course!

Caroline Mason

The Wildlife Friendly Village project.

Warning from the Kent Lost Dog team

Please be aware that there is a new ploy being undertaken by dog thieves.

Having a white van with RSPCA stickers on and removing dogs from dog walking owners under the pretext that the dog matches the description of a stolen dog.

NEVER let your dog be taken by anyone.

Insist that they follow you to the vets to have the dog scanned to prove ownership by the Chip.

If they're not for real, they won't go with you! I have never known the RSPCA to operate in the way stated above.

Phone the Police at the first opportunity with as much detail as possible and if at all possible, take photos of the offenders and car/van registration.

There are also reports of these thieves door-knocking in residential areas.

Telephone Kent Police on 01622 690690 If you have any information.

(With thanks to Peter Young for highlighting this issue)



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.

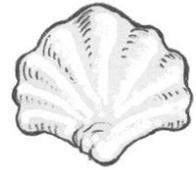
Staple- Sandwich - Northbourne - Mongeham				
Mondays to Fridays				
Staple, Three Tuns	0940	1110	1310	1440
Staple, The Street	0941	1111	1311	1441
Guilton Corner	0946	1116	1316	1446
Sandwich, Fire Station	0951	1121	1321	1451
Sandwich, St Marys Church	0952	1122	1322	1452
Sandwich, The Guildhall				
Arr: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

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, 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 March 2021

Garden Waste	Tuesdays	2 March 16March 30March
Refuse and Food	Wednesdays	3 March 17March 31March
Recycling and Food	Wednesdays	10March 24March

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

Staple Parish Council

Minutes of a virtual, on-line meeting held on Wednesday 10th February 2021, at 7.30pm via Zoom

Councillors present

Cllr T Bartlett (Chair)
Cllr S Coulson
Cllr N McCollum
Cllr G McCollum
Cllr D Kirk
Cllr J Kirk
Cllr R Loukes
Cllr S Chandler
Parish Clerk: J Mount

1 Apologies for absence

None received

2 Declaration of interest

Cllr T Bartlett declared an interest in item 9.2 (The Dover DC Local plan) owing to the fact he is the Leader of Dover District Council and part of the executive which will decide the new local plan. He agreed to leave the meeting, before the item was discussed.

3 Minutes of previous meeting

3.1 Approval of Minutes Proposed: Cllr. Dave Kirk
Seconded: Cllr. John Kirk
Passed unanimously

3.2 Matters Arising
When the minutes are published, the details of location of the planning application should also be published.

4 Public Session

Mrs Shelley Morris asked a question concerning the verges and their maintenance. She has been in touch with KCC concerning this. They are happy for us to plant them with wildflowers. Could the area opposite the 3 Tuns be planted, who owns it? Mr Beer said he was quite happy. The triangle opposite the turtle doves...who would maintain this area? Owners were identified. Area beside the memorial garden, is maintained by Mr Beer. Grass and weeds are a great problem. Could be planted if maintenance was taken on at the same time. There is unstable ground there owing to rabbit warrens. Mr Beer said that Anne Tingey has put some bulbs in, so it might be worth checking with her.

5 District Councillor's Report

5.1 District Councillor
Read and explained by Cllr T. Bartlett.
The full report is as follows:
Following a meeting that DDC held yesterday evening members voted to support the recommendation for the proposed Inland Border Facility at White Cliffs Business Park.
We recognise the national need for this facility and welcome the development for investment and the jobs that it will bring, however we also recognise the need for local impacts to be mitigated in a positive and timely manner together with commitments to improvements to the local and strategic road network especially to the Whitfield and Duke of York roundabouts.

The Council will be scaling up the Port Health function with up to 100 new jobs being created.
Lucy Manzano has been appointed to the new post head of Port Health and Public Protection.

DDC have been awarded £3.2 million from the Government's future high street fund to support the revitalisation of Dover town centre, this is less than we had hoped for so we are looking at ways to reorganise the current proposals, however this will help immensely to rebuild parts of the town in a way which delivers long term prosperity.

We are still waiting for financial details from the government with opportunities for the district with more funding

especially with the levelling up fund.

Local developers, Karlee Construction are to be congratulated on the most effective and efficient way they have renovated 8 flats on Folkestone Rd, called Ottaway house.

These flats are providing much needed interim homes for local residents facing homelessness and is now occupied by 8 families.

This project is part of our commitment to provide more affordable housing in the district and reduce reliance on B&B accommodation, DDC have an ambitious programme to build up to 500 new affordable homes across the district.

Ottaway House was named after, Cuthbert Ottaway a local Dover born sportsman, he captained England in their first football match and also played cricket for Kent and England.

It is now just over 18 weeks since the East Kent Services was returned to DDC, since then we have handled 10,526 calls from customers including setting up a new telephone system for the entire service with closely monitored voicemail arrangements and response services for those who would otherwise be held in queues, in fact the whole communication system has improved tremendously.

We have let 60 homes to families who have been waiting for houses and at present we are in the process of getting a further 47 homes ready to let.

It is encouraging that we have also installed 46 kitchens, 34 bathrooms, 5 flush showers and 16 replacement windows.

At the January Cabinet meeting we unanimously agreed on the action plan to help people with homelessness we have asked members and the public for their views on this in an eight-week consultation, which last until March.

We have also launched the draft Local Plan, this will set out our vision for the district which will be a place of aspiration, providing outstanding opportunities for sustainable living.

The local plan lies at the heart of the planning system and will guide the development of housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure in the district for the next twenty years.

Also agreed at a Cabinet meeting was the Climate Change Strategy which sets out our commitment to tackling climate change and making major contributions to reducing emissions in our district.

We have also received £224,270 following a successful funding bid to the office for Zero Emission Vehicle's to significantly upgrade the provision of electric vehicle charging points at 18 locations in Dover, Deal and Sandwich.

Fairtrade Fortnight this year starts on 22nd February and runs until 7th March and DDC will be hosting a live event on Wednesday 3rd March at 1.30 pm with guest speakers who will be addressing the meeting and focusing on this year's theme "The Growing Challenges that Climate Change brings to farmers and workers in the communities Fairtrade".

- 5.2 Recycling of paper/card has been suspended this week and will not be collected until next collection in a fortnights time, due to the severe weather conditions.
Please leave food waste containers out as Veolia are still planning on collecting them.

Waste collections are running behind at the moment, so bins should be left out.

Cllr. Sue Chandler KCC

Kent resilience forum has issued interesting information regarding Port traffic. More than 6000 lorries a day are now leaving from Dover which is up to expected levels. 2000 freight movements. Since the beginning of the year the Police etc. have managed to keep the traffic moving. KCC were given the authority to clamp lorries whose drivers were behaving in an anti-social way and parking in non-designated parking places. Over 600 have been clamped. Covid testing is going well and people are being encouraged to get tested every 2 weeks. The vaccination roll-out is moving at a good pace. Door to door testing in Maidstone continues, but there is still only one case of the South African variant. The Council budget is to be debated tomorrow. There is a consultation out at the moment concerning the road safety strategy which can be accessed by Parish Councils. Summerfield application was refused, as was the application for caravans on the site. An enforcement notice has now been issued.

Flooding... There have been a number of instances of bad flooding owing to the volume of rainfall and also the state of the drainage. Work is starting tomorrow on improving the drainage in the affected areas.

Cllr. John Kirk asked if there was any update on Piglet Place? No, not at the moment. The officer dealing with it has been reassigned. Speed Watch is not taking place at the moment owing to Covid restrictions. There have been additional pressures on the Highways Team. Cllr. Kirk stated that this has been going on for a very long time. It will not be forgotten, but it would appear that the site is probably not going to be acceptable. It was felt generally that there is an underlying theme of inefficiency on this subject. Cllr G. McCollum said that we have been fobbed off for some time about this issue; the problem has not gone away, and the issue needs to be kept live. Cllr Chandler reiterated that the problem will be kept live and not forgotten about. Cllr. J Kirk said that our

SID is still in the same place where we asked it to be, there has not been any change. Cllr R Loukes said that Lower Road has had 21,500 vehicles along it and the maximum speed is 60 mph. That is a very high number of vehicles, with many speeding. 3000 vehicles exceeded the speed limit. Cllr Chandler said it is very important information and if vehicles are seen speeding, then the Police can be asked to do something about the problem.

Cllr Bartlett said that there are several areas where there has been severe flooding and there are many other areas that are also flooding. Cllr Chandler was asked to look into those areas. Cllr S Coulson said that going down the Staple road there is severe flooding, is it a burst water main? The water appears to be bubbling up, rather than just lying there. Cllr J Kirk mentioned that some parts of the road have been patched with tarmac, but it appears not to have been done professionally. Cllr S Chandler said that there is a response time for potholes (if in a bad condition, within 24 hours). The hole must be filled in within 24 hours if the pothole could cause damage to vehicles. Cllr Coulson said that there is a large pothole forming at the bottom of Buckland Lane heading toward Staple. General discussion followed about the state of the roads. Councillors and members of the public can report any road problems on the KCC website: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>.

PCSO (Eva Winter)

5.3 PCSO's report has been circulated to Councillors.

Cllr. Loukes said that the report mentioned that there was a lot of poaching taking place in the Staple area. If anyone sees any suspicious vehicles they should be reported as soon as possible.

6 Finance

6.1 Approval of Bank Reconciliation for January 2021

Proposed: Cllr. J Kirk
 Seconded: Cllr. S Coulson
 Carried unanimously

6.2 Cheques to be approved: Cheque No. 200363 Clerk's salary £190.00
 Cheque No. 200364 P. Heathfield £50.00
 Cheque No. 200368 R. Loukes £147.51
 Proposer: Cllr. N McCollum
 Seconder: Cllr. J Kirk
 Carried unanimously

6.3 Wildlife Friendly Project Funding Bid

Cllr. N McCollum suggested that the fund should be increased to £300, rather than the amount asked which was £177.85.

Cllr. R Loukes asked if the Wildlife Friendly Project could use the Parish Council's bank account? The Clerk confirmed that this would be possible.

Proposed by Cllr. G McCollum
 Seconded by Cllr. R Loukes
 Carried unanimously

7 Correspondence Received

Frog and Orange Public House: We are being asked to lobby to get it classed as an ACV. Cllr. R Loukes pointed out that access to housing would be a real problem on such a main road. Cllr. G McCollum said that this would be a bit premature to take this step at the moment. Cllr. G McCollum said we should not act on the basis of one person complaining. Clerk to reply to the correspondent and say that Councillors have taken note of the concerns, but at this stage no action will be taken, but the Parish Council will remain aware of feelings in the village.

8 Reports

8.1 Planning applications determined

20/01292	Erection of 2 detached dwellings Land to South of Summerfield House	Refused
20/01338	Erection of single storey rear extension etc. Lower Shatterling farm	Granted
20/1339	Internal alterations Lower Shatterling Farm	Granted

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8.2 Planning Applications submitted

21/00061	Temporary change of use from agricultural land to storage of timber, land to East of Rusham Road, Shatterling

Discussion concerning the above application:

They have started removing timber from the land and a local farmer has been asked to remove mud from the road.

Cllr. R Loukes pointed out that we have to agree to this since in all honesty, we have no other choice.

Clerk to send a letter to Ben Mansfield to make sure the road is cleared of mud.

Cllr. N McCollum asked if it can be made a condition of planning application that the road must be cleared of mud.

Proposal: that we accept the planning application with the condition that the road must be cleared of mud.

Proposed by Cllr. R Loukes

Seconded by Cllr. J Kirk

Carried unanimously

8.3 Village Hall and Recreation Ground

Cllr J. Kirk said there have been several bad leaks and the committee had been proactive rather than waiting for more leaks to occur. The worst leaks will be repaired costing £12,700. Cllr Bartlett asked if there were any grants available. It was felt there could be, but any grant would be retrospective. 2/3 of the roof will be repaired for the above sum. Cllr T Bartlett will ask DDC if there are any grants available. Cllr. D Kirk said that when the builder did his quotation, he did offer a payment scheme, but that was not taken up owing to the risks involved in payment schemes.

8.4 SID/Speedwatch

Community Speedwatch & SID Report

February 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.

SID report (for January)

Durlock Road North

85th Percentile Speed = 32.5 MPH
 85th Percentile Vehicles = 14,788 counts
 Max Speed = 75.0 MPH on 28/01/2021 19:50:00
 Total Vehicles = 17,398 counts
 50th Percentile Speed: 16.1 MPH
 Average Speed: 19.4 MPH
 Total Vehicles August 18,698 counts
 September 12,723 counts
 December 16,494 counts

Lower Road - West

85th Percentile Speed = 30.2 MPH
 85th Percentile Vehicles = 18,308 counts
 Max Speed = 60.0 MPH on 22/01/2021 21:55:00
 Total Vehicles = 21,539 counts
 50th Percentile Speed: 10.6 MPH
 Average Speed: 15.9 MPH
 Total Vehicles September 14,877 counts
 October 22,568 counts

8.5

Footpaths

Nothing to report, except they are in poor condition owing to the weather.

8.6

Village Notice Boards Update

Cllr. Coulson has obtained several quotes. One was very cheap and probably not worth looking at. The best one appears to be the local one from Fitzpatrick Woolmer based in Sittingbourne.

Cllr. R. Loukes said that the quote using recycled plastic material would last longer.

Cllr. G McCollum asked about the ease of using them and were they comparable, also will the overall appearance be attractive as well as being user-friendly? There does not appear to be much difference in them. Cllr D Kirk said that the recycled plastic stands a better chance of being maintenance free, rather than a wooden one which would need to be dyed etc. They should not become brittle in sunshine. Discussion about how they could be mounted.

Cllr. J Kirk they should have the original Staple Parish Council name put on them.

Cllr S Coulson said that the one opposite the Church does not have any heading on it, so would it be possible to transfer from one to the other? Cllr. D Kirk felt that this would be possible.

Proposal: that we should go for the reconstituted plastic notice board from the firm in Sittingbourne.

Proposed by Cllr. D Kirk

Seconded by Cllr. N McCollum

Passed unanimously

Discussion about where it is to be delivered; It was decided that if a delivery date and time could be obtained, it could be delivered to the Village Hall and that this address should be passed to the company.

9 Items for discussion

9.1 Highway Improvement Plan/Action Plan

Proposal: that the Parish Council record the thanks of the village to Matthew Cullen for clearing the roads for the benefit of all the village.

Proposed Cllr. S Coulson

Seconded by Cllr. T Bartlett

Salt bin in Pedding Lane at Shatterling has been damaged and needs repairing. Cllr. S Coulson asked who should pay for the damage? Cllr. S Chandler said it should be reported to KCC and they should replace it.

Empty salt bins can also be notified to KCC. Cllr. R Loukes will report the empty salt bins. Cllr. D Kirk pointed out that salt bins provided by the Council were yellow, whilst others were green. Cllr. T Bartlett said he would contact the farmers there and find out who maintains the bin.

Corner of School Lane/The Street is a very bad corner.

Comments have been received by Cllr. R Loukes about speeding and what the PC are doing about it.

Cllr. G McCollum said that we need a collated list of comments from the general public, so they can be heard in the round. It has dragged on for some time now and needs to be actioned.

Councillors to collect any points raised by the General Public and forward them to the Clerk. The Clerk to collate the list, circulate it and then put it on the agenda for the next meeting, near the beginning of the meeting.

9.2 Cllr. T Bartlett left the meeting at this point. Cllr. N McCollum took over as Chair of the meeting.

Dover District Local Plan

R. Loukes attended the meeting representing the local councils. Cllr. N McCollum also attended a meeting. He felt that the general public will probably not get involved, so it is up to the Parish Councils to respond. There is only one area that might impact on Staple and that is the area adjacent to the current development in Durlock Road. The only other area that might impact on Staple is the traffic flow through the village from a development they are proposing to carry out in Wingham.

Cllr. N McCollum asked if we wanted to respond as a Parish Council? It was not felt that it really impacted on Staple so was probably not worth it. Cllr. J Kirk said that it was not really specific enough and that there were no massive developments in the plan. Cllr. N McCollum suggested that we should just monitor things as they go along but not respond at the moment. Cllr. J Kirk agreed.

10 Confidential items to be discussed

The Clerk mentioned that he had put in a VAT refund for £146.82 for the present financial year. Discussion

followed about VAT refunds.

Cllr. J Kirk asked if the Asset Register could go on the Parish Notice Board with the AGAR. It was decided that in future, the Asset register should go on the Parish Notice Board along with the AGAR and that both should also be published on the website along with the accounts.

11 Additional correspondence as permitted by the Chair

There was none.

12 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10th March 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 opened 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

Brainteaser answers

- 1) Envelope.
- 2) Edam.
- 3) The letter M
- 4) Meat.
- 5) Mt. Everest. It was still the highest in the world. It just had not been discovered yet!
- 6) Stop imagining!
- 7)A secret.
- 8)Your breath!
- 9)Corn on the cob.
- 10) All the people on the boat are married.

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)

The Village Hall Comprises:

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

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

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

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Or email Enquiries@staplevillagehall.com

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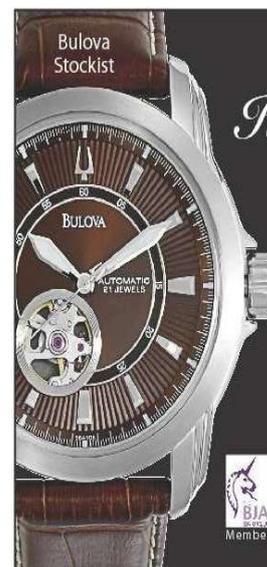
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