

Cobham & Luddesdowne News

July 2021

PARISH of COBHAM & LUDDESDOWNE with DODE

Rev Angela Walker

Church Office (01474) 813495

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Pastoral Assistant

Janet Weaver, 36 Highview, Vigo Village, DA13 ORR (01732) 823936

SUBMISSIONS Cobham and Luddesdowne News is a community magazine that is produced by and for the residents of Cobham, Sole Street and Luddesdowne. We welcome all contributions of local interest.

Please send material for inclusion by the 15th of the month

preceding publication to editorialcfn@gmail.com

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Janet Weaver

Warm sunny days ... and happy memories

We have had some amazingly warm weather recently so when I was out shopping I purchased a large punnet of strawberries. On returning home, much to my husband's disappointment, we realised that our freezer was devoid of ice cream – the look of anguish on his face was something to behold and fresh cream just would not do! For almost 48 hours the strawberries skulked in the fridge when, on the afternoon of the 15th of June, a strange sound was heard we turned down the radio as we took time to question our own ears - yes an ice cream van had stopped right outside of our house and so I searched for shoes and money and ran out to buy two tubs of Ice cream- disaster was averted and the strawberries could finally be appreciated before they shrivelled up Just to prove that good things really do come to those that wait!

It is strange how the simplest thing can trigger memories

As a child I remember the Ice Cream man, Rossi, would visit our flats in his small VW ice cream van, the local kids would run from every direction with dishes and Tupperware boxes to buy ice cream for the family's Sunday desert, another Ice cream related memory is of the weekends shared with my grandparents on the Isle of Sheppey, a bottle of cream soda would be poured out in to thick colourful glasses and large chunks of vanilla Ice cream would then be added, it always reminded me of a scientific experiment; frothing and crackling but nothing tasted better on a hot sunny day in Eastchurch!



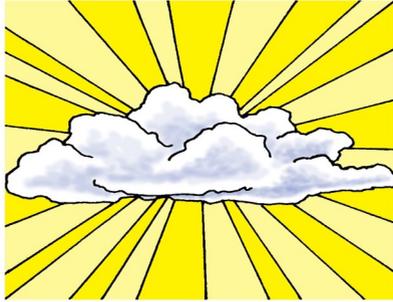
Go on raid the freezer and recreate the summers of your youth!

Enjoy life's simple pleasures.

Tina



Services during July



Sunday 4th July

10:30am

Holy Communion, Cobham

Sunday 11th July

10:30am

Holy Communion, Luddesdowne

Sunday 18th July

10:30am

Holy Communion, Cobham

Sunday 25th July

10:30am

Holy Communion, Luddesdowne

Cobham church open for private prayer

Wednesdays 10am to 12 noon

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NORTH KENT EMBROIDERERS

Hello Everyone,

This month many of us met together for coffee and cake at White Finch tea room. It was lovely to see each other again 'in the flesh' after so many months of restrictions, even if it was a little chilly outside. Apart from lots of chatting and meeting new members, those of us who had taken part in the lockdown stitching challenge were able to swap the postcards they had embroidered. The themes included 'VE day', 'afternoon tea', 'a flower', and 'how I survived the crisis'. You can see some of the results in the picture.



Another exciting event was our Zoom workshop entitled 'Tutti Frutti' with Isobel Moore. Sixteen of us took part, ready and waiting with our sewing machines, a large array of fabric scraps, threads, sequins, beads etc. We worked hard! The two hours went past in a flash but the timing was very well managed by Isobel who is an excellent teacher. At the end of it we were able to display a large number of beautiful 'Tutti Frutti' pieces, all different. We had learnt new techniques which were simple to master but very effective. Best of all we had finished in the time allotted so no UFO's (unfinished objects) to complete.

Our next talk will be by Sara Cook www.bojagiuk.com again via Zoom. It is entitled 'Bojagi: Korean Textiles'



If you would like to join us or just find out a bit more about us then please look at our website <https://northkentembroiderers.co.uk/> or email us at: info@northkentembroiderers.co.uk or contact our Chairman, Eileen Tuff on 01474 324734
Happy stitching, Karen
(All links and photographs used with permission)



Hurrah ! Finally the month of June presented Sole Street WI with the fair weather we needed to hold our 'Pop-Up' Sale of WI produce. On the morning of Saturday 12th members gathered outside St Mary's Church Room to erect a large gazebo to provide some shade for our sales stalls. (A one-way system was set up In and Out with hand hygiene stations in accordance with current restrictions, together with the wearing of face masks where appropriate.)

It was a joy to behold our little village space once more back in use for our community. Members had been preparing over several months for the occasion and tables in the lee of the Church Room were crowded with jars of preserves, cakes of every kind, scones, quiches, pastries & confectionary. The stalls assembled in the centre were given over to crafts eg home-made cushions, decorative dolls and donations of books, DVDs etc. Standing proud along the miniature wall fronting the corner was a splendid variety of plants and seedlings grown by the more green-fingered amongst us. Our planter for the NFWI Huxley Cup Challenge also generated much interest.

The whole event proved to be very successful and a lovely occasion on which to renew our acquaintance, however briefly, with other villagers and our local community. The weather being somewhat '*scorchio*', some customers requested a cup of tea, unaware that at this point in time we do not have use of our Church Room BUT we hope this will be remedied as some time in the not too distant future !

Other events in our programme included a 'Picnic In The Park', encompassing members' voting and Annual General Meeting. The Institute is also whole-heartedly involved in the support of all the LFG events this summer in aid of the re-generation of St Mary's Church Room. Weekly walks continue on Tuesdays at Jeskyns. For information on this and other Sole Street WI activities. Please contact our President Yvonne tel 01474 813455.

Molly Isaacs

Some of the produce from the sale. Yummm!





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LUDESDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Proposed Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

Monday 19th July 2021

Monday 20th September 2021

Monday 18th October 2021 – Budget Meeting

Monday 15th November 2021

Monday 17th January 2022

Monday 21st March 2022 - APM

COBHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2021

All starting at 7.30pm

Clerk@cobham-kent-pc.gov.uk

Monday 5th July 2021

Monday 6th September 2021

Monday 4th October 2021

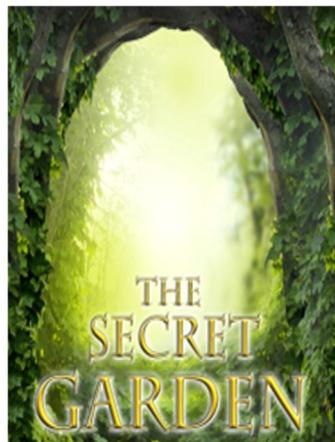
Monday 8th November 2021

Monday 6th December 2021

Meetings will depend on Covid 19 restrictions and the availability of venues.

Secret Garden at
St Mary's Church
Higham

31 August at 6pm



“If you look the right way, you can see that the whole world is a garden”

St Mary's church in Higham is delighted to welcome back the “This Is My Theatre Group” performing this much loved story about young Mary, who having lived in India, was sent to live with her uncle at his country estate in the Yorkshire moors following the sudden death of her parents. Mary discovers friendship and laughter with Martha the housemaid and Ben the gardener, and when a friendly Robin helps her discover a secret garden life for all those at the estate changes.

Folk music weaves through this stage adaptation of Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic story which the whole family will love. Tickets are available from www.thisismytheatre.com, or if you do not have access to a computer you can contact them on 07732 253311. Tickets are £15 for adults, £12 for under 16s



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Smile Lines



With holidays approaching, some of the following may strike a chord !

- Holiday: an all-expense tour
- Holiday: something you take when you can't take what you've been taking any longer.
- Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?
- Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes when he had the chance?
- I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges.

Church notices that didn't quite come out right....

- The preacher for Sunday next will be found hanging on the notice board in the porch.
- The minister is going on holiday next Saturday. Could all missionary boxes be handed into the vicarage by Friday evening, at the latest.
- Ladies, when you have emptied the teapot, please stand upside down in the sink.

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July

Unfortunately, our Summer Show in June was cancelled due to Covid restrictions. We are hoping our Autumn Show can still take place on Saturday 11th September.

In the meantime, we have arranged a tour of Potash Farm, in St Mary's Platt on Wednesday 14th July, 10:30am and non-members are welcome to join us.

Potash Farm is situated in St Mary's Platt, which was originally part of the older Wrotham Parish, and specialises in Cobnuts. The Potash Farm Plantation extends to about 6 acres and is thought to have been planted in about 1900. The plantation has been beautifully restored and now contains about 500 original trees and 500 newly planted trees. Throughout the plantation a wide range of birds and wildflowers can be seen. For more information on the farm click here <https://www.kentishcobnuts.com/about/>

Our tour will be conducted by Alexander Hunt, owner of Potash Farm and a resident of St Mary's Platt for over 50 years. The tour will begin at 10:30am at St Mary's Platt Church. It will include a tour of the village and the plantation. Alexander will explain the history of the village, the workings of the plantation, the various types of trees planted plus point out interesting wildflowers along the way. Numerous by products are produced from the nuts ranging from oils, through to candles and chocolate. These can be viewed and purchased from the farm's shop at the end of the tour.

The tour will finish with refreshments in the farm's garden. The cost of the tour is £15 per person which includes VAT, refreshments and a bag of cobnuts. The tour will last approximately 2 hours and is taken at a gentle pace. Whilst there are no steep hills the tour is through farmland so suitable footwear is recommended.

If anyone would like to join us on what we are sure will be an interesting and informative walk, then please email us on cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk confirming how many of you there will be. If you require any further information, please call Caroline on 07770-985965

Continued from previous page.....

In the meantime, Summer is progressing....

July is often one of the hottest months of the year and a great time to sit out and enjoy your garden. Keep plants looking good by regularly dead-heading, and you'll enjoy a longer display of blooms. Make sure you keep new plants well watered, using grey water where possible, and hoe off weeds, which thrive in the sunshine.

Top 10 jobs this month



- 1 Check clematis for signs of clematis wilt
- 2 Care for houseplant while on holiday
- 3 Water tubs and new plants if dry, but be water-wise
- 4 Deadhead bedding plants and repeat-flowering perennials, to ensure continuous flowering
- 5 Pick courgettes before they become marrows
- 6 Treat apple scab
- 7 Clear algae, blanket weeds and debris from ponds, and keep them topped up
- 8 Order catalogues for next year's spring-flowering bulbs
- 9 Give the lawn a quick-acting summer feed, especially if not given a spring feed
- 10 Harvest apricots, peaches and nectarines

For further details of membership and all Gardeners' activities visit www.cobhamgardeners.com or email cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk



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Dates for the Diary

If COVID restrictions allow in the next month Christoph will be offering some public events for people to enjoy after such a long hibernation.

Swanscombe Peninsula: Cement, paper & poo (Illustrated talk)

For those who want to know more about the Swanscombe Peninsula and Northfleet but without having to walk. Speaker: Christoph Bull On: Friday 2nd July 2021 At: Church Centre, Swanscombe Street, Swanscombe Begins: 7.15pm Cost: £4 for visitors (£2 for members of Swanscombe & Greenhithe Local History Group) Pay at the door, no need to book This is an open public meeting of Swanscombe & Greenhithe Local History Group. Light refreshments are available (subject to any Covid restrictions).

Gravesend's Victorian Dream-How Gravesend's future suddenly changed (Guided historical walk, includes a visit to the Zoar Chapel)

On: Friday 23rd July 2021 Guide/speaker: Christoph Bull Meet: 11.30am opposite Clock Tower on corner of The Grove, Gravesend Cost: £4 per person-pay on the day No need to book. Information- Christoph Bull 07702287147

Guided walking tour of Shorne village with coffee & cake

Guide: Christoph Bull (Local Historian) On: Monday 12th July 2021 Meet: 10am At: **No 3 Coffee Company(coffee shop & café), 9a The Street, Shorne, Kent.** Booking essential 01474 368996 or no3coffeecompany@gmail.com Cost : £12 for talk and coffee with cake afterwards

Guided walking tour of Northfleet (Repeated due to high demand)

Guide: Christoph Bull (Local Historian) On: Tuesday 13th July 2021 Meet: 2pm, The Veterans Club, The Hill, Northfleet Cost: Free Booking essential – Mandi Knight (Northfleet Big Local) 07956178909 or Mandi@northfleetbiglocal.com

Guided walk of Rosherville with Indian meal Guide: Christoph Bull (Local Historian) On: Wednesday 21st July 2021 Meet: 3pm at The Haveli Restaurant, 108-109 London Road, Rosherville, Northfleet Cost: £14.99 for guided tour and meal afterwards Booking essential via The Haveli on 07513666626 or 01474 368626

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Did you know.....

Ivy on your house is not really so bad after all

So says the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS).

In an effort to restore the plant's reputation, the RHS has been showcasing the species at its flagship garden in Wisley, Surrey. It hopes to set a new trend, and to get people to stop seeing ivy as 'the enemy.'

At Wisley you can now see 390 varieties of ivy, with a vast array of leaf shapes, sizes and colours. The RHS wants people to see that ivy can be an attractive and even eco-friendly addition to your home.

RHS experts say that ivy is a 'super plant' that not only has insulating benefits, but also offers habitats for a variety of wildlife, as well as being a food source for birds and pollinators during months of the year when there is very little else for them to eat.

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/press/releases/New-research-shows-ivy-is-the->

Twitter marks its 15th birthday

It was 15 years ago, on 15th July 2006, that Twitter, the American micro-blogging social network, was launched. The first tweet – or short message – had been sent internally in March that year and was recently sold for over £2 million.

The service was originally known as twttr (by analogy with the photo site flickr) because the domain name twitter.com was already in use. But this was eventually purchased. Jack Dorsey, the originator, said that the word twitter meant "a short burst of inconsequential information", which he regarded as perfect for what they were intending.

The messages – tweets – were originally limited to 140 characters, but the limit was doubled in late 2017. Audio and visual tweets have now been introduced, which are normally limited to 140 seconds. There are reckoned to be more than 330 million monthly active users, but the vast majority of tweets are sent by a small minority.

Many churches use Twitter to reach members who cannot attend, using #hashtags to link with them. The Church of England, not surprisingly, has provided guidance for this.

Fundraising event.....

Strawberries, Cream, Tea and cakes was the order of the day on Sunday 27th June. A wonderful Garden Tea Party took place in a delightful fairy garden in Sallows Shaw, Sole Street. The WI provided the delicious baking and the lovely vintage crockery imparted a very genteel ambience to the event. The weather stayed dry but marquees had been erected - just in case!

Why, you ask, did the folks of Cobham and Sole Street participate in such an elegant event? Well it was all in a good cause as the funds raised by the ticket and raffle sales will be put towards the renovation of Sole Street's adorable 'Tin Tab' A.K.A St Mary's Church Room.

Well done to the volunteers for their hard work and innovative fundraising idea..



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"Due to our failure to secure a holiday-relief organist, the next hymn will also be sung to the tune, *Chopsticks*."

Nigel Beeton writes: I have recently discovered an ancient Japanese form of verse called Haiku. Haiku consists of a verse with a 5-7-5 metre, which are used almost exclusively to describe the natural world. Then I went out into the garden, there to be serenaded by our local robin, and so I came up with:

Robin

The robin, singing
Proclaims his avian kingdom
We bow in respect.

By Nigel Beeton

And here is another...



Mountains in the sky

Mountains in the sky
The nimbus clouds of summer
Giants of the air!

Lightning strikes our fear
Then rolling claps of thunder
There's no time to stare!

By Nigel Beeton

Cobham & Luddesdown WI



Branch events

There is still some uncertainty about how and when things will be back to normal, but, following requests from members, it is proposed to hold **an afternoon tea** on **Wednesday 7th July** at The Darnley Arms, Cobham, from 2.30p.m.

As this would have been the date for our usual Strawberry Tea, the committee has agreed that the cost will be subsidised by our WI.

However, this will apply only to members who have renewed their membership subscriptions for the year (i.e. from April 1st 2021 to March 31st 2022). Please let the secretary know asap if, as a member, you wish to attend.

As usual, there will be no meeting in August, with a “**Welcome Back**” meeting scheduled for **Wednesday 1st September** when hopefully, it will be safe for us all to socialize once more. More details later.

As our usual Annual Meeting in May could not go ahead this year, this will now take place on **Wednesday October 6th at 2pm.**

Group update

The only group meeting on a regular basis (in groups of 6), is “**Knit and Natter**”.

It is possible that the **craft group** will meet in August (no dates have yet been fixed), when arrangements at the NT barn have been resolved. The first meeting of the **Gardening Group** will be at Woodlands Garden Centre, W. Kingsdown where the “Twig and Spoon” restaurant is now open. Date and time to be arranged.

Get in Touch

For details of events etc. please contact our Secretary Jenny by email jenbee20@yahoo.co.uk

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Hello - everyone

When the weather is so hot I find it hard to really enjoy my walks but the sunshine does seem to make everyone feel happier and it is nice for people to get out in to the countryside. I just wish they would remember to take their rubbish with them, especially the plastic bottles that are left in the hedgerows and fields. I have a reusable bottle for my water, with a little bowl attached for when I go for my walks perhaps human beans could do the same!

Enjoy your days out and let's keep the beeches and countryside free of litter!
Love and licks Harvey



PS my loose tooth fell out—I swallowed it!

Mouse Makes

Read the full story in
Luke 10:25-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

A man asked Jesus "Who is my neighbour?" and Jesus replied with this parable:

A man was attacked by robbers, they tore his clothes, beat him and left him almost dead. A priest saw him but walked by on the other side. A Levite saw him but walked by on the other side. A Samaritan saw him and took pity on him, he poured oil and wine on his wounds and then bandaged them. He lifted the man onto his donkey, took him to an inn and cared for him. The next day he gave the innkeeper two denarii to look after the man until he returned.

Which of the three travellers do you think was the neighbour to the man who was attacked?

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E	U	S	O	S	T	N	I	A	S	A	Y
D	E	N	W	T	E	S	O	I	D	S	B
R	O	W	H	E	R	E	S	D	N	A	H

Wordsearch clues and answers

Doubting Thomas If you have ever doubted aspects of your Christian faith, St Thomas is the saint for you. His feast day is on 3rd July.

Thomas, one of Jesus' 12 disciples, was deeply devoted, but also very honest whenever he got confused. When Jesus spoke of going to his Father (John 14), Thomas was not afraid to ask Him where His Father was. As for the Resurrection, that really baffled Thomas. He demanded to see the risen Jesus for himself - and touch the wounds in His hands and feet. When Jesus appeared, Thomas' immediate response was one of worship: "My Lord and my God" (John 20).

Thus, Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of us down the centuries who also sometimes doubt Jesus. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, we can find support for our own faith in Him.

Thomas Saint Doubt Faith Feast Honest Confused Father Afraid
 Where Resurrection Baffled Demanded Risen See Support Touch
 Wounds Hands Feet Response Worship Lord My God