

December 2010

Subject of the second of the



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Rector: Rev' Jennie Bradshaw
The Rectory, 266 Rochester Rd, Burham, Kent. ME1 3RJ. Tel: 01634 666862

View the Magazine online: www.burhamvillage.com www.wouldhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk

WHO TO CONTACT

The Rector Rev Jennie Bradshaw

Tel: 01634 666862

Church Wardens Mrs Gwen Worcester. Tel. 01634 672060

Mrs Marie Rayner. Tel. 01634 681873

Baptisms Mrs Gwen Worcester.

Tel. 01634 672060

Prayer requests Mr Rod Murr. Tel: 01634 868075

Weddings Rev Jennie Bradshaw

Tel: 01634 666862

Funerals (also Internment of Ashes & Permission for

of Ashes & Permission for Churchyard Memorials)

Mr John Lloyd. Tel 01634 863345

Church Treasurer Mrs Janet Parris Tel: 01634 669872

Church Secretary Mrs Heather Lloyd.

Tel. 01634 863345

Parish Magazine Editor Mrs Mary Davis. Tel. 01634 869650

Methodist Minister Rev. Clifford Newman

Burham Methodist Church

Stewards

Mrs Eileen Smith 01634 867022

Mrs Joyce Brown 01634 864413

Donations are always gratefully received for flowers for the Churches.

Contact:

Wouldham, All Saints Church: Catherine Gore, Ringshill Farm. Tel: 404742

Burham Methodist Church: Eileen Smith, 23 Church St. Tel: 867022

Dear Friends



Jennie writes on vege boxes

Over the past 4 years, since taking on the care of my Mother's garden, I've learnt a little about growing vegetables and can now produce reasonable crops of lettuce, beans, leeks and beetroot. But when I tell my Mother: 'There's some lovely plump leeks ready for cooking', she'll as likely reply: 'Not this week, dear, I've got something else in mind'. Of course that something else will involve vegetables that I don't grow and she'll buy from the supermarket. So apart from those that are given away, much of my vegetable crop ends up on the compost having become old and tough or gone to seed.

Last week I put a suggestion to her: 'Suppose I make up a weekly small vege box and you work out your meals starting from that?' After a hesitant 'hmmmm' she agreed to give it a try. For surely it's a question of where her focus is. If she starts with her familiar recipes it's quite possible that they will never include my leeks just when they are plump and in their prime. But if she commences with the leeks and then goes to the recipe book? Time will tell.

What do you think? Does what applies to the vege box apply equally to Jesus and our Christian faith? If our starting point is the agenda/recipe that we have chosen for our lives, simply adding Jesus where, through tradition, He appears on the agenda like at Christmas, or perhaps at a church wedding or christening but only then .. well it's almost like putting Jesus on the compost heap along with my 'gone to seed vegetables.' But if we commence with Jesus and them work out our agenda for living around Him It might be as good as having Him for our vege box. You are what you eat, they say!

Best wishes for a peaceful and joyful Christmas,

Yours, Jennie

OUR CHURCH RUNNING COSTS

Charities and families are presently experiencing both an increase in the cost of basic utilities and declining incomes. Our Church family is, sadly, in the same position, our current monthly income being a little less than our monthly expenditure. As we have been diligent in cutting costs wherever possible the PCC is most anxious about this situation and asks if we can prayerfully consider whether we may help in one of the following ways:-

- 1. Commencing regular weekly/monthly giving. 2. Increasing your regular weekly/monthly giving by a small amount. 3. Making a once off gift. 4. Gift-Aiding a gift.
- 5. Doing a small fundraising event . Rev. Jennie, Treasurer Janet Parris (669872), Gift Aid secretary Heather Lloyd (863345) are happy to assist you.

Some have asked about the cost of the refurbishments to All Saints in the light of the above statement about our financial difficulties. An unknown benefactor in the past left a sum of money to be spent solely on the upkeep of the parish church building. We are grateful to that benefactor who enables us now to adapt the church to present day needs and usage. However the Charity Commissioners prohibit any

diversion of that gift to daily running costs.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

BURHAM AND WOULDHAM
PARISH CHURCH
wish you
A Peaceful and Blessed Christmas
&
L
A Happy New Year

"His name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means 'God with us') (Matthew:1:23)

A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to all

from Joan Harrison

Meg & Henry (Foch) Peters
Wish all friends and
neighbours

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PEACEFUL 2011



Heather and John Lloyd would like to wish their friends and neighbours

A VERY ENJOYABLE CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

DECEMBER & CHRISTMAS Church of England Services



Thursday 2nd December

3.15pm Messy Church Wouldham School Hall

Sunday 5th December

10.30am Family Service All Saints, Wouldham

Sunday 12th December

10.30am Holy Communion All Saints, Wouldham

Thursday 16th December

11.00am Holy Communion Winchester House

Friday 17th December

9.15am Wouldham School Carol Service All Saints, Wouldham 6.00pm Carol Service Winchester House

Sunday 19th December

10.30am 'Messy Church' Burham Community Centre

6.00pm Service of Carols & Nine Lessons. All Saints, Wouldham

Friday 24th December

3.00pm Christingle Service Burham Methodist Church
4.30pm Christingle Service All Saints, Wouldham
11.30pm Midnight Mass All Saints, Wouldham

Sunday 26th December

10.30pm Said Holy Communion All Saints, Wouldham

THURSDAY, 23rd DECEMBER

PARENTS & CHILDREN

COME & MAKE

CHRISTINGLES



At 3.00pm Burham Methodist Church, Church St

ALL SAINTS, WOULDHAM CHURCHYARD The Garden of Rest

The All saints Garden of Rest has been prepared and awaits the large memorial stone which is presently being carved. When the Garden has been dedicated, which I anticipate to happen early in 2011, villagers may have the ashes of their relatives interred there. Caskets though will not be permitted. The name, date of birth and death of the deceased can be inscribed upon the memorial stone at a cost currently of £230. Application for this should be made to the Rector. Flowers may be put at the foot of the memorial stone or preferably placed in a vase on the window-sill inside the church. If however you would like to donate the cost of flowers for an arrangement on your loved-one's anniversary, please contact Mrs Catherine Gore—tel. 01634 404742

FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE AT CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, with your help, we would like to fill our church with flowers in memory of our loved ones. All names will be recorded in a book of remembrance which will be on display in All Saints Church over Christmas. The church will be open during daylight hours giving families and friends the opportunity to see the flowers and to have a time of reflection and quietness during this busy period.

If you would like to remember your loved ones in this way please use the form below and send to: Catherine Gore, Ringshill Farm, Wouldham, Rochester, Kent. ME1 3TP or leave in the Shop in Wouldham. Please make cheques payable to Catherine Gore or enclose cash. Thank you

of	Please print clearly in block capitals
I would like Flov	wers to be placed in church this Christmas in memory of:
Donation from:	
	Tel number:

CHRISTINGLE

Thursday 23rd December at 3.00pm

Parents and Children. Come along and make Christingles at Burham Methodist Church, Church St.



Friday 24th December

3.00pm Christingle Service Burham Methodist Church 4.30pm Christingle Service All Saints, Wouldham

A VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED

A volunteer is required to assist and eventually take over from John Lloyd in the work of allocating locations for grave plots in Wouldham Churchyard and in Burham St. Mary's Churchyard. This work is not demanding of time but involves some record keeping and contact with bereaved families and Funeral Directors.

If you are interested, the first contact should be made to the Rector: 01634-666862 or email: jenniebradshaw@mypostoffice.co.uk

STORY-RHYME-TIME

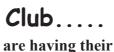
For Little Ones....



10.30am—11.30am
Friday 3rd December
Friday 10th December

ALL SAINTS CHURCH
WOULDHAM

The Book



Christmas meal

The Book Club

at the
Viceroy, Toastmasters on
Church Street, Burham.
At 7:30pm Wednesday,
15th December. £9 Per person.
If you wish to join us Please
contact: Rebecca Kennedy:
01634 864 614 so she can book.

TREASURE SEEKERS MISSION

WOULDHAM SCHOOL



MONDAY
31st JANUARY

& each day of that week

MEN'S SUPPER

7.30PM, TUESDAY 4th JANUARY MEDWAY INN, WOULDHAM

All men welcome Book : Dennis 01634 672060



This is an exciting moment in the Church with lots of developments, both in the Church itself and its activities.

The position of P.C.C. Secretary (Parochial Church Council Secretary) will become vacant next March owing to the retirement of the present occupant, Mrs. Heather Lloyd.

The Council is seeking a replacement for Heather in good time for the A.G.M. (Annual General Meeting) next Spring. The post is voluntary and requires a person with at least some secretarial ability and I.T. skills. It involves taking minutes, preparing paperwork for meetings and dealing with correspondence. Anyone who feels they would like to serve the church in this way is invited to contact Heather (01634-863345 or email

j.t.lloyd@btinternet.com) and have a chat about the job over a cup of tea! Or contact the Rector (01634-666962 or email:

jenniebradshaw@mypostoffice.co.uk).

If you are interested, the first contact should be made to the Rector (details as above).

Both are rewarding posts and involve the life of the villages and its people.

JANUARY Church of England Services



Sunday 2nd January

10.30am Family Service All Saints, Wouldham

Sunday 9th January

10.30am Holy Communion All Saints, Wouldham

Sunday 16th January

10.30am 'Messy Church' Burham Community Centre

4.30pm Joint Churches Covenant Service. Burham Methodist Church

Sunday 23rd January

10.30pm Holy Communion All Saints, Wouldham

Sunday 30th January

10.30pm Holy Communion All Saints, Wouldham

Followed by the Poverty & Hope

Hunger Lunch at 12 noon.

THE ALPHA COURSE

An adult introduction to Christian Faith is coming to these villages.

In the Function Room of The Medway Inn, Wouldham

Starting:

6pm, the Juniors Course & 7pm, supper & afterwards, the Adult Course On Fridays: 14th January, 21st January, 28th January, 4th February, 11th February & 18th February.

Forms are available in Burham & Wouldham post offices and All Saints Church, Wouldham

BURHAM CHURCH (Methodist) Church St, Burham





continued

Sunday December 5 th	10.30am	Morning Service led by Colin
		Wolfe

At this service we will be dedicating the Christmas windows that have been decorated by members of the village and the Church.

Sunday December 12 th	4.30pm	A Celebration for Christmas (See below for fuller details)
Sunday December 19th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Roger Byard
Christmas Eve	3.0.pm	Christingle Service led by Rev. Gary Watt
Christmas Day	10.30am	Christmas Day Service led by Trevor Smith
Sunday December 26 th		No Service in Burham. United Circuit Service at Union Street Methodist Church at 10.30am
Sunday January 2 nd	10.30am	Morning Service led by David Newell
Sunday January 9 th	4.30pm	Evening Worship led by Rev. Clifford Newman
Sunday January 16 th	4.30pm	United Covenant Service with our Anglican friends led by Rev. Gary Watt
Sunday January 23 rd	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Don Brand
Sunday January 30 th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rod Murr

continued

We extend a special invitation to our special Christmas Services. At 4.30pm on December 12th we shall have our 'Celebration for Christmas'. There will be carols, old and new led by Robin Oakley and a group of musicians. There will also be some readings, poems and sketches in an informal setting. So come and join us and then stay afterwards for tea, coffee and mince pies. We shall be having our annual Christingle Service on Christmas Eve and we especially invite families to join us at 3.0.pm. The Christingles will be assembled and given out during the service.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:-

Our weekly afternoon tea with a simple quiz continues to take place in the Church in Burham in Church Street every Tuesday from 3.0pm till 4.30pm but we shall not be meeting on December 28th. Our special Christmas Country Lunch will be held on **December 9**th with soup, crusty bread and cheese, followed homemade Christmas pudding and cream, tea and coffee. The cost for this will be £3.00 The January Country Lunch will be on **January 13th** with the usual menu and price!

HEART OF KENT HOSPICE FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Sunday 5th December. Light Up a Life - Aylesford Priory, the Friars Candle lit procession to the main shrine followed by a service and refreshments. By making a donation to the Hospice you can pre-book an entry(s) into the Book of Remembrance.

Saturday 29th November - Friday 24th December Christmas Shop and Santa's Grotto - Royal Star Arcade, Maidstone Opportunity to write a wish on a tag and tie it to the Christmas tree for a small donation. All children will receive a present from Santa.

Tuesday 14th December. Santa Run - Kings Hill Community Centre 1pm start. Get into the spirit of Christmas with our 2km sponsored fun run. Entry is £20 per adult and £5 per child. Each Santa registered will receive a Santa suit to wear for the run and a certificate of thanks.

Please ring us at the Heart of Kent Hospice on 01622 790195 for more information or to book tickets

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DECEMBER & JANUARY ACTIVITIES

Every Thursday. December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. January 6, 13, 20, 27.	10.30 - 12 noon	Thursday Community Club *Hi Kent Hearing Aid Clinic on 16th December 20th January	Old School Community Centre Burham
Every Tuesday. December 7, 14, 21. & January 4, 11, 18, 25.	3.00— 4.30 pm	Join us every Tuesday afternoon for a cup of tea, cake, a quiz and friendship	Burham Methodist Church Hall
Tuesday 4th January	7.30pm	Men's Supper All men welcome Book– Dennis 01634672060	Function room, Medway Inn
Wednesday 12th January	7.30pm	Parochial Church Council Meeting	All Saints Wouldham
Monday 13th December. Monday 31st January	7.00- 7.30pm. 7.00- 7.30pm	Regular Neighbourhood Meeting Regular Neighbourhood Meeting	Burham Old School Burham Old School
Thursday Christmas lunch - 9th December. 13th January	1.00pm	Country Lunch Anyone is welcome to come for good company, a simple meal of soup, bread, cheese followed by fruit pie, coffee & tea. £3 for the Christmas lunch. £2 in January	Burham Methodist Church Hall
Friday 10th December	3.30pm	House Group	12 Trafalgar Close
Tuesday 21st December	7.30pm	WI Meeting Christmas Party Mr Eddie Crook—Barn Dance	Burham Village Hall

Parish Council Meetings:

Wouldham Tuesday 7th December, 7.30pm. Village Hall.

Burham Monday 13th Dec. & 31st Jan. 7.30pm, Burham Old School

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Wouldham All Saints Church of England Primary School

It's very easy to fail to appreciate luxuries but recently we have been spoiled with new heating and other work making a significant difference to our older building. Our youngest children probably have the very best within school and so we look forward to a much warmer winter this year! Last month saw the shoebox project completed with a very busy day shopping, wrapping and packing. It also had Remembrance, the celebration of All Saints and a day at the zoo! Learning Progress Meetings and a chance to find out about writing along with netball and football made for a busy month.

As usual, December is also very busy with Christmas celebrations and we hope you will come along and join in with some of them. First up is 'Messy Advent' which is open to all ages on Thursday 2nd December. This is a chance for parents and children to have fun making things and finding out about preparing for Christmas. This takes place at 3:15 in the school hall. We have a KS1 production on Tuesday 7th (1:30 and 6pm) and then an African themed KS2 production on Tuesday 14th (1:15 and 6:30).

Year R and Year 1 are looking forward to a theatre trip to see 'The Mouse who Saved Christmas' and Father Christmas has promised to come and see everyone on the 10th.

The famed Christmas party and carol singing with the Carol Service in the church on the last day of term (9:15) all add extra magic.

On behalf of all at Wouldham All Saints Church of England Primary School may you have a very warm and love filled Christmas followed by a very happy and prosperous 2011.

Dates for your diary

2 nd December	Messy Advent at 3:15
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7th December Infants Christmas show 1:30 & 6pm

8th December 'The Mouse Who Saved Christmas' (Yrs R&1)

9th December Show 'n' Share – 3:15 to 4pm 10th December Father Christmas in town!

14th December Juniors Christmas show 1:15 & 6:30pm

15th December Christmas Party

16th December Shining Stars worship

18th December Carol Service at All Saints Church 9:15am

Last day of Term 2

6th January 2011 Thursday! First day of Term 3.

Visit www.wouldham.kent.sch.uk or call 861434 for more information.

BURHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Former Fleur de Lys site: This planning application was heard at the November Area 3 Planning Committee. At the time of print, no further information was available. However, keep on eye on the notice boards as I will pin up any relevant information relating to this application.

During October a community engagement day was held in Burham. This was to give the residents the opportunity to air any concerns that they have within the village. Although the attendees (Police, TMBC ASB officer, representative from Russett Homes) were approached by a number of people

representative from Russett Homes) were approached by a number of people, no <u>new</u> issues were brought to their attention.

The painting to the exterior of the Old School Community Centre and the out -buildings has been completed by Andrew Tutt.

The Parish Council are still in contact with the Charity Commission regarding the possibly of having the Old School registered as a charity. This is taking much, much longer than anticipated, but it is hoped that the Charity Commission now has enough information to consider our application.

Whilst considerable cuts need to be made from the KCC budget, County Councillor Homewood is endeavoring to ensure that the flooding project at Alex Hill is not affected by these cuts.

If you are utilizing the parking facilities at the Village Hall, please ensure that you comply with the parking markings. Failure to do so increases the potential of runaway vehicles and therefore the possibility of accidents within the local vicinity. Obviously, the car park markings are there not only for your own safety but for the safety of others.

It is hoped that by the time this goes to press, the new ornamental telephone box has been installed at the junction of Bell Lane.

The Christmas tree has been planted in the green at Rochester Road/ Whitehouse Crescent. Our thanks go to Jim Dowle for the donation of the tree and the planting etc. Donations for the lights etc will be requested via collection boxes placed around the village.

No further information is currently available from KHS regarding the installation of the new children's crossing stencil in Rochester Road. A public consultation regarding the Skate ramp MK II took place at the end of November. More information will be printed in the next edition of this magazine.

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Lastly, the Parish Council would like to wish all residents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!!

If you have any items that you would like the Parish Council to discuss, just give me a call on 01622 609324, e-mail me on pam@burhampc.co.uk or come along to the monthly meetings, normally held the last Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 13 December 2010, 7.30 pm in the Old School Community Centre, Corner of Rochester Road/Bell Lane, earlier in the month due to Christmas.

Pam Saunders - Clerk

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A warm welcome from everyone at Burham Church of England Primary School.

SHLAM CE. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Michelle Grima, Headteacher

Please find below a letter written by one our pupils.

'I am a representative of Burham Baton Twirlers and Maidstone majorettes and I have been given the opportunity to travel to America to represent England in a competition. This competition is called: "Twirl Mania" it invites everyone from around the world to come and show their skills for baton twirling. It is one of the world's biggest competitions. I have to raise at least £472 to be able to go to America. I am half way to my target. Please



keep an eye out for my leaflet which will be coming around this weekend. Thank you if you are able to sponsor me. From Tia Leach'

We are fortunate at our school to have two members of staff who are trained Family Liaison Officers - Mrs. Andrea Sheppard and Mrs. Janet Richardson. Part of their role is to provide support for children and their families. We feel this adds to the caring ethos of our school and continues to enrich our good relationships between school, children plus their parents and carers. If you need any advice or support they can be easily contacted through the school.

VALLEY OF VISIONS COMMUNITY TRAIL

It's now a year since we embarked on planning Burham's Community Trail project with all the associated activities [with funding from Valley of Visions] so I'd like to update the village on what was achieved.

The Community Trail leaflet was planned by a small working group of residents and was distributed to all residents – we hope you enjoyed it. There are spare copies, so if anyone needs more please can contact Wendy Neath [contact details below], and we plan to distribute more to other villages next spring.

The Valley of Visions team were directly responsible for the so - called 'Gateway sculpture' and for some carved way markers, and they and an artist met up a number of times with some residents including at the school

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and at the Thursday club. They worked with them through a series of workshops to come up with a design for the gateway sculpture and the way markers

You will all have seen the sculpture located on the green area near the village sign. Some residents have asked us to explain a little more the themes behind the design.

The artist's inspiration came from a carving on a door in Rochester cathedral. The female figure represents a Saxon river queen, with her flowing hair reminding us of the river which was mentioned by many residents as an important part of the village. Other aspects of village life represented include the flowers, animals & birds found in our countryside, along with barley, marsh and sky.

Also in this area we constructed 2 raised beds planted for all year round interest. Some bedding plants were put in this year, and we may well do the same next year until the permanent planting takes over. Also bulbs have recently been planted to get next year off to a good start.

Residents came up with some great ideas for locating the benches that we had applied for. Sadly some locations proved to be impossible as we could not secure the necessary permissions but those that were installed have been well used, particularly those en route to the Robin Hood!

Walkabout in Burham – our very own walk festival ran from June 7th to July 10th. We ran 20 events ranging from early morning Birdsong & Breakfast walks to photography workshops to Whittle a Walking Stick workshop, culminating in an exhibition of work produced at The Old School

Community Centre. Nearly 100 residents took part in these events – many participated in several so total numbers of places was well over 250. Lots of people made new friends and explored new aspects of our beautiful village. The memories walk was especially popular

I would especially like to thank Jane Gilbert, Judith King & Dave Young for their help on the leaflet and the walking festival, and to my fellow Parish Councilors for their support.

It would be great if the work were carried forward next year. There is not likely to be any funding but many activities could be done on a tight budget. If there is anyone out there who'd like to take it on I am happy to share my thoughts and contacts, but am not in a position to run it again next year.

Wendy Neath wendy.neath@btinternet.com 01634 861339 or 07802 676 896

PARISH NEWS

Choir Practice

Practices are held on Thursdays at Wouldham Church.
Juniors 7pm—8pm
Seniors 7.30pm—9pm.New members are always welcome:
Roger Pick – 01634 842360



Prescriptions

If you are unable to collect your prescriptions and live in the Parish of Burham & Wouldham, the Church offers a collection service. Contact Heather Lloyd; 01634 863345

Volunteers collecting these prescriptions need a minimum of 24 hours notice

HELLO

Hi, my name is Tia and I live in Burham. I belong to Burham Baton Twirles and the Maidstone Majorettes. I have been asked to represent England at Twirl Mania n America. So I am trying to fundraise for my ticket. I am doing a clothing and household fabric collection. So if anyone can donate any unwanted items I would be very grateful. I can collect them from you. So if you call 07729373558 I will come to you. I will also inform Jennie (the Rector) of the money raised and how I get on in the competition. Thank you ever so much. Tia (aged 10 years)

Halls for Hire

(Please do not telephone after 8.0pm)

Burham Methodist Church Hall – 01634 864139

Burham Old School Community Centre – 01634 863322

Burham Village Hall – 01634 867669

Wouldham Village Hall – 01634 867452

Burham Scout Hut (for youth) - 01634 863322

Bulky Refuse Collection

TMBC Helpline 01732 876147 www.tmbc.gov.uk

Wouldham - 4th December 15th January

Village Car Park, Knowle Rd, 8.0am – 9.0am.

Burham – 11th December 15th January

Village Hall Car Park, 8.0am – 9.0am

Eccles – 4th & 18th December 15th & 22nd January

Bull Lane lay-by, 8.0am - 9.0am

Do not leave waste unattended at the collection sites or in advance of the waste vehicle arriving.

WOULDHAM PERRINS CHARITY

Applications are now invited for Christmas distributions from **THE PERRINS CHARITY.**

If you meet the following conditions you may apply:

- 1. Have lived in Wouldham for 10 years or more
- 2. Are 60 years of age or older
- 3. Are known to be of good character
- 4. At the discretion of the Trustees are known to be in need of financial assistance

Forms can be obtained from: The Wouldham Stores, Mrs Marie Rayner, 8 Trafalgar Close, Wouldham Mrs Janet Parris 21 Church Street, Burham

BURHAM VILLAGE HALL

The Burham Village Hall Management Committee has obtained a substantial grant towards the cost of replacing the building's heating boilers.

The Hall was recently awarded 'Hallmark Standard' for it's day to day running and this may have played a part in the request being successful

ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE IN WOULDHAM

CONTACT -

ANDY MARR: 01634 683786

BLYSTHWOOD CARE APPEAL FOR YOUR HELP

Blythswood Care responds to requests for help locally and globally—demand for clothing, bedding, shoes, etc is currently exceeding what we can supply! We would be grateful if you would help us by passing the word around that we URGENTLY need more clothes, bedding, shoes etc. There is also a need for musical instruments for young people to learn, spectacles and empty spectacle cases, hearing aids, good quality pots & pans, crockery, cutlery — where appropriate in sets of four or more, personal CD or audio tape players, sports equipment for children's camps etc.

Contact Doreen & Malcolm Northover: 01634 864139

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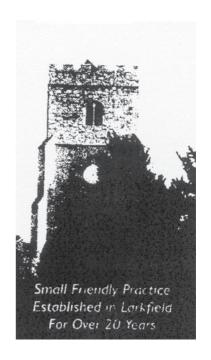
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MAJOR JOHN BLACKBURN HART

It is likely that few people will know that in the centre aisle of Wouldham Church, lie the remains of someone with a life history at least as colourful as that of Walter Burke of Trafalgar fame, buried outside the main door. The flat tombstone, forming part of the floor, indicates that here are the mortal remains of Major John Blackburn Hart of the 95th Regiment ("the Rifles"). Anyone who saw the T.V. Series, or read the books about "Richard Sharpe" by Bernard Cornwell, will recognise this Regiment, which was the first to carry rifles (not muskets) and were crack shots, using the tactics of modern infantry. The tombstone lists many of the battles of the Peninsular War in which Major Hart was engaged. The Peninsular War took place shortly after the Battle of Trafalgar, and the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte at sea, and lasted another eight years or so until he was pushed out of Portugal, Spain and finally defeated at Waterloo.

The Curator of the Museum of the "Royal Green Jackets" at Winchester has kindly done some research into Major Blackburn Hart, which has produced the following interesting bits of information, among others:

- 1. From "A History of the Peninsular War, Vol. III, Officers Killed & Wounded" (relating to pensions awarded for wounds received),
- 2. Records that Captain Hart was granted a pension of £100 per year after being severely wounded "crossing the Bidassoa (river) at Vera (Bera)". This was the river forming the border between Spain and France in the Pyrenees, and the last action the French Army fought in Spain while retreating back into France.
- 2. An extract from a book by Harris "Thomas Mayberry was a sergeant and whilst in the town of Hythe, (Kent, where the 95th had its head quarters) he got the fingering of about two hundred pounds for the purpose of paying for necessaries purchased for the men of his company. Captain Hart, who then commanded the company Mayberry belonged to, was not a little thunderstruck some little time after, at finding that the several tradesmen who furnished the articles for the men, had never been settled with and sending for Mayberry discovered the delinquency.

continued....

continued

Mayberry was a prisoner in a moment; and Captain Hart was as much astonished as if his own father had committed a fraud, so well and so much was Mayberry thought of. He was sentenced to receive 700 lashes. Mayberry after this was much scouted by his fellow soldiers and also ill thought of by the officers. On a detachment being sent to Portugal he volunteered for the expedition. Captain Hart, however, would fain have declined taking him as he had so bad an opinion of him after this affair, but Mayberry showed himself so desirous of going that at last he consented and took him. At the siege of Badajoz Mayberry wiped off, in a measure, all his former ill conduct. He was seen by Captain Hart to behave so bravely in the breach that he commended him on the spot "Well done Mayberry!" he said "you have this day done enough to obliterate your disgrace, and if we live I will endeavour to restore you to your former rank. Go now to the rear, you have done enough for one day". Mayberry, however, refused to retire although covered with wounds. He accordingly continued in front of all, until at last he was seen to be cut down".

- 3. From the Greenjackets Regimental Notes: Major J.B. Hart, 95th Rifles Sold at Sotheby's a box containing the grant of the Freedom of the City of Canterbury to Major J.B. Hart for his work in the Peninsular War.
- 4. From the Curator of the Royal Green Jackets (Rifles) Museum, Mrs. Pullen: "We also have in our reserve collection a large wooden chest that once belonged to Captain J.B. Hart."

I have a feeling that this will be of interest to some parishioners and may serve to help us remember that the tombstones in the Church relate to real people who had some very interesting lives. I would be pleased to know of any other information relating to Major Hart and/or his descendants.

John Lloyd



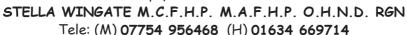
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WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

This month it was reported at the Council meeting that there was one arson attack, where a stolen car was set alight in Hall Rd, causing damage to a fence. All 11 sheds on the allotments were entered after access was gained over the fence. W Parish Council will be repairing the fence. There was a theft of a motorbike, stolen from Pilgrims Way after the chain that was securing it was cut. A front number plate was removed from a vehicle in Common Rd. Finally a metal gate was cut and access gained to the EDF site in School Lane. A fence was damaged in the front garden of a property in Trafalgar Close. 8 tyres were slashed and a swimming pool damaged in Hall Rd. Please all remain vigilant in the village and inform the police if anything suspicious is seen. The PCSO is Julie Stoner, mobile (07772226237), and the PC is Jackie Wilkinson. Dave Liepnick (mobile 07977 982187) is our community Warden. Dave attended All Saints Church with the school children for the Trafalgar Day Celebrations and has been very busy helping with the Shoe Box appeal.

A great big **thank you** to all who attended the photo exhibition of Wouldham in days gone by. Visitors came from Eltham, Sevenoaks, Hawkinge, Lamberhurst, Deal, Meopham and Whitstable. It was very nice to see the relatives of Henry Peters, Hugh and Mark (originally the owners of Peters Pit Cement works). The Parish Council would like to thank all the organisers of the exhibition. The cups of tea were very welcome and it was possible to buy a DVD of the photos. Anyone who has more photos PLEASE CONTACT Jenny Head, Parish Councillor. There will be more exhibitions in the New Year.

The very successful fitness equipment on the Rec. was paid for with a £3000 grant from COMMA, the Community Aggregates Fund. The Parish Council's application was supported by Action with Communities in Rural Kent (Acre). Work is still ongoing around the Valley of Visions walks. Wouldham Common has spectacular views, so come on everyone take your family for a walk onto the North Downs Way.

There are allotments available. Contact Andy Marr: 01634 683786.

If you have any items you would like the Parish Council to discuss email the Parish clerk, Sarah: wouldham.pc@hotmail.co.uk or come along to the monthly meetings normally held the first Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 7th December, 7.30pm at the village hall. *Anthea Parnell*, *Parish Councillor*

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Winter advice from your Mallings Neighbourhood Policing Team

The following advice could help to keep you and your property safe during the festive and New Year period.

Vehicle safety advice:

- If you are out Christmas shopping make sure that you lock your car doors and close the windows after parking.
- Putting Christmas shopping out of sight in the boot is not necessarily the safest option as thieves know all the hiding places. The easiest thing to do is not leave anything behind when you get out of the car. If it is valuable then leave it at home or take it with you.
- Always remove Sat Navs and wipe off any suction marks from the windscreen as this will advertise the device to thieves.
 At home, never leave your car keys on a windowsill or hall table where an opportunist thief might see them.

Winter driving advice:

- If weather conditions are severe, only drive if absolutely necessary. ell someone where you are going and take a mobile phone with you, along with warm clothing and appropriate footwear.
- Regularly check your lights, tyres and fluid levels. Make sure that your windscreen wipers are in good condition and add some screen wash to your windscreen bottle.
- Before setting off on your journey, make sure the front and back wind screens and side windows are clear of snow and ice.
- Leave extra time for your journey.
- Keep a safe distance between you and the car in front and reduce your speed.

If you would like further crime reduction advice, or to talk about any local policing issues, why not come along to one of our regular neighbourhood meetings? Dates and locations are as follows:

- Monday 13 December 7pm-7.30pm Burham Old School
- Tuesday 21 December 7pm-7.30pm Aylesford Parish Council Office
- Monday 31 January 2011 7pm-7.30pm Burham Old School Wishing you a safe and Happy Christmas and New Year.

In an emergency, if life is in danger or a crime is in progress, call **999**. For all non-urgent crime reports and enquiries call **01622 690690**.

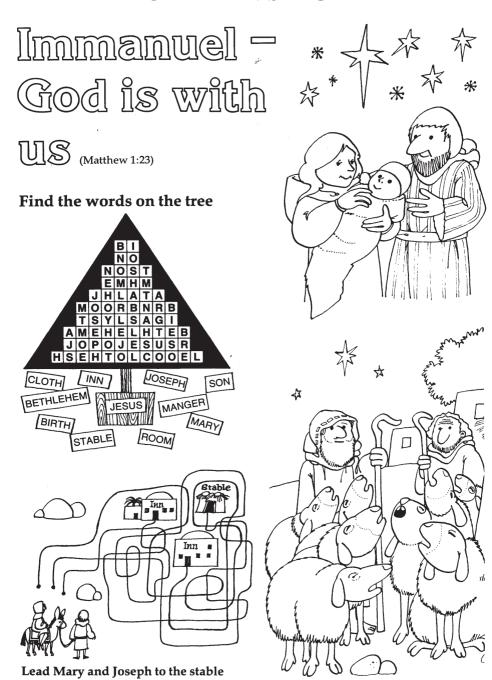
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CHILDREN'S PAGE





Christmas and New Year 2010

- Christmas Lunches & Dinners available from 23rd November (excludes Sunday & Monday nights)
- Christmas Quiz Sunday 19th December from 7.30pm, cash prizes please book!
- · Christmas Eve open all day until midnight.
- · Christmas Day- Join us for drinks between midday & 2.30pm.
- · Boxing Day open for lunch between midday & 5pm.
- New Years Eve Party Las Vegas Casino Night, Fancy Dress Competition, Poker, Roulette, Black Jack, Buffet & Beer! (limited places please book)
- New Years Day Closed, time for us all to recover!

 Jo, Dave & Lucas would like to Thank-you for your continued support, have a great

 Christmas.

A Special Thanks to our fabulous team we couldn't do it without you xx

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CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS

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(currently term time only)

Burham School. Every Monday 9.45am—11.15am Wouldham School Every Thursday 9.40am—11.00am

For further information please contact the Children's Centre: 01732 874086

Burham Senior Youth

Tuesdays 7-9pm at Burham Scout Hut. Open to all youths who live in Burham. School years 6-11. Contact Thurza Browne 01634 863322. ADULT HELP IS REQUIRED.

Burham Pre-School. Burham Village Hall.

Latest Ofsted inspection found our setting to be good

We welcome children aged 2 yrs – 5yrs,

Sessions Monday's to Fridays from 9.15am to 11.45am.

Monday & Wednesday Lunch Club (11.45 – 12.20pm)

Afternoon session (12.20pm - 2.50pm)

We provide a free healthy snack during each session.

Come along and visit any morning and see if we are right for you.

Supervisor - Tracey Beechey 01634 685239. Pre-school - 07946 793781

E:Mail: Burham.pre-school@hotmail.co.uk

Jelly Beans Pre-School, Wouldham Village Hall.

Our Ofsted inspection found Jellybeans' provision to be 'good' For all children aged from 2 years.

Sessions run Monday to Friday 9.15am - 11.45am, and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, 12.25pm - 2.55pm.

We also now run a lunch club, Tuesdays to Thursdays, 11.45am - 12.25pm, with parents providing a packed lunch. Many parents use lunch club to take advantage of the opportunity for children to stay all day.

Feel free to visit at any time, no appointment necessary. For details of fees and any further information, please contact Mrs Donna Cook, Supervisor, on 07581 661525 (out of session time) or 07855 041496 (during session time)

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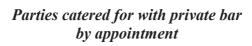


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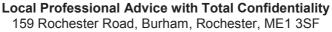
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<> Topical Tip <> December/January <> Topical Tip <> <> Once again the 31st January Tax Return deadline is approaching. Why spoil your Christmas worrying about it when you can pass it to the experts and relax. Get in touch before Christmas and we can prepare your return, tell you what tax needs paying when and even file it for you.

Keep Christ in Christmas!

A Note From The Editor

We hope you have enjoyed reading this Magazine.

We welcome your news items and articles.

However, we reserve the right to edit or not to publish.

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