

# SANDHURST Village Magazine



Published by St Nicholas Church

December 2014 **50p**



## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS



## “Advent”

Where does the time go? I know it's a cliché, something that people always say, but the older I get the quicker time seems to pass by! And here we are at the start of Advent once more, and so Christmas is just around the corner.

Are you ready for it this year; Christmas, that is? We know exactly when it is; it never moves in the calendar; yet it still seems to catch us out every year. Never enough time to do all the preparation: to get the extra food - always too much; the extra drink in - that bottle of sweet sherry for dear Aunt Rose...that you'll never drink yourself! Off to the "nativity", the Carol service, the Crib service, midnight Communion. The presents to get and wrap, the cards to write and send; the decorations to put up; the tree to bring home and put in place - having moved your furniture around the room to make space for it; getting the lights out for the tree - testing them to see if they still work! "Whose parents are we going to this year?" or "Whose are coming to us?" The sock to put out at the bottom of the bed. Waiting for the children to go to sleep. The excitement of waking up in the morning - the morning that comes so, so slowly if you're young and far too quickly if you're of more advanced years! So many things to think about and plan; not forgetting the expense of it all! So, are you looking forward to Christmas this year; are you ready for it this year?

And what about "the little baby in the manger"; will he get a look in this year? Will he be an important part of your Christmas, or will he be ignored completely? Will he be relegated to just another part of Christmas.....perhaps even an insignificant part of Christmas in all the busyness? That is one aspect of what Advent is about. Advent is about not forgetting; it is about being ready for the coming of the baby Jesus this year, so that he doesn't get relegated to a bit-part player this time.

The other aspect of Advent is being ready for Christ returning again - as he promised he would one day. If that happened tomorrow, would you/would I be ready? The honest answer, for me at any rate, would have to be "no". If you knew the Queen was going to visit your house tomorrow, you'd make sure it was clean - top to bottom - wouldn't you? There'd be no dirty mugs waiting to be washed; no dirty laundry lying around; everything would be clean, sorted, and in its right place. But what about our lives, if Christ was visiting tomorrow; would you be ready? Advent is a time to set aside to do something about being "ready" - as best we can; a time when we can look at what we are really like; at how we really behave with others; a time when we can recognise the parts of us that are real, that are the true self.....but we hope others won't see. It is a time when we can look for the unclean things in our life, and get on with cleaning it up. Finding those dirty mugs in our lives, washing them up, and putting them away.....clean, sorted and ready for the important visitor.

*Amongst all the busyness of the excitement, the planning and the organisation for Christmas, please try to find some time this Advent to be ready to meet with the meaning of Christ-mas.*

Revd. David Commander  
Rector  
Benefice of Benenden and Sandhurst

## DIARY DATES



### December

#### Thursday 4th 10.45am

Coffee Morning in aid of Hospice in the Weald at Sandhurst Baptist Church

#### Friday 5th 3.30 - 7.30pm

Sandhurst Primary School Christmas Market Night

#### Monday 8th 7.30pm

Benenden Memorial Hall  
Getting the Message

#### Sunday 10th 10.00am

Patrol Service at St Nicholas. 'St. Nicholas' will ride up and distribute sweets after the Service.

#### Thursday 18th at 7pm

Carols on the Green

#### Saturday 20th 6.30pm

Cranbrook Choral and Sinfonia, conductor Jeffrey Gray. A Concert for Christmas for all the Family

#### Sunday 21st at 6.30pm

Carol Service at St Nicholas

#### Tuesday Christmas Eve 3pm

Crib Service at St Nicholas Church

### 2015

February/March Nearly New sale in the Mission Church.

### CAB

The "Advice Bus" is parked in Back Road on a Wednesday 1.30 - 2.30pm

*Please let us know if you want a Diary Date included - see back page*



Christmas Greetings to all our readers!

## Editorial

It's the season of goodwill so can all the dog walkers on the recreation grounds and elsewhere, keep their dogs under control. We have had reports of young children being terrorised by out of control dogs, which is not acceptable behaviour either by dogs or people!

On a lighter note, congratulations to Olivia Page for making it to the finals of the "Love Where you Live Awards".

Bon Voyage to Linda and Elwyn Baker who are emigrating to Australia to be with their sons and grandchildren. They will be greatly missed.

We wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and New Year.

*Shelagh Farrington*

*Elizabeth Cutchey*

*Shelagh: 01580 850133 shelagh@theoldtavern.com*

*Elizabeth: 01580 850607 elizabeth.cutchey@btinternet.com*

**Please send copy for the JANUARY magazine by MONDAY 15th December**

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Advertising and Distribution: Ian Meier, Prince of Wales Cottage, 40 Maytham Road,  
Rolvenden Layne, Kent TN17 4NP Tel: 01580 240228 Email: ianmeier@btinternet.com  
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## From the "Visitor's Book"

Imagine the scene a sunny but breezy afternoon in the churchyard a man perched on a grave stone sketching the church tower from the west, nearby his son playing football with the family dog. Well St. Nicholas sees many artists coming to draw and paint our beautiful views but this man was different he was none other than Ptolemy Dean the well-known architect, who lives locally, probably made famous by his views and advice given to Griff Rhys-Jones during the BBC television series "Restoration" several years ago.

A couple of years ago I had the pleasure of showing Ptolemy around St. Nicholas Church when the PCC were interviewing for a new architect for the church it was a most interesting couple of hours with Ptolemy pointing out evidence of long gone wall paintings near the chancel. Unfortunately Ptolemy withdrew from the selection process due to the pressure of work he said but we now know that others with more influence than your PCC had designs on his time and talents! Ptolemy, we understand, was summoned for a weekend at Balmoral and we later learned that Her Majesty the Queen had appointed him "Surveyor of the Fabric" at Westminster Abbey; Her Majesty's gain and our loss no doubt.

Ptolemy's son wrote in the visitor's book a charming comment for a 10 year old: "9/11/14 - Tobias Dean aged 10 - Wadhurst - Daddy member of Westminster Abbey. I love this church and we loved the wildlife" *Bob Houlden*

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## Carols on the Green

7.00pm Thursday 18th December 2014  
Upper Green Sandhurst


Led by the Salvation Army, and by the light of the Christmas Tree  
(and torches!) Join in singing your favourite carols  
Mulled wine & Mince Pies to follow  
If the weather is bad, we will be in the Mission Church

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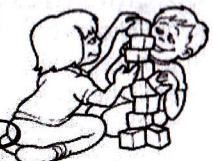
## Mission Possible

A combined-churches Youth Club has just started up, for youngsters from 11-16 years of age. This is a venture between the parishes of Benenden & Sandhurst, Frittenden & Sissinghurst, and Cranbrook. It will run fortnightly, from 4.00-5:30pm on a Sunday, and rotate around the parishes. December's meeting is on the 14th December at Sissinghurst church hall. (Dates and venues for the New Year will be advised in the next village magazine.)


For more information please contact Revd David Commander on:  
01580 240658 or david@dc-uk.co.uk



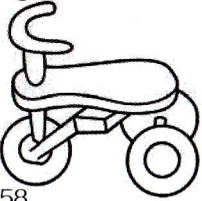
# Drop-in Café with Toddler Group



From the 5th November we will be running a Drop-in Café with a Toddler Group at the Mission Church in Back Road. It will run from 9am to 11am. Once you've dropped older children off at the school, why not come in for a coffee and a chat.



Bringing a toddler isn't compulsory, but if you've got little ones bring them along to have a play. If you're of a "slightly older age", then feel free to drop in for a chat too.



**Every Wednesday  
(in term time)**

Want any more information?  
Contact Revd David Commander  
(Rector, St. Nicholas Church) T: 01580 240658  
E: david@dc-uk.co.uk

## The Military Wives and Kent Police Male Voice Choir

It was lovely to see St Nicholas Church so full for this performance. The Choirs lived up to their reputations and offered a very mixed repertoire. We hope they will make a return visit as they were most impressed with the church. Many of the choir members had travelled a considerable distance to entertain us. Thanks to Maureen for the teas, Bob for the organisation and Anne and Sharon for the beautiful flowers. *More details next month*

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## Crime Report

The evenings are now noticeably darker as we approach Christmas and New Year. It has been a time to slow down on the garden and put things away for another year. Perhaps if this is already the case, or in the process of doing so, take a little time to check the security of the outbuilding and its contents. What property is being put away that is high value? Should it go missing could you give an adequate description with any serial numbers available? All aspects of home security should be evaluated especially as Christmas approaches. At this time of year we are all starting to think about presents, keeping extra cash and stocking up for the festive season ahead. Make sure that it is you and your loved ones who will enjoy this time and not somebody unknown!

*Merry Christmas to all our Readers.*  
*PCSO Rob Spicer*

## Burglars mess with your head not just your home

Kent Police is asking residents to take simple measures to protect themselves from becoming a victim of burglary.

Overall the force has seen a positive decrease in this type of crime, but statistics show that the number of reports can increase during the autumn months.

Most burglaries happen during daylight hours, with offences often peaking at about 11am, so while you're hard at work, burglars are too. Most burglars are opportunists, which means it is important to ensure the security measures taken at night are also taken before you leave home in the morning.

From experience, the police know burglary can leave victims feeling scared and anxious long after the crime has been committed.

To help reduce the risk of becoming a burglary victim officers are asking residents to work with them by following these key principles:

### Light it

- Light dark or hidden entrances with low wattage security lighting
- Use timer switches to turn on lights/radio – invest in a 24-hour segment timer for under £5. Remember to use an energy efficient light bulb

### Lock it

- Keep your front and back windows and doors locked (double lock uPVC)
- Keep side gates locked – burglars often break into homes from the garden where they have less chance of being seen
- If bins are emptied before you leave for work return them to your garden – they can be used as climbing aids if left on display
- Instead use bins as obstructions in side entrances
- Trim high hedging/plant growth – they could provide cover for a burglar
- Secure your garage and shed – items inside can be just as tempting and can even be used to break in
- If you get the train ensure your car is locked, windows are closed and keys are not left on display through windows
- Don't keep large amounts of money or jewellery at home. If you have to, use a safe that is stored out of sight and fixed to a solid floor

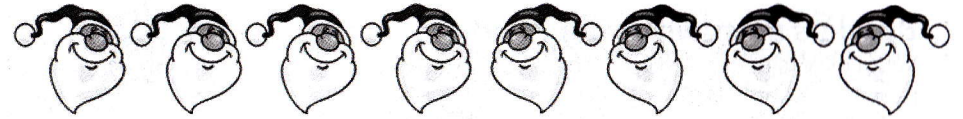
### List it

All valuable items should be registered for free on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) – logging details helps police to return them to you if they are found or seized.

These include:

- Expensive jewellery and antiques
- Bicycles
- Laptops, desktop computers and tablets
- Mobile phones and MP3 players
- Home entertainment systems including TVs and games consoles

*If you would like to find out more about protecting your property, visit [www.kent.police.uk/burglary](http://www.kent.police.uk/burglary)*



## The Mayor of Tunbridge Wells Christmas Toy Appeal

The Toy Appeal helps local families living in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells whose circumstances (whether temporary or permanent) limit their ability to buy gifts for their children at Christmas. The children are referred to the Appeal by health visitors, social workers, family support workers and other charitable organisations. Each child receives about 3 presents each and the feedback from parents and carers last year was incredibly positive.

Last year 267 children were referred to the Appeal and we are expecting numbers to increase this year. The way it works is that between Saturday 15 November and Saturday 13 December there will be large decorated boxes displayed in many collection points in and around the town, including Paddock Wood, Cranbrook and other various locations within and around Tunbridge Wells and some venues will feature Christmas trees with tags that offer ideas for suitable gifts within a specific age range. We then hope that people will donate new or unused toys and deposit them at these collection points, (Weald Information Centre Cranbrook and Weald Sports Centre Cranbrook) where they are collected and distributed by volunteers working in rooms donated by The Big Yellow Self Storage. *The Mayor's Toy Appeal was started by Cllr Arthur Sayer with St George's Community Children's Project in 1989 and continues to thrive under the organisation of Pam Bridges and her small army of volunteers, with great support from the Mayor's Office and St George's.*



### "Crib Service"

This will be in St. Nicholas Church at 3:00pm on Christmas Eve. Please encourage any children to come dressed for the nativity story: Angels, Wise Men, Marys, Josephs, shepherds, sheep, donkeys, camels, stars etc. (Adults are welcome to enter into it too!)

## Sandhurst Nursery School

Our AGM was held in November and the Trustee Management Team remains strong with Charles Newton as Chairperson, Peter Edgesmith as Secretary and Laura Ridler as Treasurer. We are all looking forward to our 40th anniversary celebrations next year so watch this space for events if you wish to attend.

We are currently organising our nursery children's Christmas celebrations and activities and the term ends on Friday 19th December. The nursery will be closed until Monday 3rd January 2015.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year!

*Angela Writer - On behalf of Sandhurst Nursery School*



## Sandhurst and Newenden WI

Our President Jean Relf gave us a very good, enjoyable talk and demonstration on flower arranging, Jean showed us how to make a few flowers go a long way to make a beautiful arrangement. It was much enjoyed by all. Sadly, but rightly, it has been agreed by members that our WI should close. Thus, Christine Black, Sandhurst and Newenden WI's advisor, will be attending for a Special Meeting which will take place before the start of the Christmas Party, our next meeting on 10th December 7.30pm. In order for the closure to be valid, in the eyes of the WI, 3/4 of the members must attend and vote. We all said our final goodbyes to our dear friend ex-President and Treasurer Linda Baker, as she and Elwyn finally leave for a new life in Australia on 18th November. Linda will be much missed both in the WI but also the village. We all wish them well.

*Don't forget to dress in your finery and bring a plate of food for the Christmas party.*

*Anne Tylden-Wright*



## Sandhurst Friendship Club

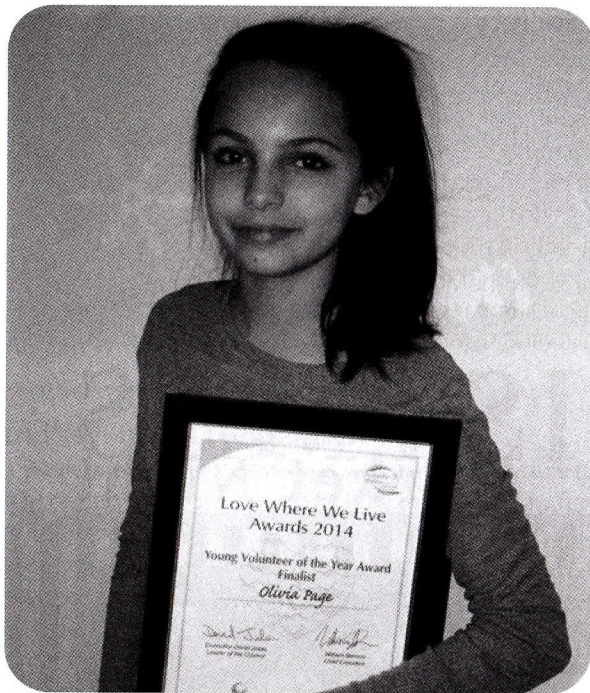
We were delighted to welcome back for the third time, Richard Filmer, to talk to the members of the Friendship Club. His talk about the materials used in the traditional buildings of Kent & Sussex was fascinating. Richard speaks fluently with out notes and has an enormous wealth of knowledge and wonderful slides. We learnt about timber frames, tiling, thatching, split stone roof tiles, weatherboarding and mathematical tiles and many other types of construction and from his photographs we realised that we pass, every day, buildings that are not as they seem! Altogether a wonderful talk followed as always by a great tea. My thanks again to the committee for making the sandwiches and to the members who baked cakes.

**Next Meeting: Christmas Lunch, 12.30 pm at Merriments on 19th December.**

**NB There will be no meeting in February but there will be the AGM on 9th January, 2.30 pm in Old School with a talk by TWBC on Scams.**

*Rosie Broadbent 850433*

A festive poster for a Christmas Market Night at Sandhurst Primary School. The top section features the school's logo (a windmill) and the text 'SANDHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL' next to a large, decorated Christmas pudding. Below this, the title 'CHRISTMAS Market Night' is written in a large, stylized font. The main body of the poster is framed by vertical black and white stripes. On the left, a grey box with a dashed border contains the text 'Come and join the FESTIVE FUN at SANDHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL' and a list of activities: 'fun includes... CHRISTMAS PARADE from the green at 4.30pm, ICE RINK, SANTA'S GROTTO, FESTIVE FOOD, CRAFT STALLS'. On the right, another grey box with a dashed border says 'GET YA SKATES ON' with an illustration of ice skates and the text 'Tickets selling fast to book call: 07720286975'. Below this is a white box with 'ICE RINK' and a large graphic of a price tag that says '3:30 7:30 FRIDAY 5th DECEMBER'. At the bottom right, a logo for 'SPONSORED BY: Knight Frank' is visible.



☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

### Olivia 'Love Where You Live' Finalist

13 year old Olivia Page was a finalist in the Young Fund Raiser Category of the "Love Where you live Awards". Olivia raises funds for CLIC Sargent and Breast Cancer Awareness charities. This is Olivia's first year in the competition, but will enter again next year and we wish her every success. Well done Olivia.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

#### Life in the fast lane

The Christmas cards were in the shops  
 Before they had harvested all the hops  
 Why has life speeded up so much  
 Or is it that I have slowed down a touch?  
 However press on and try and keep up  
 Don't take the alternative and just give up!!  
 Midge



### The Civic Amenity Refuse Lorry

Saturday December 13th

NOTE: Due to the Christmas and New Year holidays this is the only visit for December.

Sandhurst:	09.05 - 09.35 am	Back Road
08.00 - 8.25 am	Lomas Lane	09.40 - 10.20 am Tanyard
08.30 - 09.00 am	Ringle Green	10.25 - 11.00 am Sandhurst Close

### Sandhurst Horticultural Society

Bats in the belfry or perhaps that's just me! Our talk this month was given by John Hammond on the subject of bats. This proved to be interesting and surprising in the number of species of this, the only flying mammal in Britain, and how many are resident in our corner of the country, including the Pipistrelle and Noctule. Being nocturnal most of us do not see them often. Their appearance differs greatly in the size of ears and facial features, which depends on their life style and preferred diet, but most consume insects. We were also shown pictures of foreign bats, including the vampires with their adaptations for consuming blood.



#### Competition Winners this month:

**Chairmans challenge:** *The biggest Pumpkin 21.5lb.* Valerie Lamprey.  
*A decorated Pumpkin* Ros Maggs. **Class 1:** Jenny Rummery. **Class 2:** No Entries.  
**Class 3:** Jenny Rummery. **Class 4:** Brian Woodcock.

**December:** Annual General Meeting and Presentation of Competition Trophies.  
 John Everett

### Tips from the Garden Shed

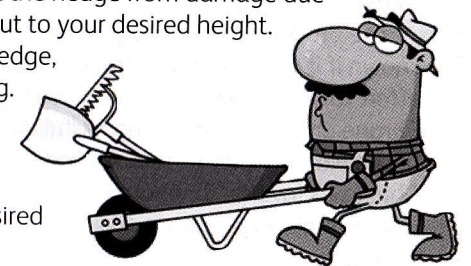
#### ❁ December

DECIDUOUS HEDGES – are yours gaining in width every year?

Without realising most hedges manage to become wider every year, taking up more space and becoming difficult to trim. Winter, while the plants are dormant is an excellent opportunity to reduce an older established hedge by cutting back each side, even if this means cutting into old wood, leaving the width narrower at the top than the bottom. Tapering in this way will protect the hedge from damage due to heavy snowfalls. Finally, the top can be cut to your desired height.

Winter is an excellent time to plant a new hedge, leaving it to establish a good root system, eg. two years, before beginning to trim and shape in the manner outlined. Regular trimming, perhaps twice each year, will produce new shoots helping to form the desired thick and wedge-shaped hedge

John Everett

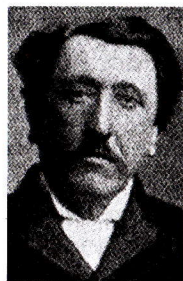


### Hall Rental

If you wish to rent the Old School Hall for a special function or a regular class, please contact Wendy Grayburn [clerk@sandhurstparishco.uk](mailto:clerk@sandhurstparishco.uk) or call 01580 850295

## What Child Is This?

The son of a surgeon, William Chatterton Dix was an insurance executive whose fame largely rests with his contributions to the Christmas carol repertoire. Born in 1837 in Bristol, England, he was bequeathed the middle name of Chatterton in honor of Thomas Chatterton, a poet whose biography was penned by his father. Although the better part of his professional life involved marine insurance, Dix always nurtured a great love for poetry and hymns.



His interest in both was accentuated at the age of twenty-nine when a near fatal illness and severe depression confined him to bed for months. It was during this period when Dix wrote most of the forty hymns credited to him, including As With Gladness Men of Old and more notably his carol gem What Child Is This?

The lyrics for What Child Is This? were initially part of The Manager Throne, a six-stanza poem penned by Dix. The insurance manager later took three of its stanzas and adapted them to the popular 16th-century tune of Greensleeves. In 1871 both text and tune, the latter arranged by the well-respected John Stainer, were published in Bramley & Stainer's Christmas Carols, New and Old, a widely circulated compilation.

The beautiful Greensleeves folk melody dates from Elizabethan times, perhaps even earlier, and reputedly it had less respectable lyrics sung to it in several settings. One of the earliest references to it was in 1580, and it was twice mentioned in Shakespeare's comedy play, The Merry Wives of Windsor. In the 1642 New Christmas Carols black-letter edition, a variant tune of Greensleeves was used in the carol The Old Year Now Away Is Fled. Strains of the melody were also heard in John Gay's 1728 satirical ballad opera, The Beggar's Opera.

The providence of history is such that Greensleeves might be less well known if it were not for a strange illness that befell William Chatterton Dix. His effort to string religious pearls from the tune and his lengthy The Manger Throne ultimately prove successful. And because of his reverential treatment of the Nativity theme, the beloved What Child Is This? has become a perennial Christmas favorite for churches, concert halls, and carolers at home.

© Ronald M. Clancy

[www.christmasclassics.com](http://www.christmasclassics.com)

## Interesting Information

This month I am submitting something more seasonal with another Christmas Carol Story. However, also in the spirit of goodwill, I have been informed that if you make a purchase at Budgen's they will register your car details for parking before you go to the Kino.

*All good wishes for a happy holiday season from your travel reporter. Gillian Davis*

## Sandhurst Parish Council News

### Village Survey

589 surveys were delivered to households throughout the village. We have had a response of approximately 25% which is thought by our advisor to be pretty good. The survey answers are now being collated and analysed and will be reported to the Parish Council on 25th November for discussion. A full report from the survey chairman, Christopher Robinson, will be in The January edition of this magazine.

### Clock Tower

The clock tower renovations are now complete with new lighting in all four faces. It looks wonderful and we have had a lots of comments of appreciation of the work done over this summer

### Old School Hall

The parish Council is keenly aware of its responsibility to maintain the fabric of The Old School.

As previously reported we have successfully been awarded a grant from Awards for All to paint the interior of the Hall and to refurbish the Courtyard. The interior painting work has started and we would like to thank all the users of the Hall for their patience.

The project to lay artificial grass in the courtyard will start, we hope in late November and be completed by Christmas. This will create a clean, tidy and safe area for all hirers but especially for Children's Parties.

The Old School is available for Hire on an hourly or session rate  
Please contact: The Clerk Tel No 01580 850295 or email the [clerk@sandhurstparish.co.uk](mailto:clerk@sandhurstparish.co.uk)

### Playing Fields

A second application to Sports Lottery funding for a grant to upgrade the sports pavilion has been sent.

### Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

It is likely that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council will want to charge a possible £1800 per annum to the Parish Council for the Amenity Lorry service to our village. Our Chairman Terry Hannocks and Borough Councillor Sean Holden have protested against this. A decision will be made soon and we fear that this will have an impact on our precept level.

The meeting of the Parish Council to set our precept will be held on Tuesday 16th December at 7pm.

All Parish Council Meetings are open to the public and held in The Old School Hall. Dates and minutes are published on the Village Notice Boards and on the web site.

Next Parish Council Meeting is Tuesday 9th December 2014 at 8 pm.

## TSCW Trust

The Tenterden Schools Christian Worker Trust (TSCWT) has been in existence for nearly 3 years now and I have been employed for slightly less than that. The purpose of the trust was to provide a worker in Homewood School, full time, to work in a number of areas including Assemblies, Mentoring, Focus Days, ERS (Ethical and Religious Studies) and support for Christian staff and students. The original funding was for 3 years which came from Churches and Individuals in Tenterden and surrounding areas as well as a significant sum from the old Tenterden Deanery. Thank you to both Benenden and Sandhurst church's for their support in this work. As we have sought over the past 6 months, and continue to do so, to find funding to continue this good work in Homewood and beyond it has allowed us to reflect on the things we have achieved and the doors that have opened for us.

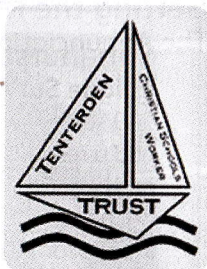
Ministering in a school environment is a privilege - with 2300 students on-site and over 250 staff, opportunities for working with different groups in different ways have been exciting. I have been involved in mentoring students individually over periods of time who have been through tough times at home or in school; I have been working with the ERS team to engage students anew in this subject, and we have seen numbers taking the subject at GCSE and A level rise; planning our assemblies across the year has enabled me to ensure we are giving students time to think and reflect, in a busy school environment; running our programme of services at Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas and Easter for the school has made it possible to re-imagine what church may look like to a teenager.

Over the past 2 years we have also been looking at how we can minister in the primary schools in Homewood's catchment area. Last year we had 53 schools send students to Homewood, and whilst it isn't possible to have a presence in all these schools we can work with local people and churches to support their work; I have done so in Benenden and Sandhurst primary schools. In June and July 2014 I visited 16 primary schools speaking to over 400 Year 6 students about the transition to secondary school. This was a great opportunity to engage early with students coming to Homewood but also to support those who may be going to another school.

Our hope and prayer is that the work of the Trust will continue to grow both in Homewood and further and deeper into the primary schools surrounding it. We have been fortunate to receive a grant from the Diocese of Canterbury of £21,000 over the next 3 years which has provided the cornerstone for us to continue. However we value more than ever individuals and churches coming alongside us and praying for the Trust as well as giving financially if they feel able to.

For more information do see our website [www.tscwtrust.org](http://www.tscwtrust.org) or email Nathan [nathan@tscwtrust.org](mailto:nathan@tscwtrust.org)

Nathan Wilson  
Homewood Christian Schools Worker  
November 2014



## Getting the Message

### The Annunciation in words and pictures

Throughout the centuries the story of the Annunciation has been a rich source of inspiration for artists of many traditions, including contemporary artists from very different cultures. Some of their paintings are very familiar to us; others we may not have come across before, and we may find them surprising, even disturbing.

St Luke's account of the Annunciation, of the angel appearing to Mary with a very surprising message, consists almost entirely of dialogue, just the angel speaking to Mary, and Mary's reply, with no description of where the event took place, or what Mary was doing at the time. This leaves us free to imagine the event in our own way, and for our own reasons – and this is what these artists have done. These are not just paintings, they are attempts by artists to understand, and help others to understand; to tell the story in a way that brings new insights and ways of seeing.

We shall be looking at these paintings not only to enjoy them for their own sake, as works of art, but also to consider how they can help us to discover how God might speak to us.

*Please come and join us at the Memorial Hall, Benenden at 7.30pm 8th December.*



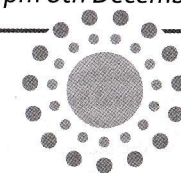
### Church floodlighting.

#### The Church was floodlit in November on:

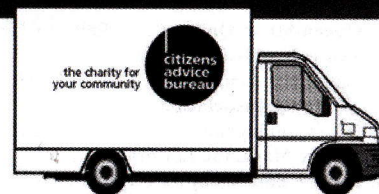
- 5th November** In memory of Annie Brimm
- 11th November** Armistice Day
- 12th November** Debbie Ham in memory of Sylvia Jarman on her birthday
- 15th November** Military Wives Concert
- 19th November** Gillian Davies celebrating 18 years at St. Nicholas Cottage

**St Nicholas will be flood lit** over the Christmas Festivities from Sunday 22nd December- Wednesday 1st January 2014 inclusive.

*If anyone would like to sponsor one or more evenings to mark something special please contact either Bob Houlden 850278 or Anne Tylden-Wright 850281.*



## For free, confidential and independent advice



Visit the TW CAB 'Advice Bus'  
Back Road, Sandhurst  
Wednesdays 1.30-2.30  
**Appointments available:**  
**01892 617256**



## REGULAR ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS

**Every Monday 9-11am Zumba**  
Old School-Jason Broome jason@1066fitness.com  
Dionne 07990 737924

**Every Monday 2-5pm Friendly Bridge Club**  
Mission Church-nfbc@sky.com  
Eve Willard 01797 253431

**Every Monday 7-9pm Line Dancing**  
Old School-Ruth Young 01580 850637

**2nd Tuesday of month 7.30pm (Planning)**

**8pm Parish Council Meeting** - Old School Hall  
Parish Clerk: Wendy Grayburn 01580 850295  
www.sandhurstpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

**3rd Tuesday of month 8pm Book Group**  
Members' Houses Valerie Lamprey 01580 850336

**4th Tuesday of month 2pm Ladies Meeting**  
Sandhurst Baptist Church-  
Liz Slater 01580 850446

**Every Tuesday 9.30-10.30am**  
50+ keep fit class @Old School.  
Kim Wheeler 01892 782623  
Kimwheelerpft@gmail.com

**Every Tuesday 12.30-3.05pm Mobile Library**  
Sandhurst Cross, Sandhurst Close 12.30-12.45.  
Tanyard 1.55-2.10.  
Old School Back Road 2.15-2.40.  
Linkhill, Lomas Lane 2.50-3.05

**1st Wednesday of month 8pm**  
**Horticultural Society** Old School -  
Margaret Woodcock 01580 851006

**2nd Wednesday of month 7pm WI**  
Old School-Mary Golding 01580 850755

Every Wednesday 9.30-10.30am  
**Tai Chi Fundamentals** Old School-  
Brian Saxton 01892 545673 Energyworks-uk.com  
Please phone before attending

**1st Thursday of month 10.45am**  
**Coffee Morning** Sandhurst Baptist Church -  
Ken Slater 01580 850446

**2nd Thursday of month 12 noon**  
**Purpose Plate Lunch**  
Sandhurst Baptist Church - Booking needed  
Ken or Liz Slater 01580 850446

**Every Thursday 7.30pm Fitness Class**  
Mark Tozer 07734 425602

**Every Thursday 9.30am (Ladies) 7.30pm (All)**  
**Bible Study** Sandhurst Baptist Church  
Ken Slater 01580 850446

**Every Thursday 1.30 -2.30pm**  
**Citizens Advice Bus** Back Lane

**Every Thursday 3.15-5.15pm (term time)**  
**Children's Dance** Old School-  
Jane Coleman School of Dance 01435 882687

**1st Friday 2.30pm Friendship Club**  
Old School Rosie Broadbent 01580 850433  
rosiebroadbent@btinternet.com

**Every Friday 9.30-10.30am Adult Ballet Class**  
Old School-  
Gillian Davis 01580 850384  
Jane Coleman (winter) 01435 882687

**Every Friday 8.30pm Prayer Meeting**  
Sandhurst Baptist Church-  
Ken Slater 01580 850446

**Every Saturday 9.30-11.30am (term time)**  
**6 -16yrs Football** Playing Fields-  
Ken Slater 01580 850446

**Every Saturday 9.30am (term time)**  
**Ladies Netball from 13+ Primary School-**  
Liz Slater 01580 850446  
Vicki Young 07976 979053

**Weald Beekeeping Group**  
Nick Mengem 01233 840660

**Borough Councillors**  
**(Hawkhurst & Sandhurst Ward)**  
Cllr Nathan Gray 01580 850929  
nathan.gray@tunbridgewells.gov.uk  
Cllr B Palmer 01580 754309  
Beverley.palmer@tunbridgewells.gov.uk  
Cllr RJ Weeden 01580 753458  
Ronald.weeden@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

**County Cllr** Sean Holden 01580 714880  
seanholden@kent.gov.uk

**Community Safety Manager**  
Steve Whitehead 01892 554224 ext 3324  
E:Stephen.whitehead@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

**Brownies** Jackie Powell 01580 753202

**Cricket Club** Brian Feaver 01580 752448

**Football Club** Sandra Kerry 01580 850377

**KCC Footpaths** Faultline 0845 3450210

**Home Library Service**  
Cranbrook Library 01580 712463

**Museums & Local Archives**  
Cranbrook Museum www.cranbrookmuseum.org

**Nursery School** Jan Little 01580 850969  
Old School Bookings  
Wendy Greyburn 01580 850295  
or clerk@sandhurstparish.co.uk

**Papercraft Classes** Lesley Gillett 01580 850649

**Primary School** Peter Edgesmith 01580 850288  
**(Parents & Friends Group)**  
(Headmaster)

**Queen Street Quilters** Jean Relf 01580 850563

**Red Cross Medical Loans**  
Cranbrook Centre 0800 0280831

**Twinning Association**  
John Cunningham 01580 850929

**Village Magazine Editors**  
Shelagh Farrington 01580 850133  
Elizabeth Cutchey 01580 850607



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[johnsonofsandhurst@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnsonofsandhurst@hotmail.co.uk) Fresh local produce, in-store bakery & hot food to go, (telephone orders welcome), newspapers/magazines, fresh coffee, Post Office, Lottery, phone top-ups, extensive range of chilled wines and beers, DVDs, Open daily 6.30am to 9.00pm

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## ST NICHOLAS CHURCH SANDHURST

### LOCAL ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP (Anglican/Methodist)

**Rector:** Reverend David Commander, The Rectory, The Green, Benenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4DL Tel: 01580 240658 Mob: 07710 4169978 Email: david@dc-uk.co.uk  
Anne Tylden - Wright, Barefield, Church Road 01580 850281

**Churchwardens:** Bob Houlden, the Old Parsonage, Church Road 01580 850278

**Reader:** Barry Smallman, Beacon Lodge, Benenden 01580 240625

**ALM Worship Leader:** Lyn Hayes, The Old Post Office, Rye Road 01580 850201

**PCC Secretary:** Alison Carter, Sponden Oast, Sponden Lane 01580 850163

**PCC Treasurer:** Tony Farrington, The Old Tavern, Bodiham Road 01580 850133

**Gift Aid Secretary:** Ann Macoun, 3 Oaks Forstal 01580 850428

**Captain of Bellingrings:** Richard Cutchey, Downgate Cott., Rye Road 01580 850607

**Sandhurst Baptist Church:** Pastor: Mr Ken Slater, 1 Brookfield. Tel. 01580 850446

**Catholic Church:** Fr. Barry Grant, St Theodore's, Cranbrook. Tel: 01580 713364

#### ST NICHOLAS SERVICES:

<b>Tue 2nd Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
<b>Sun 7th Dec</b>	<b>Advent 2 – St. Nicholas Day</b> 8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Morning Service (Visit of "St. Nicholas" on horseback to the Church)	Rev David Commander Rev David Commander
<b>Tue 9th Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Commander
<b>Wed 10th Dec</b>	3:30pm Claremont School Carol Service	Rev Dick Dengate
<b>Sun 14th Dec</b>	<b>Advent 3</b> 10am Morning Service 5pm Evening Prayer (Mission Church)	Rev David Commander David Harmsworth
<b>Tue 16th Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
<b>Thur 18th Dec</b>	7pm "Carols on the Green" - Upper Green	
<b>Fri 19th Dec</b>	10:30am Sandhurst Primary School Carol Service at St Nicholas Church	
<b>Sun 21st Dec</b>	<b>Advent 4</b> 8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Morning Service 6:30pm Carol Service	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Rev David Commander
<b>Tue 23rd Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Commander
<b>Wed 24th Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b> 3pm Crib Service 11:30pm Midnight Communion	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
<b>Thur 25th Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b> 9am Holy Communion (Mission Church) 10am Family Service	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen

**Mission Church (Back Road):** Holy Communion (BCP) Every Tuesday at 10:00am.

**Baptisms and Wedding enquiries:** Contact the Rector or the Churchwardens  
Bob.houlden@btinternet.com or tyldenwright@btinternet.com