



# Cobham & Luddesdowne

May 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

**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**

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#### **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 remains of Original (old college) Architecture at New College Cobham*

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May  
2025

### Church news

This month millions of Christians worldwide, of every denomination, will once again join in with *Thy Kingdom Come*, a prayer initiative between Ascension and Pentecost (29<sup>th</sup> May to 8<sup>th</sup> June), to pray for the nation to know Jesus Christ. It is a time to seek the empowering of the Holy Spirit, that we may be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ.

Praying for others to know Jesus is one of the most powerful things we can do. Persistent prayer for others brings transformation to their lives. As Paul writes: *'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.'* (Colossians 4: 2-4).

Thy Kingdom Come encourages us to choose five people who we can pray for regularly. Why not ask God to guide you, as you settle on five names and commit to praying for them daily, perhaps by using the following prayer:

*'Loving Father, in the face of Jesus Christ your light and glory have blazed forth. Send your Holy Spirit that I may share with my friends the life of your Son and your love for all.*

*Strengthen me as a witness to that love as I pledge to pray for them, for your name's sake. Amen.'*



I am sure that many of you know our Janet (Weaver) she is the Pastoral Assistant, Treasurer and Council member at Luddesdowne Church. She is always a very busy lady, doing so much across the parishes. Some of you will be aware that Janet has been in hospital recently; thankfully she is now doing much better and we understand she will soon be out of hospital and recuperating with her family.

I know that you will all join me in sending her best wishes for a full and speedy recovery. Get well soon Janet!

Tina

## The bells rang out in England

The bells rang out in England  
And songs of heartfelt joy,  
But 'midst the cheers were bitter tears  
For each lost man and boy.

The six long years of fighting  
Had such a dreadful cost  
In blood and sweat and mortal threat  
And countless lives were lost.

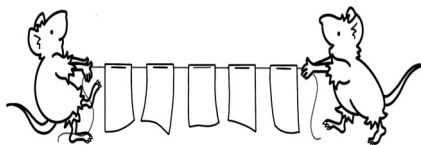


In Europe's shores at least;  
Our people brave feared not the grave  
To slay the Nazi beast.

The lessons learned stayed with us  
For eighty peaceful years.  
Yet now, again, some brutal men  
Are raising wartime fears.

We should be celebrating  
This coming VE Day;  
Yet not at ease, but on our knees  
For lasting peace, we pray.

*By Nigel Beeton*



### **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 13th May**

**CONTACT: MARY PALMER—01474816788**



TWO WOMEN EVENTS

Present:

# OASISH



ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, COBHAM, KENT

**Thursday 15th May 2025**

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Contact: [info@twowomenevents.com](mailto:info@twowomenevents.com)

**THE BEST OASIS TRIBUTE IN THE UK!**



**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

## North Kent Embroiderers

Hello everyone, we recently had a visit from a lady called Kate Hasted <https://www.katehasted.co.uk/> . She came to talk us about her passion for marbling. We learnt how the technique of Japanese marbling called 'suminagashi' (meaning floating ink) dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century was a closely guarded secret for many years. Kate was fascinated by the patterns that evolved.



More recently, Kate has become interested in a different method of marbling on fabric known as 'ebru marbling' which originates from Central Asia, specifically Türkiye at the beginning of the Ottoman Empire in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. Here a range of coloured inks are swirled onto thickened water to give beautiful patterns such as those that you can see here.



The fabric for some of Kate's products is printed in the UK using an eco-friendly fabric made from recycled plastic bottles and plastic packaging materials, whilst other items are made using Kate's exclusive hand marbled textiles which are then digitally printed onto silk chiffon. Kate works from her studio in Tunbridge Wells.

We were fascinated to see the beautiful range of patterns that Kate had created and to see her demonstration of the 'suminagashi' technique. We saw how the beautiful single colour patterns developed from a few drops of ink onto a tray of water. This of course set us thinking as to how we could use these ideas in our own work on fabric! It will be interesting to see what our creative members come back with to the next meeting



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.



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## **Spring Show**

What a great Spring Show we had - 180 exhibits and a great selection of home-made cake for sale. The sun shone and having viewed the show visitors were able to enjoy their tea and cake sitting outside in the sun.

## **Summer is on its way!**

As bulbs fade and herbaceous borders grow in leaps and bounds, it is now clear that summer is approaching. Sowing and planting out bedding can begin, depending on regional weather variations, and you can take softwood cuttings. It's also time to get back into the lawn mowing regime, as the lawn will be loving the warmer temperatures this month brings.

## **Here's the RHS Top 10 Jobs for May.**

- 1 Watch out for late frosts. Protect tender plants.
- 2 Earth up potatoes, and promptly plant any still remaining.
- 3 Plant out summer bedding at the end of the month (except in cold areas)
- 4 Collect rainwater and investigate ways to recycle water for irrigation.
- 5 Regularly hoe off weeds.
- 6 Open greenhouse vents and doors on warm days
- 7 Mow lawns weekly
- 8 Check for nesting birds before clipping hedges.
- 9 Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of daffodils and other spring-flower bulbs.
- 10 Watch out for viburnum beetle and lily beetle grubs.

There is plenty going on within the Society -

**Cobham Gardeners' Society coach trip to RHS Hyde Hall.**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June.** See Page 27

**Summer Show & Plant Sale**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 2:00pm to 3.30pm in the Meadow Room, Cobham.** See page 27

## 125 Years Old

In 2026 our Society will be 125 years old, and we are planning to celebrate, more details to follow later in the year. But in the meantime, if anyone has any photos, details or information on our society can you let us know by email [cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk) We are hoping to produce a booklet detailing the history of our first 125 years!

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.

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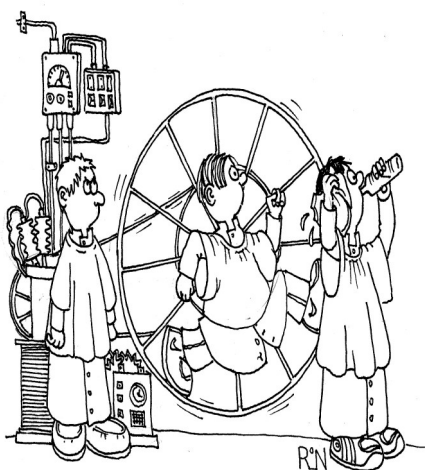
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*When the solar panels weren't working,  
there was Plan B*

## SOLE STREET WI

On Tuesday 25th March Sole Street WI members joyfully gathered for our first meeting back in the now renovated St Mary's Church Room at our traditional time of 7.30pm. It felt truly wonderful to get together in our cherished venue again. We were happy to welcome Derek March and listen to his account of 'The History of English Country Cheeses' and he traced their origins back to ancient Egyptian times. The discovery of cheese could likely have been accidental in the storing and transporting of ruminants' milk containing the rennet to start the curdling process. Happily Derek brought along some delicious samples of modern English country cheeses for us to try (Wensleydale, Stilton & Cheddar) which we heartily did!

Our April meeting this year has been moved to the third Tuesday of the month, the 15th, to avoid Easter holidays. This will be our 41st birthday celebration lunch (with secret Easter Bunny collection) and will take place at The Railway Inn. Our members really appreciate the warm welcome we have received there from David and his staff throughout the long months away from the S.M.C.R.

Members have again signed up for the national freshwater testing Water-Blitz and on 25th April will be returning to re-test the River Darent for phosphate & nitrate pollution & e-coli along the riverbank at Horton Kirby. Our main meeting on Tuesday 27th May will be our AGM and we have a reciprocal arrangement with Cobham & Luddesdowne WI to provide the tellers to assist with the annual voting process.

Every one of us is looking forward to the S.M.C.R. Celebration events on the weekend 31st May/1st June. Look out for our home-made cake stall & refreshments at Sole Street House throughout Sunday.

The June meeting on Tuesday 24th will be attended by Mr Paul Beard who has kindly volunteered to come and talk to us about Barnardos - a personal story. We very much enjoy welcoming visitors - this year we have attracted six new members. For information on all the activities of our Institute including our weekly walks and craft meetings please contact Yvonne, tel. 01747 813455.

Molly Isaacs



# Lewis Solomon

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## Cobham Gardeners' Society

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




### Wednesday 14th May 2025 - 7pm Hanging Basket Workshop

**Liz Jardine** demonstrates how to plant a hanging basket and gives tips on how to maintain it through out the Summer, so you will be the envy of your neighbours. If you would like to plant your own whilst watching Liz please email us for a list of recommended plants. The same principles of planting a hanging basket can be applied to window boxes and pots.

**Members free - non members £3**



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TWO WOMEN EVENTS

## Forthcoming TWO Women events

15th May - Oasis

12th June - Fil Straughan

5th July - PARTY IN THE PARK

24th July - Abba Revival

16th October - The Bon Jovi Experience

6th November - Fleetwood Mac

27th November - Totally Blondie



TWO WOMEN EVENTS

Present:

# **FIL STRAUGHAN**

Finalist on ITV's STARSTRUCK with Lionel Richie!



**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!

## **COBHAM LINKS WITH BATURYN IN UKRAINE.**

Baturyn is a large village in N.E. UKRAINE in the Omblast {county} called CHENIVIV

Cobham is a rural village in N.W. KENT

Baturyn's history goes back a long way as it was the land of the Cossacks

Cobham's history can be traced back to Roman times but it is well known for its mediaeval history.

One of its famous villagers was Proko Povych

Cobham has been home to one of the World's renowned architects –

Sir Herbert Baker whose home in the village was Owletts, a large Georgian mansion in the main street.

Agriculture is the main industry in Baturyn, apple orchards are plentiful as is honey

Cobham is surrounded by apple orchards and there is a small group of local people making honey . But now there are as many vineyards around the village as there are orchards.

Baturyn has large and hugely decorative churches and the villagers are either Orthodox Ukranian or Lutheran

Our church in Cobham is not as decorative as those in Ukraine but it is of great historical value and has the best preserved Mediaeval brasses in Europe. In Baturyn the churches are known for their mosaics, the major church in Baturyn is the Church of The Resurrection

Cobham has an almshouse for local elderly people

Baturyn has a similar system for looking after its elderly too.

Local talents are well exercised in Baturyn as they have annual music and drama festivals.

CADS together with our Cobham Community choir entertain the village throughout the year.

Cobham is surrounded by Parkland and woodland, Jeskyns, Ashenbank, North West Kent Downs and woodland.

Baturyn has a fire fighting service because of its vast parkland

Both villages have schools and though Cobham doesn't have a secondary school in the village it does have a Nursery and a Primary School.

Business is important, certainly for agriculture in both villages, but Cobham is also a tourist attraction due to its history and link with the Lords of Cobham Hall and Charles Dickens and for both villages there are smaller businesses, there are 4 pubs and two community shops in Cobham and also a railway station.

Now we need our clubs, organisations, and schools to begin to find ways that they can extend this TWINNING initiative to involve their twin in Baturyn.

Rosemary Dymond

## **BELL RINGING by Peter Hartley**

With the bells raised ringing begins, and ends, with rounds 1 2 3 4 5 6 the bells being rung in order from the lightest to the heaviest with the deepest note.

To add variation to the sound an appointed call changer can call bells to change their place in the order by one place; for example '3 to 1' produces 1 3 2 4 5 6. Calls can produce any order but some orders have been given names such as 1 3 5 2 4 6 Queens and 5 3 1 2 4 6 Kings and there are many others. Rope and wheel enabled bell control to be achieved resulting in the unique English art and science of change ringing from which method ringing developed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

With Plain Hunt each bell follows a regular path from the front or lead up to the back or behind and down to the front again. Even numbered bells start by moving down in order while the odd move up in order.

To extend the number of changes possible various variations were introduced in the paths of the bells that the ringer has to achieve with his bell control such as dodges with another bell or making places by staying in the same order for a certain time. Fabian Stedman published 'Campanologia' in 1668 setting out rules or procedures for extended patterns of changes to be rung. Core methods such as Plain Hunt, Grandsire and Stedman have blossomed into other patterns such as Norwich, London and Cambridge. Computers have helped develop new patterns given exotic names.

Starting with the core patterns which the ringer learns, the ringer then, whilst constantly counting their place, must try to weave their bell in the correct place amidst the ever changing order.

Bell ringing is a hobby to be enjoyed. If you diligently learn to strike your bell well you will be a much valued and welcome member of a tower band. Ahead of you can be many opportunities for you to develop your ringing knowledge and skill as far as you wish. And in this Country there are thousands of interesting churches to visit and in which to enjoy a ring. Welcomes await.

The bells of Luddesdowne Church have been chimed by Janet Weaver who does much else for our two parishes. At the time of writing Janet is in Darenth Valley Hospital following a heart attack. However the news seems encouraging and the Cobham bell ringers send Janet every good wish.



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



Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May      9.45am Morning Worship & Baptism at St John's  
                                 11.30am Holy Communion at St Mildred's

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May    10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May      9.45am Holy Communion at St John's  
                                 11.30am Mattins at St Mildred's

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May   10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May      9.45am    Morning Worship   at St John's  
                                 11.15am   Churches Prayer Mtg at St John's Centre

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May   10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May      9.45am Holy Communion   at St John's  
                                 11.30am Family Service at St Mildred's

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May   10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre

**Cobham, Luddesdowne and Sole Street**  
**Church Services during May 2025**



Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May     10.30am Holy Communion Luddesdowne Church

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May     10.30am Service of Thanksgiving & Dedication  
St Mary's Church Room.

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May     10.30am Holy Communion Luddesdowne Church  
with Annual Meetings afterwards.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May     10.30am Holy Communion Cobham Church  
with Annual Meetings afterwards

**Midweek Services in Sole Street.**

7, 14, 21, 28 May     9.30am     Informal Morning Prayer

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

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*). Half term is on the 30<sup>th</sup> May. Boys and girls aged 5-18 years are warmly invited to join us for games, art, craft, cooking, Bible stories, nature, science activities and outdoor activities. For more info about Boys Brigade please visit [www.BOYS-BRIGADE.org.uk](http://www.BOYS-BRIGADE.org.uk) The weekly subscription is £2 and the uniform is a navy blue polo shirt and sweatshirt with an embroidered logo. The Boys Brigade Water Activities Centre in Tonbridge teaches kayaking, canoeing and stand-up paddle boarding. There are also summer camps at the Honey Hill Boys Brigade Campsite in Maidstone.

**South Street Baptist Church** Sunday services begin at 10.45am and finish about midday, with refreshments afterwards and everyone is welcome to join us. There will be a Family Service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May. **Song Time** meets every Monday morning 9.45am-11am for families with babies and toddlers under five. Half term is on 26<sup>th</sup> May. There is a varied selection of toys, including a slide, soft shapes, ball pool, construction toys, musical instruments, singing and refreshments. Family admission is £1.

**Family Games** Afternoon is on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 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. Admission free.

For **more info** visit [www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk](http://www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk) /01474 815039.

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## **LUDESLOW PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Meetings will be held at 7.30pm on a Monday  
Annual Meeting on Monday 19th May 2025  
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

- 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Annual Parish Meeting - Meadow Room
- 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 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at 10am.**

The writing theme will be “Alarm!”, which can be used as a starting point for a poem, short story or an article and there is also a writing challenge. Future meetings will be on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 3<sup>rd</sup> July and 7<sup>th</sup> August. Anyone who is interested in writing, either as a beginner or a more experienced writer, is warmly invited to join our small, friendly group. New members are always very welcome.

Creative writing can also be used to record special family memories or for people who are facing challenging times or bereavement, as well as being a very enjoyable activity.

Please ring **01474 813379** for more information.

## COBHAM AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Presents an evening of two one act plays

### The Ballet of Fervour or Perhaps Bingo

*A Comedy-Drama by Jos Biggs*

*By arrangement with Lazy Bee Scripts*

A director is sadly disappointed in the calibre of actors available for his finest masterwork. But though they may not fit the requirements of **his** play, his assistant happens to have another script they're perfect for – that's if the director will also act.



### Luck of the Devil

*A Comedy by Paul Amura*



Poor Stan! His luck is even worse than usual. He is having a rotten day, which begins with an injury and develops into a catalogue of domestic disasters. However, after a frenetic 24 hour period, can his luck take a turn for the better after a nice long sleep....?

**The production will run 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> May at**

**The Meadow Room, The Street Cobham, DA12 3BZ**

Box office will open 14<sup>th</sup> April on 07985124487

Curtain up 8pm. Tickets £10.00 Bar opens at 7.30pm. Ample free parking

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## **COBHAM & LUDDESDOWN W.I.**

We celebrated Spring with our Annual Spring Show on 2nd April .The glorious sunshine poured through the Meadow Room windows onto the beautiful flowers that our members had submitted for judging. Majestic daffodils and tulips, shrubs and carefully nurtured houseplants; magnificent floral arrangements, including some delightful and ingenious miniature ones using unusual containers, adorned the tables and kept our judge, Sue Oaten, very busy. (We are most grateful to Sue for stepping in at the last minute). Along another wall were the baking and preserves entries, judged once again by Geraldine Cracknell. The baking classes included a Norfolk tart (a traditional recipe using bread, apple, golden syrup, lemon juice, eggs and cream in a pastry case); cheese and walnut biscuits; and gluten-free apple and almond brownies. In the afternoon, the judges gave us their comments on the entries, with some really useful tips for next time. The winners were then presented with their trophies; Anne Latcham won the crystal rose bowl trophy for her beautiful flower arrangements, one of which was also awarded 'Judge's Choice'; Liz Hulf won the glass vase for her cultivated flower entries and also the silver platter for most points overall; and Anne Tobutt scooped the baking and preserves trophy.

Following this, our delegate to this year's West Kent Federation Annual Meeting, held in March at the Woodville Halls in Gravesend, gave us her report. Despite a day spent sitting in rather uncomfortable seats, a talk by TV gardener, Adam Frost, made it all worth while and lightened the proceedings.

This month, we will be holding our own annual meeting on Wednesday 7th, where we will look back on the past year and hopefully find someone to take over the reins from our current president, Jan Dickson who has so ably occupied that role. We will also be looking for a new Treasurer, as June Woodham has decided to hang up her abacus. Our thanks to both of these ladies who have helped our wonderful W.I. to keep running smoothly. This is also our 'Resolutions meeting', where we discuss and vote on the W.I.'s choice of resolution going forward to the National Federation's annual meeting in June. This year's resolution is 'Bystanders can be lifesavers', which is all about CPR and defibrillation.

The following Wednesday, we will be celebrating our 106th birthday with a lunch at North Kent College's Gallery Restaurant in Gravesend.

Anyone interested in joining our institute or coming along as a visitor can contact our secretary by email at [cobhamluddesdown@wkwfi.org.uk](mailto:cobhamluddesdown@wkwfi.org.uk)

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Cobham  
Gardeners'  
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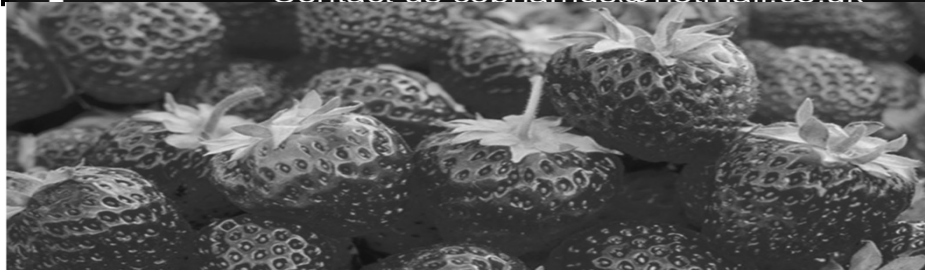


**Cobham Gardeners' Society**  
**Visit to RHS Hyde Hall**  
**Wednesday 4th June 2025**

Cobham Gardeners' Society are organising a trip to RHS Hyde Hall. The cost is only £10 per member and £15 for a non-member, which includes return coach transfer from Cobham and entry to the gardens. The coach will depart Cobham (opposite school) at 915am, and leave RHS Hyde Hall late afternoon. To book please email the Society on [cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk) payment is due immediately and is non-refundable.



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Meetings & Shows at the Meadow Room in Dickensian Cobham, Kent  
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**Saturday 7th June 2025 - 2:00-3.30pm**  
**Cobham Gardeners' Society**

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## **Thursday Fellowship.**

Our May meeting is on Thursday 22nd in the St. John's Centre, Meopham at 2.00.p.m. We are having a Music and Poetry Recital by members of Fellowship and friends. We should never underestimate the musical experience of a number of our Members and we will share a pleasurable time together, finishing with Tea.

### **Miscellaneous observations on life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century...**

I'm only about three pounds from Google Maps listing me as a roundabout. - *Anon*

Middle age: that difficult period between juvenile delinquency and old age, when you have to take care of yourself. - *Anon*

Carpark: the place where you take your car to have little dents put into the sides. - *Anon*

Optimist: a cheerful person who is blissfully unaware of what is going on. - *Anon*

### **Some perks of getting old**

There is nothing left to learn the hard way.

You can eat supper at 4 pm.

You get into heated arguments about pension plans.

You can sing along with lift music.

Your eyes won't get much worse.

Your secrets are safe with your friends - because they can't remember them either.



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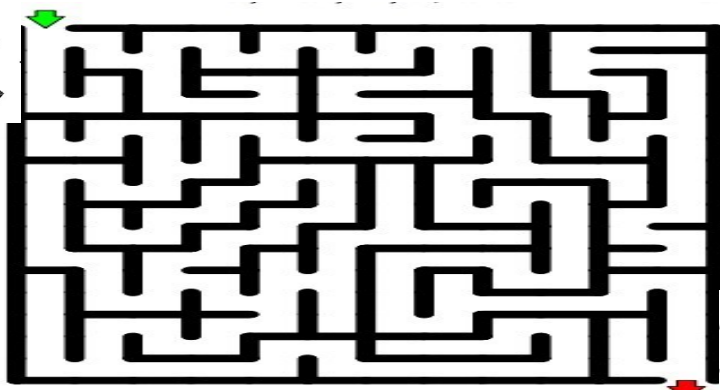


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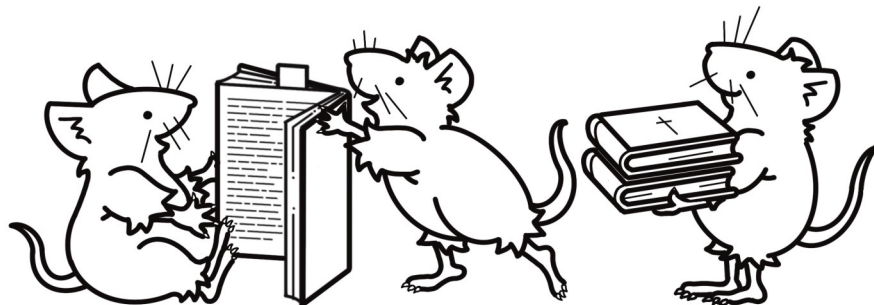
Hello



Have you noticed that the editor includes lots of pictures of mice in the magazine? Sometimes we have little mice in the garden and I like to try and sniff them out, then one day last year I was sniffing around the garden and I caught one, it caused much excitement in the family!

They must have been very proud of me because they were all running around shouting out my name. I put my little mouse friend down on the grass so I could show him to them, when I was suddenly grabbed by my collar and deposited in the kitchen while they all stood around staring at the little mousey. Anyway, after a few minutes the little fella got up and wandered back to the bushes. I haven't seen him since but if I spend too much time sniffing around in the bushes I get called indoors! Oh well.

Have fun colouring the little mice! Love and licks Paddy



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This year is the 1700 anniversary of the Nicene Creed. Athanasius is the theologian behind that creed, and his feast day falls on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

Athanasius (296-373) was born into a prosperous family in Alexandria in Egypt, and entered the ministry. He was 29 years old when he accompanied Alexander, the bishop of Alexandria, to the Church's first great ecumenical Council, at Nicaea in 325. There he saw the Council debate the Person of Christ. How was He the Son of God and also Man? Did He really exist before He was born? If we worship Him, does that mean that we are worshipping two Gods?

When the heresy of Arius, which taught that Christ was not divine, and not eternal, later threatened the church, Athanasius worked with his bishop, Alexander, in framing what became known as the Nicene Creed. Our Lord's full divinity was safeguarded in the words, 'eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father.'

For the next 45 years Athanasius' devotion, scholarship, and forceful leadership established the Nicene Creed in the Christian Church. His enemies, both in Church and state, conspired against him, and he was exiled five times from the See of Alexandria and spent a total of 17 years in flight and hiding. Athanasius' name will always be linked with the triumph of New Testament Christology over every form of reductionism (lessening of the Person of Christ.).

Athanasius Nicene Creed Theologian Egypt Council Bishop Debate  
 Christ Person Worship Divine Eternal Begotten From Light True  
 One Substance Devotion Scholarship Church State Exiled Flight  
 Hiding Triumph Christology Alexandria



**LUDESDOWN SOCIETY**

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# MAY FAIR

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