

WROTHAM  
PARISH MAGAZINE



June 2020

# ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, WROTHAM

[www.wrothamchurch.org](http://www.wrothamchurch.org)

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More addresses and telephone numbers on back inside cover.

**This is a community magazine for the village of Wrotham produced by St George's Church**

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## WHAT'S ON IN JUNE 2020

Due to the virus situation, there will be no events or meetings during June. For updated information you can ask to be included on our e-mail list by contacting [info@wrothamchurch.org](mailto:info@wrothamchurch.org) or by looking on our website: <http://www.wrothamchurch.org>

In accordance with national policy, the Church has to remain closed for all purposes at the moment.

**We are holding Service by Zoom every Sunday at 10.30am .**

If you would like a link to join this, please contact [info@wrothamchurch.org](mailto:info@wrothamchurch.org) directly or via the website.

Prayer requests can also be sent in via the e-mail.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO BE CAREFUL**  
**from Wrotham Parish Council.**  
**Warn and Inform - Coronavirus Scams**

You should all be aware that there have been reports of persons claiming to be from the Health Authority knocking on doors and offering to take temperatures of elderly people.

Please tell elderly relatives /neighbours not to let unknown people into their homes.

Further to this there are also coronavirus-themed phishing emails, with infected attachments containing fictitious 'safety measures', hereby making money out of exploiting people's fears over COVID-19.

## From the Rectory

A recent Sunday reading from the book of Acts told the story of St. Paul walking round the city of Athens. He became distressed as he noticed the great number of idols in the city, and began disputing with various religious people and philosophers. Before long he was brought before the Areopagus, the name of a rocky outcrop in the city and of the gathering of citizens who met there. He found a good way in to his speech by referring to the altar he had seen which was dedicated to the unknown god. Taking this, he stood up and announced to all that he was there to tell them about the unknown God.

This God, he said, “does not live in temples made by human hands.” That’s an interesting reminder at this time when our beautiful church building has for now to remain closed. The building is not essential for getting close to God, for he, Paul goes on to say, “is not far from anyone of us”.

Because he is near we can approach him ourselves, or with a few others, at any time or place. But if we want to gather in larger numbers, say for united worship, learning from each other, or for greater enterprises, a building can be a real help.



It is surprisingly instructive to look at the origins and designs of the earliest buildings used by those with faith, and even the words used to describe them are informative.

On holiday in Sicily last year (that has a nostalgic ring to it these days!), we visited a number of ancient sites which set me thinking about what the design of a building tells us about the underlying assumptions and objectives for which they were constructed. The picture here is of the largest principle room in the once very grand Villa Romana del Casale, near Piazza Armerina in the south. (If you're ever near, it contains the most wonderful Mosaics). Most of what can be seen now dates to the first quarter of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century, so is contemporary with the ending of the persecution of Christianity by the Emperor Constantine in 313 AD.

The room is known as the Basilica. This was where the Villa owner would give audiences, and dispense justice. The layout is planned to focus attention and give importance to the person and activity, with the dome, here reconstructed in wood, magnifying the significance and authority of the one who sat underneath it.



The Basilica layout was the one generally used by the Romans for halls of justice or special public meeting, where the magistrate or other local grandee would hold court. The word Basilica derives from Greek for king or royal. When the Roman empire accepted Christianity, the Basilica name and design was adopted by those wishing to build Christian places of worship. So for us the word Basilica would most often be used in referring to a church building.

The word and the architecture focus on the aspect of worship that relates to approaching the King of Kings. The building is designed to

emphasise that this is an encounter set apart from the everyday, and to engender a sense of awe and reverence. This is obviously most appropriate, as long the encounter sought is with the presence of God rather than merely with a religious ritual.

Coming from another angle is a design with a very different emphasis. Consider this photo of the gathering place in the ancient city of Agrigento, also in southern Sicily. This was where the citizens would come together to debate, discuss and decree what would happen, and many cities would have had one. The seating is arranged in a circular fashion to encourage participation and sharing with one another. The place was called the Ecclesia, as was the assembly itself – deriving from the Greek ‘called out’ - those called together to determine the future of the city.

You will recognize that the word ‘Ecclesia’ carried over into the language of the church (ecclesial, ecclesiastics etc). This came through the New Testament use of the word to refer to those called out by God to worship, have faith and share it. They gather together to discuss, agree and implement ways in which the Kingdom of God can be brought into the world.

Both what might be called the Basilica facet of church and the Ecclesia one have a part to play. The encounter with God and a right sense of awe and reverence on one hand, and the dynamic of sharing together on the other.

In our magnificent building of St. George’s, we are fortunate to have a layout that can encompass both of these aspects, with the nave and choir area as well as the tables and chairs in the north aisle. Not essential in itself for faith, but very helpful for putting it into practise together, and for welcoming those interested in exploring. Let us hope we may be able to open it again before too long.



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# Threats Past and Present



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VE Day 2020 CF



Instead of a jolly street party, cakes, bonhomie and nostalgia with dressing up, we celebrated the 75th anniversary of VE Day in the style we hadn't expected. As I sat on the windowsill in the street with a drink at 3pm to toast the war generation there was time for a more reflective celebration. The Queen's poignant message and the accompanying televised celebrations seemed to hit the right note of thankfulness and memories. Hearing from veterans of their experiences is always uplifting and inspiring. I always think of my parents at these times. A RAF officer and a VAD nurse who married in 1942 but were to spend little time together until after the war was over. Typical of so many of their peers, with no clue as to their fate, whereabouts and no personal contact. It makes the efforts of that generation, ordinary people dealing with hardship and deprivation even harder to comprehend, but easier to admire





whilst we endure the current lockdown with full information and good communications. Their adversary was known but took six years to defeat. Ours, an unpredictable virus should take less time but brings its own uncertainty and distress.

This pandemic has been described as our generation's polio outbreak. It has sent me right back to my childhood isolation days. In 1955 just before going to a new school, a severe headache and polio symptoms saw me confined to an isolation hospital on the Wirral. Not just me, there were



many of us lined up in a Nightingale style ward. Some in adjacent rooms in iron lungs and many much sicker than I was. I remember waving through the window was the only contact with my parents for weeks, and my extreme upset when my favourite doll was overheated in an effort to make her germ free. I had to learn to walk again before going home but had no lasting effects fortunately, unlike so many others. Not long afterwards a vaccine was developed and all children now have polio drops as standard immunisation. Polio is almost completely globally eradicated due to this vaccine and hopefully Covid 19 will meet the same fate. These diseases are terrifying at the time but should eventually be controlled and freedom restored. My experiences, the busy atmosphere in hospital and the constant urgent tannoys summoning medics here and there ( no bleeps in those days) left me leaving hospital vowing to become a doctor. Ten years later I enrolled in medical school and have never regretted that decision. This year our 50th year since graduation reunion has been

postponed due to the latest virus. Hopefully next year will see life return to as near normal as possible and postponed celebrations reconvened.



CF

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# The Gorings of Wrotham

In March 1997, my family were thrilled when both my aunt, Sally Cook, and her brother, my uncle Harry Cook, were awarded MBEs in the same honours list. This happy coincidence meant that the awardees travelled from their respective homes in Paisley, near Glasgow, and Southampton to meet the Queen and receive their gongs – prompting the headline ‘When Harry met Sally at Buckingham Palace’. It was a proud moment for all the family and, after the ceremony, we all met for a celebration lunch at the Goring Hotel, adjacent to the palace. At the time, I had recently moved to Wrotham, and I was interested to learn that the hotel had its own special connection to the village through Edna Goring who, at the time, was resident in Court Lodge – now renamed Goring Place.

The hotel was opened by Edna’s father in law Otto Goring in 1910 and was later run by her husband Otto Gustav Goring – with a lot of help from his wife – before passing on to one of her twin sons, George.

I have since returned many times to the elegant yet welcoming surroundings of the Goring, mainly for events held by publishers, and I hold it in great affection – although I have not yet been lucky enough to stay there. The only family run five star hotel in London, the hotel has a rich history that I was reminded of when I read of the recent passing of George Goring, who ran the hotel for 40 years before handing the reins to son Jeremy, fulfilling Otto’s ethos that there should “always be a Goring at the Goring.”



Being “just over the garden wall” from Buckingham Palace, as the Queen Mother once put it, the hotel has had many Royal visitors. Kate Middleton – now Duchess of Cambridge – stayed there with her family the night before her wedding to Prince William in 2011. Visiting royals stayed there for the coronations of George V in 1911, George VI in 1937 and the Queen in 1953. In 1945, when the end of World War II was declared King George, Queen Elizabeth and the two young princesses celebrated there with sausages and scrambled eggs. It was the first hotel in London to offer private bathrooms in every room, prompting the Norwegian Crown Prince, visiting for the coronation of George VI to

remark, “at Buckingham Palace I have to share a bath with five people! Here I have one to myself.”

The drawing room at the Goring Hotel was used by Winston Churchill for meeting with the Allied leaders and the commander of the American Expeditionary Forces was based there. When rationing came along Edna, an accomplished cook, invented Mrs Goring’s Salad, a special dish made from “whatever we can find”, including, hare, whale, and on one occasion, an antelope shot by an officer in the Western Desert campaign. No rabbit was safe in the Goring garden.

During her 11 years as Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher had her own table in the dining room, where she would indulge in her favourite beef wellington or eggs Drumkilbo (lobster and hard boiled eggs in white wine). Novelist Anthony Powell named his heroine The Hon. Angela Goring, for his epic series *A Dance to the Music of Time*, after taking tea at the hotel. Celebrity fans included Chesney Allen and Arthur Lowe and model Jean Shrimpton, and actress Sarah Churchill sought sanctuary at the hotel when pursued by the police after a drunk and disorderly offence.

Edna’s son George, who died in April at the age of 81, was a well-known bon viveur who loved cocktail parties, racing cars, horses and boats, but he was adored by guests and staff alike. Having trained in St. Ives, where he met wife Penny, he took over the Goring while twin brother Richard ran the Spa Hotel in Tunbridge Wells.



He frequently clashed with his father, insisting on refurbishing the Goring from floor to ceiling, but he earned it a five-star rating. He also had a deep sense of fairness, introducing pensions for staff against his father’s wishes.

On one occasion, when he was in a business meeting, his office door burst open and a maid, furious at the poor quality of staff food, dumped her unappetising tray



on his desk. The guest asked George what he was going to do about that. "What I am going to do is put her in charge of staff food," he replied.

It was this own sense of fairness that led him to step in to defend his mother's legacy, in 2014, when the residents of St. George's Court were asked to move out so that the site could be redeveloped. The land had been donated to the village by Edna on the proviso they were used for sheltered accommodation, and George, who lived in nearby Stansted, begged the developers not to "override the covenant". He added: "I do not think it is in the interests of the village to redevelop the site."

Edna died in 2004 and Court Lodge, as you will know, has since been redeveloped itself, into attractive flats and houses, but her name lives on at Goring Place. And, when lockdown is over, I hope I'll one day raise a glass to Edna, George and the whole Goring family in their splendid hotel.

AM.

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# Garden waste collections restarting

As you are aware, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting staff shortages, the garden waste collection service was suspended in order to prioritise key kerbside collection services such as refuse, food and clinical waste.

The situation is now improving and more staff have been able to return to work, so we are pleased to inform you that we are now in a position to re-instate the garden waste collection service.

The service will restart from Monday 11th of May, so please put your garden bin out by 7am on your usual collection day/week, as you did prior to the suspension of the service. Check your collection dates online if you are not sure of when to put out your brown bin: <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/do-it-online/miscellaneous-forms/refuse-and-recycling-collection-dates>

## Additional garden waste

We understand that you will have more garden waste than usual. However **we will not have the capacity to collect extra garden waste, so we can only take the waste contained in your subscribed bin(s).** This means we are more likely to be able to complete all collection rounds on a daily basis so that everyone gets their scheduled collection. Please don't overfill or compact the waste in the bins, as we may not be able to empty them.



## Bulky Refuse Collections for June 2020

**Due to the current coronavirus restrictions bulky waste collections have been suspended until further notice**

**For more information contact Waste Services Team on 01732 876147  
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## *Wild Wrotham*

Spending the best part of two months in lockdown has given lots of time for me to feel more connected to the wonderful village we live in. Our daily exercise walks were a chance for my family to get out, and we were certainly cheered by the mural stones around the village. However, as a birdwatcher and nature lover, my eyes were always to the skies. This spring has taught me that there is so much to see and hear around Wrotham. I have seen the whitethroats return to the Kemsing lane hedgerows to take up their summer territories, and I've heard the skylarks do the same in the fields. The Buzzards can often be seen soaring overhead and the final migrants, the swifts, are back now screaming down the high street. Wrotham, at the foot of the north downs and enclosed by motorways, is fortunate to benefit from what we birders call a 'flight line'- topographical features such as hill or roads which birds follow as they migrate. This enabled me to see 55 species from our small courtyard garden during the 2 months, including migrating red kites and blackcaps. Over the weekend of the 16th May this came into full effect as around one hundred Mediterranean gulls migrated inland, crossing from the south coast up towards the Medway valley to their breeding grounds on the Swale, due to windy conditions off the Kent coast. A fantastic sight- maybe you heard their cat-like mewling over your garden? The biggest enlightenment for me was recognising that I don't need to go up onto the top of the downs to see orchids- we have them here in our village! White helleborines are in flower by the recreation ground, delicate white flowers with golden tongues, growing on the motorway embankment. A stroll along bull lane towards the roundabout will take you towards a rare Man Orchid, so called because it's flowers resemble a little green man. Unrecorded in Wrotham ever, this was certainly the find of the lockdown. Tip: look down and to the right of the footpath. Finally, some very generous and considerate gardening on Kemsing Lane has resulted in six Bee Orchids, which will be in fine flower over June. These are on the embankment not far from the long display of NHS mural stones and are one of the prettiest U.K. orchids. Evolved to be pollinated by now extinct bees, these orchids remarkably continue to survive in the U.K. through self-pollination alone. I am now certainly open to the wildlife possibilities to be found here within our village, and having found consolation in the beauty on our doorstep i hope you are able to too.

**Mathew Bournat**

## *New normal, new norms*

Social interaction follows rules of which we are only dimly aware. Our 'meet, greet and eat' behaviours are based on tacit if not unconscious assumptions. We are often only aware of them when anomalies occur - witness the embarrassed giggles involved in not quite knowing whether it is one cheek or two we should kiss, when we say hello or goodbye. Times change and so do the rules. In recent years everyday life has become more informal, and in many ways more expressive. But most of the time we don't need to bother ourselves about it, we just get on with it. We pass each other in the street, we sit in a bar or restaurant, take our place in a cinema or theatre, and happily (or not) take the train, bus and tube. In short and for most of the time, we know our place in dealing with each other.

That is, we did. Covid 19 has changed everything, and shows no sign of going away. It looks as though we will have to live with the virus for months, and, who knows, years to come. Just take one example - walking along the pavement. In the past we would do so making sure we didn't trip up, or step into a puddle. If another person approached we might look up or not. In the countryside we would be more likely to say 'hello' than in the town. A lot might depend on our mood, or the look of the person coming towards us, or the way we look to them. Either way, we could pass in close proximity without too much trouble.

Now, we are having to learn new rules, new norms. We are getting to judge what 2 metres means, in terms of physical distancing. The choreography of walking along the pavement is taking on a new shape. One or other person now walks into the road, or dodges behind a car. We say 'thank you' to the person who has done the moving away, or we nod and smile. The avoidance is in both parties' interest, so we sometimes initiate departure from the pavement, sometimes let the other do so first, or allow age precedence. This is not entirely new, of course, as narrow spaces sometimes require

careful manoeuvres at the best of times. But this is not the best of times and we will need new ways of walking about altogether, especially as more cars take to the roads again.

It's possible that over time people will get lax, or bored with it all and slip back into the previous mode, but if things such as face coverings become the new norm, we will be reminded of the 'new normal' every day. Shopping is already being carried out in this manner. And our amusement at Japanese youngsters arriving at Heathrow or Gatwick wearing masks, as they have done in recent years, has evaporated, as we pull on our own coverings.

Take another example - eating together. Not only will restaurants have to redesign their eating spaces (if economically viable) but the way we eat together will need new rules. Many cultures eat collectively. Think for example of Spanish tapas, or Chinese and Indian food. In Wuhan, for example, the Chinese New Year is marked by 'potluck' meals where people share numerous dishes, digging in with their chopsticks. Now the authorities there are aggressively promoting single dishes. In our own country, sharing Indian or Chinese meals has become a staple of our eating lives. In the 'new normal' all this will need to change. New norms, about which we will have to be conscious, will emerge to allow us to live with this virus, and perhaps others that follow.

It is not going to be easy, but as they say, humans are inventive, and no doubt we will come up with ideas we never thought we had. The tacit will become explicit, at least for a time. Once the new norms have bedded in, they will become largely unconscious again. To live our daily lives for ever conscious of every small piece of behaviour would be intolerable. We will have to find ways of living with the new normal for it to disappear.

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# From Your County Councillor

This month I will take the opportunity to address the subject of highways for which Kent County Council has responsibility throughout Kent, except in the Medway Council area and for Motorways, which are the responsibility of Highways England. There are particular trunk A Roads including the A21, which are also maintained by Highways England. Linked to highways, KCC has some responsibility in connection with public transport, which I shall touch on later in this column.



Over recent weeks the opportunity has been taken by many of the public and private utility companies to undertake such daytime work as would in normal circumstances lead to major road traffic delays. With so many private vehicles removed from the highway network KCC Highways has encouraged utilities and their roadwork contractors to undertake any works that can be scheduled to be undertaken during this time. This is a means to pro-actively manage the road network to the benefit of all.

I have sought to actively encourage highways work to be undertaken in my division, especially on the A20 London Road in Wrotham, where the water egress from the Spring Tavern site has now been undertaken by contractors to KCC Highways, arrangements for cost recovery from the landowner is in hand. Users of Common Road Ightham will I hope be as pleased as residents, following the repairs to drainage. Further works to drainage issues to follow shortly in south west Hildenborough.

I sometimes receive correspondence from those seeking speed restrictions, road improvements, changes to on-street vehicle parking or more and occasionally less street furniture. Arrangements are now in hand for such matters to be considered when parish councils prepare their own local highway and transport plans. KCC highways will then try to use these where possible in order to bring about the types of improvements that residents seek.

## **Public Transport**

Three words that cause concern regarding the upcoming return to work are “avoiding public transport” if possible. This continues to put pressure on many commercial bus operators and must be balanced with the need for them in the long term, as part of the most efficient use of road space, again in the future. In the meantime, commercial and subsidised bus operations continue where possible. Clearly there are some significant challenges ahead in terms of social distancing, depending on circumstances, particularly once arrangements are put in hand to open secondary schools.

Further information is expected on how public transport will have to operate once the current restrictions are eased. At the same time school reopening and future transport needs remain unclear at the time of writing in mid-May.

Harry Rayner  
Kent County Councillor  
Tel 03000 421606  
[Harry.Rayner@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Harry.Rayner@kent.gov.uk)

## Shipbourne 'On-line Drive Thru' Farmers Market: June

After re-inventing ourselves we are now getting quite used to being an 'On Line Drive Thru' Market. Customers, Producers and ourselves have settled into a routine. The key to our success is our volunteers. Jenny (who will help you with on line ordering 078805772080), one family team, led by the Chairman of our Parish Council, sorts the Orders another team loads them into the boots of our passing customers. Others enable us to offer free deliveries for the elderly and self-isolating and our logistics



experts, Peter and Ben sort out any problems!! In fact we have now got the whole thing down to such a fine art that we are able to sort over 100 cars in 90 minutes!! Our MP Tom Tugendhat has come up with an excellent explanation as to how the system works by producing for us an animation demonstrating the operation of the Farmers Market!

The concept of selling in 'boxes' has caught on. Annabelle has her 'Breakfast Box', 'BBQ Box', 'Pie Box' and 'Lamb Box'. Similarly, Carla has created a Cheese selection which has been much appreciated and 'Seasons by Nature' have brought out a 'Fruit Box' and a 'Salad box' to complement their 'Vegetable boxes'. However, as a sign of the times, one of our most successful lines is Eckley Farm's Whole meal flour, a strong flour perfect for bread making.

As for the Covid19 we are not out of the wood yet and we have a supply of Hand Sanitiser made by the Greensand Distillery (as well as their gin).

Asparagus and rhubarb herald the start of the new year harvest period after the hungry gap of March and April. New Park (Asparagus) Farm have brought their magnificent asparagus, grown on light sandy soil near Groombridge. In June this will be followed by the first of our soft fruit, strawberries, when we will welcome Stonepitts Farm with their array of different strawberries.

On the fish front it's really has to be mackerel – bought silvery fresh from the market and cooked the same day to enjoy at its very best. Try it the traditional way for the month – grilled and served with a tart gooseberry sauce.

As for a long drink you can't beat Greensand gin, plenty of ice and a good tonic. Or how about Hildenbrough's Brewery flavoursome beers. For a celebration or simply an excuse for a fizz try Sanden Sparkling wine. Fill your basket with locally made cheeses, pates, maybe a raised pie or Scotch egg, some chutney or relish and have a picnic in your garden.

## Green summer risotto

Taken from The Busy Mum's Vegetarian Cookbook by Mary Gwynn

**Prepare:** 15 mins/**Cook:** 25 mins/**Serves** 4 - 6

- 450g seasonal vegetables (e.g. small courgettes, peas, green beans, broad beans and asparagus tips)
  - 2 tbsp olive oil
  - 2 shallots, finely chopped and 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
  - 350g arborio risotto rice
  - about 1.5 litres simmering vegetable stock from a cube plus 100ml dry white wine
  - 50g butter
  - 50g fresh mixed herbs, such as flat-leaf parsley, basil, chives, tarragon, dill or chervil, finely chopped
  - 50g freshly grated Parmesan
  - salt and freshly ground black pepper
1. Cook the vegetables in simmering water for 2 – 3 minutes until almost tender. Drain and plunge into iced water to cool. Heat the oil in a heavy-based saucepan, add shallots and garlic and cook for about 3 minutes until softened. Add the rice and stir to coat in the oil.
  2. Add a ladleful of stock and the white wine and simmer until the liquid is absorbed, stirring constantly. Continue adding stock, a few tablespoons at a time, stirring frequently, until all the stock is absorbed, and the rice is tender and creamy but still with a slight bite. This should take about 20 minutes
  3. While the rice is cooking, place the butter in a blender or food processor with the herbs and seasoning and process until well blended together. When the rice is tender, add the vegetables and cook for another minute or two to heat through. Stir in the herb butter and Parmesan cheese and adjust the seasoning. Serve immediately.



## Gardening Tips for June



Water the Garden. As the summer gets hotter and drier, it is essential to water well but sensibly. Water in the early morning or evening to minimize evaporation. Water precise areas thoroughly rather than giving the whole garden a sprinkling

and try not to water on the leaves of plants as the sun could scorch them. It is worth installing water butts wherever you have a downpipe as rainwater is far better than tap water for many plants. It will also save you money on your water bill!



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# Recipe for The Month

## Apricot Tart

### Ingredients

1lb apricots  
4ozs sugar.  
½ oz butter,  
6ozs sweetened shortcrust pastry



One tart serves 4-6 people

Line a buttered 8-inch flan tin with the pastry. If the tart is for the freezer use a foil flan case.

Bake blind for 10 minutes in a hot oven (425F, gas 7).

Sprinkle half the sugar on the pastry case, halve the apricots and stone them placing them domed side up on the pastry as close together as possible.

Sprinkle on the rest of the sugar and dot each half with a small knob of butter,

Put in a moderate oven (375 F gas 5) and bake for 30 minutes or until the fruit is cooked by which time the pastry should be a rich golden brown and a thick syrup will have formed





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## Message from Tom Tugendhat MP

I hope that everyone is staying safe and well in these difficult times. I know how many in our parishes are supporting each other and the strength of the community this is showing. The Government has published its latest guidance on the next stage of our response to the virus. Because of the care people have taken in recent weeks, we are able to look at how we can all reach out more and try to get back to work. The social distancing measures that we have all been through in the past few weeks have brought down the infection rate and given us the ability to look for ways out. That's what we've all got to think about now - taking reasonable steps to get back to normal but staying alert throughout.

"The new restrictions give us greater freedom and flexibility about the steps we can take to protect ourselves and others. The message to Stay Alert is being used in France, and elsewhere to ensure we all remain aware of the dangers but start to help people get back to work. We know the cost of the lockdown to individuals across our country. We need it to end, to re-open our economy as quickly as possible, and to do it in a way that does not risk the infection rising too high.

"If you have any concerns about the guidance, or questions about what you may, or may not, be recommended to do then please get in touch. Though my office in Tonbridge is understandably closed to visitors and I am working at home, I can still answer e-mails on [tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk) or pick up the phone, where the best number is 01732 441563.

"Over the past few weeks so many people have gone to extraordinary lengths to help protect our communities. I'd like to thank everyone, and especially our key workers. Whether it be doctors or nurses working in the NHS, the waste collectors who continue to empty our bins, or supermarket workers making sure we have all the food we need, thank you.

"The past few weeks have seen our communities pull together like never before, and the street parties for VE Day showed just how united we can be. I hope this continues once the pandemic is over. But in the meantime, please stay safe.

***Tom Tugendhat, MP for Tonbridge & Malling***



## Swanley and North Downs Lions (Celebrating our 43<sup>rd</sup> year of service to the community in North West Kent)

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

### **Lions Clubs supporting communities during COVID-19 crisis**

Swanley and North Downs Lions Club responded to Ellenor's Emergency Fighting Fund appeal with a donation of £1200, made up of a grant from the Lions UK Emergency Fund and the profit from the Club's recent Easter Egg raffles. It will be used to help with the additional costs Ellenor are experiencing in supporting victims of the virus.

Club President Malcolm Munro said "The Coronavirus pandemic is hurting lots of local people in lots of different ways - just because we are all social distancing doesn't stop us from doing what we can."

When a humanitarian crisis strikes the British Lions Clubs Foundation works with and is guided by its own Lions members who are ordinary people actively working for their local communities.

Swanley & North Downs Lions support a range of good causes and local projects and if you wish to get involved visit our web site at [www.swanleyandnorthdownslions.org.uk](http://www.swanleyandnorthdownslions.org.uk)

# PUZZLE PAGE

by RP "The Parish Puzzler"



## Missing Numbers



Put all the numbers in the box on the right into the correct squares in the grid to make all the calculations correct.

4	+		=			+		=	7
+		-		+		+		+	
	-		=			+		=	
=		=		=		=		=	
	+		=			+		=	
	X		=			X		=	
+		X		-		X		X	+
	+		=			X		=	
=		=		=		=		=	
7	-		=			+		=	10

1	2	2
2	2	2
3	3	3
3	4	4
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
6	6	7
8	9	10
11	11	12
16	18	



**Solution**

10	=	4	+	6		4	=	3	-	7
=		=		=		=		=		=
6	=	2	x	3		5	=	1	+	4
+		x		x		-		x		+
4	=	2	x	2		9	=	3	x	3
18	=	7	+	11		16	=	6	+	10
=		=		=		=		=		=
11	=	5	+	6		4	=	2	-	6
+		+		+		+		-		+
7	=	2	+	5		12	=	8	+	4

# Monty Dog's Blog

Hi everybody, hope you and your humans are all staying safe.

My humans are watching TV every day when the Government lets them know what is happening with this pesky virus. Sometimes a man called Boris comes on and speaks. Boris is a funny name, don't you think? Surely it should be a Russian dogs name.



Have you seen his hair? He really should have it cut, but I know this is difficult because the hairdressers are closed, even Village Hair in the High Street. I am lucky because my groomer is still cutting dog's hair, so I look smart. Cannot say the same about my humans! What do yours look like? Are they cutting their own hair? That could be amusing.

One thing that has happened is that we can all go out more than once a day. I am so lucky because I go on two long walks a day. The picture is me on my morning walk. Can you guess where this is? I will give you the answer at the end of my blog. Are your humans clapping for the helpers every Thursday? I go out onto the footpath with my humans together with a few of our neighbours and join in. I really do not like it but understand why they do it.

I am still staring out of the window to see what is happening, but during the lockdown I can report not much! Stay Alert, and safe.

Love Monty

*Answer: from Bull Lane towards Birling and Ryarsh*



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**The views expressed in the articles are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team. The Editors Reserve the right to edit articles or reject those which, in their view, are considered inappropriate.**

The Editor for the June issue is Jo Forsyth.

The deadline is 10<sup>th</sup> June.

Please email [parish.mag@wrothamchurch.org](mailto:parish.mag@wrothamchurch.org)

(NOTE – please do not use personal email addresses of editors as your article may not be seen.)



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