

GREAT MONGEHAM NEWSLETTER

April 2025

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

Horticultural Society: Wed 2nd April

Parish Council: Thu 3rd April

Saint Martin's WI: Thu 10th April

Great Mongeham Society: 17th April

Useful Telephone numbers:

Kent Police for non-emergencies
101

Health non-emergencies **111**

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

ART EXHIBITION

Great Mongeham Art Group will be holding an art exhibition on Easter Monday (21st April) between 11am and 3pm at the Parish Hall. Members of the group, who meet weekly at the hall, have invited other local artists to join them to display their work. Come along and offer some feedback on their work or possibly buy a painting! Free refreshments will be on offer while you have a browse. We look forward to meeting you and showing you what we get up to on a Tuesday afternoon when we meet up. Great Mongeham Art Group is a small, friendly group of mixed ability artists and new members are always welcome to join us. Just pop in for a chat at 1.30pm on a Tuesday during term time. (JJ)

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF ST.MARTINS HAND-BELLS

Following on from the report in the February newsletter... By 1925 the original set of 8 hand-bells had been augmented by the purchase of 2 further hand-bells in March 1925. This was organised by the vicar Rev W.H. Rammell at a cost of £1.8 3d, using money raised from weekly whist drives. Hand-bell practice was held in the upper room of the Three Horseshoes Pub, which in those days was a games room. This became the favoured practice location for the hand-bell ringers, although the Hand-bells were always kept in the Tower Bell chamber of St. Martins church.

The Hand-bells were regularly used until World War 2 when war commitments took precedence. Part time duties for the disbanded team consisted of Home Guard, Air Raid Wardens and Auxiliary Fire Watching, whilst others were called up for full-time military service. After the War, ended the bells continued to be used for their original purpose, to improve change ringing, and on special occasions. The bell ringing was supervised by Fred and Janet Lawrence. In the 1950s the hand-bells were moved downstairs when the Tower Bells were rehung. By the 1980s the hand-Bells were in need of restoration. Another chapter in the history of St. Martins hand-bells was about to begin. (AP)

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 450 copies on an A5 flyer, which will be delivered to the whole parish for £12

CLUB, SOCIETY AND VILLAGE REPORTS

Great Mongeham Society

After several years of inactivity the fortunes of the Folkestone Lift are on the ascent. Many of you will have memories of this little marvel of Victorian engineering which thanks to the endeavours of enthusiasts and the award of a National Lottery Grant, is set to be restored and operational in 2026. At our March meeting, the CEO, Floortje Hoette, enthused us with details of plans to involve the community and deliver a year round service.

Next meeting: 17th April 7:30 p.m. Keith Rowland – The City of London, a talk about the merchants and mayors of London. In St Martin's Church there is a memorial to the Crayford family which records that one of the sons married a daughter of an immensely wealthy merchant who was "thrice Lord Mayor of London". Guests and new members are welcome. (JE)

Great Mongeham Horticultural Society

We meet in the village hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. New members will always be made welcome, and refreshments are included. (AA)

Saint Martin's WI

We welcomed Jennie Esposito, Great Mongeham Archivist, to our meeting in March. Jennie spoke with much enthusiasm about the plans for the Peace Garden in the churchyard at St. Martin's Church. Work is already in progress and some of our members attended the work party in February. Later on in the year we plan to walk around the village visiting the peace garden on route.

This month our other activities include a board games morning, Serpent walk at Goodnestone and lunch at the Royal Hotel, Deal. At our next meeting, on Thursday 10th April, we have a "Dressed up Desserts" demonstration with Dot Keeley. (JC)

Great Mongeham Parish Council

The Parish Council would like to announce that Speedwatch will be resuming in the Village.

On Thursday 3rd April the ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall, followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm, which will start with a Defibrillator Demonstration by Beverley-Jayne Last, First Responder.

The Parish Council usually meets on the first Thursday in the month (except August and January) in the Parish Hall.

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

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH

Priest in charge: Rev Monica Cameron (day off Friday)
01304 374 076 or 07938 360 395

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

Church Wardens: Steve Manion 07968 972 746, Wendy Manion 07411 432 541,
Janet Thorpe Jones

Parish Treasurer: John Wakeman c/o TreasurerUDGM@outlook.com

St Martin's Church Services

Sun 6th Apr Family Service without Communion at 11am

Sun 13th Apr No service - whole parish at St Leonard's 10am

Wed 16th Apr April Stations of the Cross at 7pm

Sat 19th Apr April Parish Easter Vigil at 7pm

Sun 20th Apr Easter Day Family Service with Holy Communion at 11am

Sun 27th Apr Family Service with Holy Communion at 11am

Coffee and tea served at 10.30am before the Sunday services, everyone welcome

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.

Holy Communion at Caesar Court at 10.30am on Tuesdays 8th and 22nd April. Non-residents are welcome to attend.

Parish (UDGM) Prayer Group. Please note that Parish prayers will no longer be held at the church on the second Saturday morning of the month. Instead, join us for prayer wherever you are. A prayer letter will be available from stleonardsoffice@btinternet.com and further information & prayer requests should be sent to wizzy4beth@gmail.com

Flowers at St. Martin's: If you would like to donate towards the flowers at St Martin's and/or have some flowers dedicated for a particular person or date please let Wendy Manion know on 07411432541. If you would like to have a go at church flower decoration please contact the same number. Thank you.

Sunday School Sunday school is available weekly for age 3 and over at the same time as morning services at St Martin's Church. 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
Parish Hall bookings	<i>gmphbookings@aol.com</i>	<i>Bara Greener 07783016927</i>
Ann Andy's Country Music Club	2nd & 4th Saturday, 7pm	Ann 07753133326
Bell Ringers	Tuesday 7.30pm. Church Tower, St Martin's	Peter Deverson 01304 365460
Community Drop In	Wed 10.30 to 11.30am, 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
Evolution Wing Chun (Martial Art)	10am-midday on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month	Mark 07432057140
Friends of St Martin's Church		Treasurer: Emma Barrett emma@ammonite-it.com
Gt. Mongeham Art Group	Tuesday 1.30pm term-time only	Jane Jobey 01304 381702 iandj_jobey@hotmail.com
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
Gt M Horticultural Society	1st Wed 7.30pm (not Jan & Sept)	www.greatmongehamhorticulturalsociety.org Chairman: Fred Arvidsson, cfa@myself.com
Great Mongeham Society	3rd Thursday 7.30pm (not Sep/Dec)	greatmongehamsociety@hotmail.com
Great Mongeham Singers	Every other Wednesday at 7pm	Alan King 07591 006032
Happy Feet Dancing Club	Friday 1.30-3.30pm	Marion Wood 07742258126
Pilates	Monday 11am-midday	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
Scottish Country Dancing	Tuesdays 8pm	Mary Quinton 01304 375836
St. Martin's W.I.	2nd Thursday 7.30 pm	sue.highton@outlook.com
Sunday School (3 years& over)	Sundays 11am 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
Table Tennis	Fridays 7.30pm	Brian 07762250576
Taoist Tai Chi	Thursdays 1pm - 2.30pm	Steven Fillenberg 07925722182
Weight loss & exercise	Monday 9.30-11am	Lisa 07835615457 lisa@lovemyfitness.co.uk
Yoga	Mondays at 6.30 and 7.30pm	Josephine 07825 373926 simply.prana@yahoo.co.uk www.barefeet.yoga
	Intermediate: Thurs 09.15-10.15 Gentle: Thurs 10.30-11.45am	hello@yourbrightskies.co.uk http://www.yourbrightskies.co.uk