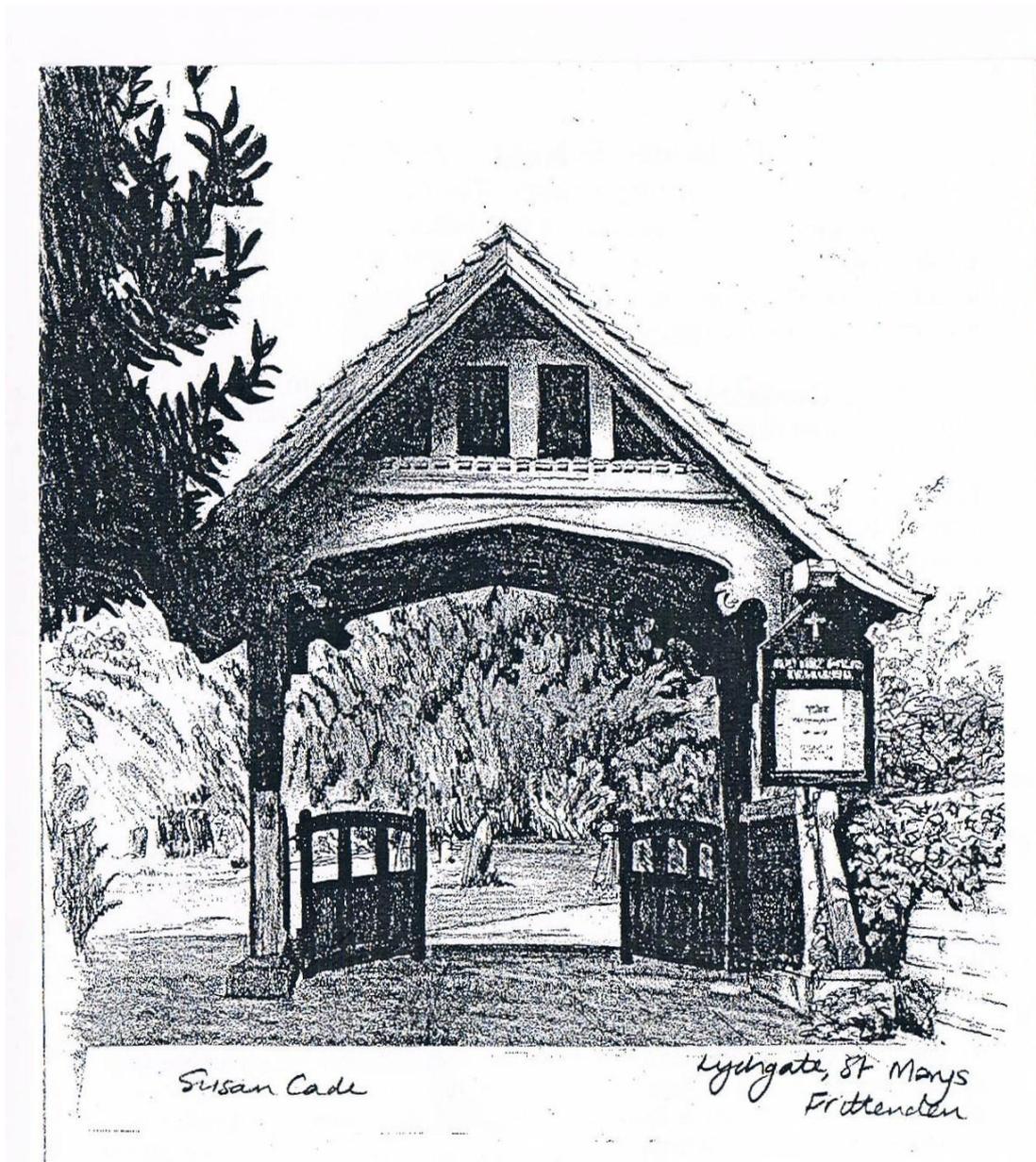


# *Frittenden Parish Magazine*



*February 2021*

*Fifty Pence*

# VILLAGE CONTACTS

## CHURCH OFFICIALS AND ORGANISATIONS

<b>RECTOR</b>		Rev Pete Deaves	852275
Email address		rector@frittendenchurch.org.uk	
Churchwarden		Joanna Beech	852312
Churchwarden		John Stansfeld	852185
Reader & Deanery Synod		Tony Staples	852226
Treasurer		Christopher Page	852230
Deanery Synod		James Highwood	852715
Secretary		Vacant	
Verger		Margaret Knight	852322
Director of Music		Morwenna Campbell-Smith	07703 522102
Parish Disclosure Officer		Judy Staples	852226
Parish Safeguarding Coordinators		Lindsey Moore & James Highwood	852553/852715
Bell Ringers	Captain & Secretary	David Manger	01622 890675
Magazine	Editor	Mike Cooper	852108
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	Distribution	Ian Mounter	852268
Messy Church		Eileen Mounter	852268
Open The Book		Helen Stansfeld	852185
Sunday Club	Contact	Joanna Beech	852312
Website		<a href="http://www.frittendenchurch.org.uk">www.frittendenchurch.org.uk</a>	
Childline			0800 1111
Relate	Contact	via appointments@westmidkent.eclipse.co.uk	or 01892 529927

## OTHER VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

<u>Cricket, Sports &amp; Social Club</u>	Chair	Nick Bull	852105
	Secretary	Charlotte Sharp	852217
<u>Friends of Frittenden School</u>	Chair	Beks Harding	712138
<u>Pre-school</u>	Manager	Sarah Davies	852100
		Home	852130
<u>Primary School</u>	Head of School	Nichola Costello	852250
<u>Gardening Society</u>	President	Sue Martin	852425
	Chairman	Duncan Rouse	852232
	Secretary	Tricia Palmer	852430
	Show Secretary	Jeremy Beech	852312
	Treasurer / Subscriptions	Nicky Robinson	852488
<u>Historical Society</u>	Chair	Phil Betts	852243
	Treasurer	Bernard Millard	852219
	Secretary	Tor Millard	893703
<u>Marquee Hire</u>	Contact	Mike Cooper	852108
<u>Memorial Hall</u>	Chair	Rosalind Riley	852317
	Hire hall, tables/chairs, etc.	Eileen Bridges	852563
<u>Parish Council</u>	Chairman	Tony Staples	852226
(For more details of other Local Council contacts, see back page).			
<u>Ring a Friend in Frittenden</u>	Contacts	Angela Parish & Brenda Croucher	852249/448
<u>Royal British Legion</u>	Chairman	Mike Burden	01622 432866
	Hon Sec.	Howard Lilley	852225
<u>Tennis Club</u>	Chair	Nigel Casswell	852772
	Treasurer	John Marshall	852345
	Membership Secretary		
<u>Women's Institute</u>	President	Anne Holroyd	893256
	Vice President	Ros Bowles	852323
	Secretary	Christine Anthony	852355
	Treasurer	Valerie Thomas	762821
<u>Youth Club</u>	The Club is not able to function at the moment. Later, we hope....		

**DEFIBRILLATORS** - These are now available at the shop, at the pub, at Larchmere and there is also a mobile unit available for use at village events.

Last updated 18th Jan 2021

## FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends

*In the area around St Mary's Church have you spotted a feral feline sporting a pink collar with jingling bell (maybe a Christmas gift)? Residents locally are united in concern for the welfare of this four-legged friend, observing a range of behaviour, which include:*

- *Lolling around in the middle of the road, seemingly oblivious to nearby vehicles.*
- *Wandering into the nearby school causing alarm to staff and wonder to pupils.*
- *Provoking anxiety by ongoing intrepid antics: in the latest chapter of Cataloguing Adventurous Tabby opting to overnight on an inaccessible section of the neighbours' roof.*

*Residents are urged to maintain calm – and as always due regard for our 30mph speed limit – and please advise the Rector (or Claire, the director!) of any worrying sightings of their tabby “Joy”. Any recommended cat-whisperers to help little Joy learn road safety – or top tips for cat preservation for her hapless owners heartily welcomed.*

Yes, all that's entailed in cat ownership came to us because we chose to welcome Joy (and no-fuss brother Noah!) into our home. Herding cats comes to mind – but no regrets!! There is, however, a serious point here. All of us will be feeling the impact of the control we now don't have in so many spheres. It's at times painful, frustrating, heart-breaking.

I in no way want to downplay the great heartache and suffering of many - please be assured of my and the church's ongoing prayers. Neither do I want to offer a simple solution – if only there was one. But let me encourage you to make the most of the choices you do have available.

The grid two pages on has some helpful suggestions: why not choose one from each category as a starting point? There's huge benefit in multiple directions when we choose to do something to help someone else. And there's huge potential in pausing to ask questions about life and faith and what God has created us for. For the time being, our services continue via the church website and via 234185. Everyone is very welcome - and a special invite if you've not listened in before.

Stay safe, and eyes peeled for Joy!

**Pete**  
852275

## ST MARY'S SERVICES DURING FEBRUARY

### SUNDAYS

We have decided to suspend our normal Sunday morning services for the time being but that doesn't mean we aren't meeting. Each week we are listening together to a pre-recorded service led by Rev Pete Deaves, with contributors from across the two parishes of Sissinghurst and Frittenden, recorded from their own homes. We are also including a variety of music from CDs and the internet as part of these services. Accompanying each service is an order of service so that you can follow along and join in the songs.

You can listen to these services by clicking on the Audio tab on the church website [frittendenchurch.org.uk](http://frittendenchurch.org.uk) and this will also give you access to the service sheets in pdf form.

Across both parishes we are listening to the Sunday service at 10am so even though we are not able to meet in person we are meeting virtually. At 11am on a Sunday morning we are meeting by zoom for coffee and chat for half an hour, this is a good chance to catch up.

If you don't have access to the internet you can listen to the latest service by dialling a dedicated local phone number 01580 234185.

### WEEKDAYS

**SPACE** - Our mid-week service of reflection will be available as a pdf on the website on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 9am.

**Home Groups** - Twice a week we are meeting via zoom to discuss the book 'Saying Yes to Life' by Ruth Valerio. This was the Archbishop's recommended book for Lent last year and is an opportunity to lift our eyes up from the current situation to the challenges of climate change and stewardship of our environment. All are welcome to join on Wednesdays at 8pm or Thursdays at 10am.

**Prayer Breakfast** – On Monday Feb 8<sup>th</sup> we will be meeting via zoom at 9am for a 'bring-your-own' prayer breakfast. We will be praying for our community and our country as well as individual needs. If there is anything or anyone you would like us to pray for please email Rev Pete Deaves at [rector@frittendenchurch.org.uk](mailto:rector@frittendenchurch.org.uk) or call on 852275.

Please keep an eye on the website for the latest details.

*Joanna Beech, John Stansfeld*  
*Churchwardens*



Sanctus.

# LOCKDOWN TOOL KIT

## DOPAMINE

*The Reward Chemical*

- Completing a task
- Doing self-care activities
- Eating food
- Celebrating little wins

## OXYTOCIN

*The Love Hormone*

- Playing with a dog
- Listen to music
- Do something nice for someone
- Give a compliment

## SEROTONIN

*The Mood Stabilizer*

- Meditating
- Running
- Sun exposure
- Walk in nature
- Swimming
- Cycling

## ENDORPHIN

*The Pain Killer*

- Laughter exercise
- Watch a comedy
- Dark chocolate
- Exercising

## HAIKUS

The best definition of a Haiku I have ever read is itself a haiku, or rather two:

A seashell  
is a Japanese poem  
of seventeen syllables –  
small and formal in shape  
but containing an ocean  
of thoughts.

And then I had a thought:

What is the secret  
of writing a haiku well?  
Haikus write themselves.

*Mike Cooper*

## ADVENT WINDOWS 2020



**Thank you** for taking part in the Frittenden Advent Window displays.  
I think you will agree everyone made a great effort they all looked wonderful.  
It is amazing the ideas were so different.

The Nativity Scene at the church had approximately 40 children visit on Christmas eve plus parents. Many families also walked around the village looking at the windows.

Let's look forward to 2021.

*Jackie Brown*

### **HILDE CHAPPLE**

Many thanks from the Chapples

Malcolm, Kristina and Annika thank all those many people living in Frittenden who have softened the blow of Hilde's passing and prior residence in the Cottage Hospice. The offers of assistance and sustenance have been hugely generous and supportive during these sad times.

Keep safe

*The Chapples*

## UNITED BENEFICE LENT COURSE 2021

With 2020 firmly behind us, let me ask: How content are you? Even before the pandemic hit, many of us allowed busyness to distract us from our discontentment. But Jesus Christ promises that anyone who believes in him will never again hunger or thirst.

During Lent this year, whether you would call yourself a Christian or not, you are very welcome to join us for this series of six online sessions via zoom or dial-in. Together - which is vital - we'll understand better why we become discontented, how Jesus Christ alone can help us, and on a practical level, how Christian living can bring the treasure of contentment to our daily lives.

Please look on the church websites, or call Pete or one of the church wardens for more information - we'd love to see you there.



## FAMILIES TOGETHER

New Year, new name for Families at 4 - and new theme for this term is Superheroes of the Bible. We meet currently via Zoom, but in person once it's safe to do so, and families with Primary school aged children are very welcome to join us!

Please contact *Pete or Claire* ([deavesclaire@gmail.com](mailto:deavesclaire@gmail.com)) for more information.

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Come and select your meat and join us for a glass of wine at one of our regular Meat Evenings from 7.30 - 9.30pm on Friday 27th January, Friday 21st April, Friday 23rd June and Friday 24th November, where you will find a range of fresh and frozen meat.

We have a stall at the monthly Cranbrook Farmers' Market which runs from 9.30am - 1pm in the Vestry Hall on the fourth Saturday of every month. However you don't have to wait for a Meat Evening or Farmers' Market to buy from us, we carry a stock of frozen meat all year round so please just give us a call.

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## THE MANN/CORNWALLIS ESTATE AND FRITTENDEN

One estate, that of Mann/Cornwallis, dominated the parish of Frittenden in the nineteenth century. Sir Robert Mann, a London merchant, bought Capel Court on the outskirts of Maidstone in 1724. Around 1730 he demolished Capel Court and built the first part of what is today Linton Place. On more than one occasion the estate passed to a daughter in the absence of a surviving son (or indeed a brother, nephew or other male relative) to inherit. However, under the terms of Galfridus Mann's Will of 1756, the husbands of female heirs were required to change their name to Mann. As the daughters to inherit married into the Cornwallis family, the estate is generally referred to as the Mann/Cornwallis Estate.

The families built up a major estate roughly centred on Linton, Egerton and Cranbrook (notably the Sissinghurst Estate). Apart from a partial disposal in 1805 when that part of the estate not entailed was for sale [only partially successfully], the estate appears to have increased its Frittenden landholdings over the whole period, and particularly between 1841 and 1857, by way of land exchanges, notably with Frittenden's Rector, Edward Moore.

When James Mann, formerly Cornwallis, succeeded to the estate in 1814 he commissioned a Report and Valuation of the Estate in Kent. This records that in Frittenden the estate had tenants on some 14 farms, of which nine were over 100 acres, a relatively large farm for the Weald at this time. In addition, there were two smallholdings and four cottages. The report outlined the condition of each farm house and its farm buildings and assessed the extent of repairs and improvements required.

Another report, on the rental valuation of the estate, was commissioned in 1875 by Viscount Holmesdale, the Viscountess having inherited the estate. The Sissinghurst Estate, which in the report included the Frittenden holdings, accounted for some 54% of the whole estate's 13,548 acres, and this figure excluded Park Woods and the land 'in hand', i.e., run directly from Linton Place. By now, the Frittenden tenanted holdings comprised 21 farms, of which 13 were over 100 acres, together with 3 smallholdings.

The old tradition of labourers "living-in" with the farmer's family had been gradually replaced by workers' cottages as indicated by the following comment in the report:-

*The Cottages which are generally in fair repair are - with the exception of a few in the Village of Sissinghurst - let with the farms and are of great value to the Farmers enabling them to house their workmen near their work and thus secure labour on more advantageous terms than they otherwise could.*

The description of the Sissinghurst land (which would have included that in Frittenden) is all too recognisable today:-

*The greater part of the wet land has been under drained [i.e., land drained], but after heavy rains, the surface of the Weald lands becomes so puddled as to render it almost impervious thereby greatly retarding the downward percolation of the surface Water, and causing the land in wet Seasons to be waterlogged to the great injury of Autumn cultivation and Winter crops. In favourable Seasons the Soil is productive.*

The over reliance on hops as a good cash crop to the farmers (but with the possibility of unwanted consequences for the landlord) can be seen from the observation that:-

*Besides engrossing too much of the Farmer's attention, the Hop plant requires very liberal manuring and this is generally done at the expense of the other crops, as the produce of the Hop adds very little to the manure made on the Farm.*

*The use of Home Farm Yard manure for Hop cultivation should be more restricted, and a greater quantity of extraneous artificial or other manure brought on to the Farm for the Hop ground.*

In summary therefore, the Linton Estate increased its holdings in Frittenden parish from just over 36% in 1814 (which may well have been unchanged from 1806) to just over 40% in 1869. During this period, the total estate had increased to more than 13,000 acres and thus moved from what might be described as one of the 'greater gentry' to a 'great estate'. This was exceptional in Kent as, like other Home Counties, the creation of really great estates had been prevented by London's purchasing power which led to a demand for land that made it impossible, or at least undesirable, to build up or retain very large estates.

***Phil Betts***

***Chmn. Frittenden Historical Society***

### **A MESSAGE FROM BRO'S NIECE IN CANADA**

Well Mike I will optimistically say Happy New Year. I decided to get in touch on hearing the distressing news about the Covid surge in Kent.

I hope that you and the whole village of Frittenden are safe. It has certainly been a very difficult year and there doesn't appear to be a light at the end of the tunnel yet. In Canada we have had a great number of cases and deaths which I am pleased to say, so far, my family has escaped safely.

Best wishes to you and everyone.

Take care and stay safe

Warm regards

***Carole MacDougall***

God gave us memory so that we might have roses in December.

***J. M. Barrie***

A common mistake that people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools.

***Douglas Adams***

The amount of sleep required by the average person is five minutes more.

***Playwright Wilson Mizner***

## OF FEET AND FEATHERS

Christmas has come and gone, but instead of snow all we've had is 'weather for ducks': pouring rain, grey skies and the kind of damp cold that chills the bones. In this weather, I thank goodness for wellington boots, an invention I would put right up there at the top of human achievement, along with antibiotics and modern dentistry! Imagine the misery of our ancestors who had to slosh around for months and months on waterlogged clay in leather boots - with no hot radiators to dry them out on at the end of the day...

One would imagine that ducks get cold feet too - swimming in winter water, or (worse!) standing on ice. And maybe they do but if so, it is a trial they are designed to withstand. Ducks and other water birds *should* be especially vulnerable to heat loss and frost damage, as their webbed feet are large and exposed (compared to small birds, with narrow toes.) Instead, however, they have a clever heat exchange system (a 'countercurrent exchange system' to be exact) that enables them to cope with freezing surfaces.

And it works like this: the veins and arteries in a duck's leg have evolved to lie adjacent to each other. As warm arterial blood from the body descends down through the leg to the foot, it transfers its heat to the cold blood in the vein next to it that is coming up from the foot and returning to the body. Thus the now-cooled arterial blood that reaches the foot has less heat to lose (reducing overall body-heat loss) whilst the re-heated cold blood passing up the leg into the body has gained heat again. Clever eh?

Of course waterfowl also conserve heat by sitting on their legs and tucking them into their feathers, or standing on one leg and keeping the other tucked close against their bodies. I guess that's the next best thing when you can't actually cuddle up to another duck who loves you!

Our most widespread duck is the mallard - those cheerful little residents of lowland rivers and ponds. But I see from the parish bird list that both mandarin and teal have also been seen. Mandarin ducks, of course, are not native but are exceptionally beautiful. Teal are our smallest native duck, overwintering here instead of seeing out the winter in the bitter cold of Siberia and the Baltic. After all, it's one thing to stand around in the endless rain in Kent, but I imagine that's a price worth paying compared to hopping from one foot to the other on the snow they've left behind.

***Rebecca Brown***

## END-OF-CHRISTMAS ONE LINERS

I was looking out of the window this morning and said to my wife "It looks like rain dear."

Two snowmen in a field. One turned to the other and said "I don't know about you, but I can smell carrots."

**SOME REBECCA BIRDS**  
& more in subsequent magazines ...





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## **MEMORIAL HALL PROGRESS REPORT**

Our exciting plans to give our Memorial Hall a new lease of life are moving along and we wanted to keep you all updated on our progress. Tenders for the building work were sent out to local builders in the Autumn and we received all the quotes at the start of December. We are now in the process of talking to the builders and hope to start the work in the next couple of months. The intention is to do the works in two stages; the first phase will consist of re-insulating and re-cladding the outside, replacing the roof and all windows, rebuilding the storage room in the far corner so it is in keeping with the rest of the building, removal of the stage and opening up the rear wall with new windows. Unfortunately, we will have to make do with our rather sad toilets and kitchens for a while longer as they will be part of Phase 2, for which we need to raise more funds. Several grant submissions have been made and we await results. We have moved to stage 2 of our National Lottery application, which was suspended due to the pandemic but is now considering us again.

The hall is currently closed due to our third lockdown, however when the restrictions are lifted, and we are allowed, the hall will open again and will remain a useable space during the building works. The Post Office will also continue to run in the hall.

*The Memorial Hall Committee*

## **POPPY APPEAL 2020**

Coronavirus had a huge impact on the 2020 Poppy Appeal, due to the restrictions imposed on the traditional poppy collection.

Most notably, the British Legion decided that, on safety grounds, there could be no house-to-house collections. This was understandable but very disappointing, not least because these normally account for some 80% of the total collected in the Frittenden district.

Static site collection points were still allowed but, just halfway through the Remembrance fortnight, some of these premises were required to close for the second lockdown. Similar restrictions prevented the usual Remembrance Sunday memorial church service from taking place.

The British Legion, recognising how all these restrictions would impact on cash collections, encouraged supporters to make their donations electronically, via text or to the Legion's website: excluding such donations, Frittenden district still managed to raise over £1000 via cash collections.

The British Legion has sent warm thanks for all the efforts made by the public and their volunteers in such a strange and difficult year, to which I add my own thanks to Frittenden's generous residents.

Next May will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the British Legion and, hopefully, life will be much nearer to normal by then.

With very best wishes for 2021

*Sue Betts*

*Poppy Appeal Co-ordinator*

## **E FOR EDITORIAL**

Seems to me I haven't had a real rant for a while, so here goes:

A friend recently was 'put down' by others who said that he was not suitable to be undertaking a local task because he obviously did not have the 'right' background to be doing it. Can you believe the stupidity, the arrogance, the downright wrongness of that?

Democracy – isn't that about giving everyone you meet the initial assessment that they are absolutely your equal?

Irrespective of their background, "class", wealth, size of house, accent, and all the other markers which we cruel British use to pigeonhole people?

Keep safe.

*Mike Cooper*

## **CARING FRITTENDEN**

What a wonderful surprise I had on Saturday, when a lovely lady called Margaret came to my house with a delicious box of cakes. Thank you so much, Caring Frittenden, it was a beautiful thing to do, and for us, to be on the receiving end of, it definitely lit up our day and made us feel like we were still very much part of the community we both love.

I was born in Frittenden and it took Chris and I nearly thirty years to finally come back to live in the village and then unfortunately sixteen years later Chris was stricken with Parkinson's and Lewy Body and we were obliged to retreat to Staplehurst for want of a bungalow.

This year 2020 has been very difficult for so many of us stuck in our Vulnerable Bubble. We are so grateful for the kindness shown and can't wait for the time when we can get to see one another again face to face.

Huge thanks to all once again.

God Bless You all and a Happy New Year.

*Christopher and Irene Winter*

## **POSTSCRIPTS**

1. When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.
2. To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.
3. Age 60 may be the new 40, but 9.00pm is the new midnight.
4. It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles.
5. The older I get, the earlier it gets late.
6. When I say "The other day" I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.
7. I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.
8. I had my patience tested. I'm negative.
9. Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.
10. If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say "Did you bring the money?"

*Thanks to John Day and the M F U*

# FRITTENDEN COMMUNITY SHOP & CAFÉ PROJECT

## **Funding**

It will come as no surprise with the recent upsurge in COVID cases and the renewed lockdown that the flow of pledges for the Community Shop and Café project has slowed down. Although the vaccination programme has started, it has yet to make any impact on the confidence level of when restrictions will be eased and clearly a great deal of uncertainty remains as to what 2021 will bring.

Nevertheless, the response to our December postcard drop to every house in the village produced an additional twenty responses and the amounts pledged to date are £44,100 in shares, £11,000 in personal loans, £5,650 in donations and £1,250 in corporate sponsorship, a total of £62,000. So far, 93 people, representing 27% of the households in the village, have pledged their support. We believe this indicates a good level of support for the project within the village however the total, at this point, falls a long way short of our target.

We submitted an application for funding to Kent County Council before Christmas and await their response. Our application to the Community Shares Booster Programme was not accepted as it was judged as being too early, particularly as we don't yet have planning permission.

Our exploration of other sources of external funding has so far shown that most are focussed on immediate responses to COVID. We will continue to research these and hope that as we get into 2021 there will be fresh sources with a focus on community development.

## **Share Offer**

We have been progressing the Share Offer documentation but until we are clearer about the overall funding strategy, we will not be in a position to finalise this. At the moment it is very unlikely that we will be issuing the Share Offer documentation in March, as originally planned.

## **The Business Plan**

The first edition of the Business Plan is now available on the website. This will be revised as our funding position develops but represents our view at the end of 2020.

## **Planning application**

The preliminary design of the building was completed in December, in time for the submission of the planning application to TWBC on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020. This is a picture of the submitted: design,



## **The site**

Discussions are progressing with the Memorial Hall Committee to agree a lease for the site, though have not yet concluded.

## **Thank you**

Thank you for your support and please do encourage others to join this exciting venture for the future of our village!

*John Stansfeld, Frittenden Community Stores Limited*

## GOSBEE'S GOSSIP

Firstly I'd like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. I was saddened to learn that a few people in our lovely village are facing health problems at the moment. I know how kind the people of Frittenden can be. It does help to know that people are thinking of them, sending good wishes and prayers, especially in these difficult times. Like everyone else, we had a very quiet Christmas. It was an especially sad Christmas for us this year as Hazel's dad, Peter Collins passed away on 17<sup>th</sup> December. His quality of life was on the decline after a long spell in hospital last Christmas, then going to live at Hartley House care home in March. Pete was starting to show signs of dementia and the worry was that with the brief distanced visits, that he would stop recognising his family. Visiting was a rare, distanced treat after the initial lockdown and he sadly contracted coronavirus and it took him very quickly. Peter's funeral was held on 13<sup>th</sup> January at Charing Crematorium, and was obviously a small gathering. All of Pete's 5 children and grandchildren contributed to his eulogy. Pete was born on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1937 in Spongs Lane, Sissinghurst. He was one of 4 children, only Pete and his sister Jean survived into adulthood. Jean passed away in March 2020, after suffering from dementia for many years. Pete attended Sissinghurst Primary School, then Swattenden at Cranbrook. After leaving school, Pete did his National Service with the RAF, based at High Wycombe. He didn't enjoy his National Service, he thought that it was a waste of time. He was a steward in VIP quarters. After that, he worked for his father lorry driving and hop drying at Park Farm, Frittenden, where his parents moved to when Pete was a boy. He met Edie Munday in the early 1960's and they moved into Hodge House (now Hodges Farm House) in Bubhurst Lane. It was 2 small cottages at that time. Five children later, when the youngest Heather was a few months old, the family moved to 1 The Limes. By then, Pete was working for plastics company Marley at Lenham, working mainly 12 hour shifts to support his family. He worked his way up to foreman and the lasting memory with his children was that dad was always either at work, asleep or grumpy. One memory described at the funeral was a day that Marley had arranged an outing for its workers and their families to see the Dancing on Ice show at Brighton. On the way to meet the coach, with all 7 of the family in the Hillman Avenger, they came across the usual floods across the road before the railway bridge on the Headcorn road. Pete decided that he could drive through it, but the water was soon filling the footwells and the car stalled. George climbed on the roof before having to help to push the car back. Needless to say, they never did get to see the show! After Pete lost Edie to cancer in 1993 at the age of 53, and after he retired, he led a very quiet life. He got a Labrador puppy called Jade, who was a great companion to him for 16 years. Pete was not a fan of Christmas, but he pretended to 'tolerate' the whole family gathering at his house every Christmas morning to exchange presents. He was always happily serving drinks and nibbles before enjoying the Christmas family gatherings to come. Pete always had a cupboard full of chocolate for his grandchildren, and his granddaughter Livvy (Dawn's eldest daughter) wrote an amazing poem called 'Grandad's House' that was read out at the funeral. Pete had 10 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren, and he always loved the many family get-togethers. My life has been enriched to be part of such a close family. On 24<sup>th</sup> January, Pete's granddaughter Pearl (Heather's daughter) will be 18, so congratulations to her.

Last year, I asked what was the first live band/ singer that you had seen. Tom Newman (who was born at Buckhurst Farm) replied to say that he went to Cranbrook School for Boys and the Headmaster was very strict. When the Headmaster left, a cool, modern Head took over. Around 1970, most students were boarders, and a few girls even came to the school. In the Queen's Hall, a prog rock band with a cult following called Genesis performed with lead singer Peter Gabriel. Tickets were priced at 10 shillings/ 50p in today's money. When Mungo Jerry did a concert in Biddenden in 1971, Tom heard it from Buckhurst Farm and said that it was just like being at the concert. Tom went to Manchester University, and was asked to help to carry some equipment for a band. He only carried a few speakers, but he got invited backstage. The band turned out to be Brian Ferry's Roxy Music at the Free Hall in Manchester in 1973. Their first hit Virginia Plain got to number 4 in 1972. Some people are just lucky.

I have read newspaper reports and watched many programmes about coronavirus, and as far as I can gather, only people with severe allergies, needing epipens are unable to have the vaccine, should they want to. If you are not sure because of other health issues, please ask if you're not sure. My slogan would be 'get the vaccine to protect yourself and save others'. I have asked our MP to encourage our Prime Minister to make mask wearing compulsory from the age of 10, apart from in your car (if alone), home or garden. People who struggle to breathe when wearing a mask should be safely at home. It would then be much safer for supermarkets and shops. I have been told to avoid hairdressers, and I avoid going out as much as I can.

Hazel cannot mind children until I am vaccinated, but I am waiting my turn. I have been told that if I was 70 (I'm 66), I would be bumped up the list to join the 80's group because I am highly medically vulnerable.

I was shocked to read that millennials think that the film Grease should never be shown on TV again because they say that it is racist and homophobic as well as bullying. They believe that it is shaming because Olivia Newton-John dressed as a vamp to bag her man. Didn't Danny (John Travolta) dress down for the same reason?. ONJ was my teenage idol, after I first saw her on the Cliff Richard Show in 1970. It is a film that portrays the fictional Rydell High School in 1958. The BBC has lost the plot to bow to the woke society. It's not only the BBC that has been giving out warnings. I have watched the Yorkshire Vet and they give out a warning that the programme might include veterinary procedures that some people might find upsetting. Next we will get warnings that Masterchef may contain nuts! If you don't like something on TV, there's always the option to turn over or off.

*Lester J. Gosbee*

## **FRITTENDEN MEMORIAL HALL PRIZE DRAW**

**The winners were :**

### **December 2020**

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	No. 58	Tom Nash	£15.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	No. 61	Richard Gosbee	£10.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	No. 35	Sue Sharpe	£8.00

### **January 2021**

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	No. 68	Buddy Bullock	£15.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	No. 42	Mike Ashbee	£10.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	No. 06	Roy Latham	£8.00

We have 68 members so far, but of course if anyone else would like to join, it is not too late.

If you would like a Membership Form, please either phone or email : [shop@acornsstores.co.uk](mailto:shop@acornsstores.co.uk). and I will send you one. The completed form should be either emailed back to me, or, popped through the letterbox of the old shop next to Acorns. Normally we request either cash or cheque, however this year it may be easier to send the money (£8.00 per person for the whole year from the next draw February, 2021 September 2021) by BACS. Do make sure that when you return the Membership Form, the payment method is clearly stated. Also, when a BACS payment is made please state the member's name. All the details for a BACS payment will be on the Membership Form.

I do hope that this is clear, however if you have any questions please phone me:

Each month, half the proceeds is divided into 3 prizes and the other half goes towards the running of the Frittenden Memorial Hall, so of course, the greater the number of members, the larger the prizes!

Thank you for reading this and Good Luck!

*Eileen Bridges 01580 852563*

## **LOST IN TRANSLATION**

Sign In a Travel Agency in Barcelona  
Go Away.

## MUSIC NOTES

Well I wasn't too pessimistic about the chances of live music locally in January – perhaps not pessimistic enough! There is now plenty of music to find on the internet in one form or another, and we did get the New Year's Day concert from Vienna on the TV (without an audience) but there will be nothing live locally this month. I will therefore continue on my quite different theme, as promised last month. Here are some of the significant musical anniversaries in February:

\*8<sup>th</sup> February – 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of death of Georges Gillet, French oboist and music educator

\*13<sup>th</sup> February – 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of birth of Eileen Farrell, US opera singer and music pedagogue.

\*22<sup>nd</sup> February – 210<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Frederic Chopin, Polish composer and pianist

\*22<sup>nd</sup> February – 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary of birth of Johann Ambrosius Bach, German musician (trumpeter and organist) father to Johann Sebastian Bach.

British audiences may not know of Eileen Farrell, so I will quote from Wikipedia to give a biography:

Eileen Farrell was an American soprano who had a nearly 60-year-long career performing both classical and popular music in concerts, theatres, on radio and television, and on disc. It was said that "She possessed one of the largest and most radiant operatic voices of the 20th century." Her career was mainly based in the United States, although she did perform internationally. The Daily Telegraph stated that she "was one of the finest American sopranos of the 20th century; she had a voice of magnificent proportions which she used with both acumen and artistry in a wide variety of roles." And she was described as having a voice "like some unparalleled phenomenon of nature. She is to singers what Niagara is to waterfalls."

Farrell started as a member of the CBS Chorus on CBS Radio and in 1941 she got her own program, Eileen Farrell Sings, on which she performed both classical and popular music. In 1947 she launched her career as a concert soprano and nine years later began performing on the opera stage, leading to five seasons performing at the Metropolitan Opera from 1960–1966. She performed and recorded both classical and popular music throughout her career and is credited for releasing the first successful crossover album: I've Got a Right to Sing the Blues (1960). She continued actively up into the late 1990s. She also practised as a voice teacher, both privately and for nine years at Indiana University.

*Brian Hardy*

**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**  
FRITTENDEN WI

Once again we are in lockdown for the foreseeable future but hope is on the horizon for the vaccine and we look forward to the day when Frittenden WI will be able to meet each other in person and start our busy programme again.

We held a Zoom meeting instead of our Christmas party on 8 December so we could catch up on all the news and finished off with a Christmas Quiz. Our January meeting was a Zoom catch up and for February and March meetings we have Zoom speakers arranged.

Several of our members have been unwell over the last couple of months and our thoughts are with them at this time.

We are always glad to see new members and in normal times we meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.15 in the village hall (not June or August). Contact Anne Holroyd on 01580 893256 for further information.

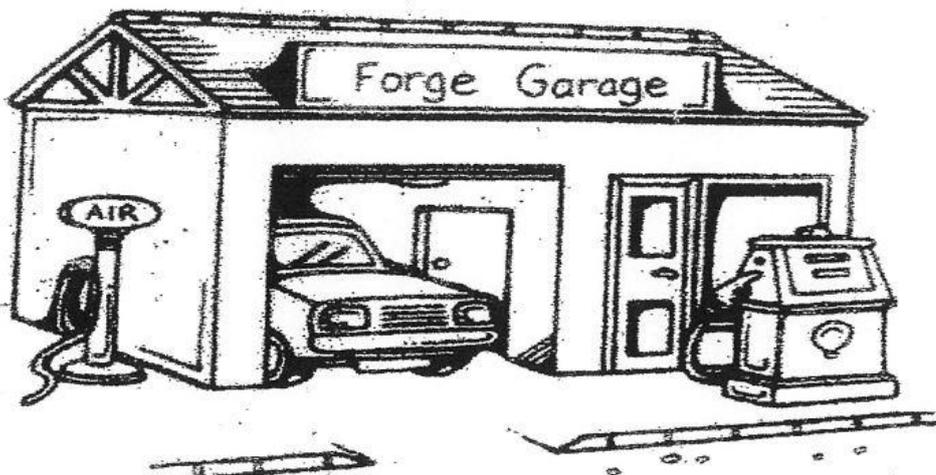
*Ros Bowles*



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## KINGY TECH – NEW BUSINESS

Hi my name is Oli King and I am a bit of a computer geek!!  
I am currently in year 11 at Cranbrook School and love  
anything to do with computers.

If you need any help with a repair, replacing screens, slow pc/laptop, training,  
emails etc.. I would be delighted to help.

I will adhere to social distance, sanitise and wear a mask.

Please contact me on;

01580 852770 answerphone .. M 07484 686902

Email [oliking6@gmail.com](mailto:oliking6@gmail.com)

£15 includes call out and first hour/ £10 ph thereafter

No charge if I can't help you

## Reviews

Very knowledgeable young man, sorted out a very slow gaming PC and gave us advice on how to upgrade it. Would definitely recommend him... Tracy Knight

Massively helpful, fixed a laptop that we thought had come to the end of its life! Highly recommend Kingy Tech to everyone....Zoe Winter

Thank you so much to Oli King- elderly desktop computer with boot problems well beyond my skills now running again so i can make sure i really have backed up everything on there. And clear explanations of what he was doing. All done with attention to Covid 19 precautions too. Recommended... Debbie Haine

I have called upon Oli King's computer expertise on several occasions and have found him to be an extremely capable, polite and for his tender years surprisingly knowledgeable person. I will not hesitate to use his services again in the future.... Colin Bullock.

## UNUSUAL TRIVIA

For its first 100 years, the word “mugger” simply meant someone who sold mugs.

600 BILLION cups of coffee are drunk each year.

The pressure inside a proton is 3 billion times greater than that at the bottom of the Mariana Trench.

Rats can tread water for 3 days and survive being flushed down the loo.

Coconut spiders grow as big as dogs.

A blind man who is terrified of dogs has been given the UK’s first guide horse.

Pottos are primates that smell like curry.

75 million bacteria per square centimetre can live in one rubber duck.

The backs of playing cards used to be left blank so people could make notes on them.

Detective Speechley is a spokesman for the NYPD.

Pandas are losing their black eye patches – and no one knows why.

Goldfish can survive for 5 months without oxygen.

Praying mantises are the only insects known to see in 3D.

In 1605, an Act of Parliament made the celebration of Bonfire Night compulsory.

French was the official language of the Aosta Valley in Italy 3 years before it was adopted by France itself.

One collective noun for a group of pheasants is “Bouquet.”

The past tense of ‘snow’ used to be ‘snew’.

The Welsh for ‘peaches’ literally translates as ‘woolly plums’.

A pelican’s bill can hold as much water as 2 flushes of a toilet.

The UK has more Wildlife Trust nature reserves than branches of McDonald’s.

One goose can produce 250 kg of excrement in 1 year.

A *lanspresado* is a 17<sup>th</sup> century word for a friend who never has any money with them.

## WICKED QUIZ

- 1) A person having a ‘*photic sneeze reflex*,’ sneezes in response to what stimulus?
- 2) What does the flag of Belize have more of than any other national flag?
- 3) What term for isolation is derived from the biblical period of 40 days?
- 4) In which month is the vernal equinox?
- 5) Who composed *Aida*?
- 6) From which TV show was *Mork and Mindy* a spin-off?
- 7) Which singer has the middle name ‘Hercules?’
- 8) In which town did the gunfight at the OK Corral take place?
- 9) If you sailed through the Panama Canal from the Pacific to the Atlantic, which direction are you going?
- 10) Which is the only US state with a one-syllable name?
- 11) What does the company founded in 1945 by Joseph C Bamford produce?
- 12) In which organ would you find aqueous humour and vitreous humour?
- 13) The name of which cooking ingredient comes from the French meaning ‘sour wine?’
- 14) Which American University is located at New Haven?
- 15) In chess, what is the minimum number of moves a pawn must make to become a queen?

# LARCHMERE REPORT

Another Christmas has been and gone!

I am very pleased to say that we are all well and safe here at Larchmere. Keeping Co Vid at bay – thank goodness. Nearly all carer's and residents have had their first Pfizer jab, which is wonderful and are waiting to hear about the second. Our nurses are working very hard in doing all the tests that the staff and residents, need on what seems an almost daily basis. So hats off to them, as this is on top of all the other work they do. And, of course, all members of staff have gone above and beyond and helped in anyway they can through these rotten times.

Our in house entertainment was 'pumped up' over Christmas as you can only imagine.

Santa squeezed through the cat flap on the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> (as there is no chimney) to deliver mainly choccie goodies (only for those who had been good, of course!) Then our normal sumptuous Christmas dinner was consumed followed by residents opening not just presents from us, but of course, from all their loved ones. Hats, mince pies, corny cracker jokes, sherry, wine, gin and tonic, (and a host of other beverages), Bing Crosby singing in the background, were all part of the day. Plus of course, staff bursting into Christmas song at any moment with a version of 'jingle bells' or some such song. I think the egg nogg came out at one point! Just like any other Christmas, but full of extra love and warmth for our beloved residents.

We have resorted to all sorts of fun to keep everyone entertained. Throw a hoop over the reindeer's horns (beautifully shown here by Anthony being a very patient reindeer) was particularly fun.

We had a party in between Christmas and New Year with all staff dressing in Disney/fairytale attire! Residents had to guess who we were. I am not sure how the dinosaur 'snuck' in but she was a major hit anyhow! This was followed by lovely party food – created by our hard working kitchen staff and then we sang aptly themed songs to the residents.

I would like, at this point, to thank our ever smiling residents having to listen to 'us lot' sing over the last month or so. It can't be easy on their ears and remembering most of us weren't trained in it anyway – you can imagine the combined squawking that was to be heard. God bless 'em. They still clapped every time.

Our Christmas Raffle didn't disappoint. The first prize was a smashing hamper – filled with all the goodies a resident could wish for to keep him or her well fed until next Christmas. And I am pleased to say all residents seemed to win a prize of their liking – how wonderful was that! Geoff was the lucky recipient of a meal at the B & J (post covid) which was received by a big beaming smile.

Delphine's birthday on Boxing Day was no less jolly as it was around Christmas - Birthday wishes and smiles all round. Also, Joan celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> - so many presents and well wishes from everyone and Jean Cope celebrated her Birthday as well with a cake and warm Birthday wishes from everyone.

Children at Biddenden primary school wrote a handmade Christmas card to each of the residents, which they were delighted about and needless to say put a smile on their faces.

And, of course, the Christmas Carols pre Christmas. How can I thank the staff enough? Marie (Activities) was Mary, blonde wig (looking more like Marilyn Monroe than Mary but best we could do) wrapped in a NHS blue blanket and holding baby Jesus (well, a carer's daughters dolly) – (oh – and my log basket I brought from home as a cradle) and then there were the shepherds (Chrissie, Tracy and Kate) dressed in kitchen towels I brought from home and a bandana to keep on their head). Sharon as Archangel Gabrielle, with a fitting halo and not forgetting the three wise (or not so wise ) men – Alison, Tracy and our lovely volunteer Valerie with the 'dodgiest crowns' I have ever seen. But what fun it was and our residents seemed to enjoy the spectacle.

Anyhow on the next two pages are some photos taken at these events. Until next month. Stay safe.

***Becky Bruce***





With a gentleman I am always a gentleman and a half, and when I have to do with a pirate, I try to be a pirate and a half.

*Otto von Bismark*

Remember your humanity; forget the rest

*Bertrand Russell*

I'm sure genius is largely a question of energy.

*J. G. Farrell*

## WEATHER

A few December statistics: Christmas Day was the coldest one since 2010, with a temperature of 1.8°C/35.24°F. Christmas Day 2020 had a temperature of 4.13°C/ 39.38°F. The coldest day of 2020 was 31<sup>st</sup> December at 1.94°C/ 35.42°F. The coldest day up to 29<sup>th</sup> December was 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at 4.86°C/ 40.64°F. This just shows how mild last winter was. 2020 equalled 2016 for being globally the warmest since 1860. The Central England Temperatures for the year (2020) was 10.76°C/ 51.08°F. Only 2014 was warmer at 10.95°C/ 51.7°F. The average annual temperature in the UK is 8.84°C/ 47.91°F. In England the average is 9.65°C/ 49.37°F. December 2020 rainfall was 126.6mm/ 5 inches. The average for Kent is 73.1mm/ 2.87 inches, so we had 66% above average rainfall in December.

FEBRUARY- February 2019 was outstanding, weatherwise, with a couple of cold days at the beginning of the month, two days with a temperature of 3.3° c/38°F. After that, only 5 days of the month failed to reach temperatures in double figures. On 26th, for the first time a winter month exceeded 20°C/ 68°F. In fact, Kew Gardens in London reached 21.2°C/ 70.16°F. This is the average temperature for the Kent coast in July. That day, I recorded a temperature of 19.29°C/ 66.74°F. February 2020 had just 10 days that had temperatures failing to reach double figures. The coldest day of the month was 27th with 7.8° c/ 46.04°F. East Malling was the warmest at 16°C/60.80°F. May in February. Frittenden reached 15.03°C/ 59°F. It was the wettest February on record for the UK with 209mm/8.28 inches. Frittenden had 115.4mm/ 4.54 inches. The warmest February was way back in 1779 with a central England temperature (CET) of 7.9°C/ 46.2°F. February 2019 had a CET of 6.7°C/ 44.06°F.

This February (2021) will be topsy turvy. It is likely to be another wet one, but on the positive side, it will be 50% drier than last February. February's CET will be 4.12°C/ 39.46°F, just a fraction warmer than January. I have been through the monthly averages since 1659, including the combined winter months data – December, January and February. In all those years, since 1659, 21 winters have been cold or had one extremely cold month. 1921 was above average throughout January with a CET of 7.3°C/45.14°F. We have not had a January that mild since. February 2021 will have a cold start with local frost. There will be some fairly bright days, and the South East will see the best of the sunshine. From 3rd, a deep area of low pressure will spread wind and rain to all parts. North Norfolk and Lincolnshire will see some transient snow, before joining the rest of us in mild, windy weather. Temperatures will be around 10 - 12° c/ 50 - 54°F. High pressure over Scandinavia and low pressure to the west of Ireland will put us back into the same situation as we were in at the beginning of the year, only this time we will have cold, northerly winds, near gale force down the North Sea. There could be local flooding on the coasts of Norfolk, Lincolnshire and possibly Essex. Driving rain at times will fall as snow over the Chilterns and the highest points of Buckinghamshire, up to 267m/875 feet, could easily have 10cm/ 4 inches of snow. There could also be some snow over the highest western Cotswold counties. The North Kent Downs could also see snow at times. High pressure will move closer to the UK and winds will fall light. Winds will continue from the north or north west. From 6th, there will be spells of freezing weather, bringing hoar frosts. There will be sunshine where fog clears. The Midlands will see the thickest of the fog. The M5 could be badly affected. Parts of Surrey, Cambridge, Oxfordshire, Suffolk and Dorset will see the lowest of the temperatures that England will see this winter, -7 to -9°C/ 19.40 to 15.80°F. The Weald of Kent will have temperatures as low as -6°C/ 21.20°F, the lowest temperature since the 'Beast from the East'. As we approach the middle of the month, Atlantic fronts will spread in on milder air. On fresh westerlies, there will be rapid snow melt on higher ground, causing local flooding. The weather will remain very changeable, with spells of rain. There could be the odd gale in the Channel and possible coastal flooding. There will be some drier spells of 72 hours and it will become temporarily colder, at 5 - 7°C/ 41 - 45°F with night frosts down to -2°C/ 28°F in sheltered parts. This will take us up to 25th, the high pressure will be back in control. Winds will be from the east or south east. The air will be very dry, but no hoar frosts. There will be some lovely sparkly days, but temperatures could struggle to get higher than 0°C/ 32°F. The air will be more moist, and we could see some granules of snow in East Anglia close to The Wash. The weather will be a little less cold in the western counties that I forecast for. February's Highest Day Temperature will be: 14°C/ 57.20°F. Possibly in Chippenham, Wiltshire. No 60°F+ this year, Lowest Day Temperature will be: -2°C/ 28.40°F in Benson, Oxfordshire. Many places in the Midlands, in the freezing fog, may not rise above 0°C/ 32°F, and Lowest Night Temperature will be: -9°C/

15.80°f. This was the day maximum temperature in Frittenden and Marden in the Weald of Kent on 12th January 1987.

February's rainfall for will be 60 – 90mm/ 2.36 to 3.54 inches. Some places could exceed 100mm/ 4 inches. February is England's second driest month with an average of 60.3mm/ 2.37 inches of rain. The average for Kent is 47.8mm/ 1.88 inches. The average rainfall for April in Kent is 49.2mm/ 1.93 inches. July in Kent averages 46.7mm/1.839 inches. The average sunshine over England in February is 74 hours. The average for Dorset is 80.3 hours, Worcestershire 73.3 hours, Sussex 82.8 hours, Lincolnshire 78.8 hours and Kent 78.3 hours. The South East will get average sunshine this February, elsewhere 5% below average. February's average Central England Temperature is 4.12°c/ 39.40°f. In Kent the average CET is 4.56°c/ 40.28°f. This February, the CET will be 3.5°c/ 38.3°f. It will be the coldest February since 2018, when the CET was 2.9°c/ 37.22°f (the Beast from the East).

*Lester J Gosbee.*



## **FEELING LONELY OR ISOLATED? NEED TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS?**

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The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom.

*Isaac Asimov*

I like work; it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours.

*Jerome K Jerome*

The time to relax is when you don't have time for it.

*Sydney J Harris*

# LOCKDOWN RECIPE NO 1

## SEVILLE AND WHISKY MARMALADE



### You will need:

- 1.3kg Seville Oranges
- 2 lemons, juice only
- 2 ¼kg granulated or preserving sugar
- 450g dark muscovado sugar
- 150ml blended whisky

Makes about 10 lbs.

### STEP 1

Place the whole oranges and lemon juice in a large preserving pan and cover with 2 litres/ 4 pints water. If this is not enough to cover the fruit, put it in a smaller pan. If necessary, weight the oranges with a heat-proof plate to keep them under the water. Bring to the boil, cover and simmer very gently for about 2 hours, or until the peel can be pierced easily with a fork.

### STEP 2

Warm half of the white and dark sugar in a very low oven. Pour off the cooking water from the oranges into a jug and tip the oranges into a bowl. Return the cooking liquid to the pan. Leave the oranges to cool until they are easy to handle, then cut them in half. Scoop out all the pips and pith and add these to reserved orange liquid in the pan. Bring to the boil for 6 minutes then strain this liquid through a sieve into a bowl, pressing the pulp through with a wooden spoon; the result is high in pectin, which helps to ensure the marmalade has a good set.

### STEP 3

Pour half this liquid into a preserving pan. Cut the peel into chunky shreds, using a sharp knife. Add half the peel to the liquid in the preserving pan with the warm white and dark muscovado sugars. Stir over a low heat until all the sugar has dissolved, then bring to the boil and bubble rapidly for 15-25 minutes until setting point is reached. Stir in half the whisky.

### STEP 4

Take the pan off the heat and skim any scum from the surface. (To dissolve any excess scum, drop a small knob of butter on the surface, and gently stir.) Leave the marmalade to stand in the pan for 20 minutes to cool a little and to allow the peel to settle, then pot in sterilised jars, seal and label. Repeat for the remaining batch.

OR, replace whisky with Grand Marnier, Drambuie or Cointreau. Instead of muscovado sugar, use 2.6kg/6lb granulated or preserving sugar and add 2 tbsp black treacle (adding 1 tbsp per batch) to make a darker marmalade, or use light muscovado to make a lighter one.

Both this recipe and the one on the following page are courtesy of Good Food Magazine, with adequate testing and tasting by -

***Berni & Mike Cooper***

## LOCKDOWN RECIPE NO 2

### CASSOULET OF BACON & TOULOUSE SAUSAGE WITH CONFIT PHEASANT



#### You will need:

- 2 celery sticks, finely chopped
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 8 garlic cloves, unpeeled
- 8 Toulouse sausages
- 400g whole piece of smoked streaky bacon or pancetta
- 2 generous glasses of red wine
- 600g good quality tinned Italian chopped tomatoes
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 thyme sprigs
- 2 x 400g cans white haricot beans or cannellini beans, rinsed and drained
- 50g fine white breadcrumbs
- A little chopped parsley to serve

#### And, for the pheasant:

- 4 x 500g jars goose fat (it sounds a lot, but you can re-use it again and again)
- 8 pheasant legs, bone in
- 10 black peppercorns

#### And:

Plenty of very good red wine, preferably from SW France! Serves eight people.

#### STEP 1

Locate your heaviest deep pan (with a lid) and put it over a low heat. Add 2 tbsp of the goose fat. Soften the celery, onions and garlic cloves, then add the sausages and brown them all for about 10-15 mins (you may have to turn the heat up a bit).

#### STEP 2

Remove the rind from the bacon and cut the bacon into 8 square chunks. Add the bacon and rind to the pot and pour in the red wine and tomatoes; I like to put the smoked rind in for flavour then pick it out later. Add the bay leaf and thyme, cover and simmer very slowly for 3 hrs.

#### STEP 3

While the base is cooking, prepare the confit. This could also be done well in advance, since it keeps so well. Heat oven to 150C/130C fan/gas 2 and season the pheasant legs well with sea salt and pepper. Pack these together tightly into an ovenproof casserole and cover with the goose fat. Add the peppercorns and cook for 2½ hrs, until the pheasant is tender. Remove the legs carefully from the hot fat and drain on a rack above a roasting tray. Increase the oven temp to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. If you are making these ahead, cool and store in the fat in the fridge. To serve, heat gently to melt so you can lift out the legs.

#### STEP 4

To finish, tip the sausage mix into an ovenproof dish, stir in the beans with some seasoning and sit the pheasant legs on top. Sprinkle the whole thing with breadcrumbs and bake for 30 mins until golden. Scatter with parsley to serve.



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## THE BACK PAGE

### REFUSE TRUCK SCHEDULE

Due to the Corona virus outbreak, this service has been suspended until further notice.

### LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS

#### FRITTENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Tony Staples (Chairman)	01580 852226
James Tuke (Vice Chairman)	01580 852372
Heather Cullingworth	01580 852340
Lester Gosbee	01580 852288
Sarah Murray	07854679348
Rosalind Riley	01580 852317
Richard Vernon	01580 852537
Parish Clerk Emma Nightingale	01580 292576
Website	<a href="http://www.frittenden.org.uk">www.frittenden.org.uk</a>

**This month's Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February. The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March.**

#### TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Town Hall 01892 526121  
Cranbrook – Weald Information Centre 01580 715686  
Member for Frittenden & Sissinghurst – Andy Fairweather 07976 290185  
[Andrew.Fairweather@TunbridgeWells.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.Fairweather@TunbridgeWells.gov.uk)

#### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

County Hall 01622 671411  
Member for Cranbrook - Sean Holden - [sean.holden@kent.gov.uk](mailto:sean.holden@kent.gov.uk) or 01580 714880

#### POLICING

Non-urgent crime reports 101  
Neighbourhood Watch Liaison 01580 852415 (Sean Croucher)  
Community Warden Adam Osborn 07813 695741

### NEXT EDITION, SMALL PRINT, ETC.

**Closing date for material for the March edition is Monday 15th February.** My e-mail address is [editor.fritmag@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:editor.fritmag@hotmail.co.uk) which is the best way to receive (MS Word) copy, either as an attachment or in the body of the email. Text is OK, of course, but you then risk my typos!

Finally, the Editor wishes it to be known that any opinions expressed in any edition of this magazine are those of the individual contributor and in no way infer any form of agreement, either by the Editor or by St. Mary's Church, of the details given or sentiments implied.

### QUIZ ANSWERS

1) Sunlight; 2) Colours; 3) Quarantine; 4) March; 5) Giuseppe Verdi; 6) Happy Days; 7) Elton John; 8) Tombstone, Arizona; 9) North-West; 10) Maine; 11) Mechanical diggers; 12) The eyes; 13) Vinegar; 14) Yale; 15) Five.

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