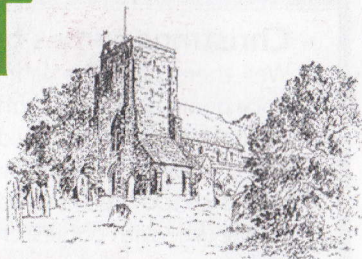


# SANDHURST Village. Magazine



Published by St Nicholas Church

December 2015 **50p**



Happy Christmas from children  
at Sandhurst Primary School

## Christmas comes but once a year

Well, there's another year flown by! As you read this we will be in Advent once again and looking ahead to Christmas only three weeks away. For most that will mean:- holiday off work; it will be a time when we spend too much; when we see distant family; when we eat and drink too much; when we watch too much television. For most it is a lovely time of year: a real family time with babies, children, parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts and uncles all getting together for family time. It is something to look forward to – apart from the hard work and preparation that has to be put into it.

There's a little ditty that goes: "Christmas comes but once a year to everyone's delight." Some versions also include the line, "Bringing lots of joy and cheer." And, of course, to many folk it does bring joy and cheer, and is a delight. If you are fortunate enough to be in that camp, then continue to enjoy the celebrations of Christmas this year. But please also spare a thought for those for whom this Christmas will not be joyful, cheerful or delightful. Be aware of a friend, neighbour or relative for whom this will be a hard time, either because of an anniversary that brings unwanted emotions to the surface, or because they are without someone they love for the very first time. The joy and delight that everyone else shows just emphasises the emptiness that some experience. Be a good neighbour or friend to someone this Christmas and be aware that Christmas coming once a year is not to everyone's delight.

When you read this you will probably already be fed up with Christmas songs being played in almost every shop you go into; you're probably already fed up with watching the John Lewis television Christmas advert (other Christmas adverts are available). It is all too easy, in this consumerist society, to get swept along with all the jingles, hype and marketing of a "commercial" Christmas and forget about the actual meaning of Christmas. Christmas is the time when we remember and celebrate God – Jesus – coming to earth; born as a tiny baby – just as each one of us started off in this world. God came down to earth; that is what Christmas is about. Don't let the marketing hype hide the meaning of Christmas for you this year.

There are plenty of services and events going on in your churches in Sandhurst during Advent and Christmas; there is a lot of choice! (See the page with all the church services for details of dates, times, services.) Come and join us, and celebrate God coming down to earth this Christmas time. Helen and I wish you all a peaceful Christmas.

*Rev. David Commande, Rector*  
*Benefice of Benenden and Sandhurst*  
*T: 01580 240658 E: david@dc-uk.co.uk*



## DIARY DATES

### December

**Sunday 6th 9.50 for 10.00 am,**  
St Nicholas' visit to St Nicholas Church  
(gather at lower carpark)

**Monday 14th 6.00 pm**  
Sandhurst Primary School Carol Service  
at St Nicholas church

**Thursday 17th 7.00 pm**  
Carols on the Green

**Saturday 19th 6.30pm**  
St Dunstan's Cranbrook Cranbrook  
Choral Society 'Christmas Concert'

**Sunday 20th 6.30pm**  
Carol Service at St Nicholas Church

**Thursday 24th 3.00 pm**  
Crib Service

**Friday 25th 10.00**  
Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church

**2016**  
**March**  
**Saturday 5th 7.30pm**  
Sandhurst Twinning Quiz Old School  
Hall (details to follow)

**April**  
**Monday 11th 7.30pm**  
Sandhurst Twinning AGM The Swan

**Mobile Library**  
Every Tuesday Sandhurst 12.30-  
3.05pm see page 16 for details.

*Please let us know if you want a  
Diary Date included.*

## From the Editors

December is a busy month for everybody, especially those with children. Try to come with your children (or grandchildren) to St Nicholas' Crib Service on Christmas Eve, a lovely way to start the celebrations.

We hope you enjoy the "fun quiz". As the answers are given, don't forget to appoint a question master first.

Barbara Simmons has some amazing preserves for sale in aid of St Michael's Hospice. If you are interested please contact her on 850314.

*We wish you all a Very Happy Christmas.*

*Shelagh and Elizabeth*

*Shelagh: 01580 850133 shelagh@theoldtavern.com*

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

**Please send copy for the January magazine by WEDNESDAY 16th December**

**St Nicholas has moved into the 21st century!! You can now visit us on Facebook.**  
**The link is [www.facebook.com/StNicholasSandhurst](http://www.facebook.com/StNicholasSandhurst)**

© Sandhurst PCC

Advertising and Distribution: Ian Meier, Prince of Wales Cottage, 40 Maytham Road,  
Rolvenden Layne, Kent TN17 4NP Tel: 01580 240228 Email: ianmeier@btinternet.com



## Come and Meet Each Other for some fun and friendship

After our summer outings, with cream teas and gardens not to mention making crackers (see below) we started the Autumn with the hand bell ringers from St Lawrence's. They were elegantly dressed with the most gorgeous musical scarves. They were a delight to listen to and played a programme of well-known tunes. In the tea break they offered us the opportunity to play with their precious bells. It was a fascinating afternoon. As it was a member's birthday we had a fabulous cake too. Our next meeting is on December 6th when Barbara Simmons will be showing us how to make Christmas flower arrangements. We will be having a party so bring a plate of nibbles!!

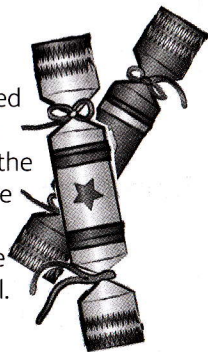
*New members are always welcome also any suggestions for activities.  
Lesley Gillet and Ruth Elsdon*

## Sandhurst Ladies go Crackers

When overwhelmed with the work of filling over 200 crackers for St Michaels Hospice fundraising, I was pleased that Sandhurst's Cameo ladies came to my rescue. Not only did they donate lots of great gifts as contents, but the talented paper craft makers created decorations to give that "wow" appeal.

With the aid of tea and chocolates and just a little conversation the afternoon proved very successful.

*My thanks to all, Barbara Simmons*



## Calling all children for St Nicholas and Christmas celebrations

If all goes to plan St Nicholas will be arriving on his white horse, at the lower car park in Church Road just before 10am on Sunday 6th December as is now traditional at our Church. St Nicholas will process up to the Church and attend the service at the end of which he will distribute sweets and cookies to the children before leaving on his horse. If you would like to come please be sure to be at the lower car park by 9.50am. There will be a collection during the Service the proceeds of which will go to Demelza House.

## Crib Service

We plan to have a donkey at the Crib Service (3pm) on Christmas Eve children are welcome to come in Nativity dress the more Marys, Shepherds etc the better. If any child would like to do a reading or be part of a children's orchestra. *Please contact: Lyn Hayes 850201*



## Hospice in the Weald

We would like to say a very big 'THANK YOU' to everyone who has supported Hospice in the Weald this year. We have raised over £8,500 including Gift Aid and money raised through collection boxes. In addition to this, Gillian Davis has raised £1,129 through her concerts in Sandhurst.



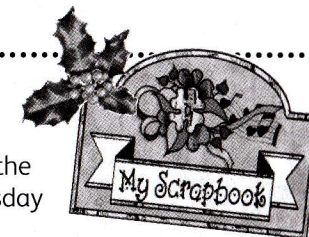
We have held a wide variety of events, including Wine Tasting, Open Gardens, Concerts, Tea at Three and the Christmas Goods coffee morning. Many of these have involved the committee baking cakes, making superb canapes and donating raffle prizes. Without their tireless support and generous donation of both their time and goods, we could not have raised this amount of money. So thank you to them too! Here is the report from Gillian on her activities:

'I am pleased to report that we broke my £1000 fund raising goal. The final total, after expenses, was £1,129. In addition we enjoyed some wonderful music in very pleasant surroundings. The season opened with the garden party (always the last Saturday in July) which featured Oliver Davies (piano) and Adrian Bradbury ('cello). It was the first time I had tried this duo for this event and it worked extremely well. As usual, Malcolm Binns thrilled everyone when he came to play in mid-September. The final event in mid-October featured Gil Jetley who presented his own transcription of Tchaikovsky's 'Romeo and Juliet'. It was a real show stopper and a wonderful 'fin de la saison'. Please let me know if you want to be notified about performances in 2016. Gillian Davis 01580 850384.'

*Early next year we shall publish our events for 2016 and look forward to your support.  
Jenny Stevens*

## Sandhurst Scrapbook Club

Our club is going extremely well, with a record number attending last month. Please do join us for part or all of the sessions that are held from 1.30 to 4pm on the first Thursday of each month.



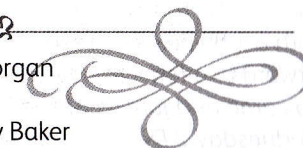
**But... PLEASE NOTE date change for January \*\*\* Thursday 14th**

From February we will be back to the first Thursday of each month.

New members are always welcome, some scrapbooking or crafting experience an advantage but help can be provided for complete beginners. But ..... don't forget to bring some photographs!! *Please don't hesitate to contact me for further information  
Lesley Gillet 01580 850649 lesleygillet@tiscali.co.uk*

## From the Registers

- 24th October Wedding of Brian Pope and Stacy Morgan
- 26th October Funeral of Barry Granger Smallman
- 30th October Internment of Ashes of Joan Dorothy Baker



## St Nicholas was Floodlit in November for...

**Sunday 1st November:** All Saints

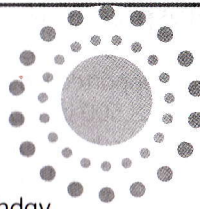
**Thursday 5th November:** In memory of Annie Brimm

**Sunday 8th November:** Remembrance Sunday

**Wednesday 11th November:** Armistice Day

**Thursday 12th November:** In memory of Sylvia Jarman's birthday

**Thursday 19th November:** Celebration of 19 years at St. Nicholas Cottage  
by Gillian Davis



## Why not Sponsor the Church Floodlights

The clocks now having changed the dark nights are beginning to draw in very quickly so why not sponsor the church floodlights for just £10 an evening. With St. Nicholas Church sitting atop the hill overlooking the village what a wonderful way of illuminating the horizon on those dark evenings by floodlighting the church to commemorate a birthday, an anniversary or any other event that might be personal to you? *Sponsorship forms are available in St. Nicholas Church or contact Bob Houlden on 01580 850278*

## ADVENT: "THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF IT"

### What is 'Advent' all about?



The short answer is that it is the run-up to Christmas. Advent calendars, with or without chocolates, mark off the days till the great climax on the 25th. It is a time of anticipation, of excitement, of expectancy. In our churches we mark this by lighting a candle, week by week, for each of the four Sundays before Christmas, and recalling the centuries of longing which preceded the birth of the Messiah. But the build-up to Christmas is not the only purpose of Advent.

Advent marks the beginning of the Church's New Year, a new beginning, new growth, a deepening experience of what is already known. It leads up to the celebration of the birth of the Baby, the 'long-expected Jesus' as the hymn calls him, but encourages us to consider for ourselves what the implications are, long term, for our own lives: from the cradle to beyond the grave.

Advent is a time of joy and of thanksgiving, coupled with reflection on the meaning of life, its beginnings and its endings – on what remains when the presents have been opened, the turkey eaten and the Advent calendar consigned to the bin.

With a little help from the artists and poets, and our own shared thoughts, we look forward to a reflective evening of preparation for Christmas, and beyond.

*Do come and join us at the Mission Church Back Rd, Sandhurst, at 7.30pm on Wednesday 2 December as Revd Rosemary Kobus van Wengen leads us in an evening of reflection on "The Long and the Short of It".*



## Drop-in Café with Toddler Group 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

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



## Sandhurst Nursery School

*Hi Everyone,*

We continue to welcome lots of new children to the nursery and all the children are settling very well and making lots of new friends. Madame Alex is back and the children are enjoying her French classes. The children are learning lots of new physical skills with our "Zak's Sports" activities and they are having great fun in our outdoor play area digging in the mud kitchen and finding lots of worms! The primary school organised a fantastic firework display and very kindly invited the nursery to join in with their fundraising event. We raised the sum of £83 towards our funds and thank you to everyone who donated towards our stall and attended the event.

Our Christmas activities are still in the early stages of planning at the time of writing but we know the children will enjoy making lots of Christmas craft and our end of term Christmas party.

We have a vacancy at the nursery for a qualified early years practitioner so if anyone is interested please contact Jan Little, the Manager, on 01580 850407 for more information.

*Everyone at the nursery wishes you all*

**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

*Angela Writer - Deputy Manager*

## For free, confidential and independent advice



Visit the TW CAB 'Advice Bus'  
Back Road, Sandhurst Wednesday 1.30-2.30pm

**Appointments available: 01892 617256**

*If you are unable to travel to our Office, we will be able to meet you, by appointment, at Sandhurst Tea Rooms.*

*Call 01892 617256 to arrange a time.*

## In the Bleak Midwinter

Published posthumously in 1904, ten years after the death of Christina Rossetti (1830-1894), the poem *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* would two years later become a plaintive and haunting Christmas carol. Written by Rossetti sometime before 1872, it was not intended as a carol or hymn, but as a Christmas poem at the behest of *Scribner's Monthly*, an American literary magazine.



Rossetti was one of the few hymn writers of her day who garnered a reputation as a poet. She was highly supported by an educated and artistic family. Her father came to England as an Italian patriot and refugee who would become a professor at King's College in London. Her brother, Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828-1882), was also a poet although he earned greater distinction as a Pre-Raphaelite artist. Possessed of exceptional beauty, Christina often posed as a model for her brother and other contemporary artists. Sadly she was also known to have suffered her own pain and disappointment, some of which registered as somber verse in the manner of Emily Dickinson, the reclusive American poet.

Gustav Holst (1874-1934), a long-time friend of the celebrated Ralph Vaughan Williams, had a keen interest in Rossetti's works. Best-known for his classical pieces, notably his orchestral masterpiece *The Planets*, Holst elevates *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* with a hymn-like musical setting that was published in the 1906 English Hymnal. Another popular setting for Rossetti's contemplative poem was produced in 1909 by the English composer, Harold Edwin Darke (1888-1976), while he was a student at the Royal College of Music. His version has been favored by cathedral choirs over the years and it is often featured as part of the *Nine Lessons and Carols*, the annual Christmas radio broadcast by the King's College Choir of Cambridge.

Despite England's long tradition of producing and publishing exceptional carols, *In the Bleak Midwinter* was voted the greatest Christmas carol of all time in a 2008 poll of English choral experts and choirmasters. This is not at all surprising if your tastes prefer superb Christmas choral singing. Listen closely to the plaintive tune and imagine the gripping scene first depicted in Rossetti's poem: snow falling on a bitterly cold night, the bleakness of winter, the meager environment attended by farm animals and heavenly angels, and lastly a lone poor woman humbly offering her heart, the most precious of gifts, to the new-born baby Jesus.

© Ronald M. Clancy [www.christmasclassics.com](http://www.christmasclassics.com)

## The Civic Amenity Refuse Lorry

**12th December. No collection over the Christmas period with no collection in Sandhurst until 9th January**

<b>Sandhurst:</b>	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

Citizens Advice gives free confidential advice and information on a wide range of subjects, including welfare benefits, consumer rights, debt, credit, housing, homelessness, work, family and relationship problems, legal matters, local services, health and disability and much more.

Tunbridge Wells and District Citizens Advice has started a new service, where if for some reason you are unable to travel to our office, we can by prior appointment arrange for a trained adviser to meet you at 'Sandhurst Tea Rooms'.

To make an appointment please phone: 01892 617 256

Also if you are over 65 and struggle with daily living requirements you may be entitled to Attendance Allowance regardless of your income. We have home visitors who can help complete these forms.

Contact the Home Visiting Team on: 01892 516 335

Alternatively you can contact Tunbridge Wells and District Citizens Advice by Skype using the following address:

CAB Tunbridge Wells Monday & Friday 10am – 12pm

[www.twcab.org.uk](http://www.twcab.org.uk) [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

## Kent Community Warden Service

The Kent Community Warden Service (KCWS) provides a public facing, frontline service for the residents of Kent. The over-riding objective of our work is 'to create safer and stronger communities'.

A Warden's uniformed presence helps build community confidence and reassurance by reducing crime, the fear of crime, deterring anti-social behaviour, improving access to local authorities and fostering social inclusion.

The role of the Community Warden, is ever evolving. This is largely in response to the changing needs of our respective communities and other strategic requirements placed upon our frontline Service.

We work closely with /on behalf of other operational units within KCC, specifically Public Protection, to address a wide range of issues, for instance:

- Emergency Planning response.
- Conducting welfare visits with or on behalf of Adult Social Care.
- Delivery of Trading Standards' 'Stop the Scammer' project.

*Hopefully this has proved to be a useful insight into our work. Please feel free to contact me if you have any matters you wish to discuss or bring to my attention.*

Rob Perfitt

[rob.perfitt@kent.gov.uk](mailto:rob.perfitt@kent.gov.uk) 07773 396708

[www.kent.gov.uk/communitywarden](http://www.kent.gov.uk/communitywarden)

Kent Community Warden, Sevenoaks - Tunbridge Wells Team



# Fun Quiz for Christmas

1. Who was the first British monarch to broadcast a Christmas message to the nation?  
*George the Fifth (in 1932)*
2. Child star Jimmy Boyd sang which hugely popular 1950's Christmas song, which was initially banned by the Catholic Church in Boston because it supposedly mixed sex and Christmas?  
*I saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus*
3. Who banned Christmas in England between 1647 and 1660?  
*Oliver Cromwell*
4. On which date is Epiphany celebrated in the traditional Western calendar?  
*6th January*
5. Who are the four ghosts in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol? Christmas Past, Christmas Present, Christmas Yet to Come, and Jacob Marley (*one point for each correctly named ghost, and a bonus point for all four*)
6. What liqueur goes into making a 'snowball' cocktail? Advocaat (or advokatt, pronounced 'advocar' *Normally a blend of brandy, egg yolks, vanilla and sometimes other ingredients - award yourself a bonus point if you dare order one next time you go to the bar.*)
7. What is the English title of the carol written in 1818 by Austrian priest Josef Mohr originally called Stille Nacht?  
*Silent Night*
8. The Nordic countries (Denmark, Sweden, Norway notably) tend to celebrate Christmas chiefly on which date?  
*24th December*
9. Which US state in 1907 was the last to declare Christmas a legal holiday?  
*Oklahoma*
10. Presepe in Italy refers to what Christmas tradition?  
*Nativity scene (literally meaning crib)*
11. Christmas Crackers is cockney rhyming slang for which part of the male anatomy?  
*Testicles (see knacker origins - related to the very old word for a horse slaughterer.)*
12. What is the popular name for little baked sausages wrapped in rashers of streaky bacon?  
*Pigs in blankets*
13. Which of the Wise Men was said to have brought the gift of gold for the baby Jesus?  
*Melchior*
14. The 1954 movie White Christmas was the first to be made using what new Paramount film format?  
*VistaVision*
15. Which river did George Washington cross on Christmas night in 1776 in the American Revolutionary War?  
*Delaware*
16. What changed in 1752 which caused England to have a White Christmas less frequently thereafter?  
*The calendar (the English adoption of the Gregorian calendar, replacing the Julian calendar, shifted Christmas day back 12 days - and all the other days too of course - 11 days were skipped in 1752 and a further day in 1800.)*
17. Traditional in Germany at Christmas, what sort of food is stollen?  
*Cake*
18. According to the UK National Meteorological Office what year (prior to 2007) was the last White Christmas in Britain?  
*2004*

19. The Christmas period of 1813-14 saw the last what in London?  
*Christmas Fair on a frozen River Thames (known as a Frost Fair)*
20. How many gifts are given in total in the song The Twelve Days of Christmas?  
*364*
21. The words "Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes of life, of gathering gloom..." come from which Christmas carol?  
*We Three Kings of Orient Are (composed by Rev John Henry Hopkins, 1857)*
22. Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean is a territory of which country?  
*Australia*
23. Which diarist noted on 25th December 1662, "(Christmas Day). Had a pleasant walk to White Hall, where I intended to have received the communion with the family, but I have come too late..."  
*Samuel Pepys (pronounced 'peeps')*
24. The USA's official National Christmas Tree is in which National Park?  
*King's Canyon National Park, California (a giant sequoia called The General Grant)*
25. John Callcott Horsley designed what first commercial Christmas item in 1843?  
*Christmas card*
26. In Victorian England what people were popularly called robins because of their red uniforms?  
*Postmen*
27. Which popular poem was alternatively known as A Visit from St Nicholas? 'Twas The Night before Christmas ('Twas the night Before Christmas' is also the first line. The poem was first published anonymously in 1823 and is commonly attributed to Clement Clarke Moore, although some believe Henry Livingston was the true author. This is different to the song Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Rudolph was created in 1939 by copywriter Robert May for the Montgomery Ward department store chain in a free Christmas promotional story. This extended the 1823 poem and was later still developed into the Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer song.)
28. Which token vegetable is often included in the ingredients of a Christmas pudding?  
*Carrot (vegetables were in earlier times used in making Christmas puddings)*
29. What animal is Snowball in George Orwell's book Animal Farm?  
*A pig*
30. Yorkshireman William Strickland is believed to have brought the first what to Britain from North America in 1526?  
*Turkey*

## 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*



**Barry Granger Smallman CMG CVO  
1924-2015**

Born 22nd February 1924 in Ealing to Charles Stanley Smallman, who worked for the Civil Service and Ruby Marian Granger. He was joined by a loving sister, Christine Mary, in September 1928.

A poorly lad in his early years he had to holiday in Whitstable with his Aunt Nellie and Uncle Tibbs to build himself up and get fresh sea air.

Having attended St. Paul's School in Hammersmith he then progressed to Trinity College Cambridge to read Classics. His studies there were interrupted by the Second World War but he was one of 12 scholars to be selected to join the Army Intelligence Corps to learn Japanese in 12 weeks. He was sent to Australia in 1943 for 18 months to translate Japanese codes and he could still remember his Japanese into his old age.

After the war he came back to the UK and finished his final year at Cambridge where he graduated with a double first in Classics.

His faith and love of music were well catered for at Haven Green Baptist Church in Ealing where he met Sheila Knight, six years his junior. They were married in September 1952 and it wasn't long before daughter Sheila Joy was born in July 1953. Barry Mark followed in February 1955 and Robin Charles in April 1957.

Barry then joined the Colonial Service the forerunner of the Foreign and Commonwealth office and had many postings including as High Commissioner to Bangladesh and later to Jamaica. It was in Sierra Leone that he acquired his nickname "Measer". Other postings included Nigeria, New Zealand, and Thailand where he greeted the Queen with a bandaged thumb! The travelling meant that the children boarded in the UK, which was very hard for Barry and Sheila where contact was restricted to holidays.

He was unwaveringly supported by Sheila in his duties abroad and was a well-respected diplomat proudly representing the interests of Britain through many tricky circumstances.

Home in Ealing was exchanged for Golford House, near Sissinghurst in Kent where there was a base and a home for the children whilst he had a posting in the UK, in the late sixties and early seventies.

He loved his family and keeping everyone in touch with each other and nobly put up with the demands of a pet loving family looking after loads of animals – dogs, cats, horses, Shetland ponies, goats, sheep, cows, geese, chickens, bantams.

Sports – he loved watching and playing - especially tennis having a mean serve and dashing all over the court. He encouraged his children to participate.

Food – he always had a healthy appetite and was well served by Sheila. His family cannot remember him ever cooking or serving a meal but he loved curries and hot spices though! He apparently had a cast iron stomach since out of date food never worried him, which was probably the key to his longevity!

Music – he was a stalwart bass giving a lot of musical encouragement to his children, who recall a lovely vision of him playing piano with their mother playing clarinet and hearing the odd 'blither' at stoppages in play. All the right notes were played...but in the wrong order!

Faith - he had a strong faith all his life. From his early Baptist roots he moved into the Anglican Church through his travels abroad and enjoyed choir singing and then participating as a lay reader after his retirement. He encouraged and supported Sheila (Priest in Charge – St. Nicholas Church) through her late call to the ministry.

Vocabulary – Not one for profanities. He had a wide grasp of the English language and was forever correcting grammatical slip ups with reference to Latin or Greek derivations. He always had a deep enquiring mind and loved the challenge of debate on all sorts of subjects. He enjoyed doing crosswords and one year he was in the final of the Times Cryptic Crossword competition

Retirement led Barry and Sheila to move to Benenden, though he kept busy operating his own consultancy business to the government and sitting on the Civil Service selection board screening all future diplomats and spies! Barry also became chairman of the Governors at Benenden School before handing over the role to Murray Lawrence.

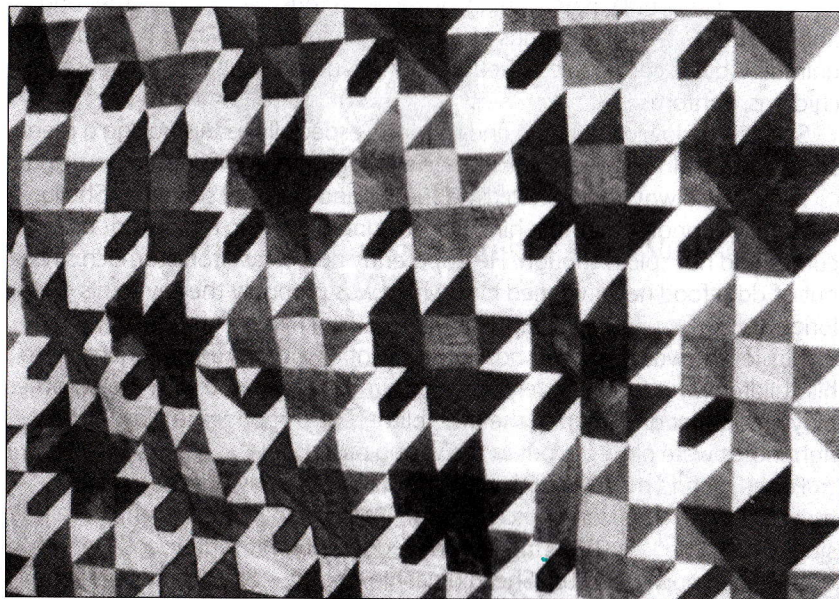
We look back on a life full of love, compassion, achievement, resilience and happiness enhanced with music and a strong Christian faith which all made him the great man he was. A true gentleman and loving father and grandfather who will be sadly miss in the years to come.

*Bob Houlden*

## The Queen Street Quilters

The Queen Street Quilters make most years quilts for charity i.e. Air Ambulance, Hospice in the Weald, Premature Baby and Lap quilts for Linus. We also donate them as raffle prizes. This year's quilt will go to CMT. People with CMT have problems with the nerves that go to feet and hands.

Joyce Wren



## Sandhurst Book Club

In November we met at Valerie's to discuss "Things Fall Apart" by the Nigerian author Chinua Achebe. Most of the group felt that this was a very powerful book showing how a rather inflexible main character is unable to adapt to new ways. Achebe's non-judgemental but vivid description of village life and the gradual infiltration of Christianity is ground-breaking. At the time it came out it was the first rebuttal of the more usual view of African tribespeople by colonial writers as uncivilised and undisciplined. The book describes a very intricate and structured way of life but also shows how any penetration by outside forces will eventually destroy that tradition. In December for our end of year fling we are meeting at Terry and Shirley's house on the 15th to watch the film of the book "The Sun Also Rises" by Ernest Hemingway and to talk about the book itself. Hopefully we shall also sample some tapas and Spanish wine to get us into the spirit both of the book and Christmas.

In January we are discussing "The Night Train to Lisbon" by Pascal Mercier. For further information please contact Gill Hale 01580 850965



## Some Interesting Facts about December

### 6th December - St Nicholas Day

Not only is this the traditional day for children to post their requests to Father Christmas (preferably putting them up the chimney), in medieval times it was the day on which English choirboys elected one of their fellow choristers as a boy bishop.

### 21 December - St Thomas's Day

This was once the day when adult members of a parish would give small amounts of money to their elderly neighbours. This was known as "Thomasing" or "mumping". If the money wasn't forthcoming, the elderly people were allowed to ask for it! The same rule applied to children, who were allowed to ask for corn or apples. (More likely to be an iPad or chocolate these days!!)

### 24 December - Christmas Eve

In previous centuries this was the final day of the Christmas fast – (it still is for those who regard Advent as a period of abstinence). It was also the day when people decorated their houses in readiness for Christmas by bringing in evergreens and the Yule Log.

### St Stephen's Day Frolics

In the nineteenth century, Boxing Day was celebrated in a strange manner in Tenby in South Wales. Men and boys would take branches of holly and go "holly beating", which involved running through the streets on the lookout for girls. Once the unsuspecting girls were found, the boy would "whack" them on the arms until they drew blood. Why, one would ask? It seems hard to believe that it was a courting ritual. Instead it may have been the remnants of an ancient rite intended to drive out evil spirits through some form of scourging with a magical plant. Nowadays, of course, these hollybeaters would be rewarded with ASBOSs all round. (Certainly not recommended or endorsed by us!! – Ed)

**25 December 1871** Christmas Day became a bank holiday in Scotland

**26 December 1871** Boxing Day became a bank holiday in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

**25 December** George V broadcast first Christmas Day radio message on the BBC

**31 December 1960** call up for National Service ends in UK

**31 December 1960** The farthing ceases to be legal tender

**24 December 1965** A large meteorite landed in Barwell Leicestershire

**26 December 1974** Boxing Day became a bank holiday in Scotland



## Mission Church

Recently refurbished, it offers a light and airy space for group meetings.

For details of hiring contact either:

Anne Tylden Wright: 01580 85028 or Bob Houlden: 01580 850278



## The Holly

If you entered a garden with all the different holly trees, your breath would be taken away. There are 400 species and countless cultivars. Originally, the holly was part of the great forest that covered Britain and South Europe. It is a medium sized tree, with a silver green bark and heavily lobed leaves that have a strong spike at the tip of each lobe. The variations in leaf colour are infinite. As the tree grows higher, the leaves become smooth, being now away from the reach of the predator, though rabbits will gnaw to the ground any juicy saplings. In winter, the tree, glowing with berries, is food for the finches, larks and fieldfares, also the robin who has made a lovely holly hedge by sitting on the fence, and who tells us it is very best way to make a hedge!



The berries are poisonous to anyone else. The male and the female tree each have blossom, it is pale pink opening to brilliant white and it is always a surprise to see the holly bloom during May, like clusters of white stars about the leaves. The holly wood is very white and compact, it easily absorbs dye and is much used to inlay furniture with marquetry. The wood is often used by blacksmiths because it produces such great heat. Holly leaves put in the pea drill after planting will help to keep the mice away, and if a long thin branch is put down a mole tunnel the moles may go back into the field. At this time of year, the holly really brings cheer at Christmas, and its urgent message, now (using a 96 year old pen) is to bring you the happiest of all Christmases. *anon. © 2011*

## New Gift Aid Secretary at St Nicholas

Ann Macoun has been the gift aid secretary for St Nicholas Church for many years now, working quietly in the background to make sure that the Church can make the most of any donations that it receives. This she does by keeping records and submitting a return to HMRC to claim back the amount of tax paid by the donors, effectively increasing the amount of the donation by 25%.

Clearly an important and valuable role but Ann has decided that now is the time to relinquish the task. The PCC acknowledge with grateful thanks all of the work that Ann had done over the years. *Catherine Elliott has kindly agreed to take over that role. Her contact details are shown on the back page of the magazine.*

## Sandhurst Primary School

This term at Sandhurst we are busily preparing for the Christmas Productions. The children in our younger classes have selected a wonderful nativity and have already begun preparations for this. The children in our KS2 classes will be rehearsing for a traditional Christmas Carol Concert. This will be held on the evening of Monday 14th December at 18:00 at St Nicholas Church. We would welcome any visitors from Sandhurst Friendship Group who wish to come along and support the school.

*Helen Cook, Headteacher*

*Ed. Thank you to Sandhurst Primary School for sending this month's cover and other artwork which unfortunately we did not have room to include.*

## The Bakers down under -7

Today is Halloween, and on a whim I bought a couple of bags of sweets "just in case". I chose ones that we liked, but 40+ assorted skeletons, ghouls and witches later, and we watched as the empty bowl was returned to the kitchen. Warm sunshine and temperatures in the high 20s make the day seem unreal!

The shops are now heaving with puddings, mince pies and decorations. Artificial snow seems obligatory, and we now find ourselves debating the purchase of 200m of LED outdoor lights. National Lampoons Christmas springs to mind however. Maybe we should wait until next year, when we have met our new neighbours. Yes, we have become house owners, and are looking forward to our move at the beginning of December. We are staying in the same area as we like it here, but moving about a mile further round the lake. October was the hottest on record, and with virtually no rain in the last 2 months, the grass is already looking brown, and it is still late spring. *Continued a few days later...* Phew! Up to 34 today, with the usual hot wind, so fan oven conditions again. But, in the shops..yes, the decorations are up and the Xmas music is playing at full volume. It feels like even the fake snow could melt today. As for the chocolate reindeer tree decorations, I suppose they have to go on at the last minute. Your editor asked me to come up with a traditional recipe for you all, but it is hard to get past the prawns on the barbie recipes, which is Xmas lunch, and I doubt that many Sandhurst residents will be willing to be out in the garden with the barbecue in December. So, I have found a lovely recipe for raspberry brownie bites, which would be lovely for Boxing Day nibbles. However, a word of warning. The recipe calls for 1½" rounds to be cut from the cake, which leaves a dangerous amount of cake behind for the cook to eat! So, i would suggest cutting small squares instead, unless you are of the opinion that the bits left behind contain no calories (like broken biscuits!)

*I have been writing these little comments from Australia for a year now, and hope you have enjoyed reading them. Have a very Happy Christmas and a great New Year.*

*Linda & Elwyn Baker*

## Raspberry Brownie Bites

200g dark chocolate, chopped.  
200g butter, chopped  
275g caster sugar  
3 eggs  
150g plain flour



35g cocoa powder  
60g sour cream  
50g frozen raspberries  
100g white chocolate, chopped  
Icing sugar to dust

Preheat oven to 180°. Grease and line the base of a 20cm square tin. Place the dark chocolate and butter in a saucepan over a low heat. Stir for about 5 minutes, or until chocolate has melted, and the mixture is smooth. Set aside for about 5 minutes to cool slightly. Stir in sugar and eggs. Combine flour and cocoa powder in a bowl Stir into the mixture alternating with the sour cream until it is all combined. Fold in half the raspberries and white chocolate. Pour into the prepared tin and scatter with the remaining raspberries and chocolate.

Bake for 45 minutes until a skewer inserted in the centre comes out clean. Allow to cool completely in the tin. Turn onto a clean surface and using a 1½" cutter, cut 24 pieces from the brownie (see my article) Arrange on a plate and dust with icing sugar.

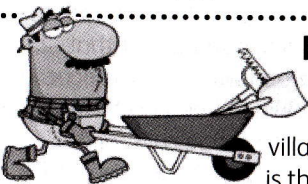
## Sandhurst Horticultural Society

We are very lucky with the flora in Kent and I'm sure most people are unaware of this. Sue Buckingham, our speaker this month, has travelled widely home and abroad, with her interest in wild flowers. Her slides were stunning and she had produced a map of Kent showing the different soils, which give rise to the environment that certain flowers require. Several orchid species are only found in our county and only being short stemmed, are not easily visible in tall grasses. Along all major roads in Kent you find the Danish Scurvy-Grass growing. Where the rivers flow into the sea you would find such bog plants as the St. John's Wort, western gorse, flowering rush and greater water parsnip. On the shingle beach at Dungeness you will find, amongst others, the shepherd's cress.



### Competition winners this month:

*Chairman's challenge:* Maureen Relf – Apple & Ginger jam. *Class 1:* Maureen Relf; *Class 2:* No entries. *Class 3:* Jenny Rummery; *Class 4:* Brian Woodcock.  
*December 2nd Annual general meeting and Presentation of Competition Trophies.*  
Bill Elsdon



### From the Garden Shed

**HEDGE CUTTING:** Despite trimming our hedges during the summer they continue to grow ever wider, think village roadside pavements and you will get the picture, now is the time to rein them in. Country hedge mixtures, beech, hornbeam and hawthorn etc. will all benefit from being reduced in width to 18-20" at the top tapering to 24-30" at ground level, the top can be cut to any height. Reducing the height for ease of cutting will enable regular trimming of the hedge-top; how many hedges do you know that are reaching for the sky?

This extra effort will call for loppers and possibly a saw rather than secateurs or a light weight mechanical/electric trimmer. It is a warming job and will be both beneficial to yourself and to the hedge.

J.R.E.

### Sandhurst Friendship Club

By popular demand Julie Griggs and her friend and colleague Pippa plus Pippa's mother returned to entertain 53 members with more facts and hilarious stories about two generations of Cabin Crew with British Airways. Unfortunately the overhead projector resisted all attempts to make it work and our speakers had to improvise without pictures. They were a credit to BA's inflight training keeping very calm and brilliantly kept the audience enthralled for about an hour. So many congratulations and thanks to them for a lovely relaxed village event.

*Next Meeting Friday 18th December CHRISTMAS LUNCH at Merriments Garden centre at 12.30pm.*

*Rosie Broadbent (01580 850433)*



## Sandhurst Transport Report

I have been informed that there are going to be some changes to the Arriva No5 schedule, but, so far I have been unable to locate any further information. I believe that it may well apply to the school run buses, but I advise everyone to check before they travel. Hopefully it won't affect our use of 9.30 passes.

On the good side, I hear that the dedicated school bus from Ham's is working brilliantly. It is always on time, clean and no overcrowding. Well done, those Mothers who insisted on alternative transport after many problems getting to school.

*Happy Holidays from your travel reporter.*

*Gillian Davis*



## Sandhurst Weather Report for October

My diary confirms my impression that the whole month was mild and quite sunny with very little wind. We had nearly 21/2 inches of rain (59mm) scattered over the month and day temperatures ranged from up to 20o in the first week dropping to about 12o in the middle of the month then rising to 15o or 16o for the last fortnight. Night temperatures were also mild at 7o - 10o and so no frosts.

The autumn colours of the trees were slow to develop and the leaves have been falling slowly with no strong winds to hurry them off.

There have been no real signs of winter yet though there have been some dire predictions of a hard one to come because of early low temperatures in Siberia and Eastern Europe. Let us hope that the Jet Stream keeps them away from us. Last October was even milder and considerably wetter and the winter was mild and very wet, with no snow. VL

### Polecats Part 3

According to the Telegraph there is a suspected rise in numbers of Polecats in Britain. So anyone spotting a polecat (alive or dead) should contact the 'Vincent Wildlife Trust' at: 3 & 4 Bronsil Courtyard Eastnor Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 1EP; tel 01531 636441; e-mail enquiries@vwt.org.uk as they are initiating a survey of rising polecat numbers and their locations. Could Sandhurst appear on the map?

## CRANBROOK CHORAL SOCIETY

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

19TH DECEMBER 2015 6.30PM

Entrance fee ??  
Carols, Music, Light Hearted Readings and Refreshments

## 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.  
Eve Willard 01797 253431

### Every Monday 7-9pm Line Dancing

Old School Ruth Young 01580 850637

### 2nd Tuesday of month

#### Purpose Plate Lunch 12 noon - 2pm

Sandhurst Baptist Church - Booking needed  
(Voluntary Donation)  
Terry Pickford 01580 762200

### 2nd Tuesday of month 2pm

Mission Church CAMEO  
Lesley Gillett 01580 850649

### 2nd Tuesday of month

**Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm** - Old School Hall  
Clerk: Lisa Hale  
(Tues 1-3pm Thurs 9.30 - 11.30am) 01580 850295  
www.sandhurstpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

### 3rd Tuesday of month 7.30pm Book Group

Members' Houses Gill Hale 01580 850965

### 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

.co.uk-12.45.  
Tanyard 1.55-2.10. Old School Back Road 2.15-2.40.  
Linkhill, Lomas Lane 2.50-3.05

### Borough Councillors

#### (Hawkhurst & Sandhurst Ward)

Cllr Godfrey Bland 01580 755858  
godfrey.bland@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Cllr Nathan Gray 07710 237483  
nathan.gray@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Cllr B Palmer 01580 754309  
Beverley.palmer@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

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

**Brownies** Jackie Powell 01580 753202

**Cricknet Club** Brian Feaver 01580 752448

**Football Club** Sandra Kerry 01580 850377

**KCC Footpaths** Faultline 0845 3450210

### Home Library Service

Cranbrook Library 03000 413131

### Every Wednesday Citizens Advice Bus

Back Lane 1.30-2.30pm Or call 01580 714936

### Every Wednesday (in term time)

Drop - in Cafe Mission Church 9 - 11am

### 1st Wednesday of month 8pm

**Horticultural Society** Old School -  
Margaret Woodcock 01580 851006

### Every Wednesday 9.30 - 10.30am

**Tai Chi Fundamentals**  
Old School Brian Saxton 01892 545673  
Brian@Briansaxton.co.uk  
Please phone before attending

### Every Thursday Pilates 9.30 - 10.30am

Old School Hall Sarah Lush 07769 651899  
or lushfitness@hotmail.co.uk

### 1st Thursday of month 10.45am

**Coffee Morning** Sandhurst Baptist Church.  
Ken Slater 01580 850446

### Every Thursday 9.30am Bible Study

**7.30pm Bible Study and Prayer Meeting**  
Sandhurst Baptist Church  
Ken Slater 01580 850446

### 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

### Museums & Local Archives

Cranbrook Museum www.cranbrookmuseum.org

**Nursery School** Jan Little 01580 850969

**Papercraft Classes** Lesley Gillett 01580 850649

### Primary School

Head Teacher Helen Cook 01580 850288

**Queen Street Quilters** Jean Reif 01580 850563

**Red Cross Medical Loans** 0800 0280831

### Twinning Association

John Cunningham 01580 850929

### Village Magazine

Editors  
Shelagh Farrington 01580 850133

Elizabeth Cutchey 01580 850607

### Weald Beekeeping Group

Nick Mengem 01233 840660



## TRADE DIRECTORY

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

### Builders

**DAVIS BUILDERS (SOUTH EAST) LTD.**,  
North Grove Road, Hawkhurst. New buildings,  
alterations, extensions, repairs and maintenance -  
Tel: Hawkhurst (01580) 752866/7;  
Fax: (01580) 752997.

**PAIGE BROS.** Builders and Roofing Contractors.  
Phone: (01424) 870217 or (01580) 850580

### Care Homes

**OAKSIDE**, The Green, Northiam. Tel: (01797)  
252165. A well established residential home for  
the elderly, catering for those looking for high  
standards of comfort and care in a village setting.

**PEASMARSH PLACE**, Peasmarsh. Tel: (01797)  
230555. Country House Living for elderly  
individuals and couples who value privacy,  
luxury, happiness and continued activity.

### Catering

**FOR PEOPLE WHO SIMPLY WANT THE BEST!**  
Our food is made by us using the finest, seasonal  
& local ingredients served by our wonderful staff.  
Let us help you make any occasion a great success.  
Lunches, dinners, parties, balls, weddings,  
afternoon or funeral teas, private or corporate.  
Call: Carolyn Newton Dunnor Jan Webber  
01580 850673 email: chicksthatchop@gmail.com  
www.chicksthatchop.co.uk

**JJ's LITTLE CAKE PLACE** Specialist cakes that  
suit all budgets and styles, Birthdays, Christenings,  
Novelty, Engagements, Graduation, Cup Cakes etc.  
For Adults and Children. Call Jackie: 07838600615  
Email: jackievaughan52@yahoo.com  
Facebook: JJ's little cake place

### Chimney Cleaning

**MH CHIMNEY SERVICES**  
Clean and reliable chimney sweeping service.  
Tel: mobile 07850 038801

### Chiropodist

**Mrs G ROWAN, MSSCh, MBChA**,  
HPC registered. Home visits to all areas.  
Tel: 01797 253958 Mob: 07771-596436.

**HELEN TRUBY RFHP** Foot Health Practitioner,  
Home visits available Tel: 07999 424025

### Dairy

**HINXDEN FARM DAIRY** Local doorstep  
delivery service. A full range of home produced  
pasteurised milk in Plastic or Glass containers,  
also our own quality Yoghurt and Crème Fraîche.  
Available on request, Free Range eggs and litres  
of Fruit Juice. Please ring (01580) 240685 for  
further details.

### Dancing Schools

**GILLIAN DAVIS** Adult Ballet Tel: 01580 850384.

### Electrical

**TRUSTED LOCALLY FOR OVER 40 YEARS -**  
**K Jones Electrical.** Local established electrical  
company of the Jones electricians. Domestic,  
commercial and industrial electrical work across  
Kent & Sussex. wattsupolar.co.uk 01580 848118

### Estate Agents

**FREEMAN FORMAN** Estate Agents covering  
Kent and East Sussex. For a friendly and  
professional service call your local office in  
Hawkhurst. Call: (01580) 755320.

### Farm Shops

**SANDHURST FARM SHOP** Local produce -  
fruit, vegetables and flowers. Open Mon to Sat,  
8.30am to 6.00pm. Tel: 01580 850890.

### Flowers

**BLOOMING MARVELLOUS**  
Benenden High Street, Bouquets, Funerals,  
Weddings, Pots plants & bulbs and a selection of  
giftware. Member of E-florist (sending across  
England, Wales and Europe). Tel: 01580 388934.  
www.bmfloraldesigns.co.uk

### Funeral Directors

**C. WATERHOUSE & SONS**  
High Street, Burwash, TN19 7ET  
Tel: 01435 882219 (24 hour service)  
Under the personal care of Mrs. Dorothy  
Waterhouse. We are a private, independent and  
family run business willing to help you with  
your questions concerning bereavement, preneed  
funeral arrangements, funerals or  
memorials. Personally answered 24 hour  
service. Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funeral Plans  
available. Email: funerals@waterhouse.co.uk  
Website: www.waterhouseandsons.co.uk

**J.PERIGOE & SON** Privately owned, family run business offering the highest standard of care and facilities to the families we assist. We will be pleased to visit you at home to carefully guide you through the decisions you will need to take. Golden Charter Pre-payment Funeral Plans available. Tel: Cranbrook 01580 713636 or Northiam 01797 260316.

#### Garage Services

**KEMP & PARTNERS LTD** Servicing, Tyres, Exhausts and MOT Testing. All makes and models. Courtesy cars. 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 1pm Saturday. Central Garage, Rye Road, Sandhurst, Kent. Tel: 01580 850405.

#### Gardens and Landscaping

**KIBBLEWHITE GARDENS** Established in 1963, has remained at the forefront of landscape contractors in the Kent & East Sussex area flourishing on recommendations from its clients who value the attention to detail that David Kibblewhite provides. Tel: 01580 850394. Visit our website [www.kibblewhitegardens.co.uk](http://www.kibblewhitegardens.co.uk)

**GARDENSCAPE** Home deliveries of garden, landscaping and building products including Soils, Mulches, Turf, Play Area Surfaces, Aggregates as well as Waste Bag Collection. To find out more visit us at: [www.gardenscapedirect.co.uk](http://www.gardenscapedirect.co.uk) or call Freephone 0800 854663 or visit us at The Wharf, Rye Road, Newenden.

#### KENT WATERCRAFT LIMITED

Swimming Pools, Natural Pools, Ponds, Landscaping, Paving. Contact Simon Evans on 07506 471 226 or 01580 850 582 or via [Kentwatercraft.com](http://Kentwatercraft.com)

#### General Stores

##### JOHNSON OF SANDHURST

Tel:01580850227  
[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.

#### Heating

##### BENENDEN HEATING LTD EST1972

Aga, Boiler & Heating Maintenance Specialists Same day emergency call out. Extensive stock of spares for call out repair. Boiler replacements & system upgrade. Gas Safe & OFTEC registered. Tel: 01580 240774  
[benendenheating@hotmail.com](mailto:benendenheating@hotmail.com)

#### Home Care

**COUNTRY CARERS** provides personal and domestic care, tailor made to people in their own homes, 24/7, 365 days a year. Our friendly staff help to support your independence and provide privacy, comfort and companionship at home. Registered with the Care Quality Commission. Tel: 01797 223329.

#### Household and DIY

**JOHNSON HOME & GARDEN EMPORIUM (SANDHURST)** Garden tools, Garden care, Compost & Weed control, Plants & Seeds Pest control, Plumbing, Electrical, DIY, Tools, Painting & Decorating, Kitchenware, Appliances Utensils, Bathroom & Laundry, Hardware Lighting & Heating, Bird feed, Selection of Seasonal Gifts & Products: OPEN 7 DAYS. Tel: 01580 850610 (Tool Bank Agent with over 2000 lines)

#### WEBBS (TENTERDEN) LTD

DIY, garden tools, mowers (sales and repairs), cookware specialists, garden furniture, table furnishings, towels and bed linen. gifts with a difference! Open all week. Tel:(01580) 762132, [www.webbssoftenterden.com](http://www.webbssoftenterden.com), [mail@webbssoftenterden.com](mailto:mail@webbssoftenterden.com).

#### Kitchens and Appliances

**MARTINS OF HAWKHURST LTD** Sales and service for most makes of domestic appliances. Complete Kitchen Design and Installation service. 01580 753470 <http://www.martinsofhawkhurst.co.uk>

#### Marquee Hire

**FOUR JAYS MARQUEES, "NEW" MARQUEES** for all seasons and occasions. Furniture, Heating, Lighting, China, Prestige toilets, etc Ring: (0845) 6445410. [www.fourjays.co.uk](http://www.fourjays.co.uk)

#### Memorial Masons

**CW MEMORIALS LTD** Your local family memorial masons. Charlton Cottage, High Street, Burwash, East Sussex TN19 7ET. Tel: 01435 882219 (24 hrs). [www.cwaterhouse.co.uk](http://www.cwaterhouse.co.uk). Email: [memorials@cwaterhouse.co.uk](mailto:memorials@cwaterhouse.co.uk)

#### Oil Supplies

**NIGEL COLLISON FUELS** Suppliers of heating oil and fuel to homes, farms and businesses across Kent and East Sussex. Call: 01580 755678 [www.nigelcollinsonfuels.co.uk](http://www.nigelcollinsonfuels.co.uk)

#### Opticians

**LINDA POPE FBDO** Qualified Optician. Rye Road, Hawkhurst. Tel: 01580 753744. E-mail [lizlinda@aol.com](mailto:lizlinda@aol.com).

#### Papercraft

**STAMPIN' UP!** Your local Independent Demonstrator for Papercraft Supplies, Cards, Workshops, Classes, etc. Tel: 01580 850649 [lesleygillettt@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:lesleygillettt@tiscali.co.uk)

#### Plastering

**PROVIDENCE PLASTERING** - reliable friendly service by local plasterer, all work considered large or small, phone for a free quote: 07736 277620 or 01580 850386 [www.providenceplastering.co.uk](http://www.providenceplastering.co.uk).

#### Plumbing

**JR PLUMBING** Local friendly plumber, undertaking most aspects of plumbing and maintenance. Call Jamie on 07772 699920

#### Post Office

**SANDHURST POST OFFICE at JOHNSON OF SANDHURST** Tel: 01580 850111 Savings & borrowings, insurance, travel money, banking & payments, letters & parcels, phones & internet, forms & documents. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9.00-13.00, 14.00 -17.30 Wednesday: 9.00-13.00, 14.00-17.00 Saturday: 9.00-13.00 Sunday: Closed.

#### Restaurant

**WHITE HART** 01797 252166 16th Century Free House, Restaurant, Inn and B&B. Homemade dishes our speciality. Ivan and his team look forward to meeting you.

#### Service Station

**SANDHURST SERVICE STATION & SHOP** Off Licence, Groceries, Paypoint, £1 Poundzone, Heating Oil (20L), Cash Machine, Pet Foods - Dogs/Cats/Rabbits/Guinea Pigs/Fish/Horses

#### Solicitors

**PENGELLY & RYLANDS** Family Solicitors Family, Children & Divorce (fixed fee appointments available), Elderly Client Care, House Sales & Purchase, Equity Release, Wills & Probate, Commercial. 39-41 High Street, Tenterden. Tel: 01580 762248. <http://www.pengelly-rylands.co.uk/>

#### Storage

**HIGH SECURITY 24/7 SELF-STORAGE** Whatever you want to store... self-store in Cranbrook with 24/7 access, 40 to 320sq. ft. Tel: 01580 713231 [www.barn-store.co.uk](http://www.barn-store.co.uk)

#### Taxi Services

**T&S TAXIS YOUR NEW LOCAL TAXI COMPANY** Local & long distance, cars, 8 seater and disabled access vehicle available. Reliable service and competitive rates. Phone 01580 851000

**ELBA PRIVATE HIRE** Professional, Reliable Lady and Gentlemen driver in clean and well cared for smart vehicles. So let us welcome you aboard to take you on a short local journey or a long distance journey to include: Airport, Station, Hospital, Wining and Dining. Please call: Clive on 01580 441302 or Text to book 07785 112021 or email [book@elbaprivatehire.com](mailto:book@elbaprivatehire.com) or visit [www.elbaprivatehire.com](http://www.elbaprivatehire.com)

#### Tuition

**SUE BAKER** provides 1:1 tuition for KS2 and KS3, with over 30 years' experience of 11+, SATs & general support. Competitive rates. 01797 252564

#### Utility Cost Savings

**ENERGY CLUB & UTILITY WAREHOUSE.** Simple savings on gas, electricity, phone, broadband and mobiles with 'WHICH' rated best customer service. Call Helen for more information 01580 851 092. Business opportunities also available.

#### Wills, Trusts and Wealth Protection

**WILL PROTECT LTD.** I offer a free check of existing wills to ensure your assets are protected and secured from taxes, ex-partners and care home fees. Please call In strictest confidence 07905 306 689 [helen@willprotect.co.uk](mailto:helen@willprotect.co.uk)



.....  
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS MAGAZINE,  
PLEASE CONTACT IAN MEIER ON: 01580 240228  
.....

*Responsibility for information and opinions published in this magazine rests with the contributors and advertisers.*  
Printed by Wealden Advertiser, Cowdens Close, Horns Road, Hawkhurst, Kent  
Phone: 01580 753322 Email: [sales@wealdenprint.co.uk](mailto:sales@wealdenprint.co.uk)

## 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

**Churchwarden:** Bob Houlden, The Old Parsonage, Church Road 01580 850278

**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, Bodiam Road 01580 850133

**Gift Aid Secretary:** Catherine Elliott, The Old Rectory, Church Road 01580 850300

**Captain of Bells:** 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 71336

### ST NICHOLAS CHURCH SERVICES

<b>Tue 1st Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Dick Dengate
<b>Sun 6th Dec</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent and St. Nicholas Day</b>	
	8am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	10am Morning Worship	Rev David Commander/Lyn Hayes
<b>Tue 8th Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Commander
<b>Wed 9th Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 2pm Sandhurst Primary School Nativity	Lyn Hayes
<b>Sun 13th Dec</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	
	10am Eucharist	Rev David Commander
	5pm Evening Prayer (Mission Church)	Rev David Commander
<b>Tue 15th Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
<b>Thu 17th Dec</b>	<b>Upper Green &amp; Mission Church</b> 7pm "Carols on the Green"	
<b>Fri 18th Dec</b>	<b>10:30am Sandhurst Primary School</b> Carol Service	Rev David Commander
<b>Sun 20th Dec</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
	8am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Commander
	10am Morning Worship	Lyn Hayes
	6:30pm Parish Carol Service	Rev David Commander
<b>Tue 22nd Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Commander
<b>Thu 24th Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b> 3pm Crib Service 11:30pm Eucharist	Lyn Hayes Rev David Commander
<b>Fri 25th Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	
	<b>Mission Church</b> 9am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
	<b>St. Nicholas</b> 10am Family Service	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen
<b>Sun 27th Dec</b>	<b>John / Christmas 1</b>	
	10am Eucharist	Rev David Commander
<b>Tue 29th Dec</b>	<b>Mission Church</b> 10am Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Rosemary Kobus van Wengen