

# THE WELL

Kemsing and Woodlands

Parish Magazine



SPRING 2018      Number 209

Oak's Lunch—see Centre Pages

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Editorial Team:- Doreen Farrow, Janet Eaton & Rosemary Banister  
Advertisement Editor—John Farrow

*We reserve the right to edit [i.e. cut, précis, alter, correct grammar or spelling] any item published, and our decision is final.*

### Cover picture shows a photo from our archive

#### **COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE by 1st May 2018**

Please submit any items or articles for the next issue of The Well before then.

THE WELL - is published and distributed free, four times a year by the Parochial Church Council of Kemsing and Woodlands, to encourage and stimulate the life of the community. The views expressed in the magazine do not necessarily represent official church opinion or policy.

If you use a computer to type your article, it would be extremely helpful if you could Email it to: **welleditors@gmail.com** or send to the Editors c/o Poppies Cottage, 3 St. Edith's Road, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 6PT.

For postal subscriptions, contact Debby Pierson—01732 762033

# Easter Services at Kemsing & Woodlands

*Celebrate with us this Easter!*

Friday 30th March (Good Friday)

9.30 am All-age worship in Kemsing Church

10.30 am Open-air service on Green Hill ↙  
*followed by* **At the cross**

Hot Cross Buns in Kemsing Church

1.30-3.00 pm Quiet, Reflective Service

Sunday 1st April (Easter Day)

8.00 am Traditional Communion in Kemsing

10.00 am All-age Communion in Kemsing

11.00 am Communion at Woodlands

## *Vicar's Letter*



Dear Friends

**I**n church, we spend a lot of time looking at the Bible, a book written between 3500 and 1950 years ago. Why do we do that, rather than look for something more up to date?

Part of the answer is that the Christian faith is the good news that God stepped into history in the person of Jesus. Once for all, he made himself known, and acted to rescue us, in a way that applies down the ages. The Bible needs applying into today's world, but it's inherently able to do that because it's a book about Jesus who is always relevant.

However I was recently struck by just how relevant the Bible can be. After Easter, as a church, we're going to begin working our way through the Bible book of 1 Corinthians. This is a letter sent in AD 55 by the apostle Paul to the church in the ancient city of Corinth. It's a substantial letter, so we'll be studying it until just before Christmas.

1<sup>st</sup> century Corinth was not unlike any modern Western city. It was a place of wealth generation. Situated on a key trade route, most merchandise crossing between the east and west of Greece passed through. Yet that wealth was in the hands of an elite minority. The majority were much poorer, and there was a heavily embedded class system.

Corinth was a multi faith city. There was also a celebrity culture, where the best public performers were highly prized. This fed into the tensions over money, with the best performers highly paid. Questions of sexual license, and freedom from slavery, pervaded the culture. Lastly, the Corinthians loved their sport, with biennial games a huge attraction.

However the relevance of this ancient letter lies not only in the similarity of culture to our own, but the fact we live in the same era. Paul resolves most of the issues facing that church by asking them to look back to the death of Jesus and forward to his future return to judge us all. Those two bookends define the era we live in, and the Corinthian Christians routinely forgot them.

We, today, also live between these great events. Indeed, Easter is when we remember Jesus' death and resurrection; Advent (running up to Christmas) is when Christians look forward to Jesus' return. We'll be looking at 1 Corinthians in months bracketed by a focus in the church year on these same two events.

Why not join us on Sundays as we allow God to re-orientate our lives to his purposes, for the era and the culture in which we live.

With every blessing. Your friend and vicar,

James Oakley

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted.

## PARISH CHURCHES OF KEMSING & WOODLANDS

[www.kemsingwithwoodlands.org](http://www.kemsingwithwoodlands.org)

Vicar	Rev. James Oakley	01732 762556
Wardens	Ruth Chatwin	01959 522311
	Ray Parton	01732 764132
	Trevor Mallinson	01959 524725
Parish Office	Anita Connelly	01732 761351
Readers	Mary Quenby	01959 522079
	Philip Walker	01732 761646
	Ruth Mason	01959 524486

The Parish Office is temporarily in the St Edith Club, and will usually be open on 4 mornings a week, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.15am to 12.15pm. Answerphone at other times is 01732 761351. Ring first to make sure Anita, our Parish Administrator, is there. The Parish Administrator's email address is: [administrator@kemsingwithwoodlands.org](mailto:administrator@kemsingwithwoodlands.org)

### **Apart from 5th Sunday, the pattern of services is as follows:**

08.00 Communion in traditional language

09.15 Sung Communion service (followed by coffee in the Church)

10.30 Morning Service (with coffee in the Church beforehand)

Sunday Special in the School on every Sunday **apart from 1st Sunday of the month which is the 'All-Age' service.**

18.30 Evening Service (Evensong twice a month, a number of other formats twice a month)

### **The service pattern on the 5th Sunday will be:**

08.00 BCP Matins

10.00 Combined service with Woodlands at Kemsing

18.30 Evensong

**For details of Easter Services at Kemsing & Woodlands Churches, see page 3**

### **SERVICES at St. Mary's Woodlands**

1st Sunday 4.30 All Age Service

2nd Sunday 11.00 Informal Communion

3rd Sunday 11.00 Morning Praise

4th Sunday 11.00 Holy Communion

5th Sunday 10.00 Combined Informal Communion Service for both Churches, usually to be held in Kemsing

**Children are warmly welcomed at all of our services. The Evening service is followed by a light meal.**

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## WOODLANDS NEWS

### Hall Hire

Please remember that our newly refurbished Hall is available for hire. Contact Ruth Chatwin, Tel: 01959 522311 for details.

### The Lunch Club

Meets every Thursday, details from Anne Shelley, Tel: 01959 522986.



### Service times at Woodlands

Apart from All Age worship on the 1st Sunday of each month at 4.30pm, all services at Woodlands start at 11am. There is a refreshment break during the service.

Please come and visit us, you will be most welcome.

**5th Sunday** As usual there is no service at Woodlands on a 5th Sunday. Instead, Woodlanders will be at Kemsing Church for a combined Communion Service at 10am.

### Woodlands Cafe

Now that spring is on its way, why not take a walk across the hills and visit the Cafe in Woodlands Church Hall, Tinkerpot Lane, TN15 6AA

The Cafe is open on the **1st Saturday of each month from 11.30am to 3pm** serving delicious home-made meals, cakes and snacks.

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# Ightham Mote

## House, garden and estate

With the start of spring, the garden and estate is coming alive with flowers and wild life. In the house, our room guides are waiting to greet you and reveal the house in all its glory after its winter conservation.

### **Forthcoming events at Ightham Mote include:**

Mother's Day: Sunday 11 March

Easter Holiday activities: Friday 30 March - Sunday 15 April

Dr Doolittle makes an appearance on Saturday 2 June as Illyria perform this classic tale outside, on the lawn.

For more details, call 01732 810378 or visit  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote)

Ightham Mote, Mote Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NT

High level photography © 2009

## **NEWS and NOTES**

**B**ack by popular demand, Nicola Tallis is returning on Wednesday 28th March at 2pm in Kemsing Library to talk about her new book Elizabeth's Rival: the tumultuous tale of Lettice Knollys. Cousin to Elizabeth I - and very likely also Henry VIII's illegitimate granddaughter - Lettice Knollys had a life of dizzying highs and pitiful lows. Darling of the court, entangled in a love triangle with Robert Dudley and Elizabeth I, banished from court, plagued by scandals of affairs and murder, embroiled in treason, Lettice would go on to lose a husband and beloved son to the executioner's axe.

In this first biography, and living to the astonishing age of ninety-one, Lettice's tale gives us a remarkable, personal lens on the grand sweep of the Tudor Age, with those closest to her often at the heart of the events that defined it.

Tickets, available from Kemsing Library are £5, refreshments included.

For further information please contact Anne or Jane at Kemsing Library 030041 31 31 [kemsinglibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kemsinglibrary@kent.gov.uk)

**D**o you like a fun Quiz Evening? The Heritage Centre are holding another one of their twice yearly quizzes on Saturday 7th April at 7.30pm in St Edith Hall and have space for another couple of teams of up to 8 people. If you would like to enter a team, or come along and make up a team with a few others, please telephone Jim McIntyre 01732 762785

### **PARISH OF KEMSING & WOODLANDS**

#### **NOTICE OF ANNUAL VESTRY & PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS**

**Sunday, 29th April 2018**

It is planned to follow the Combined Service at 10am on 29th April with a cold Buffet Lunch, which will be 'bring and share'. The meetings will follow in Kemsing Church at 1.00pm.

Those people on the Churches' Electoral Roll will receive an Agenda and copy of the Annual Reports & Financial Statements 2017 beforehand.

*Rosemary Banister, PCC Secretary.*



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## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF KEMSING & WOODLANDS

Since 1st December 2017, the two Parishes of Kemsing and Woodlands have been combined, with one Parochial Church Council.

This is an historical change which has been requested by both the former PCCs as, increasingly, it has been difficult to manage the administration of Woodlands, which has a much smaller, widespread, congregation. Now, with the combined PCC, we can share the burden and help each other as one team.

Our first combined PCC meeting in January 2018 felt like an event to celebrate, and all those present went home in a much more cheerful frame of mind about the challenges ahead. It does mean we have a bigger PCC membership until the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April. At present we also have three Churchwardens, as Ruth Chatwin will continue to be looking after Woodlands, and Ray Parton and Trevor Mallinson remain the Churchwardens for Kemsing Church.

One of the first tasks to undertake for Woodlands has been to apply for an Archdeacon's Licence to carry out internal redecoration of Woodlands Church, which has been approved,. A group of volunteers will carry out the work during May.

Our Architect is working hard in conjunction with a Structural Engineer and Quantity Surveyor to produce detailed plans which can go out to tender for construction of our new Church Hall in Kemsing. This is in accordance with the approved plan submitted in 2016 (not the one which the Diocesan Planning Consultant is still appealing with access across the Churchyard). Meanwhile, the Diocese's recent application for a new Vicarage was again refused by Sevenoaks District Council.

After the Church Hall Field boundaries were cleared of brambles, etc., the path from the lychgate to the Car Park is much safer. It has also revealed several graves which had been hidden for years.

*Rosemary Banister, PCC Secretary, Kemsing and Woodlands.*

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## KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

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**Mrs. Yolanda Tredoux, Parish Clerk, Tel: 01732 762841**

Clerk's Office, The St. Edith Hall, High Street, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 6NA

Email : kemsingpc@tiscali.co.uk website: www.kemsingpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Normal Office Hours : Monday, Wednesday & Thursday (9 am to 2 pm)

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### Downland Management Committee – Report by Chairman, Councillor Mr. Douglas Bennett

The gate to The Well area was moved to enable safer access from the footpath. The faded wording on the St. Edith stone was refurbished and is now legible. A 10 year Woodland Management Plan, to enable applications for future Woodland Management Grants, was prepared and approved by the Forestry Commission. The application for grants under the new scheme was to be made by this April, but it is uncertain that grants will be approved.

### Planning Committee – Report by Chairman, Councillor Mr. Tony Andrews

Four Parish Council members sit on this Committee. They attend every two weeks throughout the year together with the Parish Clerk who collates the presentation of plans and other relevant information and takes the minutes. Meetings are held on Monday evenings and members of the public are always welcome. Planning applications for all development within the Parish boundary are considered, and a decision made to recommend Approval or Refusal, which is supported with written reasons why the proposals do not comply with the relevant planning laws and regulations. This recommendation is sent to the District Council, the Planning Authority, who makes the final decision. The Committee members are constantly reminded that it is difficult “To please all of the people all of the time”.

### Recreation Grounds Committee – Report by Chairman, Councillor Dr. Philip Walker

The Recreation Grounds Committee has responsibility for the open space at Nightingale Road, the Common Field and Barnfield Open Space plus a few minor pieces of land. This year, the fence at the Nightingale Road ground has been erected to stop caravan parking and other illegal use by motor vehicles. Substantive repairs have been made to the children's equipment, which is inspected weekly and is also cleaned if necessary, and both fields are regularly mowed in the summer months. In addition, the Committee has been involved with a programme of husbandry on the boundary trees.

### Finance Committee – Report by Chairman, Councillor Mr. Paul Eaton

The Finance Committee's main role is to oversee the Parish Council's accounts. This includes the preparation of the budget for consideration by the full Council. The objective is to be prudent with the Council's money whilst ensuring that enough funds are available to allow provision for all important aspects of village life for which the Parish Council is responsible. The Committee also attempts to maintain adequate reserves to allow for any eventualities which could arise, and is keen to put forward new projects for consideration by the full Council which will benefit Kemsing.



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# **Kemsing Parish Council**

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

*You are invited as an ELECTOR of KEMSING Parish to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on*

***Wednesday, 28 March 2018, at 7.30 p.m. St. Edith Hall***

*It would be helpful if you could let the Parish Clerk know if you have any specific questions or proposals. Please submit these in writing by 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018*

### **AGENDA**

- 1. Chairman's welcome and introduction**
- 2. Minutes**  
To approve and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 March 2017  
*(available to view at Kemsing Library, notice board at St. Edith Hall, or on the Council's website)*
- 3. Matters arising from the Minutes**
- 4. Reports from:**  
Kemsing Primary School  
Sevenoaks District Council (District Councillors)  
Kent County Council (County Councillor)  
Police Community Support Officer  
St. Clere Estate
- 5. Community Speedwatch**  
To receive opinions from residents regarding the introduction of a volunteer Speedwatch scheme for the village.
- 6. Questions from Electors**
- 7. Consideration of any new matters raised by Electors**
- 8. Closure of the meeting**

*Chairman of the Parish Council, Mrs MR Cole*



The wonderful community lunch was launched to bring the children in contact with to this, and the Year 6 children of Kemsing Primary School fundraise to enable donations and this has also been supported with generous donations from Waitrose whole event is organised and run by a loyal team of volunteers, headed up by Annett on the Friday and Saturday morning ready for the guests' arrival from 12.30pm. The In December, 96 ladies and gentlemen attended, enjoying a traditional roast turkey entertained them with carols afterwards. Each guest left with their gift, bulbs planted



# CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2017



with the older residents of Kemsing village. The Parish Council contributes financially to them to provide a gift for everyone who attends. Some of the guests kindly make their own Christmas cards in Sevenoaks. For the past 15 years, this lunch has been held in the School. The event is organized by Mrs. Sue Cartwright and Kim Fear, and teachers and staff of the School. Preparation starts in October and the event is free of charge to all those who attend.

The lunch is followed by a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. The Year 6 children served all the guests and then the gifts were opened by the children and wrapped beautifully with handmade gift tags.



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## KEMSING PLAYER'S NEXT PRODUCTION



### The Hound of the Baskervilles

**T**he Kemsing Players' next production to be held on 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018 will be '**The Hound of the Baskervilles**' adapted for the stage by Sue Davnall from Arthur Conan Doyle's classic Sherlock Holmes novel.

When Sir Charles Baskerville is found dead in the yew alley of his ancestral home in the wilds of Dartmoor, with the footprint of a giant hound nearby, it appears that the family curse has struck again. Can Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson solve the mystery before Sir Charles' heir comes to a terrifying end?

Performances are at 8pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April. Tickets will be £10 (*concessions £8 for the Thursday performance only*) and will go on sale from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April; at Dynes Road Dry Cleaners by phone on 07976 835895 or via e-mail at [kemsing.players@live.co.uk](mailto:kemsing.players@live.co.uk)

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## HELPING HAND REPORT

The Helping Hand Driving Scheme has now been running for 40 years and still operates on much the same basis; that is to help the elderly, disabled or otherwise disadvantaged to get to medical appointments or make hospital visits. The number of trips grows slowly but steadily each year and in 2017 it totalled 266 - up 5% over 2016.

I am very grateful to the supportive and resourceful team of drivers – Martyn Berry, Jimmy Clements, Sheila Creates, Chris Gray, Sue and Malcolm Macfarlane, Gil McIntyre, Robert Pierson, Margaret Robarts, Geoffrey Taunton, Alan Waters and Jenny Williamson. Sheila and Sue joined us during the year and are very welcome.

There is still plenty of room for other drivers to join - an average of 2 to 3 jobs per month but no regular commitments. And if you know anyone that needs our help please contact me.

Alastair Boobyer 01959 522490 or 07400 711985

## FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S, KEMSING

The AGM of the Friends of St Mary's, Kemsing was held on Saturday, 2nd February 2018 in the Church. Philip Walker was in the Chair, with Debby Pierson, Secretary, and Peter Chadwick, Treasurer.

After the usual business, when Peter was able to report that 2017 had been a more successful year financially than he had expected, Diana Springall gave a most fascinating talk, illustrated with her slides, on "Embroidery for Places of Worship". Diana had also brought along paintings of the commissions she had carried out for a wide variety of establishments all over the world from corporate businesses to places of worship.

Appreciation was expressed to Elizabeth and Alan Waters who had celebrated a special anniversary recently and had chosen to receive donations for the Friends instead of presents, making an unexpected boost of £345 to the funds. Jean Walker had hosted a very successful lunch in October which raised £281 including a raffle.

It was anticipated that the Friends would finish paying for the internal decoration of the Church in 2018 and would be looking to raise funds for further works which had been highlighted in the 2017 Quinquennial Inspection Report. The AGM in 2019 will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 2.30pm in the Church.

Rosemary Banister

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## NEWS FROM COTMANS ASH—*March Morning*

March comes in like a lion or a lamb” – so says the old country proverb, certainly there is more morning light in the sky and the sun travels higher in the sky, gaining strength day by day. At Cotmans Ash it is birds singing in the half light. Through my open window from high and far come the voices of birds beyond number Blackbird, Dunnock, Wood Pigeon, Thrush and Robin all mingling into one anthem of praise for the light and life of the day. There is one voice rising above all other from high in the treetops, a lone Mistle Thrush.

Some years back now I recall in early Spring a singer unknown to me - a world distance from other singers from far away, then nearer – from on high then low sinking then rising and for bird song he had no match, the solo of an anthem. It was the voice of a woodlark! It asks a question, that bird from the woodland is a puzzling bird, he came and went and the like of his lovely music has never been here since.

Good winter flowering plants are rare and over the years I have introduced some of the best of them to Cotmans Ash and the Daphne family have some – out on top in particular D. Bholua – heavily scented, rose pink blossoms - it was flowering on Christmas Day and is still flowering now. Another Daphne Mezereum – spikes of deep pink scented blossoms that flower May to June and Daphne Cneorum – very fragrant pink flowers in April. Another family of early flowerers are the Viburnums. V. Burkwoodii flowers in April - heavily scented white flowers. A vigorous evergreen scented climber is Clematis Armandii that will smother your sheds in a very short time in March.

At Cotmans Ash with our heavy chalk soil we have to work with Nature so bulbs are the order of the day. Snowdrops cover the ground with white drifts of ivory white nodding bells, as I write – in some places I have married them off to the marbled leaves of the hardy cyclamen.

One of Nature’s loveliest children is the Town Hall Clock – a glistening green comical little face that makes up a four sided clock. In many places I let the wood run wild – you can be sure the Great Creator will put something in there and I think His favourite flower is the primrose, for at the moment we are smothered with them.

During my years as a national tree Judge I learned that for surprises you could always rely on the Village Churchyard and not only the trees. St. Mary’s, Kemsing comes up with a shock of an alien invader which has crept under the wall from ‘Cleves,’ swamping the north bank of the churchyard and spreading down the west boundary with lovely heart shaped leaves and highly scented blossoms – ‘A wolf in sheep’s clothing’ if ever there was. I notice it has jumped the road into Little Wybournes!

*Brian Doe*

# THEN AND NOW—MEMORIES OF KEMSING

by ALF HAYNES (1904-1986)

The following is an excerpt from *Kemsing Remembered, Part 3*, edited and published by Monty Parkin in 1992 for the Kemsing Historical & Art Society (now available in the Kemsing Heritage Centre):

“.....The village was very different in my young days. Here are some of the things I remember of how it used to be. Opposite us was an orchard, where the village hall is now. The present vicarage was called Chantry Cottage and was the home of Miss Susannah Edlmann. There was open land between her cottage and the church. The vicar lived at ‘Cleves’ (the (former) Youth Hostel) which was beautifully kept. There were four gardeners who maintained it and trimmed the trees and generally kept it very tidy.

Just up the road from us was the post office in Clement House. The present post office was then an ordinary house. The Clement House post office was kept by Mr Andrew Holden, or ‘Drew’ as we called him. Old Drew used to play the violin in the chapel in St. Edith’s Road. He had a long white beard and would stand up in the chapel on Sunday and confess all his sins of the past week. Us boys used to sit at the back and laugh. We only went to church and chapel because there was nothing else to do.

The house called ‘St. Edith View’, next to The Wheatsheaf, was originally church property, occupied by the verger, Mr. Wise. Castle Bank was divided into three cottages. Some of the early people I remember living there were the Homdens, Boakes and Somers families. The Somers had a donkey which had to be led through the house to the stables at the back.

The well was still used for drawing water. There was a shed nearby, where the green is now, which was run as a sweet shop by Mr. Clapson. Later the scouts had the building as a troop hut.

The Box House was owned by Major Ward, who rode to church on horseback. There was originally a tall black fence around the Box House which the present wall replaced. All the roads were very rough, especially the Pilgrims’ Way.

Where the council houses are in West End (by the school) there used to be allotments. That area was known as ‘The Kennedy’ – ‘Kennedy Gardens’ is a Kentish name for allotments. Above the school itself was a field where Mr. Wren grew beet, turnips, cabbages and so on. There used to be haystacks where the West End Garage is now. There were no houses between Dippers Cottage (Stubb Crouch) and Warren House in Otford.....”

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## KEMSING SCHOOL REPORT

As always, school life is very busy. At Christmas we were all thoroughly entertained by our Key Stage 1 production of “The Sleepy Shepherd.” The school hall was packed with proud parents and grandparents and the performances were a great start to the festive season. Key Stage 2 children staged a “Celebration of Christmas” which was also thoroughly enjoyed by staff and parents alike.

This term, our very talented and enthusiastic Year 6 took part in a production of Hoodwinked, a musical retelling of the legend of Robin Hood. Maid Marion’s ladies were an absolute triumph and the Sheriff of Nottingham drew boos and hisses from a rapt audience.

Throughout the year at Kemsing we take part in a number of events and activities to promote reading. A popular event is the Book



Oscars, a termly award presented to the children’s favourite picture book. Every term, the staff compile a shortlist of favourite titles and then these are all read to the children. Each class then chooses their favourite book and the overall winner is announced in assembly, usually accompanied by great cheers from the children!

Recent winners have been “The Bog Baby”, “Stuck” and “Marvin Gets Mad.”

Children from all classes regularly visit Kemsing Library and borrow picture books, fiction and non-fiction titles. During February half term, parents organised a sponsored read to raise much needed funds for books and an author visit. We hope to repeat the success of last year’s visit from the great children’s illustrator Korky Paul.

Recently Year 5 visited Horton Kirby Environmental Education Centre, to take part in a Victorian Time Travellers day. The children all dressed up as Victorian pupils and experienced what life was really like in 1900.

Later this term, Year 3 will be visiting the British Museum to get up close and personal with the Egyptians. This is always a very popular topic for the children, especially the more gory aspects of the mummification process! At Kemsing we are enjoying the early signs of spring. We are looking forward to the warmer weather and once it is dry enough, being able to access our beautiful school field at break times and lunch times.

*Eileen Mumford, Headteacher*

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## **FAMILY MILESTONES**

### **Baptism**

Harrison Theo KENT on 11th March 2018

### **Deaths– Rest in Peace**

Nigel GOVETT (73) 28th September 2017

Lawrence CASTLE (92) on 14th December

John McLEAN (82) on 18th December

Barbara JENNINGS (88) on 3rd December

Bob MATON (81 ) on 21st December 2017

Margaret JACKSON (87) on 25th  
December 2017

Moira RICKARDS (86) on 29th  
December 2017

### **From “ The Well” Easter 1968**

Tom Dew wrote an article about the need for stewardship at the Church, which had started in 1961.

An article was written about The Well area which was created in the 1920s by a working party of 25-30 men under the supervision of Sir Mark Collet and Mr Godfrey Pinkerton (the architect of the Village Hall and the War Memorial who is buried in the Churchyard). Bushes and leafy grass were removed, the course of the stream defined, the remains of an old shop demolished, a bridge built over the stream outside the Post Office, the side path to The Bell was marked off by posts and chains and the grass beyond it bounded by a brick wall. The work took many months and those involved included Alf Haynes (Senior and Junior), Bill Harriman (from St Clere), and Messrs Avery, Clark, Grey and Mr Gerson Williams.

### **From “The Well” Easter 1993**

Len Newell wrote about the “Helping Hand” scheme that was run by him and Ted Cowlard. It provided transport to nearby hospital and surgeries. Demand had been increasing and then (as now) he appealed for more drivers.

St Mary’s Traidcraft Group had an encouraging year in 1992 and had sold over £11,500 of goods.

The Parish Council had decided to enter the village for the “Best Kept Village Competition” for the first time since 1978. Dave Wellman recorded his impressions of the USA. He had just returned from a sponsored cycle ride riding 160 miles through Death Valley in Nevada California.

Patios - Drives - Decking - Walls - Ponds - Paths - Fencing - Pergolas - Rock Features - Water Features

Patios - Drives - Decking - Walls - Ponds - Paths - Fencing - Pergolas

# LE FEVRE LANDSCAPES

Garden and drive construction

Contact: Nic Le Fevre

Mobile: 07931 152721

Home: 01732 834725

Patios - Drives - Decking - Walls - Ponds - Paths - Fencing - Pergolas

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## HERITAGE CENTRE EXHIBITION



"166 visitors and members braved the wet weather and defied the influenza bug on Saturday 10th February, to attend the Kemsing Heritage Centre Second World War Home Front Exhibition. St Edith Hall certainly felt the right venue for the event, having been the home of an official Civil Defence Rest Centre and First Aid Point during the war.

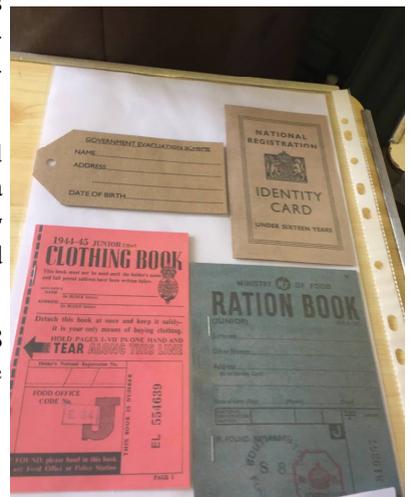
The display of memorabilia and documentation from the period was supported with two films running continuously. The first of these featured original footage from the period of Otford, Shoreham and Kemsing, including a Home Guard parade. The second film was taken in September last year of the memorial service for Flight Sergeant Jack Hammerton held at Noah's Ark, which was organised by the Shoreham Aircraft Museum, supported by the Kemsing Heritage Centre.

Also available on the day was a comprehensive selection of books and ephemera on the history of Kemsing.

The committee would like to thank those members who helped on the day and particularly all the visitors who created a nostalgic and vibrant atmosphere.

The exhibition was followed by a well attended AGM, which concluded with Doug Parry reading a chapter from his forthcoming book "*Kemsing Defiant*" also about the war time Home Front and which is due for release later this year.

Although the programme of monthly talks for 2018 has been finalised the committee would welcome suggestions on subjects and speakers for next year"



# Village Diary

## March

- 3rd Heritage Centre open the first Saturday of every month 10.00-12.00  
Heritage Centre open every Monday afternoon 2.0-4.30pm except Bank Holidays.
- 9th Wildlife Group St. Edith sml hall 7.30 '*Birds Beyond the boughs*' by S.Gunnaw £2
- 10th Scouts Jumble Sale, donated items to St. Edith hall from 9.30. start at 1.30 adults £1.00
- 13th Kemsing Gardeners Club AGM with Brian Doe 7.30 St. Edith small hall
- 14th WI talk '*Californian Dreaming*' by M. Bunn St. Edith small hall 7.45pm.
- 17th Kemsing Singers 'A Concert for Sue.' Otford Methodist Ch, tickets £8 no concs. 01959 523752
- 23rd Heritage Centre talk '*The Chislehurst Caves*' by R. Le Gear 7.30 St. Edith sml hall visitors £2.50
- 28th Annual Parish Meeting 7.30 St. Edith's large hall see page 15 for further details.**
- 30th For Good Friday Church services see page 3**

## April

- 1st For Easter Day Church services see page 3**
- 6th Wildlife Group meeting St. Edith sml hall 7.30 talk '*The Life of Plants*' by J. Tyler £2.
- 7th Kemsing Gardeners Spring Show the school hall 2.30pm
- 7th Kemsing Heritage Centre Quiz 7.30 St. Edith large see page 9 for further details
- 9th 2.00 pm ceremony at The War Memorial to remember Philip Fen killed 100 years ago this day.
- 10th Kemsing Gardeners Club St. Edith Hall 7.30 'More Garden Impact for Less Effort' A. Marsden
- 11th WI 60th Birthday Meeting St. Edith small hall 7.45 A 50's & 60's music quiz by Av. Singh.  
Please bring a donation of food and a guest.
- 13th Wildlife Group St. Edith sml hall 7.30 talk '*The Life of Plants*' £2.00 by John Tyler
- 20th Heritage Centre talk '*Characters Wacky Weird & Wonderful*' by C. McCooy 7.30 St. Edith small hall
- 24th Heritage Centre coach outing to Great Dixter gardens details from Christine Geer 01732 761812
- 26th,27th,28th Kemsing Players present '*The Hound of the Baskervilles*' 8.00 pm St. Edith large hall.  
See P.19 for more details.
- 29th Annual Vestry & Parochial Church meeting in the Church after a bring & share buffet lunch, following the 10.00 am service. See page 9 for further details.**

## May

- Kemsing Gardeners Club garden visit date and venue to be confirmed
- 4th Wildlife Group St. Edith sml hall 7.30 talk by Zoe Stevenson '*Guardians of the Deep*' £2.00
- 9th WI Annual Meeting & Resolutions, plus members meeting '*Do you have a story to Tell?*' 7.45 St. Edith small
- 19th Kemsing Singers Spring Concert '*Things ain't What They Used to Be*' 7.30 St. Edith hall. Tkt 9 Cleves Rd., Kemsing TN15 6RX 01959 523752 Adult £8, Children £4. Frnds of Singers £6.00.
- 22nd Heritage Centre coach outing to Kew Gardens details from Christine Geer 01732 761812
- 25th Heritage Centre talk '*The Real Mr. Selfridge*' by Ian Porter 7.30 St. Edith small hall visitors £2

## June

- 13th WI meeting St. Edith small hall 7.45 talk on '*The Princess Christian Hospital at Hildenborough*'

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