



# Cobham & Luddesdowne

June 2025 News

£1

## **PARISH of COBHAM with LUDDESDOWNE and DODE**

**Priest-in-Charge** – The Rev'd Canon Alyson Davie

For all enquiries, including Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals, please contact Alyson.

Phone no. 01474-812068 email:- [alyson@stjohnsmeopham.co.uk](mailto:alyson@stjohnsmeopham.co.uk)  
(Rest Day: Friday)

**Pastoral assistant-** Janet Weaver, 36 Highview, Vigo Village, DA13 0RR  
(01732) 823936

**Church Safeguarding Officer** - Hilary Savage - (01634) 723027

**Church Office** Phone no. 01474 813495

### **Church Officers of St. Mary Magdalene, Cobham**

<b>Lay Chair</b>	Hilary Savage	
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Hilary Savage	(01634) 723027
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Ron Chamberlain	(01474) 814250
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeffrey Julie-Rusz	07946 249021
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Hilary Savage	

### **Church Officers St Peter and St. Paul, Luddesdowne**

<b>Lay Chair</b>	Sue Campbell	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Janet Weaver	(01732) 823936

### **Parochial Church Council Members**

#### **Cobham**

Peter Balanck  
Ron Chamberlain  
David Palmer  
Lynn Ruddock

#### **Luddesdowne**

Diana Bampton  
Jill Beety  
Sue Campbell  
Janet Weaver

**SUBMISSIONS** Cobham and Luddesdowne News is a community magazine produced by and for the residents of Cobham, Sole Street and Luddesdowne.

**Please send material for inclusion by the 15th of the month preceding publication to [editorialcln@gmail.com](mailto:editorialcln@gmail.com)**

**Cover photograph Adrian Whiteing** The three (two new) village signs.

**Printed by Wested Logistics Limited 01474 361615**  
**[sales@westedpress.com](mailto:sales@westedpress.com)**

## **St Mary's Church Room, Sole Street**

It was a great joy, honour and privilege to be able to come together on Sunday 11 May to thank God and others for all the work, offering of skills, resources and finances that meant we could re-open the Church Room after extensive refurbishment. Present on that morning were those who have been raising funds, regular congregation members, members of the Parish Council, residents, members of the Baker family and the Bishop of Rochester, Dr Jonathan Gibbs.

In his sermon, at the service of thanksgiving and dedication, Bishop Jonathan noted that like the re-building of the Temple in Jerusalem after the Jewish exile in Babylon referred to in the Old Testament reading from the Book of Haggai, the refurbishment of the Church Room was a symbol of people's willingness to put the worship of God and the well-being of their community over their own private comfort and well-being. Their willingness to do this was really important at a time when people were beginning to look once again for connection with others and with God, looking for purpose and meaning and for guidance and for security in an uncertain world.

The refurbishment of the Church Room has come at just the right time to provide the community in Sole Street and Cobham with the opportunity to connect with others and with God through the life of the Church and through the sharing of the Gospel.

Reflecting on the words of Jesus in John's Gospel, 'My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me' (John 10 v 27), Bishop Jonathan went on to say that the key task of the Christian Church is to help people to discover that Jesus is the person through whom we can hear the voice of God and enter into a loving relationship with him as the Good Shepherd who knows the sheep of his flock and is known by them.

Church buildings are important, just as the Temple was important for the people of Israel, but the place where we meet with God is through a person, the person of Jesus, and what is really important about the refurbished Church Room is the new opportunity it provides for helping people to meet with God through him.

Bishop Jonathan finished by saying that his prayer was that St Mary's Church Room would be a place of connection, a place where people would build relationships with one another and with the living God through his Son Jesus Christ.

With all best wishes and prayers

Alyson Davie

(The Rev'd Canon Alyson Davie, Priest in Charge)



A very big thank you to all of you, for your thoughts, flowers, gifts, emails, get well cards, best wishes and prayers for my recovery. Having spent nearly 3 weeks in hospital, of which 6 days were in ICU, initially being in a critical condition, and in an induced coma for 4 of those days. It was a very worrying and stressful time for my two sisters and their families, from whom I had received many visits and who have been and still are a great support to me.

God still has work for me to do on this earth, but that will not be all the work I was doing before!

I need to spend time healing (especially the 6 fractured ribs), recovering, gaining my strength and feeling fit again; but in the mean time I must not get so frustrated / impatient with the restrictions I have to help in my recovery. One never knows what is round the corner, but remember God always is.

With grateful thanks to you all, love and prayers from Janet x



### Local Funding Group'24

The restoration of St. Mary's Church Room is complete,  
and now it is time to **CELEBRATE**

Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> May and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 11.00 am – 4.00 pm:

### 'Open Day Display 2013 – 2025'

at St. Mary's Church Room. Collect the list and map of Open Gardens/  
Front of House participants for Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> June from 11.00 am – 5.30

### **Garden Safari and Front of House events such as sales of plants, refreshments, bric-a-brac, art, pottery. Scarecrow Trail**

6.00 pm Everyone is invited to come to the garden of Sole Street House and bring a bottle to share, seating and a picnic. There will be a Toast to say 'Thank You' for the part that you have played. We have invited the Silverhand Vineyard bar and Rachel Taylor of 'Be Heard' to sing.

There will be no charge, tickets or raffle so that everyone can take part. Any Front of House Sales would be discretionary.

Paid parking is available at Sole Street Station and, if it is dry, you are invited to park in the paddock at the rear of Bramble Cottage, Gold Street. DA12 3AT. For details:

Su Rowe 01474 814560/07557 990944 email: surowe42@gmail.com

## **Dedication of St Mary's Church Room by The Bishop of Rochester**

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May, as the bright sunlight shone through the newly re-stored stained glass windows, The Bishop of Rochester, The Rt. Revd Dr Jonathan Gibbs, assisted by The Revd Canon Alyson Davie, our Priest in Charge, conducted a Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication at the St Mary's Church Room, following the recent completion of the refurbishment project.

Happily, the congregation of about 40 people was joined by representatives of the Baker Family, it was Sir Herbert Baker that had given the land for the original construction in the 1880s.

Following the Service everyone celebrated with tea and coffee in The Railway Inn, thanks to the kindness of Dave the landlord.

The Church Room is now fully open and available for hire by local groups and individuals at a rate of £12.00 an hour, with a reduction for regular or group use, out of area users pay £15.00 an hour. There are some restrictions on the type of activity for which the hall may be used.

Initial enquiries should be made through me (01474 814250).

Ron Chamberlain.



**LOCAL FUNDING GROUP'24**

**COFFEE MORNING**

Thursday, 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

ST. MARY'S CHURCH ROOM 10.30 – 12.00

Meet friends and make friends

£3.00 for tea/coffee , cake and conversation

Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> July

Supporting the Ellenor Hospice

Raffle, Bring & Buy



**1<sup>st</sup> Cobham Brownies**  
**(Tuesday evenings during term time only at The Meadow Rooms, Cobham)**

**At Brownies, we welcome all girls from 7 to 10 years old** for non-stop fun, learning and adventure. Brownies get to explore their creative side, get out into the great outdoors, and start to learn to look after themselves, others and the world we live in.

Please email Wendy Ostridge ([wendy.minister@googlemail.com](mailto:wendy.minister@googlemail.com)) if you would like more information about 1<sup>st</sup> Cobham Brownies or register your interest through the Girlguiding website at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus/](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus/) and selecting 1<sup>st</sup> Cobham Brownies.

We look forward to meeting new members.

**Luddesdown & District Rights of Way Group.**

We are a small friendly group that usually walks from The Cock Inn, Henley Street, Luddesdown, Gravesend DA13 0XB, at 11am on Wednesdays. We walk at a gentle pace for some 90 minutes in beautiful countryside. Occasionally we lead weekend walks.

With four Socials a year in Luddesdown Village Hall and a twice yearly Newsletter, we would be delighted if you joined us for a walk or two. Becoming a member costs £7 per person a year.

Please contact Walks Co-ordinator Janet Ferguson, preferably by email [janetferguson@hotmail.fr](mailto:janetferguson@hotmail.fr) . Ian Sheridan, Acting Chairman, 07951 927 517



TWO WOMEN EVENTS

Present:

# **FiL STRAUGHAN**

Finalist on ITV's STARSTRUCK with Lionel Ritchie!



**THURSDAY 12th June 2025**

**ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, COBHAM (Kent)**

7pm for 7:30 start. Fully licensed bar.

Tickets £24.50 online on [www.twowomenevents.com](http://www.twowomenevents.com)

Look us up on Facebook and Twitter for contact and updates!

# **Complete** *Family* **Law**

**Complete Family Law Ltd is a modern and innovative law firm based in north Kent. We can offer appointments at our offices, via remote methods including Zoom or telephone, with home visits also available.**

**With our friendly team of expert Solicitors and Legal Executives,  
Complete Family Law can assist with:**

- **Divorce**
- **Wills and Probate**
- **Financial Applications**
- **Children Issues and Applications**
- **Disputes between unmarried couples**
- **Family Law Act Applications (Injunctions)**
- **Disputes within the wider family**
- **Lasting Powers of Attorney**

**0330 223 2016 (Brasted & Cobham)  
0330 223 2018 (Otford)**

**info@completefamilylawltd.co.uk  
www.completefamilylawltd.co.uk**







## May Workshop & Demonstration

In May the Society had a very successful workshop and demonstration on how to make a hanging basket. Our Chairman, Liz Jardine, demonstrated and explained whilst members and guests either made their own baskets or watched and learnt. There were some fantastic baskets at the end.



## June - Summer arrives.

June 21st is the longest day of the year, and the extra light and warmth encourages the garden to put on an exuberant burst of growth. But this extra light and warmth also means weeds will sprout up from seemingly nowhere. Keep on top of them by hoeing regularly in dry conditions. Here's the RHS Top 10 Jobs for this month.

- 1 Hoe borders regularly to keep down weeds.
- 2 Be water-wise, especially in drought-affected areas.
- 3 Pinch out sideshoots on tomatoes.
- 4 Harvest lettuce, radish, other salads, and early potatoes
- 5 Position summer hanging baskets and containers outside
- 6 Mow lawns at least once a week
- 7 Plant out summer bedding
- 8 Stake tall or floppy plants
- 9 Prune many spring-flowering shrubs.
- 10 Shade greenhouses to keep them cool and prevent scorch

For details of the Society's June activities in the Meadow Room see page 27.

You can buy Membership of Cobham Gardeners at any time. You can apply for membership at the talks or via email [cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk) It is only a modest £10 for the year – money you get back from free entry into all Gardeners' expert speaker talks and massive savings of up to 50% on quality plants at local garden centres. For further details e-mail us at [cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk) or call 01474 363315.

## Prestige Property Maintenance

*Old fashioned standards of customer service and a high quality craftsman finish to all work undertaken*

- Repairs and renovations, internal and external
- Painting, decorating and tiling
- Shelving and cupboards made to measure
- Furniture and fitted kitchen repairs and restorations
- Gardening, fencing, paths and patios

No job too small – References available on request



Contact Kevin by telephone or email to arrange a visit to discuss your requirements

Telephone: 07765 405641 Email: [prestigemaintenance@outlook.com](mailto:prestigemaintenance@outlook.com)

### **THE MEADOW ROOM COBHAM AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

Contact us or visit the website for  
full details

[www.meadowroom.org.uk](http://www.meadowroom.org.uk)

Hire rates start from £36.00 for a 3.5  
hour session.

Phone number 01474814879

Email -

[meadowroombookings@gmail.com](mailto:meadowroombookings@gmail.com)

Discount for parish residents

Registered Charity No 228007

### **Cobham to Henley Street circular walk**

On: Sunday 20st July 2025

Meet: 2.30pm at Cobham  
Church, The Street, Cobham  
DA12 3DB

Guide: Jenny Ellett 01474  
361977

Free - No need to book, just  
turn up. Gravesend Historical  
Society Walk open to everyone  
and well-behaved dogs.

## SOLE STREET WI

As part of the “citizen scientist” initiative organised by WaterBlitz UK, a team of Sole Street WI members went to Horton Kirby again to test the water of the River Darent. Ours was one of the 4,000 datapoints across the UK and the test results provide a nationwide picture of the health of our freshwater rivers. Following the testing they walked to Farningham for lunch at The Lion Hotel.



At the time of writing members are planning a workshop to create some fun scarecrows to place round the village for children to spot during the Garden Safari on Sunday 1st June. During the celebrations for the completion of the renovation works of the St Mary's Church Room, our WI will also be providing refreshments and home-made cake stall in Su Rowe's garden for the Front of House events at Sole Street House, alongside plants stall, pottery, art, bric-a-brac, games. Please come along and join in the fun !

Our Institute meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the St Mary's Church Room and visitors will always receive a warm and friendly welcome. Our guest speaker at our meeting on Tuesday 24th June will be Mr Paul Beard: “Barnardo's - A Personal Story “. On Tuesday 22nd July our speaker will be Susan Shaw: “An Adventure in Peru”.

Our weekly walks continue every Tuesday at 9.30 am and we have monthly craft meetings (which do not involve making scarecrows!) details of which are readily available from our President, Yvonne tel 01474813455

# Lewis Solomon

## Funeral Service



**The oldest independently owned and family run funeral directors in Gravesend and surrounding towns**

Especially for the first time, any time of the day or night you can talk to us

We will attend to everything, we can provide for all of your requirements

We have a private chapel of rest and can provide a fleet of Hearses and Limousines to compliment a dignified occasion

**19 DARNLEY ROAD, GRAVESEND, KENT, DA11 0RZ**

*24 hour personal service  
parking available on site  
bespoke funeral plans*

# 01474 352261

Email: [office@lewissolomon.co.uk](mailto:office@lewissolomon.co.uk)

**[www.lewissolomon.co.uk](http://www.lewissolomon.co.uk)**



## GULLANDS

SOLICITORS

Agricultural and Farming Law

Farm Sales and Purchases

Conveyancing

Divorce and Family

Employment Law

Wills, Estates and Tax Planning

Accident Claims

Medical Negligence

Criminal Law

Road Traffic Offences

Commercial Property

Construction Law

Landlord and Tenant

Dispute Resolution

Company and Commercial Law

Health & Safety Prosecutions

Business Defence

Licensing

Notarial Services

[info@gullands.com](mailto:info@gullands.com) [www.gullands.com](http://www.gullands.com)



Whitehall Place | 47 The Terrace | Gravesend | Kent | DA12 2DL | 01474 887688

16 Mill Street | Maidstone | Kent | ME15 6XT | 01622 689700

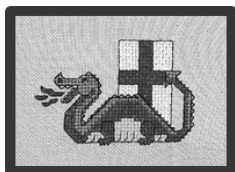


## North Kent Embroiderers

Hello everyone, we had a double treat this month. First, we welcomed Beth Power <https://www.dottytextiles.com/> back, this time to do a workshop. Beth had come to us previously to talk about her journey into 'stitchscapes', now we had to do our own! We had seen how this talented lady had used collage and stitching to produce an enormous number of beautiful views transformed into the most fabulous, finished pieces, most of which were framed by the hoop they were stitched in. We had great fun choosing which fabrics, threads and embellishments to use to best effect. Who knew that some materials would work best upside down! Beth guided each one of us patiently through the choices and decisions that would help us to produce a finished piece that we could be proud of. Needless to say we went home after a thoroughly enjoyable day with plenty of homework and a challenge to get our 'stitchscapes' finished by the end of the year.





Our second visit was from Roz Snowden who returned to do a second mini workshop on stumpwork. On this occasion the task was to produce a dragonfly. There were many little wings to be seen, waiting to be attached to bodies. The concentration was intense during the session with some beautiful creatures emerging!



Finally we had some splendid contributions to this month's postcard swap. The theme was St. George



If you would maybe like to start a new hobby and to join our group or would just like to find out a bit more about us then please pay us a visit - look at our website <https://northkentembroiderers.co.uk/> or email us at: [info@northkentembroiderers.co.uk](mailto:info@northkentembroiderers.co.uk) or contact our Chairman, Eileen on 01474 324734. Happy stitching, Karen  
All photos with permission.

  @kmjacupuncture



A modern approach to health using  
ancient wisdom and healing

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sciatica  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General fatigue          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Muscle aches & pains    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allergies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Menopausal symptoms      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anxiety & Depression    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insomnia  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Musculoskeletal problems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fertility & IVF support |

## ACUPUNCTURE

ELECTRO-ACUPUNCTURE

CUPPING

GUA SHA

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

[kate@kmjacupuncture.com](mailto:kate@kmjacupuncture.com)

01474 612 057

Station Approach, Wrotham Road,  
Meopham, DA13 0HP



British  
Acupuncture  
Council Member

professional  
standards  
authority  
accredited register



### Professional Domestic Cleaning Services

Are you a busy mum?

Working long hours?

Just need extra help?

Give us a call for reliable

DBS checked staff and

fully insured service!

07545 455742

[sophie@capablecleaners.co.uk](mailto:sophie@capablecleaners.co.uk)

[www.capablecleaners.co.uk](http://www.capablecleaners.co.uk)

## LUDESDOWN VILLAGE HALL

The hire charges are as follows:  
from £40 per session (please visit  
our website for full details)

**Concessions for  
parishioners  
and members of  
LUDESDOWN SOCIETY**

For bookings and enquiries please  
contact:

Colin Dickens 07460 242304 or  
email [lvhbooking@gmail.com](mailto:lvhbooking@gmail.com)



TWO WOMEN EVENTS

### **Forthcoming TWO Women events**

12th June - Fil Straughan

5th July - PARTY IN THE PARK

24th July - Abba Revival

16th October -The Bon Jovi Experience

6th November - Fleetwood Bac

27th November - Totally Blondie



The 1<sup>st</sup> **South Street BBGA Company** meets every Friday evening during term time 6pm-7.30pm at South Street Baptist Church, Wrotham Road, Meopham, DA13 0QJ(next to Hope Hill).

Boys and girls aged 5-18 years are warmly invited to join us for games, craft, cooking, Bible stories, nature, science and outdoor activities. The weekly subscription is £2.

The Boys Brigade Water Activities Centre in Tonbridge teaches kayaking, canoeing and stand-up paddle boarding. Summer camps take place at the Honey Hill Boys Brigade Campsite in Maidstone.

For more information about Boys Brigade please visit

**[www.BOYS-BRIGADE.org.uk](http://www.BOYS-BRIGADE.org.uk)**

**SOUTH STRET BAPTIST CHURCH** Sunday services all begin at 10.45am and finish about midday. The Family Service is on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

**SONG TIME** meets every Monday morning 9.45am-11am for families with babies and children under five. There is a varied selection of toys, including a slide, soft shapes, construction toys, musical instruments, creative activities and singing. Family admission is £1.

**FAMILY GAMES AFTERNOON** is on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2pm-4pm.

All ages are welcome to join us and there will be table tennis, pool, indoor archery, Scrabble, board games, tea, coffee and cakes. Free admission.

Please visit **[www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk](http://www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk)** or ring 01474 815039 or 01474 813379 for more information about activities for families at South Street Baptist Church.



## Cobham Church

### Renewal of Wedding Vows

On the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025 Charlotte and Tristan MORGAN renewed their Wedding Vows Celebrating 10 years of Marriage. Congratulations. The service was conducted by the Rev'd David SCOTT.

### Funeral

Ian Thomas EYRE was born on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 1952 and died on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at the age of 72 years. Ian's ashes were buried in Cobham's Garden of Remembrance on the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025. The service was conducted by Alison HARDING (Licensed Lay Minister from Ash and Ridley). Our condolences and prayers go to Ian's son Richard and other family members and friends.

### Funeral

Iris Lilian WHITE was born on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 1929 and died on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at the age of 95 years. Iris's funeral service took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at Thames View Crematorium. The service for the burial of her ashes, which were buried in with her husband, Richard John WHITE, in Cobham's Garden of Remembrance, took place on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Both services were conducted by Alison HARDING (Licensed Lay Minister from Ash and Ridley). Our condolences and prayers go to Iris's two daughters Karen, Laraine and their families.

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **Church grants scheme launched to kick start housing plans**

Churches hoping to build affordable homes for their communities on pockets of land they own – or as part of schemes such as rebuilding parish halls– have been invited to apply for grants to pay for expert advice from a new £3.2 million fund.

Funding of up to £25,000 towards the cost of architect, consultant and other professional fees is available through the Church of England scheme.

The national initiative aims to help parishes and dioceses work towards achieving the goals set out in the *Coming Home* report, from the Archbishops' Commission on Housing, Church and Community. The landmark study called on the Church of England to lead by example in working to solve the housing crisis.



## **BELL RINGING by Peter Hartley**

Leafing through a copy of the bell ringers magazine "The Ringing World" I enjoyed an imagined biography of Lord Peter Wimsey. Lord Peter was a son of the Duke of Denver, an old Etonian, talented cricketer, private detective and the creation of the writer Dorothy L. Sayers in the golden age of crime fiction. He was also a bell ringer who memorably rang a long peal in Norfolk at Fenchurch St. Paul in the story "The Nine Tailors".

In today's world the real life story of local boy Henry Nolloth does seem like fiction. Born in Bexleyheath in 1846 he graduated from Oxford and was ordained in Rochester Cathedral in 1869. He held curacies at Luton, suburb of Chatham, and in Plumstead. In 1880 he was appointed Vicar of Beverley Minster in the East Riding of Yorkshire where he served for 41 years. There he led and largely financed a major project to beautify the Minster installing new stained glass windows, adding statues to empty niches in the fabric, building a new organ case and installing railings round the churchyard.

With an enthusiasm for bells Canon Nolloth and his wife Marion commissioned Taylors of Loughborough to cast a ring of 10 bells (tenor 34 cwt) for St. Mary's, Beverley and an improved ring of 10 bells (tenor 41 cwt) for Beverley Minster. Amazingly they then financed a huge (9<sup>th</sup> largest in England today) 7 ton bourdon bell, also from Taylors, which was hung in the Minster's south-west tower.

As Canon Nolloth admitted 'bells are a hobby of mine'. He was also an inspirational preacher whose sermons drew up to 800 worshippers. The story is told of some of those listening who 'were perhaps amusedly counting the number of times he used the phrase "and lastly", which punctuated the last quarter of many an address.' (Sounds familiar). He died in 1929.

I fondly remember a more recent though now distant time as times continue to change. Much of bell ringing does not change as we continue to ring the changes.





**St John's Meopham with St Mildred's Nurstead**  
**Church Services June 2025**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June      9.45am Morning Worship & Baptism at St John's  
                                 11.30am Holy Communion at St Mildred's

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June    10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June      9.45am Holy Communion at St John's  
                                 11.30am Mattins at St Mildred's

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June   NO 10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June      9.45am    Morning Worship at St John's  
                                 11.15am   Churches Prayer Meeting at  
                                 St John's Centre

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June   10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June      9.45am Holy Communion at St John's  
                                 11.30am Family Service at St Mildred's

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June   10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June      9.45am    Morning Worship at St John's  
                                 4pm Evensong at St Mildred's

## **Cobham with Luddesdowne Church Services**

**June 2025**



Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 10.30am Holy Communion Luddesdowne Church

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am Holy Communion for Pentecost  
Cobham Church.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am Holy Communion Luddesdowne Church

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 10.30am Holy Communion Cobham Church

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am Holy Communion Luddesdowne Church

Midweek Services in Sole Street.

4, 11, 18, 25 June 9.30am Informal Morning Prayer

All services will take place in the St Mary's Church Room



# CHIROPODIST

HOME VISITING SERVICE

FOOT CARE AND ADVICE

IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

HCPC registered chiropodist/podiatrist with over 20

years' experience

Anna Mapp MSSCh MBChA

01474 812494 or 07977 465452

anna.mapp773@gmail.com



## HEDGE & FENCING SPECIALIST

ESTABLISHED FOR 20 YEARS

- ALL HEDGES AND SHRUBS TRIMMED, REDUCED AND REMOVED
- STUMP GRINDING SERVICE
- ALL STYLES OF FENCING SUPPLIED AND INSTALLED
- SLEEPERS AND DECKING SUPPLIED AND INSTALLED
- ALL STYLES OF GATES SUPPLIED AND INSTALLED

CALL MATTHEW ON:

**07796 416607**

OR 01732 822467 EMAIL: [mhlgardencare@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mhlgardencare@yahoo.co.uk)

FULL PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE,  
FREE ESTIMATES & REGISTERED  
WASTE CARRIER



## TREE STUMP REMOVAL SERVICES

- FULLY INSURED
- REGISTERED WASTE CARRIER
- FREE ESTIMATES

CALL MATTHEW ON:

**07796 416607**

OR 01732 822467

OR EMAIL:

[mhlgardencare@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mhlgardencare@yahoo.co.uk)



# CELLAR DOOR

Experience the welcoming atmosphere of the Silverhand Estate Cellar Door, where every visit reveals the unique stories behind our exceptional wines.

Sunday - Thursday  
11:00 - 18:00

Friday - Saturday  
11:00 - 21:00

Silverhand Estate Cellar Door, Luddesdown Rd,  
Luddesdown, Gravesend, DA13 0XE



JOIN US FOR OUR FARMERS MARKET  
every third Saturday of each month



+44 (0)330 122 5290

 silverhandestate

 silverhandestate

[silverhandestate.com](http://silverhandestate.com)



## *lunch menu* NOW AVAILABLE

12:00PM - 3:00PM  
MONDAY AND TUESDAY

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL OPENING HOURS  
MONDAY TO SUNDAY

The Lion, Luddesdown Rd, Luddesdown,  
Gravesend DA13 0XE

BOOK NOW

+44 (0)330 122 5290

 thelionluddesdown

 The Lion Luddesdown

[thelionluddesdown.com](http://thelionluddesdown.com)

## **LUDDESDOWN PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

7.30pm Monday 21st July

7.30pm Monday 15th September

7.30pm Monday 17th November

All Meetings will be taking place at Luddesdown Village Hall.

**<http://www.luddesdown-pc.gov.uk/community/luddesdown-parish-council/>**

## **COBHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2025**

All meetings will start at 7.30pm

- 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025
- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025
- 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025
- 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025
- 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 – Budget Meeting

**<http://www.cobham-kent-pc.gov.uk/>**



**<https://www.gravesham.gov.uk/>**

**Meopham Library Writing Group** meets again on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 10am.

If you are interested in writing, either as a beginner or a more experienced writer, you are warmly invited to join our small, friendly group. New members are always very welcome.

Creative writing is a very enjoyable activity, which can also be used to record special family memories or to help when people are facing difficult times or bereavement.

June's writing theme is "Chimneys", which can be used as a starting point for a poem, short story or an article and there is also a writing challenge. Please ring 01474 813379 for more information.

Future meetings will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 7<sup>th</sup> August and 4<sup>th</sup> September.

### Thursday Fellowship.

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June, we are visiting Spadework at Teston.

It is a community that supports adults with learning difficulties, there is a Garden Centre, Farm Shop, and Cafe serving cakes and light lunches. A registered charity, all are welcome to visit and support in various ways. More details on line.

We are going in cars together, arriving around Noon and leaving to return before school traffic builds up.

They do not take bookings but there is plenty of seating, in, out and covered outside.



IT Solutions Kent Ltd

IT Support –

CCTV - Networking

0333 050 2446

[support@itsk.co.uk](mailto:support@itsk.co.uk)

### ***COBHAM TREE SURGERY***

All aspects of work undertaken

Tall & Dangerous Trees

Hedge trimming

£5 million Public liability insurance

Most waste organically recycled

Call for a free quotation:

07789261474

[Stuart@cobhamtreesurgery.co.uk](mailto:Stuart@cobhamtreesurgery.co.uk)

[WWW.COBHAMTREESURGERY.CO.UK](http://WWW.COBHAMTREESURGERY.CO.UK)  
KCC TRADING STANDARDS APPROVED



## **The future of the Friends of Cobham Church**

The Friends will be holding their Annual General Meeting on 22 June. 5 of the current trustees, including the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary have said that they are not prepared to serve another year, so the Council have reluctantly decided that if no replacements – preferably younger than the retirees! - are forthcoming at the AGM the Friends will have to be wound up.

The FOCC was founded 45 years ago, with the aim of involving the wider community in helping to maintain the fabric of the village church. They have since provided funds for numerous projects including major repairs to the stained glass, the restoration of the church bells, connecting the church to main drainage and refitting the church kitchen. With the continuing decline in active church membership this support has become ever more necessary.

**If you would be willing to help us survive into the future, please get in touch with Jon Pye ([pyejonathan46@gmail.com](mailto:pyejonathan46@gmail.com)) or Mary Palmer ([amarypalmer@aol.com](mailto:amarypalmer@aol.com))**

**In the meantime,**

watch out **for balloons (and ducks) at the church on Friday 6 June**, when there will be a family-friendly afternoon for children and parents (2.00 pm start). Further details from Kate (07941 018897) or Sarah (07848 927759)

### **THE TUESDAY POP-IN**



**Meetings are held at the Leather Bottle on the second Tuesday of the month from 10.30 till 12 noon; all are welcome to join us for a relaxed chat and coffee.**

**Next pop-in Tues 10th June.**

**CONTACT: MARY PALMER—01474816788**

# Consilio

## Partnership

Garden Design - gardens tailored to your needs

Landscaping - full landscaping service

Garden Maintenance - regular visits to one off tidy-ups

Consilio offer a comprehensive range of garden services through our team of fully qualified & experienced professionals.

Landscaping Services include:  
driveways-patios-fencing-decking-  
water features-planting-turfing-etc.

Please contact us with your enquiry or ask a member of staff

01474 247 077  
07311 381858

[enq@consiliopartnership.com](mailto:enq@consiliopartnership.com)  
[www.consiliopartnership.com](http://www.consiliopartnership.com)



Meetings & Shows at the Meadow Room in Dickensian Cobham, Kent  
SatNav DA123BZ Registered Charity No 228007

**Saturday 7th June 2025 - 2:00-3.30pm**

**Cobham Gardeners' Society**

# **Summer Show & Plant Sale**

**Gardening Tips \*Adult & Junior Show Categories  
Flowers, Vegetables, Preserves & Photographic  
Tea, coffee & home made cake on sale**

***Free Entry. Extra car parking Cobham Cricket Club***



**Sharing a love of gardening ... locally!**  
**cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk**

## Absolute DIY Services

All aspects of DIY covered, from hanging a blind to a complete room makeover, painting / decorating, flooring, flat pack assembly, no job too small, and all at competitive prices.



Darren Lawrence  
Sole Street,  
07841 51 8255 / 01474 812853

## JOHN GREEN DECOR LTD

PROFESSIONAL PAINTERS  
& DECORATORS

INTERIOR, EXTERIOR  
& INSURANCE WORK  
ALL ASPECTS OF PAINTING  
AND DECORATING  
INCLUDING WALLPAPER  
HANGING, PAINT  
EFFECTS AND SPRAYING



Phone: **01474 871273**  
email: [sales@johngreendecor.co.uk](mailto:sales@johngreendecor.co.uk)  
website: [www.johngreendecor.co.uk](http://www.johngreendecor.co.uk)

## Stephen P Gay Memorials Inc. Horlocks



SPECIALISTS IN MONUMENTAL  
MASONRY  
**120 Old Road West**  
**Gravesend**  
**Kent, DA11 0LR**  
**Tel: 01474 321003**

## MEDWAY METALS LTD

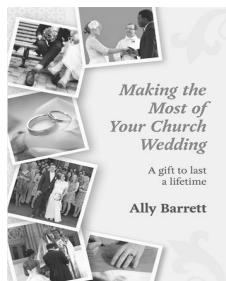
Buyers of all scrap  
metal & car batteries

QUICK PAYMENT

**01634 297423**

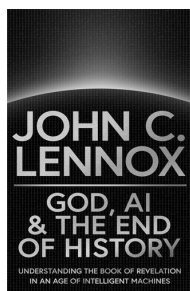
UNIT 6 SHAMEL PARK, MEDWAY CENTRE EST.  
COMMISSIONERS ROAD, STROOD  
ME2 4HQ

## **Book Reviews**



### **Making the Most of Your Church Wedding By Ally Barrett, SPCK, £5.99**

This short, attractive, full-colour guide to the Anglican wedding service will help couples planning a church wedding. It uses the words and the actions of the Anglican marriage service to enable couples to explore the big questions of life, relationships, commitment, God, family and more.



### **God, AI and the End of History –Understanding the Book of Revelation in an Age of Intelligent Machines By John C Lennox, SPCK, £29.99**

A fresh interpretation of Revelation for the 21st century, exploring the connections between St John's visions and the terrifying prospect of an Artificial Super Intelligence that emerges to deceive the world and oppose the rule of Christ.

## **Mini is named the best-ever British car**

What is your favourite British car? Think of the Land Rover, Aston Martin, McLaren, Bentley and Rolls Royce. Then think of the Mini.

That is what a group of judges for the Auto Express did recently, and they chose the Mini.

Their verdict? "Put simply, we reckon no other British- built vehicle better represents the relevant, innovative and pioneering UK automotive industry quite like the world's original small car."

Phil McNamara, editor at large, Auto Express, adds: "there was only ever going to be one winner of our Top 50 Brit cars rundown. The Mini was crowned undisputed champion."

It was in the late 1950s that the British Motor Corporation (BMC) asked car designer Alec Issigonis to come up with a sub-three-metre compact car that could accommodate a family of four. The result was the Mini, soon beloved of the public, celebrities and even (in a modified version) racing drivers.

The modern version of a Mini Cooper is nearly 90cm longer than the original, and prices starts at about £25,000.

## **All Seasons garden Maintenance**

Local and reliable service

Grass and Hedge cutting, Border Maintenance, Pruning

Pressure washing,

Full public liability insurance

References available from existing customers

Contact John - Home: 01322 423063 (Based in Gravesend)

Mobile: 07951 429175 Email: boaz26@live.co.uk

**APEX PEST CONTROL**

Mole catching, Wasp nests, Rodents

24/7 service



## **AtTENTively Yours...**

Here to provide you with a fully personalised service

Catering for garden parties, corporate and sporting events

High specification - best quality equipment used

Site survey and no obligation quotation

**Freephone 0800 389 8298**

**Office 01474 815150 Mobile 07766 681151**



# Robin Hunter

Tree Surgery  
Garden Design  
Fencing & Gates

Tel: 07775 971380

Email: robinhunt1@hotmail.co.uk

- ☒ Professional, Affordable, Service
- ☒ Foils & Colour Specialists
- ☒ Cut & Blow Dry Specialists
- ☒ Wedding hair available on request
- ☒ Hair extension by appointment (Tuesday only)
- ☒ Late Evenings (Monday & Thursday's)

**£5 OFF PERMS & COLOURING**  
WITH THIS ADVERT



**RAILWAY CUTTINGS**  
HAIR STYLISTS

Station Approach, Meopham, Kent - Telephone: 01474 813378



**Harvel House Café  
Ice Cream Parlour  
Pizza & Grill  
Sweet Shop**

[www.harvelhousefarm.co.uk](http://www.harvelhousefarm.co.uk)

**Harvel House, Harvel Lane, Harvel Rd, Meopham  
Gravesend, DA13 0DH**



**HarvelHouseFarmShop**



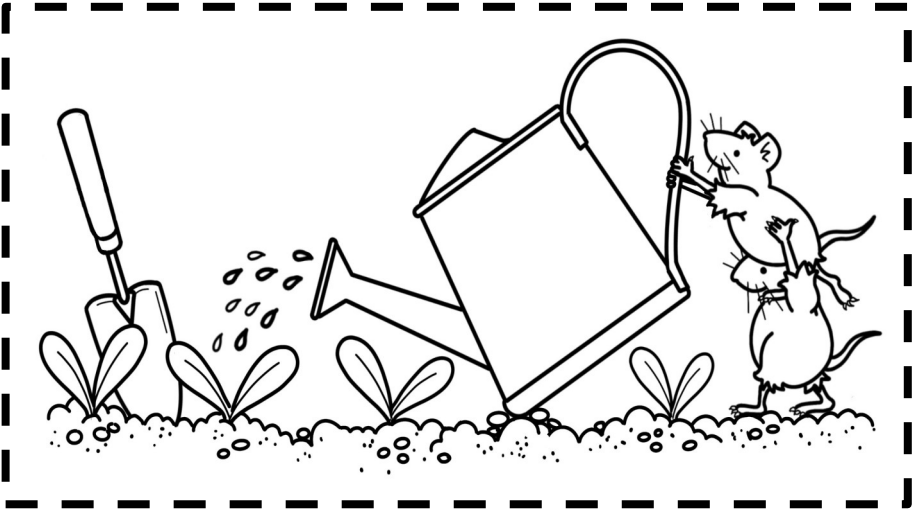
**harvelfarmshop**



**01474 814433**







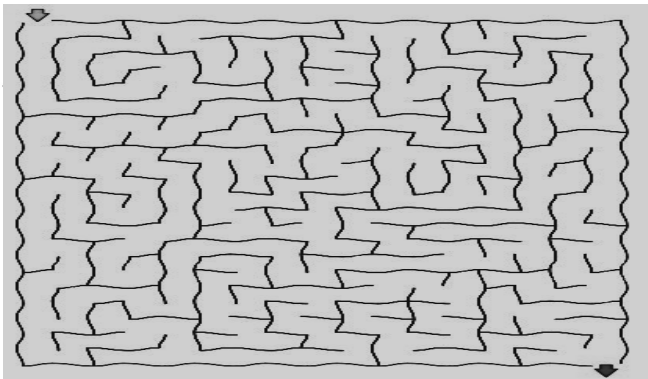
Dear friends

I just have to tell you what has happened; my kitchen has been stolen! Can you believe it?

A fella came and took all the cupboards and the floor away, another fella came and took all the lectrix out of the wall, the family doesn't seem that bothered, but I don't like it.

My bed has been moved, my bowls are now in the front room and I have to use the patio door to go out to do my necessaries - it's just not right!

I have been told that a new kitchen is on its way and a man has started to put the floor back but I am still suspicious. In the meantime I'll enjoy all the fuss being made of me by these many visitors and all the extra walks I'm getting. Until next time. Love and licks Paddy.



# Need a Plumber?

Your local plumber is

**Graham Hickson**

Reliable, prompt and reasonable prices

20% discount on labour with this magazine

**Graham Hickson**

**07968 551 562** [g.hickson@btinternet.com](mailto:g.hickson@btinternet.com)

VAT Sole Free Trader

**Wills & Trusts  
Powers of Attorney**

**Based in Cobham  
covering all Kent**



***British Will Writers***



**Totally Confidential  
Friendly and Professional  
Free Consultation**

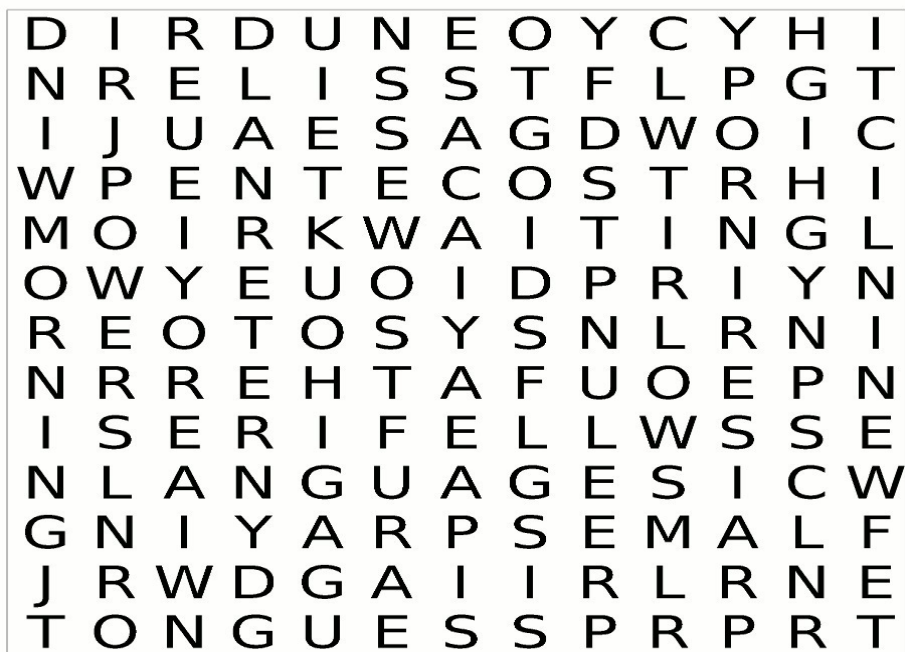
**07942 999 919**

<http://www.britishwillwriters.com>

## ADVERTISING RATES IN THE MAGAZINE

Page Size	1 Year	6 months	1 month	Dimensions (mm)
¼ page	£60	£36	£13	W:65 H:90
½ page	£105	£56	£18	W:135 H:90
Full page	£195	£100	£34	W:135 H:185

[cobandlud.office@btinternet.com](mailto:cobandlud.office@btinternet.com)



### Wordsearch Clues & Answers - Pentecost

The story of Pentecost is found in Acts 2. After the Ascension of Jesus, the disciples had obeyed His command to stay in Jerusalem and to 'wait for the promise from the Father'. Jesus said this would be the 'baptism of the Holy Spirit', but the disciples had no idea what that meant. They soon found out! Acts tells us that at about 9 o'clock one morning, a sound like a rushing wind from heaven suddenly filled the house, and divided tongues as if of fire rested on each one of them. The Holy Spirit had come down and filled them with His divine power! Praise, preaching and witnessing followed that morning – and the Church was born.

Pentecost Trinity Jerusalem Disciples Praying Tongues Power  
 High Fires Flames Languages Praise Drunk Wine Nine Morning  
 Glory Waiting Place Wind Father Son Holy Spirit Eternal



# Cobham Choir

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June  
4 pm  
Cobham Church

## Songs from Stage and Screen

Well-known songs from some of the  
best shows and films of the past and present.

“The choir was amazing, such a wonderful afternoon.”

Tickets £10 (£3 for under 18s)  
including interval refreshments.

From Cobham Community Store, on 07926 677188  
or at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/cobham-choir](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cobham-choir)