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From the Church



“The Quiet Man Who Changed the World: A Thought on Barnabas”

You’ve probably heard of Saint Peter. Maybe Saint

Paul. But have you ever heard of Barnabas?

On 11th June, churches remember this lesser-known character from the early Christian story. Barnabas wasn’t loud or flashy. He didn’t write letters that ended up in the Bible. He wasn’t the one giving big speeches or making headlines. But without Barnabas, the story of the early church might have looked very different.

Here’s the thing about Barnabas: he was known as an encourager. That was literally his nickname - Barnabas means “son of encouragement” And it stuck.

We first meet him in the bible in the Book of Acts, where he sells some land and gives the money to help people in need. No fuss. No fanfare. Just quiet generosity.

But perhaps the most important thing he did was take a chance on someone everyone else was afraid of: Saul, a man who’d once tried to stamp out the early Christian movement. Saul had a huge turnaround and wanted to join the very people he used to persecute - but no one trusted him. Except Barnabas. He stood up for him. Brought him in. Gave him a fresh start.

That man became Paul - yes, St Paul. The one who would go on to shape much of Christianity as we know it. That only happened because Barnabas saw something in him when others didn’t.

Later, when another young man, John Mark who was close to Peter the main

disciple of Jesus, messed up on a trip and wanted a second chance, Barnabas gave it to him. Paul didn’t. They actually argued and went separate ways over it. But Barnabas stuck to his values: lift people up, believe the best, give grace.

The point is, Barnabas wasn’t the star of the show - but he made space for others to shine. He was the kind of person who helps things happen by lifting other people up.

And in today’s world - where criticism is loud, encouragement is rare, and second chances aren’t always easy to come by - maybe we need more Barnabases.

Whether or not you’re religious, I think there’s something inspiring about his example:

- He gave when he could have kept.
- He vouched for the outsider.
- He looked for the good in people - even when they’d messed up.

Imagine what our communities would be like if more people lived like that.

So, here’s a thought as we mark Barnabas’ day:

I wonder if you ever had a person that encouraged you even when others put you down?

What impact did that have on your life?

Who could you encourage this week?

Who might need a second chance - or a bit of belief from someone like you?

You don’t have to be famous to make a difference. Sometimes, it’s the quiet encouragers in the background who make a difference and change the world.

Rev Tim Saiet

ST JOHN'S CHURCH - Directory

Tel: 01732 833 596 Website: www.stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

Please ring the church office or email any time, if you would like to discuss any pastoral or administrative matter.

Office Opening Hours: Tuesday - 11am to 3pm, Wednesday - 9am to 3pm
and Friday - 9 to 12:30

Role	Name	Contact Details
Vicar	Rev Tim Saiset	07973 136 968 tim@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Children and Youths Pastor	Lisa Glasscote	lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Lay Readers	Trevor Long	07513 420 509
Warden	Vacant	
PCC Secretary	Vacant	stjohnspcc@outlook.com
Foodbank and Community coordinator	Adele Hopkins-Ballard	07942 148 175 adele@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Safeguarding	Kate Lake	07579 821 956 safeguarding@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Treasurer	Richard Lake	07579 210 122 treasurer@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Archivist	Howard Dolling	07876 451 168
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Keys Advertising	Liz Ridley	advertising@keysmagazine.co.uk

Sunday services

9:15 - 10:30am - Contemporary service with breakfast served in the Church from 8:45am

Refreshments served between services in the Church Centre. All welcome.

11am - 12:15pm - Traditional service

Tuesday service

11:15am - 12pm Morning Prayer

Contact the office to receive Church News and Notices or follow us on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/stjohnshildenborough

Wide range of
kids play
equipment



WHO LET THE DADS OUT?

First Saturday of the Month

9:30-11am

Church Centre, Foxbush TN11 9HT

No need to book

£3 per family; includes hot breakfast roll and
refreshments

Meet other
local Dads and
have fun





HIVE
Hildenborough Village
**The Hive
Youth Group**

For school year
6-13
£1 - 8/6
£2 - 22/6



June 8th and 22nd, 5-7pm

June 8th - Bake Off
22nd June - One united in Faith



At One United in Faith we will be joining together with other youth groups from the Tonbridge and Sevenoaks area.

For more information please contact
Lisa Glasscote
lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

All youth leaders
hold a valid DBS



**CAFÉ THEO IN THE
FIELD**

Join us on Friday, 6th and 20th
June. 🕒 4-5 PM

Weather permitting!

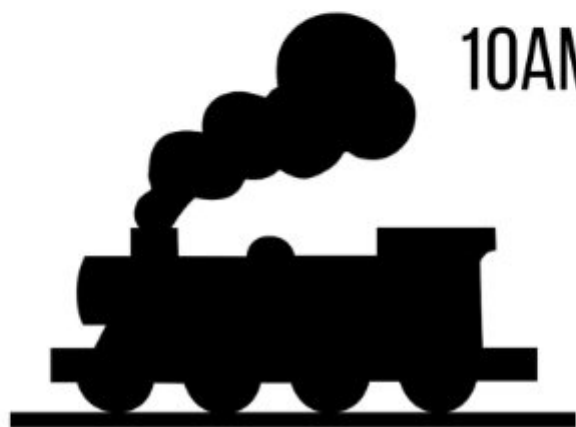
**At the far end of the church
field, by the Recreation Ground.
Come and enjoy free drinks and
tasty treats!**



MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

SATURDAY 12TH JULY

10AM - 3PM



Working layouts
Meccano exhibit
Free Entry
Light Refreshments

St John's Church Centre
Foxbush
Hildenborough
TN11 9HT





ST JOHN'S CHURCH
HILDENBOROUGH



JOIN US FOR OUR
Summer Fair

SATURDAY 12TH JULY
12PM - 2PM



Join us for lots of fun including

- Traditional Fun Fair Games
- BBQ • Market Stalls
- Fire Engine • Police Car
- Juggling Demonstration
- Princess Christian's Farm

and more!

St John's Church Centre
Foxbush
Hildenborough
TN11 9HT



MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION
SATURDAY 12TH JULY
10AM - 3PM



Forget-me-not Cafés



Companionship over a cuppa



Once a month, on the second Wednesday at 11.00 -12.30pm you will find the Family Room of St. John's Church Centre, all set up with tablecloths and flowers, fresh coffee, tea and cake all ready to welcome our patrons to the Forget-me-not Café. It is an opportunity to get out of the house for a couple of hours and meet up with people for a chat. Whilst some of those who attend the Café live with a dementia diagnosis, others have mild memory loss, others care for a person with dementia, or some are feeling lonely and would like some company.

Our Cafés also welcome a guest speaker or entertainer during the morning and in May we were delighted to listen to Bob Ogley who is a local historian. He told us some fascinating war time stories that he had gathered together to publish in a book called "Biggin on the Bump".

There are many other areas of the war that he has researched, and



these too have been published in a variety of books by him. Many of those present had stories they could also tell about their experiences of World War 2 and memories were shared of events that were local to Hildenborough and the area. Bob has also written a book about his experience of the Great Storm in 1987 called "In the Wake of the Hurricane" and he told the story of how he went in a light aircraft after the storm to see the devastation and how Sevenoaks became "one oak".

We meet at 11.00 am – 12.30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month in the Family Room of the Church Centre at St. John's Church Hildenborough. There is plenty of free parking and disabled facilities on site.

If you would like more information on the Forget-me-not Cafés or would like to be put on the mailing list for the monthly programme of all the Cafes contact Elaine on forgetmenot.sadfc@gmail.com or 07946 534 476.

Julie Rhodes

Meet the volunteer – Ruth Wadsworth - Member of St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC)

I'm Ruth Wadsworth and I am a volunteer member of St John's Church Hildenborough PCC (Parochial Church Council).

I moved to Tonbridge in 1986 when I started work as a vet, at what was then Oliver and Noble, Eton Veterinary Hospital, at the north end of Tonbridge. Some people may remember me by my maiden name Ruth Church.

While I have lived in Tonbridge, Leigh and Hildenborough over the years, my husband Paul and I moved to Shipbourne in 1994.

St John's Church has been my spiritual home ever since I arrived in Tonbridge. I joined the Church Youth Group TOAST and made lifelong friends as well as meeting my husband Paul!

We have been worshipping at St John's together for nearly 40 years and Paul grew up in Hildenborough so has been part of the congregation for over 60 years.

I work full time as a vet at Priory Lodge Vets in Tonbridge, which is now part of the Pennard Vet Group, and have been there for over 25 years.

While I have done many voluntary jobs at St John's over the years (including playing the flute in the Church music group, helping with "Sunbeams" the Mother and Baby group, leading a Bible study group, planting hundreds of daffodils in front of the Church Hall and assisting Paul with his voluntary role as Chairman of the Church Centre) my most

recent job has been to become a member of the PCC last May.



The PCC is the governing body of the Church and makes decisions about how it is run both practically and spiritually. Members are nominated and elected at the Annual APCM meeting in May and are in post for 3 years before re-election.

There are currently 9 members including Tim Saiset the vicar, and we are always in need of additional members. The role of PCC secretary is currently vacant.

Having been a governor and PTA committee member at Shipbourne Primary School (where our two daughters went to school) I have found the roles to have many similarities. There is the same committee meeting format and Agenda when we discuss reports from the various subcommittees and make decisions on the maintenance of the Church buildings

and discuss management of the Church funds. Other subjects such as the Food Bank, Childrens' and Youth Ministry, Safeguarding, Graveyard maintenance and the Church Centre are often on the Agenda. We meet approximately every 2 months on a Wednesday evening from 7:30 till 10pm.

While there is a lot to learn, everyone has been very helpful and welcoming. There is an amazing team of volunteers all with different skill sets and they also give their time to action many of the tasks that we come up with in our Action plan.

The difference between a PCC and a School Governing Body is the spiritual side. Tim Saiset, the vicar, starts every meeting with Prayer and Reflection. We also have a PCC away day once a year.

I feel that it is a privilege to be included in deciding how St John's is governed. It is amazing how much work the Church does behind the scenes in the community that you wouldn't be aware of from just attending the Sunday services. It's nothing like how the PCC meetings are portrayed in the Vicar of Dibley!

Ruth Wadsworth

Volunteer interview - would you like to be featured?

If you would like to feature in the magazine, please get in touch with me at editor@keysmagazine.co.uk. My aim is to celebrate those that give up their time to make our community better. I hope this will inspire more people to get involved, as we have a wide variety of organisations in our village which are often in need of new volunteers.

Rob Mansfield

Easter Kindness - Members of the VolkerStevin and Mott MacDonald teams from the Leigh and Hildenborough Embankment Project paid a special visit to the Tonbridge Foodbank, based at St John's Church, in the lead-up to Easter. With a generous donation of Easter eggs, the team wanted to help ensure that local families and children didn't miss out on the simple joy of receiving a treat over the holiday period.

The visit was warmly welcomed by the foodbank team, who work tirelessly to support those in need throughout the year. "It's a small gesture, but one that can make a big difference to a child's day," said Adele Hopkins-Ballard, Foodbank and Community Coordinator.

Supporting local causes like this is an important part of the Leigh and Hildenborough team's ongoing commitment to the community. "We're proud to support the fantastic work the foodbank does – especially during the holidays, which can be a particularly challenging time for many families", commented the team.



HILDENBOROUGH



FARMERS' MARKET

Have you visited the Farmers Market on a Tuesday morning? If "no" then you are missing out on some shopping and a chance to meet friends for a cup of coffee and a chat. If "yes" then you will know what we are all about, but have you noticed that as well as the many stalls inside the Village Hall there are two stalls that are outside?

Firstly, you can visit the fresh fish van of "Will's Plaice Grimsby" as his sign says its "From Docks to Door!". Will is a mobile fish merchant who brings the finest quality fish to Hildenborough all the way from Grimsby, and he will even offer a FREE delivery on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Will covers a very large area but is a regular to the Hildenborough Farmers' Market. He can be contacted by phone or email and is on Facebook. Come along to the market to take a look at the wonderful fish he has on offer and "plaice" a regular order.



Our second stallholder outside is "The Hounds Larder" set up with lots of lovely treats for our canine friends. All the doggie goodies are natural dog treats made with locally and ethically sourced wild venison. Alex who runs the stall works with local deer management companies and farmers in the Kent and Sussex countryside, using parts of the animal that would have otherwise been thrown away. As well as being at the

Hildenborough Market you can also find her at Shipbourne Market on a Thursday.

Dogs are not allowed into the Market (other than assistance dogs) but Alex has offered to dogsit for a short while if you would like to visit the market while taking your dog for a walk. While visiting you could take a look at her dog treats and give your pooch a taster to see what they think.



Contact the Market manager: Nick Aldridge on: - managerhildenboroughfm@gmail.com

Also follow us on Social Media for your weekly update on what stalls will be at the Market.

We are open from 8.30am to 11.00 am every Tuesday at the Hildenborough Village Hall in Riding Lane.

Facebook – Hildenborough Farmers.Market

Instagram – hildenboroughfarmersmarket

FARMERS MARKET RECIPE - Fish pie

Ingredients

75g/3oz butter, plus extra for greasing

1 large onion, roughly chopped

50g/2oz plain flour

570ml/1 pint milk

salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 tbsp lemon juice

350g/12oz fresh haddock, cut into 1cm/1/2in pieces

4 hard-boiled free-range eggs, roughly chopped

For the topping

900g/2lb potatoes, peeled and cut into even-sized pieces

about 8 tbsp hot milk

about 50g/2oz butter

Method

1. Preheat the oven 200C/400F/Gas 6. Grease a shallow 2.5 litre/4 1/2 pint dish with butter.

2. Melt the butter in a pan on a high heat and fry onion for few minutes. Lower the heat, cover and leave to soften for 15 minutes.

3. Remove the lid and increase the heat to remove any moisture. Sprinkle in the flour and then add the milk gradually, stirring well and allowing the sauce to thicken until all the milk has been added.

4. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper, add lemon juice and the raw fish and cook for couple of minutes,

stirring continuously until the fish has just cooked. Stir in the smoked haddock. Pour the mixture into the buttered dish and leave to cool. Top with the hard-boiled eggs.

5. For the topping, boil the potatoes in a pan of salted water until tender. Drain, tip the potatoes back into the pan, add milk and butter and mash until lump-free. Use a ricer to get smooth mash. Add salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste.

6. Spread the mash over the top of the sauce and fish in the dish and score with a fork.

7. Bake in the preheated oven for about 30 minutes, or until the potato is crisp and golden-brown.

Hildenborough Cricket Club

Hildenborough recorded their first win of the season beating Petts Wood by nine wickets. Mark Davies (51), Greg Smith (30) and Dave Whire (15) all batted well before retiring not out, Pete Wood and Tom Collier seeing the side complete victory. Excellent bowling and fielding reduced the opposition to 141-9. Barry Webb took 4-7 in a six over stint, including three maidens, supported by Kalim and Mark Skinner with two each.

Hildenborough went down by eight wickets at Hadlow. Mark Davies (21) and Barry Webb (20) top scored in a total of 102, the home side reaching their target inside 25 overs - Kalim taking both wickets.

Barry Webb's 350th wicket for the club was the highlight in the five-wicket defeat

at Horsmonden on opening day of the season. A last wicket stand between Digby Russell and Tom Colliers added 30 in a total of 82-9. Horsmonden reached 86 for 5 in 18 overs. Apart from Webb's milestone, Kalim was again among the wickets with 2-12 in five overs - one each for Russell and Mark Skinner.

June Fixtures:

1/6 Kent Ramblas A

8/6 Hadlow H

15/6 Brasted Invicta A

22/6 Capel Development H

29/6 TBC

Pete Wood

Whats on in and around our village?

Arts and culture are flourishing in the local community often with little by way of external funding - please read through the following events and try and get to one if you can!

Hildenborough Road Races



The Hildenborough Road Races celebrated their 40th birthday this year on the 5th May and delivered another successful community event. Over 200 adult runners raced around the course and over 150 children took part in the races on the rec. Despite the mixed bank holiday weather, there were lots of smiles and ice creams enjoyed by all!

Thank you to both Pat Davies and Ian Kury who came down to start the race. Pat and Ian have both been

involved with the race since its early years and after taking a recent step back, we thought it only right to celebrate their contributions in this way. We had some fantastic race times across the three distances with turnouts from many local athletics and running clubs, as well as lots of locals who enjoy a beautiful run around the village, all in aid of a good cause.

Thanks go to our sponsors James Millard and Hilden Park Accountants - as well as Ridings Cafe, Scouts, Cubs, Beavers and Charlotte Patrick Sports Massage and the tennis club who all supported the event again this year.

The profits raised are intended for supporting sports initiatives and clubs in the area - please please do get in touch if you would like to be considered for some funding. In the past this has included local schools and preschools and many local sports clubs. Please send a 'wishlist' with an idea of cost to Amy at hildenroadrace@gmail.com **before Friday 13th June** and we will be in touch following our committee debrief meeting.

Amy Pay



Tonbridge U3A – 25 Years in Tonbridge

Meet some of our members. Come along to our *Coffee Mornings* on the 3rd Friday of the month at **Christchurch** (Tonbridge High Street) from 10:30 am

Not working full time? – TU3A may have something for you. Find out about us at www.tonbridgeu3a.uk

Ollie Johnson

THE OAST THEATRE, TONBRIDGE

“VISITORS” By Barney Norris - 21st – 26th June 2025

“Visitors” is a tender and bewitching play about Arthur and Edie facing the challenges of old age on the family farm. Stephen, their son, is adrift in life whilst their carer, Kate, has only just arrived to make sense of the family.

Barney Norris has written a mature and authentic portrayal of married love and the shared past that binds.

Performances: 8 p.m. (Sunday 3 p.m.)

Tickets: £14 - Book online at www.oasttheatre.com

Credit card bookings 03336 663 366 (booking fee applies)

Tonbridge Music Club - 14th June 7:30 at St Peter and St Paul (Tonbridge)

Don't miss the final concert of Tonbridge Music Club's 2024/5 season! The acclaimed London Handel Players, celebrating their 25th anniversary, will perform on Saturday, June 14th at 7:30 pm at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul. Their captivating programme explores the fascinating connection between folk and art music during the Baroque era, showcasing the diverse styles and influences that inspired composers like Telemann.

Renowned for their "soulful depth" and "consummate skill," the London Handel Players have delighted audiences worldwide since their debut at the London Handel Festival in 2000. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience their exceptional Baroque chamber music. Tickets are £25, with student/under-18 tickets at £5. Purchase online at www.tmc.org.uk or call 01732 364 204.

Sevenoaks Philharmonic Choir & Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra conducted by Darrell Davison

The Stag Sevenoaks - Saturday 28 June 7.30pm

Sevenoaks Philharmonic Choir and the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra join forces for their 2025 summer concert on Saturday, June 28th at the Stag Theatre, as part of the Sevenoaks Summer Festival. The concert opens with Bax's evocative Tintagel Overture, inspired by the Cornish coast. The programme then features the music of Ralph Vaughan Williams, including the beloved The Lark Ascending and his powerful first choral work, A Sea Symphony, setting the words of Walt Whitman with orchestra, choir, and soloists.

Tickets are £18 (£17 for over 60s, £6 for students and under 21, including a £1 Stag levy) and are available online at stagsevenoaks.co.uk, by phone at 01732 450 175, or at the door.

T.M.B.C. News

Freeman of the Borough.

Prior to the annual Council meeting (May 13th) members had the absolute pleasure of awarding the Freeman of the Borough status to the Royal British Legion Industries in Aylesford. It was unfortunate that the Mayor at the time, Cllr Steve Hammond was unable to attend due to ill health. You will remember Steve, he was badly injured on Sir Galahad, during the Falkland crisis and he was later supported by the British Legion who saved his life. Steve works at the RBLI. The framed scroll was accepted by Lisa Farmer OBE Chief Executive of RBLI.

The picture shows Deputy Mayor Cllr Chris Brown with Lisa Farmer OBE accepting the award.

Also in attendance was Mrs. Louise Bryant JP DL on behalf of the Kent Lieutenant.

The RBL was started in 1919 to help wounded or sick Armed Forces veterans. It enabled those who have served their country to receive care, family houses and work opportunities, with the aim of enabling them to build a new, purposeful life and provide for their families. The RBLI is a separate entity to the RBL, but its mission is the same. There are a range of operations including Homes and Care, Welfare, Social Enterprise, Lifeworks and Fundraising. At the Aylesford site, the 'Britain's Bravest Manufacturing Company' is a huge success story,



employing 150 people, producing many of the nations road and rail signs: you will have driven past many of them. The award was richly deserved and was supported by all members in attendance.

Annual Council.

As I mentioned above Cllr Steve Hammond was unable to attend the Annual Council meeting which is essentially the new Mayor making ceremony. So the Deputy Mayor Cllr Chris Brown instigated proceedings of chain swapping assisted by the Chief Executive, Damian Roberts. The new Deputy Mayor is Kim Tanner (Kings Hill).

Tonbridge Town Council.

A Community Governance Review is to be undertaken that includes the residents of the Tonbridge part of Hildenborough Ward. This follows two motions submitted to the Council. A Town Council would be created if Tonbridge residents so desire. A leaflet is to be delivered to every household explaining the process. The Council has a legal duty to conduct the review due to the motions mentioned above and must be completed by 20 February 2026.

Contact me.

Please do not hesitate for one minute, about contacting me on Borough Council matters. If you would prefer a home visit in private, just let me know.

Council Meetings.

Please remember Council meetings are still streamed on You Tube, however public attendance is permitted in the Council Chamber.

Cllr Mark Rhodes

Borough Councillors

Kath Barton
c/o TMBC, Gibson Building,
Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, ME19
4LZ
Kath.Barton@tmbc.gov.uk

Mark Rhodes 01732 369 405
39 Cranford Road, Tonbridge
mark.rhodes@tmbc.gov.uk

TMBC - 01732 844 522

Kent County Councillor

Harry Rayner 03000 421 606
harry.rayner@kent.gov.uk

Contact the Parish Council via
clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk
or by telephone (07818 329 029)

**Hildenborough PC, Riding
Lane, Hildenborough, TN11
9HY**



From our MP: Tom Tugendhat

The county elections have been revolutionary. We have all seen the result and whoever we voted for, we now have to ensure those elected deliver for our community. Whatever promises they made, whatever words they used, we know what we need: a county that keeps Kent strong.

That means making sure those in need get the support they deserve from the adult social care programmes which KCC run, and it means helping kids – our children and grandchildren – get the opportunities they need from the schools they support. And for the rest of us, it means fixing the roads – I spend more than ever on new tyres.

Let me start by saying congratulations. Harry Rayner has been a champion of Hildenborough and Shipbourne and I am delighted he will keep delivering for Malling West. His knowledge and commitment is a great asset to our community.

I am grateful to all those who put themselves forward. Standing as a councillor is hard work, serving as one, harder still. For those who put themselves forward, and especially for those who served before, I am grateful for the excellent work they have done.

Please don't forget what they can do for you – it's not just fixing potholes, Kent County Council has a budget of around £2 billion. They have a huge responsibility and whoever is leading must make sure our money is spent well. They work for us!

My work is guided by you and your priorities, so please do share your thoughts with me, or contact me if you have any issues I can help with.

You can reach me using these details:
E-mail: tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk
Phone: 01732 441 563
Post: 130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent,
TN9 1SP

Tom

The Night Sky in Hildenborough – June 2025

Rather unbelievably, the summer solstice is upon us again with the result that astronomers get restless for more dark skies whilst the less astronomically minded are grateful for the maximum number of daylight hours. To be precise, that is 16 hours 35 minutes and 44 seconds of daylight on 21st June which, in round numbers, is 8 hours and 44 minutes more than we had at the time of the winter solstice in December.

The moment of the summer solstice occurs at 3:42am and marks the moment in time when the Earth's northern hemisphere is at its most tilted towards the Sun giving us, in the north, maximum daylight. If you were standing on the tropic of cancer at local midday, the Sun would be overhead. After the solstice the Sun gets imperceptibly lower in the sky each day which gradually reduces the amount of daylight.

However, in the middle of summer, when the Sun is high during the day for us in the northern hemisphere, it is low in the daytime sky for those in the southern hemisphere. We in the north can see that this is the case because at night the sky doesn't get properly dark as the Sun is never very far below the northern horizon. In other words, a Sun that is not far below the horizon for us is not far above the horizon in places such as Australia and New Zealand. For it to be "astronomically dark" the centre of the Sun must be at least 18° below the horizon, something that doesn't happen from approximately 24th May until 20th July. During that time, we exist in astronomical twilight during the night

when the Sun is between 12° and 18° below the horizon.

At the beginning of June, you might just catch sight of Jupiter very low down in the north west at around 9pm. As the month progresses, the planet gets closer to the Sun until on the 24th it passes the Sun (is in conjunction with it) and then appears in the morning sky some weeks later.

In the second half of June, Mercury appears soon after sunset low in the WNW at around 9pm. Please don't search for Mercury or Jupiter with any optical aid until you are certain that sunset has occurred or you risk permanently damaging your eyesight if you inadvertently look at the Sun.

Mars is the only reasonably bright planet that remains easily visible during the evenings this month. On the 1st at 10:30pm it is almost exactly due west with an altitude of 25°. Don't forget that from the horizon to overhead is 90° so Mars is just over a quarter of the way "up". As an aid to finding the red planet, the Moon is only 5° to the east (left) of it. Then again, on the 29th, the Moon is closer still being just 2° to the west (right) this time.

If you happen to look east in the very early morning, around 4am, you will see the brilliant Venus, now in the role of "The Morning Star", just under ten degrees above the horizon. As the month passes it climbs higher in the sky until, on the 30th, it is 14° in altitude at a similar time.

Brian Mills FRAS

Evening WI: Our May meeting as usual was our AGM, giving us the opportunity to reflect on the year, thank everyone and to decide on the committee and vote for the president. The treasurer, secretary and president shared their reports with members who then agreed they could be adopted.



It was lovely to remember all the different speakers we have had and the events we have supported as well as giving us a time to remember the dear friends we have lost during the year as well as those, who sadly, through ill health are not able to attend the meetings anymore. We spent some time remembering these members and the valued contribution they have all made to the WI.

Once the reports were read, and the committee and president were agreed, the formal part of the AGM was complete.

We had decorated the tables with flags and some bunting and for our tea Penny had made a VE Day celebration cake and we all shared this as well as some scones with cream and jam.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday 10th June 2025**, when we will be having a talk from Dominica Larcombe, "4 years a Prisoner of war in Hong Kong".

The evening WI meets once a month and gives members the opportunity to meet new people, learn new skills, and have fun. We always welcome new members, so please feel free to just drop in and say hello, even just for one evening to see what we are all about.

Please note our meeting time, we meet in the family room at the Church Centre at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

Lorna Stapley-President

Hildenborough Gardeners' Society



Our Summer Show is set for June 14th, and is sure to be ablaze with glorious colour. Entries from newcomers are always welcome, and there is help with entering plants into the various classes. If you have any spare plants on the day, do bring them along for sale to other members. We are running low on volunteers to help out with the afternoon teas, and offers of help are welcomed. Give me a call.

We are organising a coach outing for members to RHS Wisley on July 23rd. Being an affiliated society, we do not have to pay for entry, so only the coach cost is required. Please register at the store, at the summer show, or via a committee member.

Our garden store has proven to be pretty popular with members and a few items have sold out. We are working to refill our empty shelves and spaces. A few extra volunteers to man the store on Saturday mornings (on a rota basis, not every weekend) would be appreciated.

HGS membership is only £7 per year and comes with a lot of benefits. You can join at the store on Saturday mornings, at any of our shows, or via our membership secretary Carolyn on 01732 838 550.

David Haugh

An unusual Use for a Plant - Cotoneaster

At the Hampton Court Flower Show you might come across an unexpected stand with a very functional garden. It is the Metropolitan Police crime prevention stand, and their prize exhibit is a plant that was discovered by the plant hunter Frank Kingdom-Ward who took many expeditions in Tibet and the Himalayas between 1918 and 1939. He had served as a Captain in the Indian Army in the First World War. After which he went back to plant hunting. The survival skills learnt in the Army were to serve Frank well on his many expeditions fulfilling his passion for finding new plants. Many of the plants he found made their way into university gardens. Some of these were Rhododendrons and others like the Giant Cowslip which became very popular.

In 1925 Frank was on plant hunting in Tibet, he descended into a gorge, and he noticed that the rocks at the bottom of the gorge looked as if they were simmering like red-hot larva. He had found "Cotoneaster" a spiny plant with scarlet berries. He clambered over the rocks and braved the thorns to collect a few samples.

Frank Kingdom-Ward lived to the age of 73. He had paused his plant collecting during WW2 to join the Special Operations where he taught Pilots the survival skills they would need if they crashed in the jungle.

This plant was being exhibited by the Police as it not only had red berries but very sharp spines. The Police had seen the

value of this plant as a hedge to deter any criminal thinking of entering the property. I witnessed how effective this was after the '87 storm: when our fence fell down the Cotoneaster stayed firm and spiny.



Above: the red berries



Above: the sharp thorns

George Gorham



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Contact: Louise Jenner (Clerk) - 07818 329 029 clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Postal Address: Pavilion and Recreation Ground, Riding Lane, TN11 9HY

Attention Hildenborough Residents

The gate to the play park at the Recreational Ground, Riding Lane, is currently broken. If you're walking your dog nearby, please take extra care to ensure they don't enter the play park.



Have Your Say!

Hildenborough Parish Council is introducing a new suggestion and feedback form. You can collect a form at the Hildenborough Farmers Market, held every Tuesday at the Village Hall. Once completed, please return it via email to clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk, or drop it in the **green letterbox** on the side of The Pavilion at the Recreational Ground.

Welcome Back, Harry Rayner!

The County Council elections took place on Thursday, 1st May 2025, and we officially welcome back **Harry Rayner**,

the Conservative KCC Councillor, who has been re-elected to preside over **Malling West**.

☎ **Phone:** 03000 421 606

✉ **Email:** harry.rayner@kent.gov.uk



Completed Audit

Hildenborough Parish Council are pleased to inform residents that the annual audit of accounts has been successfully completed, with no recommendations received.

Local Communities Shaping Their Future with Neighbourhood Plans

Residents across the country are taking an active role in shaping their towns and villages through Neighbourhood Plans, a local policy initiative introduced by the 2011 Localism Act. These plans allow communities to influence future development and ensure local priorities

are considered in planning decisions. Hildenborough Parish Council are discussing the potential costs and benefits it could bring to our local community.

A Neighbourhood Plan can cover various topics, including housing, heritage, green spaces, transport, and local infrastructure. While they cannot stop development outright, they enable communities to guide the type of housing built, preserve important historical sites, and safeguard valued public spaces.

The process of creating a Neighbourhood Plan is rigorous, involving two rounds of public consultation, an independent examination, and a local referendum. Once approved, the plan stands alongside the Local Plan, carrying equal weight in decision-making.

By developing these plans, communities can protect what makes their towns and villages unique while ensuring they remain vibrant and well-supported for future generations.

We will update residence once we have further information.

Outdoor Maintenance Job – Help Keep Hildenborough Looking Great!

Do you live locally and love the outdoors? Are you handy with general maintenance tasks? Looking for a few hours of paid work to keep yourself busy?

We're searching for someone to help us maintain and enhance the beauty of Hildenborough. If you enjoy working outside and have a knack for fixing and tidying up, we'd love to hear from you!

Wordsearch Clues - Pentecost

Pentecost
Trinity
Jerusalem
Disciples
Praying

Tongues
Power
High
Fires
Flames

Languages
Praise
Drunk
Wine
Nine

Morning
Glory
Waiting
Place
Wind

D	I	R	D	U	N	E	O	Y	C	Y	H	I
N	R	E	L	I	S	S	T	F	L	P	G	T
I	J	U	A	E	S	A	G	D	W	O	I	C
W	P	E	N	T	E	C	O	S	T	R	H	I
M	O	I	R	K	W	A	I	T	I	N	G	L
O	W	Y	E	U	O	I	D	P	R	I	Y	N
R	E	O	T	O	S	Y	S	N	L	R	N	I
N	R	R	E	H	T	A	F	U	O	E	P	N
I	S	E	R	I	F	E	L	L	W	S	S	E
N	L	A	N	G	U	A	G	E	S	I	C	W
G	N	I	Y	A	R	P	S	E	M	A	L	F
J	R	W	D	G	A	I	I	R	L	R	N	E
T	O	N	G	U	E	S	S	P	R	P	R	T

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Spirit
Eternal

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5.15pm THE LOCALS

6pm THE HEARTBEATS

7pm DICKER TICKER

8pm THE JT BAND

9pm FINISH

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Crossword Clues

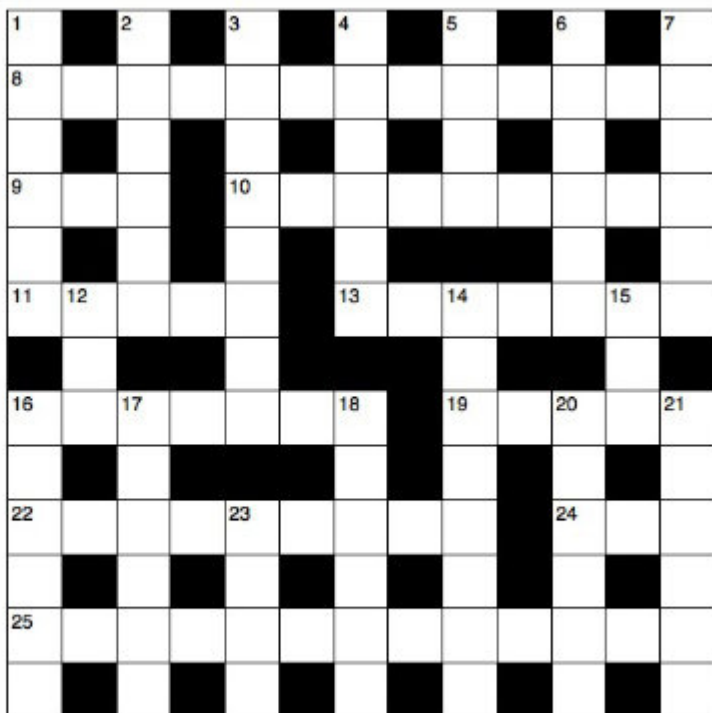
Across

- 8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
 9 In favour of (3)
 10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
 11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
 13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
 16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)
 19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
 22 Holy Communion (9)
 24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)
 25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

Down

- 1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
 2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
 3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
 4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
 5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6-12) (4)
 6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the

- Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)
 7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — —' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
 12 Ate (anag.) (3)
 14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)
 15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
 16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)
 17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)
 18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)
 20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)
 21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)
 23 Diva (anag.) (4)

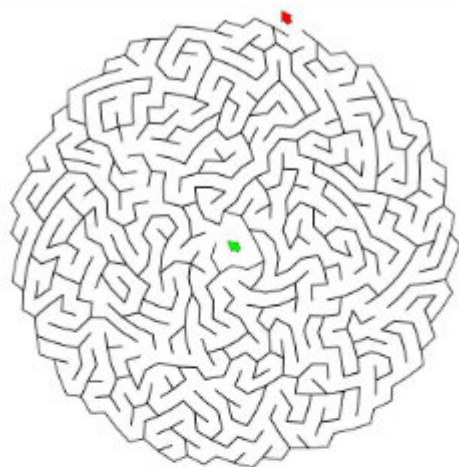


Sudoku (Easy)

			7	8	6	3		
3	4				9			8
			2				7	1
	7				3	1		
9	5	2	4		8	6	3	7
		6	9				4	
4	6				1			
2			8				1	3
		3	5	4	2			

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Can you find the path through the maze?



Sudoku (Medium)

		5	9		1		8	
2		9	7					
	6			2	5			
		4						
	5		6	3	4		1	
						5		
			5	1			4	
					2	6		7
	2		4		3	9		

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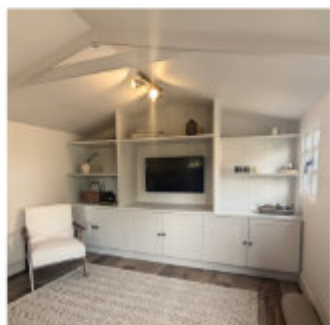
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Church Contacts

Home (Connect) Groups

Prayer Chain

Bright Sparks, (Mondays, term-time)

Generation Creation (Sundays)

Church Office **01732 833 596**

Cynthia Fawcus **01732 833 397**

Lisa Glasscote **01732 833 596**

Lisa Glasscote **01732 833 596**

Community Groups

Evening Women's Institute

Beavers (Ages 6-8) Thurs 5.15-6.30 pm

Cubs (Ages 8-10.5) Monday 6.30-8 pm

Scouts (Ages 10.5-14) Friday 7.30-9 pm

Guides

Brownies

Hildenborough Conservation Group

Hildenborough Farmers' Market

Hildenborough Gardeners' Society

Hildenborough History Society

Village Preservation Society

Hildenborough Litter Pickers

Hildenborough Parish Council

Hildenborough CofE Primary School

Stocks Green Primary School

Stocks Green Pre-School

Village Hall Bookings

West Kent Concert Band

Floodline

Southern Water (spillage reporting)

Hildenborough Speedwatch

KENT POLICE (Non-emergency calls) 101

Hildenborough Sports

Badminton

Indoor (Short Mat) Bowls Club

Hildenborough Cricket Club

Hildenborough Friendly Badminton Club

Stoolball Club

Tennis Club (membership)

Hildenborough Road Races

Tonbridge Swimming Club

Tonbridge Bridge Club

Miss Lorna Stapley - **07960 174 789**

hildenboroughbeavers8thtonbridgescouts@hotmail.com

hildenboroughwolfcubs@gmail.com

8thtonbridgescouts@gmail.com

Sharon Roberts - **07960 782 178**

hildenbrownies@outlook.com

Mrs Lynne Flower **01732 355 080**

managerhildenboroughfm@gmail.com

David Haugh **01732 832 869**

Judith McQuillan **01732 834 610**

David Vanns **01732 835 289**

Emily Simons **07715 113 899**

Louise Jenner **07818 329 029**

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Ivan Kirkpatrick **07730 888 429**

Lauren Welch **07999 604 213**

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Lionel Shields **01732 355 919**



Hilden Park

Chartered Accountants



CHANGES TO THE TAXATION OF NON-UK DOMICILED INDIVIDUALS

From 6 April 2025, a new regime for the taxation of UK resident non-domiciled individuals came into effect.

Until 5 April 2025, special tax rules applied to individuals who were resident in the UK but whose domicile (i.e. their permanent home, usually determined by their father's permanent home at the time the individual was born) was outside the UK. Such individuals could choose to either pay UK tax on their foreign income and gains as they arose or, alternatively, they could claim the remittance basis, which meant only foreign income and gains remitted to the UK were taxed.

From 6 April 2025, all UK residents will be taxed on the arising basis of assessment. The remittance basis will no longer be an option. A new regime for Foreign Income & Gains (FIG) will be available to individuals for their first four

years of UK tax residence after a period of 10 years non-residence. Individuals who make a claim to use the new 4-year FIG regime will not pay tax on FIG arising in those four years. Former remittance basis users will continue to pay tax on FIG that arose before 6 April 2025 that they remit to the UK.

New rules also apply for Inheritance Tax (IHT) purposes. The new test for whether non-UK assets are in scope for IHT is whether an individual has been resident in the UK for at least 10 out of the last 20 tax years immediately preceding the tax year in which the chargeable event (including death) arises. This is known as being a 'long-term UK resident'. Where an individual is a long-term UK resident and becomes non-UK resident, they will remain in scope for IHT for a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 10 years depending on the amount of time they resided in the UK.

If you would like any advice,
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