

GREAT MONGEHAM NEWSLETTER

April 2024

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (in the Parish Hall unless stated otherwise in Reports)

Horticultural Society: Wed 3rd April.

Parish Council: Thur 4th April.

Saint Martin's WI: Thur 11th April.

Great Mongeham Society: Thur 18th April.

Useful Telephone numbers:

Kent Police for non-emergencies
101

Health non-emergencies **111**

COVID **119**

Local electricity network operator
105

Gas Emergency Number

0800 111 999

Southern Water Emergency Number

0330 303 0368

Great Mongeham Parish Council

Council minutes can be read at www.great-mongeham-pc.gov.uk

Parish Clerk:
clerk@great-mongeham-pc.gov.uk

SAVE GREAT MONGEHAM FAIRFIELD UPDATE

The deadline for objections to DDC has passed although they will still accept comments on the planning applications for 23 houses on the historic Fairfield. So far there have been over 250 letters of objection from over 200 residents, one neutral and no supporting comments. The petition has gained over 700 signatures. We are now awaiting a date from the DDC Planning Committee when it will be discussed, in the meantime we are still collating wildlife and nature sightings on Facebook. Please join us and show your support. (P Wells)

Sign the petition: www.change.org/p/keep-great-mongeham-s-fair-field-green

Find them on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/mongehamfairfield

SNOWDOWN MALE VOICE CHOIR

On the evening of Saturday 3rd March over 100 people packed St Martin's Church to hear a performance by the Snowdown Male Voice Choir. The choir presented a varied programme of old favourites mixed with international songs and sea shanties. We also enjoyed two solo performances, George Styles on cello and Gerard Ahern on the organ. The choir's Musical Director Graham Bissett provided interesting historical information between the songs, explaining the history of the choir and the choice of music. The choir are a friendly group and are always on the lookout for new members; anyone interested is welcome to attend their rehearsals. Refreshments were served by the Great Mongeham Society and all proceeds went to support the Conservation Area Appraisal initiative. Thanks to everyone who supported the event, Revd Mthr Monica Cameron for the use of the church, the Great Mongeham Society and helpers for the logistics, our neighbours for their support with parking and of course the choir for giving their time.

MANTRA AND KIRTAN CLASSES AT THE PARISH HALL

Come and experience the very special group singing practice of mantra and Kirtan at the new class on Wednesdays, 7.30 to 9pm. Join Sodashi Devi in a healing and heart opening meditative practice of group singing in ancient Sanskrit. You can choose to sit and receive the sound, you can join in and sing the powerful Sanskrit words with beautiful melodies, play instruments (provided) or dance; all is welcome, and the class is open to all ages. Attendance is currently free and kindly being funded by GOGA as a gift to the community. Sessions are lead by Sodashi Devi who has been studying and teaching Sanskrit and mantra for over a decade.

CLUB, SOCIETY AND VILLAGE REPORTS

Great Mongeham Society

It is hard to imagine that there were once plans to construct a vast industrial coal and iron production site, as well as estates for its workers, in the Great Mongeham and Ripple areas. Members of the GMS shuddered at the idea when they were shown planning maps by former coal miner, Jim Davies during his very interesting and well-presented talk. It is good to reflect on the extreme physical labour, in harsh conditions which the miners experienced and to appreciate the cultural and social legacy which continues to be enjoyed today.

Next meeting: 18th April 7.30 p.m. There is a change in the programme. The speaker will now be our archivist, Jennie Esposito whose topic is "Great Mongeham Fairs: medieval and modern". (JE)

GMS Archives

We continue to collect items, photographs and memories. At the moment we are particularly interested in material about Jameson's Meadow, sometimes called "Jam pots Meadow", and village dairies such as Hutton's, Farrant's and Solley's. Please contact via the GMS email greatmongehamsociety@hotmail.com or tel: 07746015436 (JE)

Great Mongeham Horticultural Society

This month is our In-House Spring Show on 3rd April. Members will be exhibiting their Competition Daffodil bulbs which were given out last Autumn as well as flowers from their own gardens. New members will always be made welcome.

We meet in the village hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. (AA)

Saint Martin's WI

At the March meeting members were delighted to welcome representatives of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, Alison and her Guide Dog Spencer. Spencer immediately endeared himself to the group with his delightful manners and friendliness but we were also very interested to discover exactly how much work and effort goes into choosing and training these dogs from puppyhood onwards and how many people are involved, particularly volunteers. Certainly we came away having learned a great deal and with an enormous admiration for the R.N.I.B.

Members were reminded that new schedules were available and numbers were taken for the lunch at Kingsdown Golf Club on April 18th. At our next meeting on 11th April, Julia Baxter will give a talk on 'Medieval Calligraphy'. (JEB)

Great Mongeham Parish Council

The Great Mongeham Parish Council Meeting will be at 6.30pm, and the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm on 4th April in the Parish Hall.

The Parish Council meets on the first Thursday in the month (except August and January) in the Parish Hall (unless otherwise stated). Council minutes can be read at www.great-mongeham-pc.gov.uk Jo Jones, the Parish Clerk can be contacted at: clerk@great-mongeham-pc.gov.uk

We would be grateful to receive any items for the next edition before **the 20th of the month** by email to greatmongehamnews@gmail.com

Anyone wishing to advertise in the newsletter, please contact the email above. You will need to produce 470 copies on an A5 flyer, which will be delivered to the whole parish for £12

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH

Priest in charge: Rev Monica Cameron (day off Friday) 01304 374 076 or 07383 360 395

Weddings, Baptisms: contact the office on 01304 369 919, stleonardsoffice@btinternet.com
or Rev Peter Hambrook 07900 141 334

Church Wardens: Christine Taylor 01304 852 932, Steve Manion 07968 972 746,
Wendy Manion 07411 432 541

Parish Treasurer: John Wakeman c/o stleonardsoffice@btinternet.com

Friends of St Martin's Treasurer: Emma Barrett

St Martin's Church Services

Sunday 7th April Informal family Worship at 11am

Sunday 14th April Holy Communion at 11am

Sunday 21st April Informal family Worship at 11am

Sunday 28th April No service at St Martin's. Joint Service at St Nicholas
Sheldon at 9.30am, accompanied by a live band.
Live band concert at St Nicholas Sheldon at 2pm

Fourth coming event at St Martin's: Concert by the Thanet Community Choir on
Friday the 24th May at 7.30pm.

St Martins is open every Wednesday morning for morning prayer at 9.30am.

Tower bell ringing practice every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm learners and
experienced ringers needed and always welcome.

Children always welcome at all services.

Holy Communion at Caesar Court on Tuesdays at 10.30am on the 9th and 23rd April.
Non-residents are welcome to attend.

Parish (UDGM) Prayer Group. Come and join us on the 2nd Saturday of each month
in St Martin's Church at 10am for half an hour. For more information you can email
wizzy4beth@gmail.com.

Flower Rota: 7th; Lesley. 14th; June and Queenie. 21st; Wendy. 28th; Elizabeth and
Mary.

Sunday School Sunday school is available weekly at the same time as morning
services at St Martin's Church. For age 3yr and over, contact Sylvia Griffiths 01304
367124.

For other church news, please take a weekly newsletter from the church porch. Our
group of churches has many free activities from groups for babies, toddlers and
school children to coffee mornings and Alzheimer support sessions.

GREAT MONGEHAM COMMUNITY CHURCH

The church is open on a Sunday morning 10.30 - 11.30 where we all meet for a more
informal meeting, and all are welcome to join us. There is a 'drop in' with tea or
coffee and cake on Wednesdays 10.30 to 11.30. For church matters contact Church
Secretary Chris Godden on 01304 367940 or email: chrisie22@gmail.com. For
hire of the Church Hall contact Mick Godden on 01304 367940.

ORGANISATIONS AND CLUBS IN THE PARISH

Organisation or Club	Meeting times & Location (Parish Hall unless stated otherwise)	Contact Telephone Number
Great Mongeham Parish Council www.great-mongeham-pc.gov.uk	1st Thurs 7.30 pm (not Aug/Jan)	<u>Chair</u> John Gatland 07885564187 <u>Clerk</u> J Jones clerk@great-mongeham-pc.gov.uk
AnnAndy's Country Music Club	Every 2nd & 3rd Saturday in the month from 7pm	Ann 07753133326
Ballet Primary, Tap grade 1&2	Tuesday 4-6pm	J Anton 07484877574
Ballet grade 4, Acrobatic gym	Wednesday 5-7pm	J Anton 07484877574
Bell Ringers	Tuesday 7.30 pm. Church Tower, St Martin's	Peter Deverson 01304 365460
Brownies (age 7+)	Thursday 5-6.30pm	S Roberts 07872647909
Community Drop In	Wed 10.30 to 11.30, Community Church, Mongeham Road	Chrisie Godden 01304 367940 chrisie22@googlemail.com
Dance and Exercise to Music with Jasmine Reeve	Wednesday 2pm-3pm	03333 660 661 hayley.clark@yourleisure.uk.com
Great Mongeham Society	3rd Thursday 7.30pm (not Sep/Dec)	greatmongehamsociety@hotmail.com
Gt. Mongeham Art Group	Tuesday 1.30pm term-time only	Jane Jobey 01304 381702 iandj_jobey@hotmail.com
Gt M Horticultural Society	1st Wed 7.30pm (not Jan & Sept)	www.greatmongehamhorticulturalsociety.org Chairman: Fred Arvidsson, cfa@myself.com
Musical Theatre, Irish & Jazz	Monday 4.30-7pm	J Anton 07484877574
Happy Feet Dancing Club	Friday 1.30-3.30pm	Marion Wood 07742258126
Mantra and Kirtan	Wednesdays 7.30 to 9pm (excluding 1st Wed of month)	Sodashi Devi 07778535817
Meditation & Sleep Classes (from 15th April)	Mondays at 12.45 (Meditation) and 2pm (Sleep)	Sue Gray 07792 447331 sue@suegray.co.uk
Parish Hall bookings	gmphbookings@aol.com	Bara Greener 07783016927
Pilates	Monday 11-12am	Lisa 07835615457 lisa@lovemyfitness.co.uk
	Tuesday 10.30am	Lorraine Pullen 07734473784
Rainbows (age 5-7)	Thursday 4-5pm	Sam Green 07967 501664
St. Martin's Hand-bell Ringers	Alt Weds, 141 Mongeham Road	Audrey Pitchford 01304 362202
St. Martin's W.I.	2nd Thursday 7.30 pm	saintmartinswi@gmail.com
Sunday School (3 years& over)	Sun 11.00 St Martin's Church	Sylvia Griffiths 01304 367124
Tai-Chi class with Steven Fillenberg	Wednesdays 12.30-1.30pm	03333 660 661 hayley.clark@yourleisure.uk.com
Weight loss & exercise	Monday 9.30-11.00am	Lisa 07835615457 lisa@lovemyfitness.co.uk
Yoga	Mondays at 6.30pm and 7.30pm	Josephine 07825 373926 simply.prana@yahoo.co.uk www.barefeet.yoga
	Intermediate: Thurs 09.15-10.15 Gentle: Thurs 10.30-11.45	hello@yourbrightskies.co.uk http://www.yourbrightskies.co.uk