

Kilndown Village Newsletter

November 2023



FIELDS AND THEIR SECRETS
The King's Machine
an evening of Kent war film with PHILLIP DAY

Two Yorkshire lads go off to War,
one in a Spitfire, one in a Hurricane

Thrown into the Battle of Britain over Kent,
they face odds of up to six to one

AND SO IT BEGINS

WHERE: Village Hall, Kilndown
WHEN: Friday, 24th November 7:00 - 8:30pm
ADMISSION FREE!

Donations in aid of
Christ Church loo fund
Refreshments available

VILLAGE HALL & MILLENNIUM GREEN

Over the summer we had to remove three of the benches from the Green as they had deteriorated beyond repair. Wooden benches have a life of around 20 years, and since some of these were donated around the Millennium, they had reached the end of their use. So, we purchased a new bench, funded by donations from The Quilting Group, the Pop-up Pub subscriptions and the Millennium Green. We have attached the plaques from the old benches and see this as a bench to remember all Kilndown residents. If you would like to have a plaque made for a loved one who lived in the village, or would like to make a donation towards the purchase of future benches, please contact Tracy Roberts at tracy@kilndown.myzen.co.uk

Don't forget The Hub at the Village Hall, every Tuesday (not 16 & 26 December). Tea, coffee, and chat, from 2pm to 4pm. If you would like to join the team serving the teas, email alisonpaul@outlook.com

Kilndown Lighting Up! Friday 8th December from 6pm. Join us as we turn on the Christmas lights. Carol Singing around the Christmas tree, mulled wine & nibbles.



We hosted a Cake Sale on 29 September in aid of Macmillan and raised £241 for the cause. Thank you to all who donated/bought cakes. Running total for the ink cartridges we collect and send away to be recycled is standing at £60 for this year. Keep bringing them in to the Saturday Shop! We are always in need of jars, approx. 454g size, (preferably not honey jars – the labels are difficult to remove!) to make use of the wrinkled fruit and vegetables we sometimes get left with - they get made into pickles and preserves. The long-awaited refurbishment of the bus shelter area as you will have noticed has not yet happened.....IT WILL! It's just a case of getting the right volunteers together at the right time, the right weather and those people who say they are going to do something to actually do it! At present we are waiting on replacement timber for the shelter. As usual during November and December, a selection of hand made gifts will be on sale at the Saturday Shop. Hats, mittens, throws, stocking fillers, Christmas novelties and more, pop in and take a look. Shop open from 9am to 12 noon every Saturday. It will soon be time to run our Christmas Raffle, as usual only £1 a go, to win a hamper full of goodies. Thinking of Christmas, we shall be open on 24 December as Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year. Place your orders early!



Quilting Group. Our Sale of Work held on Sunday 22 October was well supported, mainly from those outside the village. We sold ten quilts ranging from full double bed size to a pram quilt, lots of odds and ends, remnants, tea and cake. A quilt is to be donated to Demelza House (Hospice Care for Children) and another will be raffled at the QC in aid of Christ Church Loo Fund. A donation of £500 has been made to the QC, earmarked towards 2024 insurance costs. The group have recently sold a quilt to an ex Kilndown resident, and she has commissioned another. At present a commission from a present Kilndown resident is being worked on, as well as several other projects large and small. There's room around the table for a few more stitchers, pop in on a Tuesday between 10am and noon and have a look at what we do!

If anyone has unwanted balls of wool, any thickness, these will be put to good use. Drop into the QC.

Community Lunch/Cupboard/Care fund

Lunch is held every Tuesday at St. Mary's, Goudhurst. Drop in between 11.30am – 1pm for a delicious bowl of homemade soup with bread and cheese, followed by a hot drink and something sweet. Children on school holidays are welcome too. Community Lunch is open to everyone in the Parish. There is no cost.

The Cupboard is available for anyone in need. Contact ali.williams@gkchurch.org in confidence to arrange a delivery/collection.

Care Fund provides financial assistance to individuals, couples or families through a grant system. 'Phone Becky at the Church Office – 01580 211739.



There was a good turn-out on 3 August for the talk Four Gardens in Rome (which was three in reality), but that did not matter as the audience was enthralled by the descriptions given by Caroline Halfpenny. Our next trip abroad was to the Galapagos Islands with John Ward with around a dozen people at the meeting on Thursday 7 September, when we were whisked off to the Galapagos Islands via the camera of John Ward. And we did see some 'photos of the Blue Footed Booby birds! This was the first in our 'home grown' evening talks, the cost and availability of good speakers is becoming an expensive and trying problem. At the next meeting on Thursday 5 October, Andy Garland (BBC Radio Kent Gardening Programme) presented an illustrated talk on Great Comp Gardens, where he is a Trustee. So appealing he made the gardens look, at least two of our members visited in the following week and are considering a season ticket for next year!

Our Autumn Show on 23 September was the best we've had for years, despite all the early mutterings about wind, rain, sun etc. We had first time entrants and at long last some changes of names in the trophy winning department! There were plenty of visitors to view the displays, including the massive marrows, and copious amounts of tea and cake were consumed during the afternoon.

The AGM is on Thursday 2 November, we really do need some fresh faces on the Committee, especially to help out behind the scenes on Show days. Next evening meeting is on Thursday 7 December, a Look at Life at Covent Garden Market and Beyond in the 1950's/60s. Dates for the Spring and Autumn Shows in 2024 are 30 March and 28 September. The schedule is in the process of being rewritten and slightly updated.



Special Residents' Christmas Event at Scotney Castle - Friday 15 December, 5-8pm (last entry 7.30pm)

Visit Scotney after hours and get the full Christmas experience with a special late night opening just for residents of Goudhurst, Kilndown and Lamberhurst. See the house illuminated, enjoy glittering trees, sparkling decorations and beautiful lights, explore the Victorian mansion decorated for a 1960s' Christmas, browse the shop for gorgeous gifts and Christmas homeware, and enjoy some tasty treats in the cosy tea-room. Admission is free and there's no need to book parking, but please take evidence of residency to show your eligibility.



A CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday 16th December 2023

7:00pm

Christ Church, Kilndown

Kilndown Community Choir

Tickets £10/£5 (under 18) including a drink

Tickets from Tina 01892 890426

Email: tinagallagher22@aol.com

www.kilndownchoir.org.uk



Friends of Kent Churches

Ride & Stride

Thank you so much to all those who so generously sponsored me on the Ride & Stride on Saturday 9th September. It was a blisteringly hot day, but I found a little breeze on some of the wooded lanes. I managed to visit 28 Churches and covered 57 miles. And -yes -my battery did run out - this time at the bottom of Trillinghurst Hill so not too far from home! It was good fun and I raised £1514 with your amazing generosity. Half of this goes to the Friends of Kent Churches to help maintain and repair Churches in Kent (we are hoping to benefit from this for the Christ Church loo!) and half will come back to Christ Church which again will be ear marked for the loo fund. Thank you again.

Tina Gallagher.

Diary Dates around the Parish

Saturday 4 November – Jumble Sale – Goudhurst Village Hall – 10am - 12 noon
Tuesday 7 November – G&K History Society – Palaces, Pots & Parks – Social Club – 7.30pm
Sunday 12 November – Remembrance Service – Christ Church – 10.45pm
Sunday November 12 – Junior Chess Club – Goudhurst Village Hall 2pm – 4pm
Wednesday 15 November – U3A – Christmas A Festive History – Goudhurst Village Hall -2.30pm
Friday 17 November – Fairwear, Good as New, Baby & Children’s Clothes – St Mary’s- 9am – 12 noon
Saturday 18 November – Autumn Fair (Catholic Church) – Goudhurst Village Hall – 9.30am – 12 noon
Saturday November 25 – Memorial Service – Anthony Farnfield – St Mary’s – 3pm
Saturday 2 December – Goudhurst Christmas Fair- around the village – 12noon – 7pm
Sunday 10 December – Junior Chess Club – Goudhurst Village Hall – 2pm -4pm

CHRIST CHURCH FLOWERS

Our list of volunteers to ‘do the flowers’ is rather sparse. Christmas is coming and we’d like to have a good display to celebrate the day. Have a go! Ask Angie or Lynda for details of where and when and what to do. We do still have an amount of money available for the purchase of flowers if need be.



This postcard came to light amongst David D's odds & ends. It is blank, postage to send at time was ½ d Inland and 1d Foreign (postcards used to be cheaper to send). It is after 1860, given the position of the organ. The painted decorations and texts on the walls are clear to see. On close inspection, vases of flowers can be seen on top of the screen, there is a wreath suspended over the doors to the chancel, and clusters of what look like laurel leaves are hanging from the candlesticks. There is no clue as to what occasion the floral decorations were for and how were those vases were attached on the screen?

Looking Back

Apologies for this being 'the wrong way round' and for chopping one chap in half!



Kilndown Branch Royal British Legion Christmas Party – probably 1958/59.

Held in the Village Hall – Children from outlying areas were collected by coach (most probably Avars from Lamberhurst). Jelly and Ice Cream in waxed paper bowls and a present for all!

Most of those pictured have been identified, some are sadly no longer with us, some living in far flung places, some around the British Isles and some not too far away.

