



Bearsted Parish Council Newsletter

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Remembrance Sunday

The Chairman Cllr Michael Bollom and Cllr Graeme Hannington who is a Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Corps of the Royal Engineers attended the War Memorial at the Church on Remembrance Sunday.

A wreath was laid on behalf of Bearsted Parish Council for all those lost in service.

This was followed by a visit to The Green where a poppy was placed on our Tommy statue.



The Pond

We are pleased to announce the work on our village pond is now complete. The gullies will capture rain water which will be filtered through the installed filtration area. This will see the pond continually maintained at the correct level. Excess water will flow away via the overflow drain. We kindly ask visitors to keep two metres from the ponds edge to allow the ground to rejuvenate.



Community Payback

The Community Payback team have been carrying out much needed gardening work for Holy Cross Church over the last 5 weeks and the difference in the appearance of the hedges, trees and general tidying up has been amazing. They have amassed several trailer loads of hedging, large shrubs, ivy and general weeds, which means that the maintenance team can concentrate on other jobs within the burial area and beyond. The Churchyard Maintenance Team at Holy Cross would like to thank everyone involved and they are delighted with the results so far.

Compassionate Community Award

Bearsted Parish Council would like to congratulate local resident Jess Howells who was recognised at the Maidstone Borough Council Compassionate Community Awards. Jess has worked so hard to support local families and has won a well-deserved award for Compassionate Neighbour/Volunteer. Well done Jess! Thank you from Bearsted Parish Council.

Public Consultation on the Maidstone Local Plan Review

Maidstone Borough Council is currently reviewing its Local Plan. The Review will show where new development, particularly new housing, will be sited throughout the Borough between 2022 and 2037.

There has already been extensive coverage and speculation in the local press about what the Review may contain. Full details will be revealed in a Draft Plan document that will be subject to public consultation between Tuesday 1st and Tuesday 22nd December. Many organisations will be consulted directly; there will be much information on the MBC website; and there is bound to be extensive local press coverage.

Bearsted residents are strongly advised to send their comments on the Review to MBC within the stated deadline of 22nd December.

Christmas Gift Initiative

Together with Bearsted and Downswood Angels, BPC would like your help spreading Christmas cheer this year. Over the last six months the Angels have done a fantastic job setting up a free community shop and helping families through this difficult time with food deliveries.

As Christmas approaches, the Parish Council and Angels would like to extend the scheme with a new initiative: **GIVE A GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS.**

The Cavendish coffee shop will be staying open during lockdown for takeaways and are providing us with a big space to fill with PRESSIES. We are asking for Christmas presents for : Children aged 1-16, Adult male, Adult female. Our aim is to provide families who are struggling with some beautiful Christmas presents and also (if we have enough) share Christmas presents with the elderly within care homes in our community.

How it works.....

Buy a gift...

Leave unwrapped....

Drop it into The Cavendish between 10am - 2pm Tuesday - Saturday

It's that simple! So alongside your regular food and essential contributions to the shop, please add a present if you can. No spending limit, so even some stocking fillers would be amazing.



Church Lane Car Park

The Church Lane car park has limited space and it has been noted that care is not always taken by drivers parking here. We kindly ask residents to try and use the space wisely to allow as many cars to use this area as possible, especially at busy times.

Parking Wardens

Please be aware that Maidstone Borough Council have included Bearsted in more regular visits from Parking Wardens. Some cars have been found illegally parked on double yellow lines, in residents bays without permits or overstaying the allotted time. It has also been noted that some of the new double yellow lines are being ignored. Please can we ask for all visitors to park responsibly in the spaces provided and adhere to the time limits permitted.