

# **THE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE**



**BURHAM**

**WOULDHAM**

**PETERS VILLAGE**



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and sponsored by Wouldham Parish Council & Burham Parish Council.  
Produced and delivered by local volunteers.*

**THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PARISH OF BURHAM & WOULDHAM**  
**All Saints Church, Woudham**

**RECTOR—Rev'd Mike Hayes**

*Usual working days are on Thursdays, Fridays & Sundays.*

**Tel: 07964 697556**

**E-mail: mikejhayes@hotmail.co.uk**

**CHURCH WEBSITE: [www.wouldhamchurch.org.uk](http://www.wouldhamchurch.org.uk)**

*Unfortunately at present the Church must be kept locked but arrangements for access can be made by contacting one of the Church Wardens:*

<i>Church Wardens</i>	<i>Mr Tim Reed Mr Ken Kirk</i>	<i>Tel. 01634 666895 Tel: 07818 361608</i>
<i>Baptisms</i>	<i>Mrs Gwen Worcester.</i>	<i>Tel. 01634 672060</i>
<i>Weddings</i>	<i>Mrs Catherine Gore.</i>	<i>Tel. 01634 404742</i>
<i>Monuments &amp; Churchyard Enquiries</i>	<i>Rev'd Mike Hayes</i>	<i>Tel: 07964 697556</i>
<i>Church Flowers</i>	<i>Mrs Catherine Gore.</i>	<i>Tel. 01634 404742</i>
<i>Bell Ringing</i>	<i>Ms Tina Miles</i>	<i>Tel: 07967 795913</i>
<i>Church Treasurer</i>	<i>Mrs Nicky Grimes.</i>	<i>Tel. 01634 864319</i>
<i>Church Secretary</i>	<i>Mrs Gwen Worcester</i>	<i>Tel. 01634 672060</i>
<i>Church Magazine Editor</i>	<i>Mrs Mary Davis. zero.mexdavis247@btinternet.com</i>	<i>Tel. 01634 869650</i>

**View the Magazine online:**

**Church Website: [www.wouldhamchurch.org.uk](http://www.wouldhamchurch.org.uk)**

**Wouldham Parish Council: [www.wouldhampc.com](http://www.wouldhampc.com)**

**Burham Parish Council: [www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk)**

If you would like to receive **The Diocese of Rochester Newsletter**, go to the link here for the **E-Newsletter**:

**<https://www.rochester.anglican.org/communications/diocesan-publications/enewsletter/>**

# CHURCH OF ENGLAND WORSHIP

REV'D MIKE HAYES



Dear friends

I'm writing this on 14<sup>th</sup> May which in the church calendar is the feast of Saint Matthias. Who on earth is he? You might well ask!

After the suicide of Judas, who had betrayed Jesus, the remaining 11 Apostles decided they should elect a 12<sup>th</sup> Apostle. They chose Matthias. After that he is never mentioned again in the bible! Also he wrote a gospel, but it was lost.

Some people have observed that this is what happens when decisions are left to committees. They say that if anyone deserved to be called the 12<sup>th</sup> Apostle it was Paul, who became far more wellknown, and did in fact call himself an apostle, and he was chosen by God and not the church!

But it seems to me that Matthias is a saint for these coronavirus times. I have observed in these weeks so many small acts of kindness by individuals, and the heroic acts of key workers in NHS and Care Homes and Care in the Community. These will not generally be recorded or go down in history, (though they may get a like on Facebook).

Yet taken together they change our lives and they change our community.

So today let's honour all of those unknown saints.

The good actions of individuals matter. These actions matter to those who receive them, and they matter in the grand scheme of things.

And when a new normal arrives may it be one where there is a greater sense of community and a society which is fairer and less divided.

By the time you read this Saint Matthias day will be passed for this year but he stands for those whose unknown actions contribute to the good of all. *In peace. Mike*

We are sad to announce the death in May of Rev'd Stuart Aitkin. Many people will remember Rev'd Aitkin as Priest in Charge at All Saints Church in a period during 1990s.

Rest in Peace

## A Note from the Editor

Once again, I'm sorry we're not able to print and deliver our June edition and so the magazine is continuing as a digital version only on the Church, Burham, and Wouldham Parish Council websites (*see inside cover*) and local Facebook. Of course people may not know to look and some are not digitally organised. So please let people know that we are there.

A global pandemic is a catastrophic event with serious consequences for people all around the world. Many people and businesses are having great difficulties. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them and especially to those who are suffering illness, loss and grief.

LOCALLY and very importantly, we want to thank Frosts shop for their exceptional service to help people and of course also the volunteers in all the villages (*I don't know of all the volunteering schemes to mention*) and all our friends, neighbours and families for their wonderful kindness in helping. Thank you. Mary Davis, Editor

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### ALL SAINTS CHURCH, WOULDHAM WEATHERVANE APPEAL

For 218 years the tower at All Saints Church in Wouldham has been surmounted by a fine iron weather vane. Witness to the changing climate, seven monarchs, Walter Burke and the Battle of



Trafalgar, two world wars, the changing valley seen, the building of new bridges and now a new village. Sadly after more than 200 years it is in need of urgent restoration. The church is seeking to raise £2500.00 to enable this to be undertaken by local craftsmen, this will involve removing the weather vane and transporting it, restoring the iron work and the original gilding, finally reinstating atop the tower for another 200 years. Please consider giving a donation towards preserving this beautiful iconic part of our village history. Thank you.. You can donate by visiting:

**[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/weathervanewouldham](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/weathervanewouldham)**

Or, if you prefer, you can send a donation by cheque (*payable to Burham & Wouldham PCC Acc.*)

Send to: Mrs Heather Lloyd, 40 Downs View, Burham, ME1 3RR

I wish to donate £..... to the Weather Vane Appeal.

My name .....

Contact details .....

## **Nationally, more and more people are joining online church services ....**



Join all Saints church online from the safety of your home on 'Zoom' for a short service of prayer, bible readings, a hymn and reflection each Sunday morning 10.30—11 am. Join with audio only or with full video. Just connect your phone or tablet or laptop.

It's easy to download ..... Contact Mike Hayes for the link  
**mikejhayes@hotmail.co.uk**

*(24% of UK adults say they have watched or listened to a religious service since lockdown started. Among people aged 18–34, the figure is 34%. Of those who have tuned into services, 5% have never gone to a service in a church.*

*(ComRes/The Guardian)*

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## **Troubled times .....but your churches are here for you**

**.....ask for a prayer for yourself or others .....**

**..... contact Gwen Worcester on 01634 672060 or**

***mikejhayes@hotmail.co.uk* to add your prayer request for  
our Candle Prayer Time group to say in their homes on a  
Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. Join them also in prayer  
with a lighted candle from your home.**



**With much love to all in  
Wouldham, Burham & Peters Village.  
From all at  
All Saints and The Church in Burham**

# JUNE

## The Church in Burham (Methodist)

A message from the Revd Naomi Oates,  
minister at the Church in Burham:



Dear friends,

I am sorry that, once again, these pages cannot offer a list of upcoming services and events at the Church in Burham – we'll have to wait a little longer to gather together for Country Lunches and afternoon teas, Sunday services and film nights. But the Church in its truest sense is very much open for business – why not tune in for our live circuit services at 10.30 every Sunday, or dial in (if you're not online) to one of our services by phone? (Please do get in touch with me using the details below for more information). We're delighted, too, to be sharing with our friends from All Saints in lighting candles at 7.30pm on Wednesdays and praying for the needs of our community – something all of us are able to do from the safety of our own homes.

As I write, many churches are preparing for a global and ecumenical call to prayer called 'Thy Kingdom Come' that takes place between Ascension Day (21 May 2020) and Pentecost (31 May 2020). Although, as with so much of our lives, this movement will look very different in 2020 to any other year, one of the joys of prayer is that it can happen anywhere, anytime – and at any distance.

The period between Ascension Day (when Jesus, having risen from the dead, ascended into heaven) and Pentecost (when the disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit and began the work that would form the foundations of the Christian Church) must have been a strange time for Jesus' friends. They'd already been on an emotional rollercoaster, having watched the man they'd followed for three years be nailed to a cross, and then appear among them days later in a locked room. In the 40 days Jesus spent with them after their resurrection, perhaps they hoped this was their 'new normal.' I imagine they craved some certainty and stability – and an idea of what the future would hold.

But when Jesus left them a second time, ascending into heaven, their instructions were "not to leave Jerusalem" and to "wait there" for the promised gift of the Spirit. The disciples asked Jesus for details, timings – but Jesus replied, somewhat frustratingly, "it is not for you to know."

Many of us have struggled over recent weeks with the instruction to wait at home, and with not knowing exactly when and how the lockdown will be eased. Even as I write, after the Prime Minister's announcement on 10 May, the future is far from certain. And yet. The Bible reminds us that

time spent waiting is *not* necessarily time wasted. In the waiting, God is at work, in and around us.

I certainly don't believe that God would send a virus (especially one that disproportionately affects the most vulnerable in society) to punish us or to 'teach us a lesson,' but I *do* believe that in the periods of our lives when we're called upon to wait, God can use these times as opportunities for transformation. For the disciples, between Ascension and Pentecost, I believe God was at work in their hearts, preparing them to receive the gift of the Spirit and for the hard work that lay ahead, which would cost several of them their lives. In recent weeks, during this time of watching and waiting, I've seen God at work in the way that people have gone the extra mile to love and support their neighbours; in fresh expressions of worship that have sprung up online and by phone; in the rare moments of silence and stillness. Time spent waiting on God is *never* time wasted. So perhaps, in the words of RS Thomas, rather than "hurrying on to a receding future" or "hankering after an imagined past," we might "turn aside" to see what God is doing in and through us while we wait.

Finally, as many of you know, one of our beloved members, Trevor Smith, died in May. Many people in the community have spoken to me since Trevor's death about his kindness in their moments of need, and his generous hospitality. There will be a service at the church, when such things are possible, so that we might give thanks together for Trevor's life. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Every blessing,  
The Revd Naomi Oates



**THE CHURCH IN BURHAM (Methodist),  
Church Street, Burham  
MINISTER The Revd Naomi Oates  
Tel: 01732875072 or 07485072407  
Email: naomi.oates@methodist.org.uk**

*Stewards Eileen Smith Tel. 01634867022  
Joyce Brown Tel. 01634864413  
Rod Murr Tel. 01634868075*

*Requests for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals to: Rev Naomi Oates  
or one of the Stewards.*

<https://www.nkmethodists.org.uk/news/invitation-to-worship-from-home.html>

## CHECK LIST TO SPOT FALSE INFORMATION

The impact of false information.

False information that is shared can take on a life of its own and have serious consequences. It can lead to health scares, false accusations and potentially damaging hoax stories. It's not always easy to spot, so use the **SHARE** checklist

to make sure that you're using verified, trusted sources. Be careful what you share because things are not always what they seem online. Protect yourself and your family from misinformation and fraud by taking care when online . False medical advice false advice is based on false assertions that medical sources have disproven.



Always check the NHS website for the facts. [www.nhs.uk/](http://www.nhs.uk/)

Also Public Health England website [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england) & [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Full Fact <https://fullfact.org/> is the UK's independent fact checking charity.

So don't feed the beast!

### **USE THE SHARE CHECKLIST: [www.sharechecklist.gov.uk](http://www.sharechecklist.gov.uk)**

**SOURCE.** Before you like, comment or share online, use the **SHARE** checklist to make sure you're not contributing to the spread of harmful content about coronavirus. Rely on official sources for medical and safety information. Check the facts about coronavirus on the NHS website and [www.gov.uk/](http://www.gov.uk/)

**HEADLINE.** Headlines don't always tell the full story. Always read to the end before you share articles about coronavirus for instance.

**ANALYSE.** Analyse the facts. If something sounds unbelievable, it very well might be. Independent fact-checking services are correcting false information about coronavirus every day.

**ERROR.** Look out for mistakes. Typos and other errors might mean the information is false. Official guidance about coronavirus will always have been carefully checked.

*continued.....*

## **HELP FIGHT CYBER FRAUD**

Take a breath – a moment – before you part with money or personal information. It sounds simple, but this alone could end up preventing fraud from taking place.

Ensure you are using the latest software, apps and operating systems on phones, tablets and laptops and update them regularly.

And if you get an unexpected or suspicious email or text message, don't click on the attachment or message.



Don't be afraid to challenge messages and messengers. It's ok to refuse or ignore requests for your money or details if you are suspicious – only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

The police and banks will never ask you to withdraw money or transfer it to a different account. Neither will they ask you to reveal your full banking password or PIN

You can check that requests are genuine by using a known number or email address to contact organisations directly. And if you think you have fallen victim to a scam, then contact your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud. You can report suspicious texts by forwarding the original message to 7726, which spells SPAM on your keypad.

### **LOCAL**

#### **MOBILE HAIRDRESSER**

Looking to take on new clients in the area

20 Years Experience.  
Fully Trained Wella Color  
Technician.  
City & Guilds Level 3.  
Teaching Experience.



Please call Michelle  
**07821 833112**

### **ELECTRICIAN**

Do you find it difficult to find someone to come and do a small job?

Free Quotations  
Flexible Hours  
Reasonably Priced

Satisfaction Guaranteed

I will assure you a quick response and a reasonably priced service

**Call Paul on 07970 712158**  
or email  
**pdwelectricalcontractor@gmail.com**

**BURHAM CHILDREN'S CENTRE NOT OPEN UNTIL  
FURTHER NOTICE BUT INFORMATION & ADVICE  
ARE AVAILABLE ON  
THE PHONE NO. AND FACEBOOK PAGE**

**Bell Lane, Burham. ME1 3SY Tel: 03000 418008**

Free sessions for children aged 0-5 years— **TUESDAY, & FRIDAY**

**Closed on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday**

**3rd Tuesday of the Month only 1.00pm –3.00pm. Well Baby Clinic.**

**Development Reviews 1.00pm-14.30pm**

Come and get your child weighed and speak to a health visitor.

**Friday am 9.30am –10.30am. Baby Stay & Play Birth - Crawlers**

**11.00am—12.30pm. Stay & Play.**

You can now register for the Children's Centre online:

**BURHAM PRE-SCHOOL, BURHAM VILLAGE HALL.**

'Good ' OFSTED inspection - April 16.

We welcome children aged 2 -5yrs.

Sessions:

Mon - Fri\* am 9.15 - 11.45.                    \*Fri. am is for rising 5's only  
Mon - Fri pm 12.20 - 2.50.                    Mon - Fri. Lunch Club 11.45 -  
12.20

Optional 'early bird' drop off at 9am for £1.0.

Come along and visit to see if we are right for you!

Visit our website: [burhampre-school@weebly.com](mailto:burhampre-school@weebly.com)

Supervisor - Tracey Beechey Tel: 07920 599287/07710 829954

**JELLYBEANS PRE-SCHOOL, WOULDHAM VILLAGE HALL**

Our Ofsted Inspection found Jellybeans to be 'good'.

Sessions :

Mon - Fri am 9.15-11.45

Mon - Thurs pm 12.25 - 2.55

Mon - Thurs Lunch Club 11.45 - 12.25

Early drop off option available.

Feel free to visit at any time, no appointment necessary.

For further information please contact-

Mrs Donna Cook (Supervisor) on 07932551771

# Poem

by Keira Callaghan-Jarvis, aged 11



1. *The winter's over,  
The summer's closer'  
The sun is rising,  
Like swallows flying.*
2. *Look outside and what do  
you see,  
Maybe a bird,  
Perhaps a tree?  
Don't you wish you were  
free?*
3. *We will survive,  
You know it is true,  
A miniature soldier,  
Inside every one of you.*
4. *Battling in the war,  
Winning the fight,  
Defeating the enemy,  
Fighting only for what is right.*
5. *A curse lies upon the land,  
In the air, in its victim's hand.  
This curse is not as fierce as it  
seems,  
Not fierce enough to intrude our  
dreams.*
6. *Inside it is small and just,  
And we will take it down if we  
must.  
As I write, I keep in mind,  
It is a cure we must find.*
7. *While we are all stuck inside our homes,  
Communicating with only phones,  
Hear the Prime Minister say please, please, please,  
Stay at home; Covid 19 is a terrible disease*

# WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*NEW WEBSITE: Wouldhampc.com*



Our meetings in April and May have been cancelled, we are going to have a June AGM meeting, either by social distancing in the hall i.e. one table per person or by Zoom to which residents will be invited.

## SPEEDING.

At the PC's and Tracey Crouch's request a police speed motorcycle appeared in the village on Sunday. He stopped 5 people to talk to them about their speed, all 5 were residents of the village. Therefore please can we ask that if you are a resident to abide by the 20mph limit, if all the residents did then it would slow up the "inconsiderates" who drive through the village. Even if you don't live on the High Street please consider those who do and SLOW DOWN.

## BUS STOP.

Kent County Council offer 50% grants for bus stops and the PC are going to apply to have a bus stop put on Knowle Road. We will keep you informed.

**DOG POO.** Once again this has got bad in and around the Rec. To repeat: PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG. Also, please do not groom your dog on the Rec and not pick up the hair, it is unhygienic and unsightly.

## SOCIAL DISTANCING.

Everyone in the village appears to have adhered to social distancing and restricted exercising, it really looks like the village has worked on it. To everyone in key worker positions, you are appreciated by the village, the Thursday clap for the NHS can be heard from miles away.

## VILLAGE HALL.

The sale of the old hall is still progressing, plans for the new hall are still in place, all on our new website.

**FINANCES.** For anyone interested in how the PC spends your money, all monthly and yearly finances are on our new website, following the successful internal auditors report, any interested person can inspect the accounting records. This has to be done in the period for the exercise of public rights which will begin on June 15<sup>th</sup> and end on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **VE COMPETITION.**

A very successful colouring competition was held in the village, well done to everyone who entered. The winners of each age group: Florence Cockerton, Faye Hill, Hugo Dark, George Bacon.

All of whom will receive an Amazon voucher and all non-winning entrants will receive a colouring book. Except the one entrant who was disqualified due to being too old for any of the age groups, he was 39  $\frac{3}{4}$ . The judge's decision is final, SORRY MR BACON.

## **GRAFFITI.**

Graffiti has once again found its way into our village. If you witness anyone damaging property in this way please call 101. Under the Criminal Damage Act 1971 and the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003, there are serious penalties. We will check CCTV and report the offenders.

CONTACT: Clerk: [clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk) 01634 864319

Chair: [ebellwpc@gmail.com](mailto:ebellwpc@gmail.com)

## **FLY TIPPERS ON HILL ROAD CAUGHT**

One of our most beautiful walks goes from the carpark at Blue Bell Hill along Common Road—a quiet rural lane.

Continuing past the Robin Hood Pub, the road ends and becomes a track, which is a byway called Hill Road leading down to Woudham and Borstal.

In the last few weeks, a local resident cycling on Hill Road on the North Downs above Burham and Woudham

witnessed people in a car unloading bags of rubbish as a fly tip. The witness noted details of the vehicle on their phone along with a good description of the occupants and sent them to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council. The Council investigators tracked down the culprits and a heavy financial penalty of £400 was imposed.

Hill Road is a hot spot area for fly-tipping and is monitored by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, the local PCSO (*Police Community Support Officer*) and residents working together to reduce the amount of fly-tipping and take enforcement action.

In a statement our Borough Councillors said “ Fly tipping is an anti-social crime despoiling our beautiful countryside and we know our residents are rightfully upset about it. We are very pleased with this successful result and also that the Council will always take effective follow up action where good evidence exists”.



# **BURHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS JUNE 2020**

Keep up to date with Parish Council business, visit:  
**Website: [www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk)**  
**Facebook page “Burham Parish Council”**



With dog walking a good form of exercise, just a gentle reminder to use the dog poo bins which are around the village. There has been an increase in dog poo not cleared particularly in the recreation ground at the top area by the skate ramp.

## Coronavirus/COVID-19 – Stay Safe

There is not much new news to report.

As a reminder, although the parish office is open as normal 10 am – 2 pm, Monday to Friday, no face to face contact is taking place. There is an intercom/doorbell system in place on the blue outside door. If you wish to speak with the Clerk, please press the doorbell/intercom as indicated and wait for answer. However, if possible, please call 01634 685936 or e-mail [pam@burhampc.co.uk](mailto:pam@burhampc.co.uk).

Currently all meetings have been cancelled until further notice. Also, much of the other parish council business has been put on hold for the time being.

Fenced play areas have been closed and locked and other equipment/areas have notices on them “PLEASE DO NOT USE”. This is for the safety of all. Some signs have had to be replaced.

We are looking at having some work carried out to the surface of the play area prior to it being re-opened.

Due to the on-going situation, the parish noticeboards (Old School Community Centre and War Memorial) will not be updated until further notice.

Any new notices will be posted on our website ([burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk)) and also posted on “Facebook, Burham Parish Council”. This is a very fast moving situation and we are endeavouring to provide the information to residents via the means above as quickly as possible.

Helpline numbers and other very important details in relation to the outbreak will also be available from the window of the Parish Office, which has become a temporary noticeboard. So if you need any guidance or assistance, have a look in the window.

**TMBC Garden Waste (Brown bin)** – This service has been resumed. It was suspended originally.

*continued.....*

Please bear in mind that as previously advised this is a fast moving situation, and by the time this newsletter is circulated, the contents may well be out of date. Please check with me if you are unsure.

Finally, once again, without mentioning names, our grateful and sincere thanks go out to all those local unsung “heroes” who have ensured the welfare of Burham residents.

**If you have any items that you would like the Parish Council to discuss, just give me a call on 01634 685936, e-mail me on pam@burhampc.co.uk or come along to the next scheduled meeting, which although normally are held the last Monday of the month, currently all meetings have been cancelled until further notice.**

Pam Saunders – Clerk.



## Burham Meeting Place

We will keep you posted as to when we'll be up and running again, but in the meantime, stay safe and hopeful. If you're lonely, how about video calling friends and family, or take up a creative hobby. Keeping busy and structuring your day is also good advice. Those that can and are allowed under the guidelines, the virtue of the one hour a day exercise greatly benefits our mental health and well-being.

Last but not least, don't forget the amazing local help and support available to us all.

A huge thank you to everyone in our village who is working to help keep us all fed and safe.

These are difficult times for us all, if you need any help, whoever you are, please have a look at the links below:

**<https://www.mind.org.uk>**

**<https://www.nhs.uk/.../stress-anxiet.../mental-health-helplines/>**

**<https://www.thecalmzone.net>**

**<https://www.samaritans.org>**

**<https://youngminds.org.uk>**

# **PARISH INFORMATION**

## **BURHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Pam Saunders – Clerk.

The Parish Office, Rochester Road, Burham. ME1 3RJ

Opening times: Mon-Frid., 10am—2pm

Tel: 01634 685936. Email: [pam@burhampc.co.uk](mailto:pam@burhampc.co.uk)

[www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

The next Council meeting: MEETINGS SUSPENDED

Usually the last Monday in the month.

## **WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Parish Clerk—Nicky Grimes 01634 864319 [clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk)

[www.wouldhampc.com](http://www.wouldhampc.com)

Council Meetings are held in Wouldham Village Hall. The next

meeting: Usually 1st Tuesday of the month MEETINGS SUSPENDED

**COMMUNITY WARDEN**:- Vivien Hickmott 07813694140

**POLICE** - PCSO Jo-Anne Tiller, non emergency tel. no. — 101

## **TRANSPORT**

**Bus Services:** Arriva no.155. There are to be additional routes as ‘lockdown’ is lifted.

**Clarkes of London’s commuter coach service.** The 764a and 764b service picks up from bus stops: Keepers Cottage Lane (05:52 & 06:30) & Village Road (05:50 and 06:28). [www.clarkescommute.co.uk](http://www.clarkescommute.co.uk) or call 020 8778 6697. Ring to check the services.

A Free Bus to Tesco leaves Wednesday, 10am from Burham village only.

## **HALLS FOR HIRE** (Not for hire until ‘lock down’ lifted)

Burham Old School Community Centre – 01634 863322

Burham Village Hall – 07842883028

‘The Church in Burham’ Hall – 01634 867022

Wouldham Village Hall – 01634 864319 [clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk)

**ALLOTMENTS** Different size allotments are available to grow your own fruit and veg. **Burham:** Contact: Dave Young 01634 867669.

**Wouldham:** Contact Sue 01634 682363

# PETERS VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Should anyone wish to receive further information or join the scheme please contact

Steve @ [Petersvillagenhw@gmail.com](mailto:Petersvillagenhw@gmail.com)

SATURDAY WASTE COLLECTION  
*TMBC Helpline 01732 844522   www.tmbc.gov.uk*

## SERVICE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Wouldham - Car Park, Knowle Rd,  
8.00am—9.00am.

Snodland- Saltings Road  
(outside Neville Park)  
8.00am—9.00am

Burham, Village Hall Car Park,  
9.15am -10.15am

Snodland—St Benedicts Rd,  
junction of Paddlesworth Rd.  
8.00 - 9.00am

Eccles – Bull Lane lay-by.  
10.30- 11.30am   8.00am—8.45am

All sites on the Saturday Service have **WEEE** collection ie-  
**Waste, Electrical, Electronic, Equipment & scrap metal items** at the same  
time that Veolia's vehicles are on site. **SUSPENDED**  
*Do not leave waste unattended at the collection sites or in advance of the waste  
vehicles arriving*

## BURHAM UNITED CHARITIES

**Burham United Charities are a local charitable organisation that provides assistance to those in need living within the old parish boundaries. (i.e. Burham Village and parts of Blue Bell Hill).**

Every year the Charity gives grants towards the Winter Fuel costs of retired villagers on restricted incomes.

**They can also offer one off grants to help alleviate particular instances of hardship for any resident of the parish.**

Parents of school age children may obtain help with some of the costs associated with schooling.

**If you, or someone you know, is on a low income or has an exceptional need which is not provided for by Welfare Benefits, we may be able to help. Contact:**

Dave Young (01634 867669) or Roger Kiralfy (01634 869900)

## SOCIAL GROUPS & MEETINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO WHEN LOCKDOWN IS LIFTED

**Women's Institute** - 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Burham Village Hall 7.30pm. Contact Eileen Smith 01634 867022.

**Wouldham 60+CLUB.** Social afternoon for over 60s. Meeting Tuesdays, 2-4pm at the Watermans Arms, Wouldham

**Burham Meeting Place** - A Community Group socialising with events for the whole community. Meeting once a month on a Monday evening, 6th April, 7.30pm till 9pm (

**Thursday Community Club** - Burham Community Centre, 10.30-12pm. Tea, coffee, cakes. Friendly gatherings & outings.

**April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.** Contact: 01634 867669.

**Hi Kent Hearing Clinic here on 9th April**

**Afternoon Tea** The Church in Burham, Church St. 3.0 pm every Tuesday. Join us to enjoy a cup of tea and cake, a fun quiz and good company. £1 Donation. All welcome. Contact Trevor Smith 01634867022

**Coffee Morning.** All Saints Church, Wouldham. Last Friday of the month 10.45 –11.45am. **24th April.** Just come along.

**Country Lunch** - The Church in Burham, Church St. **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 1pm.** Homemade soup, crusty bread & cheese, fruit crumble and ice cream, tea or coffee. We ask for a donation of £3 and all profits are given to our charity of the month. Contact 01634867022

**Men's Supper.** All Saints Church, Wouldham. **Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** Guest Speaker, Rev'd Mike Hayes. Fish & Chip Supper (*donation for this*) Let Dennis know if you are coming. 07854400506.

**Cream Teas.** All Saints Church, Wouldham. **Sunday, May 3rd, 2pm - 2-30pm** and then on the first Sunday of each month up to and including September.

## SHOPS

**Wouldham Village Store.** 134 High St. 01634 863731. Open 7-7.30pm

**Frosts Service Station & Store,** Rochester Rd, Burham. 01634 861228, Hours: Monday-Friday:7-7pm. Saturday:7-6pm. Sunday:8-1pm.

**The Vale Bakery,** 209 Rochester Rd, Burham 01634 861572.

Closes 4pm. Closed Sunday & Monday.

**CRAFTS** **Bear Paws Quilters** in Burham Community Centre. Meeting Wednesdays twice a month. Many talented people with varied abilities in all areas of needlework. 7.30-9pm. Contact Mrs Taylor 01634 861781

## **BOOKS**

**Book Club** - Meet 3rd Wednesday of the month at various local venues.  
Contact - Gwen Worcester 01634 672060.

### **KCC Mobile Library: Fortnightly on Tuesdays:**

**SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**Wouldham, Walter Burke Ave** - 13.15-13.45hrs.

**Wouldham, Ravensknowle** - 13.55-14.25hrs.

**Burham, Village Hall** - 14.35-15.35hrs (*use us or loose us!*)

### **~~Book Exchange~~ - The Church in Burham, Church St. **10.30-12 noon****

Bring books you have read and exchange them for others from our good selection. Tea and coffee are served together with homemade cake for which we ask for a donation of £1. Contact Eileen Smith 01634867022

## **ACTIVITY/SPORT**

**Burham Baton Twirlers** -Village Hall every other Thursday 4.15-30pm.  
Contact Lyn Robinson 07729 373558.

**Burham Blue Bells Dance School.** Sat 9.30-12noon in Community Centre 3 years and above. Contact - to be confirmed.

**Duet Dance School** Wednesday 3.30-7pm. Burham Old School.  
Julie Potter/Hayley Mann. *duets\_dance\_school@yahoo.com*

**Burham Football Club** - Contact Paul Fitzpatrick 07805198937.

**Force Medway Group** - Self Defence in Burham Village Hall.  
Weds 6 -7.15pm. Fri 6-8.30pm. Contact Stuart Lowe 07557 906249

**Short Mat Bowls** Monday & Wednesday in Burham Village Hall, 7.30pm - 10pm. New Members are always welcome. Contact - Irene Benton 01634 867466

**Windmill monthly dog walks** from The Windmill Inn, Burham at 10am.  
Advertised in the Windmill. Afternoon tea there afterward.

**Rambles** are organised fortnightly. Evenings are best time to contact Jane Gilbert: 01634 682910.

**Step Fitness Classes** – Fitness sessions in Burham Village Hall.  
Thurs 7pm – 8pm @ £7 per session, Contact Abbey on 07713056301.

**Medway Lindy Hoppers** – Dancing classes in Burham Village Hall.  
Alternate Fridays, April 1<sup>st</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, details [www.medwaylindyhoppers.co.uk](http://www.medwaylindyhoppers.co.uk)

**Burham Pre-School.** A Family Treasure Hunt. 11.00am, Burham Village Hall.

**CHURCHES** All churches are closed at the moment

**Church of England Parish of Burham & WOULDHAM:**

1. **All Saints, WOULDHAM. Parish Church.** Currently closed
2. **St Marys Church, Burham.** Old Church Rd,  
is a redundant Anglican Church under the care of the  
'Churches Conservation Trust'. Occasional special C of E  
services held there and events run by the Friends of St Marys.  
Closed at the moment but in normal circumstances always  
open.

**Methodist. The 'Church in Burham'** Currently closed

**EATING & DRINKING Ring to enquire about current business.**

**The Butchers Block** Pub/Restaurant, Burham - 01634 786626

**The Robin Hood** Pub/Restaurant. Common Rd, 01634 861500

**The Windmill Inn** /Restaurant, Burham - 01634 864570

**Happy House Chinese** Takeaway, Burham - 01634 668326

**Fish & Chips Van:** Wednesday, 5-8pm. Burham Village Hall car park  
Saturday, 5-8pm. WOULDHAM recreation ground car park.

**Medway Inn & Rubys** Indian Restaurant/Takeaway, WOULDHAM. 869181

**Watermans Arms,** WOULDHAM. Food served daily & Sunday lunch -  
01634 681830

**THEATRE/MUSIC/FILM/ART**

**Film Club** The Church in Burham, Church St. **7.30pm, Wednesday** Share tea & coffee after. Donation of £1. Contact Eileen Smith 01634867022

**'Church Choir. All Saints Church Choir.** Choir practice is on Thursdays, 7.30pm All Saints Church, WOULDHAM. New junior and senior members are most welcome. Enquiries: Sandra Holman: 01634-867586

**Church Bell Ringing** All Saints Church, WOULDHAM. Practice: Wednesday at 8pm. New ringers are welcome.

Tina Miles Tel: 07967 795913

Rehearsals are in Burham Village Hall. Thursday, 8pm – 10pm.  
New members are welcome.

**St Marys Old Church** Burham

**THE FLOWER FESTIVAL PLANNED FOR JUNE HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT YEAR**

# HEALTH



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### Dispensary Opening Times

Monday & Thursday:	8:45 am - 12:00 pm 2.00 pm - 4:45 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday	8:45 am - 12:00 pm 3:30 pm - 6:15 pm

[www.phoenixsurgery-burham.nhs.uk](http://www.phoenixsurgery-burham.nhs.uk)

**NHS 111** can help if you have an urgent medical problem and you're not sure what to do. NHS 111 is available 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week. Get NHS help online or on the phone.

To get help from NHS 111, you can: -

go to [111.nhs.uk](http://111.nhs.uk) (for people aged 5 and over only) or telephone 111

**DEFIBRILLATORS:** Situated:

1. Outside Burham Parish Office.
2. Outside Wouldham Village Hall.
3. Outside Wouldham Village Store.

If a machine is needed, call 999 for the code and instructions.

**PRESCRIPTIONS.** If you are unable to collect your prescriptions and live in Burham, WOULDHAM or Peters Village, the Church offers a collection service. Contact: Rachael Harris. 07725289194

*The surgery require 72 hours to prepare the prescription and the volunteers collecting these prescriptions need 24hrs notice.*

### HEARING AIDS.

**HiKent Hearing Clinic, TEMPORALLY SUSPENDED** monthly—on the 2nd Thursday the month. **10.30-11.30 hrs at Burham Community Centre.** Aftercare clinics for NHS hearing aids. Free of charge & open on a drop-in basis. No need for an appointment. Trained volunteers are able to change batteries, clean and re-tube hearing aids while you wait. -  
<https://hikent.org.uk/>

# **Neighbourhood Watch strengthens community spirit at Peters Village**

As with the whole of Britain, coronavirus might have Peters Village under lockdown, but the crisis has highlighted the community spirit fostered by the Peters Village Neighbourhood Watch founded in April 2019.

The fledgling community, within the Parish of Woudham, did not really have a crime problem, but Neighbourhood Watch co-founders Barry Abraham and Steve Rimmington believed the group could help deter any future problem.

Through Barry's previous experience as a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator elsewhere and Steve's overall experience working within the security sector, they realised it could also foster pro-active neighbourly co-operation against other issues, such as anti-social behaviour, littering, dog fouling, graffiti, and vehicles speeding through the community.

Steve highlighted how much easier it is to run a Watch scheme today; where as members would previously have kept in touch by phone and knocking on doors, social media – notably WhatsApp and Facebook – enables instant alerts and updates, boosting effectiveness and confidence in the scheme.

The success of the Peters Village Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) has been further supported by linking the group to the West Kent Neighbourhood Watch Association (WKNWA); Steve now sits on that group's committee and Peters Village NHW was recently spotlighted in the association's newsletter 'Watch Out'.

"Access to the West Kent association is particularly useful," said Steve. "Because criminal activities and anti-social behaviours occur across borough and parish boundaries, but any trends and patterns can be picked up from information fed into WKNWA from the various other local groups and police liaison."

Local issues do not always have a local source either, as Steve points out in the case of litter on the banks of the River Medway in Peters Village: "We get a lot of plastics washing up under Peters Bridge. It is not generated locally but arrives on the river current. It is not only unsightly, but a potential danger to the local wildlife, of which we are particularly proud in Peters Village (the community has a Site of Special Scientific Interest nature reserve that conserves the Great Crested Newt and a number of other rare species)."

"So, with support from Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, which provided us with hi-vis vests, protective gloves, and other gear, we planned a community litter pick supporting the 'Great British Spring Clean'.

*continued.....*

*continued.....*

Unfortunately, the Covid 19 pandemic has caused a delay. Trenport (the overall Peters Village developer) and the Environment Agency have also given their support.”

“Ultimately though, the Neighbourhood Watch is about being seen to be active and showing that we will not put up with those who think it’s OK to spread litter, commit petty crime and vandalism or speed through our village, endangering our families.”

As a further development, Steve has set up Peters Village ‘Speedwatch’, joining a national initiative where active members of local communities join with the support of the police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection equipment.

If you would like to know more about or join the Peters Village Neighbourhood Watch or Peters Village Speedwatch [please contact Steve at Petersvillagenhw@gmail.com](mailto:Petersvillagenhw@gmail.com)

## **PETERS VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

**Should anyone wish to receive further  
information or join the scheme  
please contact**

**Steve @ Petersvillagenhw@gmail.com**



**Peters Village Neighbourhood Watch co-founder, Steve Rimmington talks about the group's establishment:**

“I moved to Peters Village in July 2017 and could see the benefits of bringing people closer together through developing a stronger community spirit, and promoting confidence that something positive was being done to prevent local crime and anti-social behaviour, thereby improving the quality of life for all living there.

“Following research, it was clear that the Neighbourhood Watch network was the ideal voluntary organisation to deliver that objective.

“Neighbourhood Watch is a partnership between the police and local communities supported by various other local and regional organisations such as the Kent County Council Community Wardens, Kent Trading Standards and others aiming to help people protect themselves and their property.

*continued.....*

*continued.....*

“I’m grateful for all the advice and support I was given towards setting up the Peters Village Neighbourhood Watch, but particularly the Volunteer and Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer at Kent Police, Ourwatch.org.uk and the Neighbourhood Watch National Network.

“Of course, it was also vital to discover whether Peters Village residents thought a Neighbourhood Watch was a good idea and, more importantly, give actual support. Their response was hugely positive, so I set up and registered Peters Village Neighbourhood Watch in [April 2019](#) through the Ourwatch national network. “Once established, details were provided to all residents to register through the same network, to ensure they were legitimate residents of Peters Village, whilst providing them with security under the Data Protection Act (GDPR).

It was important that Peters Village also forged links to the regional network, so I registered with the excellent West Kent Neighbourhood Watch Association, with long-established links to Kent Police

“In addition to the registration process, I also created a private Peters Village Neighbourhood Watch page on Facebook with all registered members automatically added to the page. No one is accepted onto this page unless they have registered via Ourwatch to the Peters Village scheme.

“Facebook allows information from reliable sites such as the Kent Police and Crimestoppers to be circulated to all members, along with the regional information site E-watch, an invaluable source of wider information on events and incidents.

“Peters Village Neighbourhood Watch scheme members can also join our WhatsApp group, which is used to send out instant messages about suspicious activity within the community.

All residents are constantly encouraged to report all suspected criminal activity via 101, Crimestoppers or 999.”

---

## THE HENRY PETERS CHARITY

This charity was set up by Henry Peters in his will around 1912 to be distributed to the sick and poor of Wouldham by the Parish Council. The trustees have agreed that the payments could be used to fund residents getting to and from the doctors’ surgery or hospital.

To apply please contact the Council clerk on 01634 864319 or [clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk).



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## JUNE in your Garden

*'Far up in the deep blue sky, great white clouds are floating by.  
All the world is dressed in green, & many happy birds are seen.  
Roses bright & sunshine clear, show that lovely June is here.'*

Before we know it mid-summer is upon us, with the longest day just a few weeks away. We have had some lovely weather, which hopefully means everyone has had time to enjoy their gardens & make them into a relaxing and enjoyable space in which to spend some time.

By now gardens are in full flow, with Roses, Lilies, Osteos & many other shrubs and perennials giving colourful displays. Lawns and hedges are both growing, with lawns now in a routine of regular cuts, and hedges able to be cut as nesting birds should have fledged by now. Its so enjoyable seeing additional birds and wildlife enjoying the garden, & encouraging a range of wildlife into your green space will create a wide bio-diversity within your garden which will mean that pest management is managed in a more natural way. Introducing a pond, even just a small pot of water, will increase the range of wildlife visiting your garden too.

If you have ventured into Growing you Own opportunities and created a growing patch in your garden, by now there should be salad leaves, peas and radish ready for harvest. Continue to sow crops like these as they are ready to harvest quickly. Remember its also possible to include edibles into your garden beds too, with salads coming in a range of colours, & beans and peas able to add height. It's not too late to sow beans or courgettes now for a late harvest, particularly if you have a warm spot for getting the seeds going. Now that garden centres have reopened it is possible to get either seeds or young plants if you prefer. Tomato, Chilli and Pepper plants sown earlier in the year should now be potted into their final growing spot, whether thats in large tubs or grow bags. Remember to plant tomatoes deeply, up to their first leaves, as they will put on extra roots below this point which all help the plant to take up food & water making strong, healthy & productive plants. Pinch out any side shoots (between the main stem and side branches) as soon as they appear. Feeding all vegetable plants through the summer, as well as keeping them well watered will encourage healthy crops further down the line. This is particularly important if you are growing your fruit & veg in pots as in the warm weather they dry out even quicker. Current bushes and berries will also be producing their crops now, be vigilant with these as hungry birds can make an easy feast of currents, blueberries and strawberries that are just coming to their peak of ripeness, so cover your plants with some close-knit mesh, old net curtains, or fleece (make sure its also secure at the bottom so they can't get in that way, or get trapped inside).

Other things to be doing in the garden now:

Neaten up hedges now, and make sure to feed and water them after having done so to help them recover & ‘green-up’ again quickly.

Keep dead-heading faded flowers from any annuals or perennials to encourage the plants to continue to flower. Simply pinch or cut the flower head off, taking it back to the nearest pair of leaves.

Fill pots & baskets with annuals such as Pelargonium, Begonia, Petunias, Lobelia etc. to create summer displays and to add additional colour where required. These can also be planted directly into beds and borders, or the pots placed in spaces in the borders too.

When watering pots or baskets (or the garden), make sure to water the soil not the leaves. Get under the leaves as much as possible to make sure the soil gets wet otherwise water will just evaporate from the leaves and the plant will remain thirsty – its best to water really well a couple of times a week than just giving it a quick go every day. Also ensure that feed is directed to the roots and not the leaves, you can use a general purpose dilutable feed in with your watering, or sprinkle granular feed around the base of plants and in pots, or use slow release pellets which will release nutrients over a longer length of time & reduce the need for regular feeding.

If you haven’t already done so, you can Chelsea Chop some of your perennial plants to encourage later blooms and also a prolonged season of blooms. This can be done on Geranium, Phlox, Echinacea, Rudbeckia and many others.

Prune Plum & Cherry trees between now and September. Aim to remove congested branches now, & then cut back branches once the fruit has been harvested later in the season.

Keep bird baths and feeders topped up as they will be busy feeding their young and teaching them the ways of the outside world.

*Sue Durrani, Secretary, Allotment Association, WOULDHAM  
WOULDHAM allotment plots are available. [Contact Sue: 682363 ]*

## **Paul J. Rowland**

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## **THE BATTLE OF THE MEDWAY AUTUMN AD43**

Last month we saw how the Romans landed at Richborough in 43 AD with 4 Roman legions and many supporting troops. It was a force of about 45,000 men led by the Roman general Plautius and they were opposed by a coalition of British Iron Age tribes lead by the brothers Togodumnus and Caratacus.

The Romans probably advanced from Durovernum (Canterbury) to Durobrivis (Rochester) with their main force north of the ridge line of the North Downs. Along the ridge line there would have been a flank guard force and this was under Roman general, Gnaeus Hosidius who was Geta Plautius' second in command. At sea along the River Thames there would have been the Classis Britannica, the British Waters Roman navy which was mainly a supply force rather than a sea fighting force.

Part of the main force were the Batavian Auxiliaries who were specialist fighters. They were experts at estuarial river fighting as they came from lands around the Schelde; the massive delta of the Rivers Rhine and Meuse which dwarfed the estuary of the Thames and Medway.

The battle line up for the Romans had the II (Augusta) Legion under general Vespasian in the South in the area of what is now Burham, Peters Village, Woudham Area. To their rear and part of the south flank guard was the XX (Valeria) Legion which was part of the force commanded by Gnaeus Hosidius Geta. North in the area of what is now Rochester Cathedral and Borstal was the XIV (Gemina) Legion and behind them in what is now Great Lines was the IX (Hispania) Legion.

The British Tribes had withdrawn across the Medway destroying any bridges that perhaps existed. However we must note that the river today is narrower and deeper than at that time because of 2000 years of drainage and river works narrowing and deepening it.

The wealthiest of the tribesmen were master horsemen and charioteers and in open country they were highly effective with wide swing slashing swordsmanship. The Britons other than the chieftains carried only light-weight shields, swords and spears and, whilst being good warriors, were no match for the tactics of the Legions.

Having safely withdrawn across the Medway, the tribesmen felt safe and according to Roman historians, they were "Carelessly Camped" without adequate guards or lookouts. Caratacus was a good general but this was a bad mistake. Undetected the Batavian Auxiliaries with their war ponies swam the river Medway probably in the area of Upnor and threatened the Britons' line of communication and withdrawal. The British counter attacked quickly with horsemen and charioteers.

However they were surprised and devastated by the Batavian tactics of directing their weaponry at the horses rather than the men thus destroying the mobility of the tribesmen.

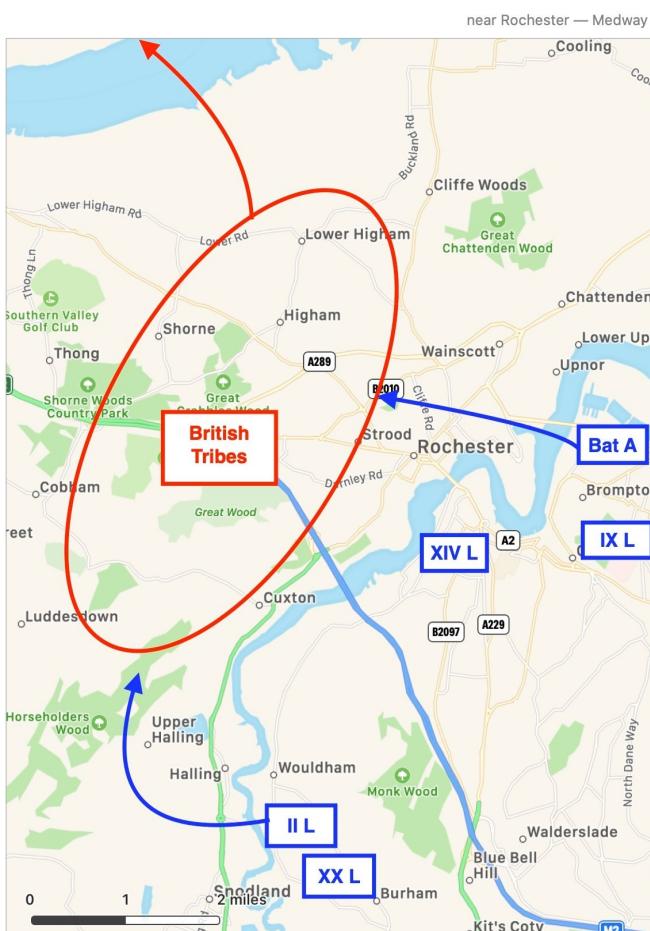
With the British dealing with the Batavians in the north, Vespasian launched the II Augusta Legion across the River. We believe just a little south of what is now Peters Village. The crossing was successful but the Legion made slow progress against the British on the wooded slopes in the area from Holborough to Cuxton. Amazingly the British held the Legion for a whole day and were still in their positions at dawn the following day. Plautius then launched a hammer blow that morning with the Flank Guard under General Gnaeus Hosidius Geta including the XX Valerai Legion forcing its way deep into the British positions. So much so that the Roman General was almost captured in the fierce hand to hand fighting. So effective had this final blow been that Gnaeus Hosidius Geta was awarded

one of Rome's greatest honours of a triumphal procession through Rome.

The battle won, British tribes withdrew to the Thames crossing in the area from Higham Marshes to Tilbury.

Togodumnus had been killed or died of wounds and Caratacus returned to his tribal lands in Essex to prepare for his final encounter with the Roman Army at Colchester.

The Romans did gain a bridgehead over the Thames immediately after the Battle but delayed there until Emperor Claudius arrived from Rome to supervise the final move into southern Britain which we will explore next time.





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Although we have had to postpone our upcoming trips, we have lots of exciting day excursions and holidays planned for when this unforgiving virus passes, and we are able to return to some kind of normality, doing what we love, travelling.

We hope to see you all healthy, very soon, on the other side.

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*Please contact the editor if you can do a bit to help delivering the Magazine to a small area near you.  
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Editor: Mary Davis, Tel. 01634 869650.

e-mail: [zero.mexdavis247@btinternet.com](mailto:zero.mexdavis247@btinternet.com)

*Please note; there are combined July/August & December/January editions.*

#### **A Note From The Editor**

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We welcome your news items and articles.

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The publication of any advertisement does not carry the Church's endorsement.

Placing loose inserts into the Magazine is not permitted.