



LANGLEY PARISH NEWS

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Letter from David Burton Chairman of the Parish Council

Dear Residents,

I took the opportunity to drop in at one of the Rural Farmers' Markets last month and I just wanted to say how pleasantly surprised I was to see the variety of produce on offer. Did you know that you can buy fresh fruit, vegetables, free range eggs, sausages, cheese, flowers, bread, cakes and pastries, home made jam all amongst hand made cards, jewellery and craft items? However, after talking to the stall holders it is apparent that the market could be better attended and I would urge you to make use of this community activity. Please refer to Cllr Taylor-Maggio's news item below for more information



Rural Farmers' Markets Diary Dates

By popular demand we now have Winter dates for our Rural Farmers' Markets which are fast becoming a focal point of village life. The Markets are held on the first and third Wednesday's of the month from 10am until 1pm. Tea, coffee and locally-made pastries are available, so why not bring a friend, have a cuppa and do some shopping?

As the weather has turned cold and wet, we have now moved most of the stalls inside the hall, including Headcorn bakery selling freshly baked bread and some amazing cakes. Hot favourites include Gypsy Tart, a delicious Kentish treat for all the family, not to be missed! Homemade jam, marmalade, pickles and plants from St. Mary's Church stall (great quality, unbeatable prices) are quickly snapped up by devotees, as are the knitwear, embroidered linens, cuddly toys, delicious scones, flapjacks and fruit cakes for sale on the Hospice Stall.

Cheese buffs come from far afield to sample the mouth-watering hand-made products of The Traditional Cheese Dairy. All the award-winning cheeses are made from unpasteurised cow, ewes and goats milk. Free-range eggs are also available – at very reasonable prices! There's a huge following for the famous pork sausages from East Sutton Park Farm – my family are nuts about their pork and hops sausages, but you can choose from pure pork to Caribbean spiced! Not to mention the meaty spare ribs, which recently tickled the fancy of our Parish Clerk, Nicola Dawkins !!

Our most popular stallholder, farmer Dan Williams, with his fantastic, crispy-fresh fruit and veg stall, braves the elements in the Village Hall Car Park. Dan grows all his own seasonal produce on his sizeable acreage – a huge range from three kinds of broccoli to four varieties of squash, soft fruit, simply the best carrots and some beautiful flowers – as supplied to Waitrose. We also have our own plant lady, who dispenses free horticultural advice! Kentish crafts are gaining in popularity; there's a lady selling handmade cards and another selling costume jewellery. We even have a lady selling her services – house cleaning and dog walking – whatever did you think I meant!

Have you thought about joining them and get crafting? The December markets on 2nd and 16th will have a Christmas theme and the market will be offering shoppers free mulled wine – so you could make a profit! We also serve refreshments – offering a place to catch up with friends and enjoy a coffee with a locally made cake or biscuit. At the same time, we welcome local farmers who would like to join us to sell their wares. So, if your product is made within a 20-mile radius of Langley, of good quality and value for money, we would like to hear from you. We want to offer real food for local people, thereby reducing food miles and supporting the local economy.

Our aim is to nurture a sustainable local food network that brings consumers and producers together, so everyone profits - including the environment! At the same time, we want to promote Kentish crafts and support local artists, who are welcome to use the opportunity to display their works or skills.

Obviously the market has to cover its costs, but I must stress, this is a 'not-for-profit' enterprise, run by volunteers. All we ask is a modest fee of £2 per table top from villagers; £5 from commercial producers and stallholders. So, it's even cheaper than a boot sale – and a lot more fun! Please help spread the word about Langley's Rural Farmers' Market – provided we all use it, we won't lose it!

If you're interested in joining us, please call the Clerk on 01622 842461. Stalls/table tops will be allocated on a first come first served basis.



Village Hall Management Committee News

Contacts: Pat Sayers, Chair 862557
 Clare Hampson, Secretary 862894
 David Bennett, Treasurer/Booking Officer
 861223

Langley Village Fete Monday 31st August 2009

The weather was really great, with lots of happy smiling folk attending. The fete started at 1pm in the arena with sea cadets marching, followed by ballet dancers, Morris dancers, fun football, Children's and Adults races and finally the tug-of-war. There were many stalls which included a Tombola, home-made sweets, coconut shy, splat-the-rat, books, toys, soak-the-bloke, raffle, children's crafts, cakes, etc. and a family fun fair. The amount raised after all expenses was **£2,735.00** a big thanks to all those who supported the day.

Heart of Kent Hospice

With the Weald School of Dance on their half-term break, Norma and David Bennett took advantage of the empty Village Hall to hold a grand sale and coffee morning on Saturday 31st October in aid of the Heart of Kent Hospice. The event was very well supported despite the damp weather and the road closures. There was a variety of stalls including toys, linen, cakes, books, jigsaws, bric-a-brac, Christmas items, together with two tombolas and a raffle. A total of £950 was raised for the Hospice, and the support from Langley residents was much appreciated. A particular thank you for those who spent their morning manning the stalls.

Children's Xmas Party – Saturday 19 December

Once again, the Village Hall Management Committee will be holding a Christmas Party for the children of Langley on Saturday 19th December at 2pm. There will be party games, food & refreshments, Father Christmas and Reg-E-Mental all for just **50p** a ticket. Tickets are available from the Village Hall every Wednesday 9 to 12am or phone Pat 862557 or Ray 863417 direct.

DIARY DATES

Rural Farmer's Markets, Wednesday's – 10am – 1pm.
 On the first and third Wednesday in the month.

Saturday 7th November, **Stage 22 Children's Horror Show**

Saturday 5th December, **Quiz Night**

Sunday 13th December, **Carols around the Christmas Tree**

Saturday 19th December, 2 -5 pm, **Children's Christmas Party**

Saturday 23rd January 2010, **Race Night**

Regular Village Hall Clubs and Activities

Monday	Ballet (Children) 4.15pm Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm
Tuesday	Over 60s Club – (alt. Tuesdays) Ballet (Adult) 5pm Belly Dancing 8pm
Wednesday	Rural Market 10am(1 st & 3 rd Wednesday's in the month) Ballet 5.45pm Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm
Thursday	Mother & Toddler 1pm Karate – 6pm Morris Dancing 8pm Youth Bus (alt. Thursdays)
Friday	Mobile Library 12pm Martial Arts 6.30pm
Saturday	Ballet (Children) 9am
Sunday	Football

For further information contact David Bennett



Kent Police – Property Marking Session



PC Steve Older and PCSO Richard Kirby will be at the Village Hall on Wednesday 2nd December from 10am handing out ultra violet pens for you to take home to mark your valuables. They will also bring a portable engraver with them; so bring your bikes and get them engraved at the same time.

Why not take the opportunity to come and talk to the Police for more information on protecting your property? Contact the Parish Clerk for more information.



Friends of St Mary's Church

Can you help?

Are you interested in helping to establish a Friends of St Mary's Church group? Can you spare some time to help manage any of the following:-

- Promote the Church locally as a community space
- Cleaning and opening the Church
- Keeping an eye on the Church's condition
- Organising and managing events
- Raising money for conservation projects and to improve user facilities
- Hosting school visits and running education workshops and projects
- Giving guided tours
- Carrying out research for a guidebook

You do not need to be a regular worshipper to be involved, just a keen interest in the Church as a historic building is the only requirement!

Contact Bruce Rylands on xxxxxx for more information or e/mail him at bruce.rylands777@btinternet.com

He looks forward to hearing from you ☺

Help the Aged – Handy Van

Enabling older people to feel safe in their own homes

HandyVan provides and fits a range of safety and security products in clients' homes. It is primarily aimed at older people who meet a set of criteria, and no charges are made for labour or the products installed. For anyone falling outside the criteria, chargeable options are available on request. The range of products installed include: smoke alarms, door chains, mortice locks, window locks, door viewers, minor repairs and DIY jobs, hand and grabrails. For information on HandyVan call 0845 026 1055 or e/mail handyvan@helptheaged.org.uk



New Equipment at the

Playing Field?



The Parish Council are considering adding new items of play equipment for all ages to use at the Playing Field, but they need to know if it's what you want.

A lot of damage is caused to the Village Hall from rogue footballs landing on the roof. Not only does this cause damage to the drain pipes and guttering where youths are retrieving their ball it is also an extremely dangerous practice. The Parish Council are considering placing a football goal wall somewhere on the Playing Field but need help to choose and locate the right piece of equipment. Can you help?

Also, the Parish Council have plans to locate four to five items of exercise equipment at the Playing Field but again need your feedback.

If you would like to see the plans and pictures and provide your feedback, please contact the Clerk on 842461 or e mail parishclerk@hngby.kent.org.uk

Welcome- New Parish Councillor

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Cllr Cheryl Taylor-Maggio who was co-opted to the position of Parish Councillor at our September meeting. Cheryl has already spent a lot of time and effort on the Parish Plan and has helped to establish the Rural Farmers' Markets.

Chairman, D Burton

Freighter Visits

Saturday 28th November

11.30 – 12.15 – Shepherds Way

12.30 – 13.00 – Grasslands Cul-de-Sac

Fault Reporting

Maidstone Borough Council

Fly-tipping, Abandoned Vehicles, Dog Fouling, Street Cleaning – 01622 602162 or via their website www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk

Kent County Council

Potholes, street lights, blocked drains, vegetation and other road issues 08458 247800 or via their website

www.kent.gov.uk

Community Services

Green Garden Sacks – now available from the monthly Parish Clinics - £2.50 a roll.

Newsletter Reader Service – call the Parish Clerk for assistance.

This Newsletter is available in large print if required – contact the Parish Clerk

Copies of Meeting Minutes are available to view from the Parish Clerk or they can be viewed on the parish website as follows:

www.langley-kent.org.uk

Police contacts:

PC Steve Older – 07870 252350

PCSO Richard Kirby – 07972 004406



01622 604392

General:

Citizens Advice Bureau – 01622 752420

Trading Standards – 08454 040506

Fire Safety – 01622 774126

Maidstone Housing Trust – 0800 9232700

Kent Crime Stoppers – 0800 555 111

Contacts

Nicola Dawkins, Parish Clerk

10 Warmlake Cottage, Chartway Street,
Sutton Valence, Maidstone, Kent ME17 3JA

or e/mail parishclerk@langley-kent.org.uk



[kent.org.uk](http://www.kent.org.uk)

01622 842461

Parish Councillors:

David Burton, Chairman	01622 862595
Ray Cuthbert, Councillor	01622 863417
Tony Haylor, Councillor	01622 861189
Sue Knowles, Vice Chair	01622 861618
Janet Palmese, Councillor	01622 842305
Hans Reichert, Councillor	hans@hdr-online.com
Cheryl Taylor-Maggio	01622 862962
John Tucker, Councillor	01622 861356

Borough Councillor

Paulina Stockell 01622 842508
paulinastockell@maidstone.gov.uk

County Councillor

Eric Hotson 01580 892312
erichotson@maidstone.gov.uk

Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council meet on the **third** Tuesday of every month (except August) at 7.30pm, Langley Village Hall. Interim meetings are held should any planning applications arise which, due to MBC timescales, cannot be held over to the following meeting. The agenda will be displayed on the Parish notice boards and the website and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Parish Clinics for the Residents

The Clerk is available on the first Wednesday of every month from 9.30 to 11.30am in the Committee Room at the Village Hall. Free tea and coffee available. Come and speak to your Clerk to raise any concerns, ideas, projects or suggestions you may have. You can now purchase the MBC green garden sacks at these clinics. PC Steve Older plans to attend the 2nd December clinic.