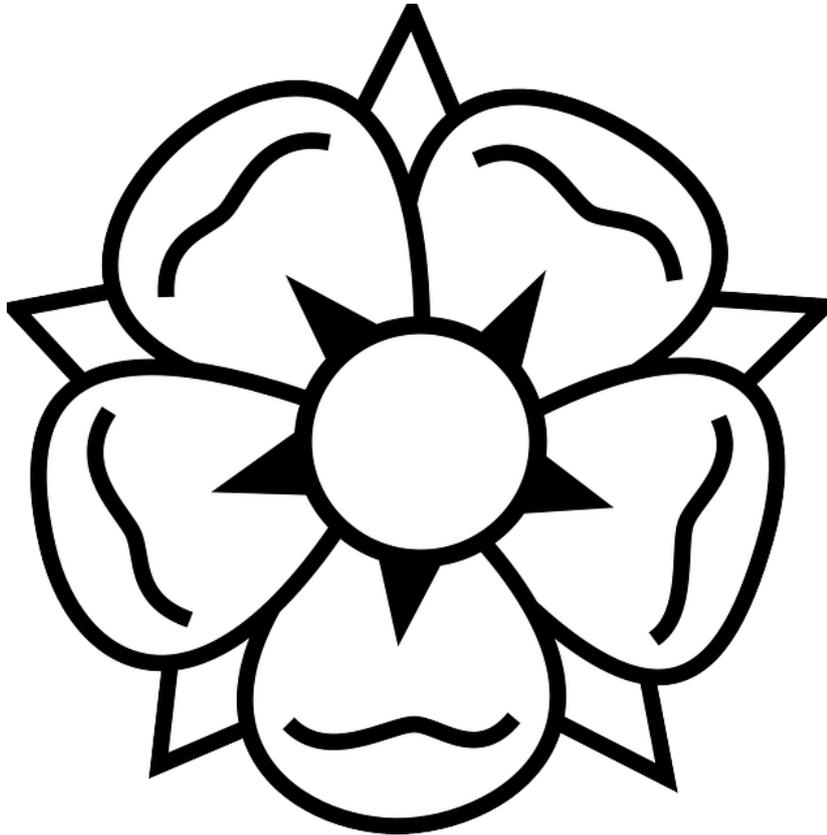


# APPLEDORE PARISH MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2021



*“They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We shall remember them.”*

**VILLAGE DIARY**  
**NOVEMBER 2021**

Redevelopment of the Village Hall continues.

All editorial matter for publication in the **DECEMBER/JANUARY** magazine should be sent to: The Editor, Oak House, 74 The Street, Appledore, TN26 2AE, tel. no 01233 758249, email: appledoremagazine@hotmail.com, **NOT LATER THAN THE TWENTIETH OF NOVEMBER.** Please provide copy to our email address, preferably as a Word file attachment.

The Appledore Parish Magazine is produced, printed, collated and delivered by a number of villagers who kindly volunteer to take on these tasks. It is delivered free to every household in the village. This is unusual; the majority of village magazines carry a cover price of 30p or so. It is supported financially by advertisers and by one or two organisations, such as the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council, which contribute towards the space that they regularly occupy. But it could not continue to exist without donations from private householders who, over the years and on a regular basis, have given us money to keep going. Donations should be sent to: The Editor, Oak House, 74 The Street, Appledore, TN26 2AE. Cheques should be made payable to Appledore Parish Magazine.

**Advertising:      Brian Knight 01233 758319**  
**email: ThrKng@aol.com**

**A year's advertising (11 magazines) is £25 per 1/6th page. The magazine is delivered to 400 houses and is available to visitors via the Village Shop and church.**

***Thank you for all the kind donations towards our new printer even in such difficult times.***

Dear Appledore,

At the time of writing, my scarecrow is lying prostrate on my living room floor, almost ready to go outside tomorrow. I am so looking forward to seeing all the scarecrows in our first Appledore Scarecrow Festival. Well done to Linda Hiskey for her great idea!

This month we have notice of the Over 60s Christmas lunch on page 17 – get your order in early! There is also a wonderful photograph of the Village Hall refurbishment on page 15. It will be splendid when it is completed.

I am always conscious that the Parish Magazine doesn't really have much for the children of Appledore, and although I have tried to include puzzles, stories, and figures to colour in in the past, it was really the fabulous photograph on our cover of Elodie Mitchell and her glorious sunflower last month that gave me the idea of a competition for the bumper December/January edition of the magazine front cover. This competition is open to all the children of Appledore and there will be a prize for the winner as well as having your design going to over 400 homes in our area! All the details are on page 21. I hope many children submit a cover design. Good luck!

**Maureen**

## CONTENTS

Cover	
Village Diary	2
Editorial & Contents	3
Village Show results	3
Who to Ask	4-5
Church Services	6
Letter from B. Fazzani	7-8
November Church rota	8
Flower rota	9
Produce in the porch	9
Please collect	9
Grapevine	10
Secretarial position	11
Vets' Football	11
Appledore History Society	12
Dippy Dora	13
Parish Council update	14
Village Hall update	15
Brodie	16
Over 60s Xmas Lunch	17
Disappearing Birds	18
Parish Councillors	19
Appledore Sketchbook	20
Front cover competition	21
Adverts	

**WHO TO ASK**

<b>APPLEDORE ALLOTMENT CHARITY</b>		
Clerk to the Trustees	Mrs Mary Shaw, The Homestead	01233 758298
<b>APPLEDORE PARISH CHURCH</b>		
Revd. Can.: Lindsay Hammond		01580 761591
Secretary	Philippa Perkins, email: philippaperkins.appledorepcc.co.uk	
Reader	Mrs Alison Gilbert	01797 280243
Churchwardens	Mrs Frances Smith	01233 758201
	Mr Chris Self	01233 758078
Bells: Captain	Mr F. Wenham, Lindon Stone	01233 758362
Secretary	Denise Stephens, Nonsuch Cottage	01233 758952
Steeple Keeper	Mr Aston Calladine	01233 758105
Flowers/Brass	Mrs J. Clifton, Priory Lands	01233 758285
Music	tba	
Refreshments	Mrs D. Clifton	01233 758256
<b>METHODIST CHURCH</b>		
Secretary	Revd Tricia Fogden	01233 758250
	Mrs B. Fazzani, Oakhouse Farm	01233 758322
<b>APPLEDORE &amp; DISTRICT RIDING ASSOCIATION</b>		
Chair	Mrs Sue Hutcheson	07795 957488
<b>APPLEDORE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SERVICE</b>		
Free transport for housebound villagers		01233 758478
<b>APPLEDORE VILLAGE STORES</b>		
	51/53 The Street	01233 758320
<b>ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR</b>		
	Mr Michael Burgess	01233 628387
<b>ASHFORD BOROUGH CITIZENS ADVICE</b> email: ashfordadvice@gmail.com		
<b>ART CLUB</b>		
	Denise Stephens, email: georginajack@icloud.com	01233 758952
<b>BRITISH RED CROSS</b>		
Tenterden & Cranbrook	For general enquiries	01580 763359
	For medical loans specifically	01233 620356
<b>CARM:</b>		
	Helen Mattock	01233 758122
<b>CHILD HEALTH CLINIC</b>		
	Hamstreet: Wednesday 10.30 – 12.00	
	Appledore: Friday 10.00 – 12.00	
<b>COMMUNITY RURAL WARDEN</b>		
	Joanna Vos, email: joanna.vos@kent.gov.uk	07980 770578
<b>CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU</b>		
	Town Hall, Tenterden	01580 762371
	Monday 10.00-16.00, Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 10.00 -13.00	
<b>DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY</b>		
	Ashford	01233 208000
<b>DOCTORS</b>		
	Appledore/Hamstreet	01233 730190
	Tenterden – Surgery	01580 763666
	Woodchurch	01233 860236
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>		
	Failure of supply UK Power Networks	105
<b>APPLEDORE FOOTBALL CLUB</b>		
	Seniors: Kenny Beale	07899 030276
	Juniors: Richard Baker	07403075961
	Veterans: Paul Shilling	07487728191
<b>FRIENDS OF APPLEDORE CHURCH</b>		
Chair	Mrs F Smith , email: fmks33@gmail.com	
Vice-Chair	Miss A Hill, Church House	01233 758203
<b>FRIENDS OF APPLEDORE STATION</b>		
	Chair: T W D Blaney	01233 758628
	The Wish House, Kenardington Road, Appledore TN26 2BS	07710 637962

APPLEDORE GARDENERS' SOCIETY			
Chair	Paul Ripley, 2 Station Villas		01233 758410
Secretary	Tessa Knight, Heathland House, Woodchurch Rd		01233 758319
HOSPITALS			
	Buckland (Dover)		01304 201624
	William Harvey (Ashford)		01233 633331
	Kent and Canterbury (Canterbury)		01227 766877
	Benenden		01580 240333
	West View (Tenterden)		01580 261500
KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR			
	Mike Hill		01580 766075
	email: Michael.hill@kent.gov.uk		
KENTISH EXPRESS			
Correspondent	Ruth Smith		01233 758564
	email: ruthasmith@sky.com		
APPLEDORE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY			
	Chair: Brian Knight		01233 758319
	Sec.: Jo Killick, email: secalhs@gmail.com		
MEETING POINT			
	Mrs V Beale, 9 Elmtree		01233 758548
PARISH COUNCIL			
	James Perkins, Cradlebridge, Moor Lane, Appledore, Kent, TN26 2BH		
	email: apc.mphilo@gmail.com		01233 758107
PARISH MAGAZINE			
Accounts & Advertising	Editor: Maureen Catt, Oak House, 74 The Street		01233 758249
	Mr B Knight, Heathland House		01233 758319
POLICE			
Enquiries	Emergencies		999
	Non-Emergencies		101
PCSO:			
	Katherine Richards, email: katherine.richards@kent.pnn.police.uk		
RECREATION GROUND BOOKINGS			
			07770 947067
REFUSE COLLECTION			
	Bulky items, e.g. fridges, cookers etc. collected for £24 fee (for 4 items)		01233 331111
SAMARITANS			
	Ashford		01233 610000
TAXI			
	Tenterden Cars		01580 762444
TENTERDEN & DISTRICT DAY CENTRE			
	Church Road, Tenterden		01580 762882
TENTERDEN COMMUNITY HUB			
	e-mail: tenterdencommunityhub@gmail.com		01580 389941
TRAINS			
	Enquiries		08457 484950
VETS			
	Cinque Ports Veterinary Group	Tenterden	01580 763309
	www.cinqueportsvets.co.uk	Rye	01797 222265
	Pierson Stewart & Partners	Tenterden	01580 765244
	www.pspvets.co.uk	Cranbrook	01580 713381
VILLAGE HALL			
	Committee Chair	Huw Jenkins	01233 758152
	Bookings	Marilyn Ray	01233 758586
	email: villagehallappledore@gmail.com		
WATER COMPANY			
South East Water	Office Hours		08458 506060
	24 hour emergency service		0333 0000365
WITTERSHAM CEP SCHOOL			
	www.wittersham.kent.sch.uk		01797 270329

**St. Peter and St. Paul, Appledore  
November Services**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

10.30am, Anglican/Methodist service for All Saints

6pm, Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, Stone

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

10.50am, Armistice Day Service

St Peter & St Paul, Appledore

We Shall  
Remember  
Them



**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

10.50am, Remembrance Sunday Service

St Mary the Virgin, Stone

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November**

10.30am, Joint Family Service, Stone

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November**

12md, Methodist Holy Communion, Appledore Chapel

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

10.30am, Holy Communion,

St Peter & St Paul, Appledore

**For further details and for Baptisms, Weddings and Banns or for any  
pastoral concerns which you would like to discuss,**

**please contact**

**The Rev'd Canon Lindsay Hammond**

**01580 761591**

**tentvic@gmail.com**

## Letter from Brenda Fazzani

I was very surprised and honoured to be asked to write 'the church letter' in the Parish Magazine this month. In last month's letter Trish, our newly retired Parish Priest, started off with some vigorous rumour busting followed by lots of encouragement and reassurance about the future of our Parish Church. Not everyone will know that as well as being the vicar of Appledore and Stone, Trish was also the Minister looking after us in Appledore Methodist Church. We will miss her help and guidance and, of course, her bubbly personality!

The Methodist Church in Appledore has a long tradition of joint worship with the Parish Church. A united service is held in the Parish Church on the first Sunday of every month and we also get together to share services over the Christmas period and other special occasions. We will get together for carols in the Methodist Church on the Sunday morning before Christmas and invite you to come and join us. The Methodist Church in Appledore proudly bears the date 1836 on its gabled front elevation and reminds us of previous generations worshipping in our chapel over the last 185 years! When my family and I came to the village in 1987, just in time for the hurricane, there were about 12 people in the congregation but no children other than mine. On that very first day, two lovely ladies offered to start a Sunday School for our children and through the work of these good ladies, the Sunday School grew. Later the Sunday School became a joint venture shared by both churches.

With the first Sunday in advent falling at the end of November this year, we are reminded that Christmas is not far off. The Sunday School children used to perform a Christmas play to a full congregation in the Methodist Church (swelled by the proud parents and grandparents) and even Father Christmas used to drop in with some gifts. When our Sunday School closed, the mid-week toddler group came to the rescue by taking on the roles in the annual nativity play. With the children being so young, this usually resulted in a great deal of hilarity! We can look back on those days in fondness, but today we must face the fact that, in the Methodist Church, we are now down to just four regular worshippers. We cannot remain open as a church with so few, and in reality it is not practical for just four of us to keep the church open. Our Superintendent Minister, who oversees the churches in our circuit, has granted us a temporary reprieve to see if we can inject new life and hope into the future of our church.

Many of you know of and enjoy the Tuesday coffee mornings in our church. The Parish Magazine and Local History Society currently have their home in our building. You may have come to a meeting run by one of Appledore's many societies and you may also have voted in our building once or twice this year! Much as we would dearly like our church to remain available for community purposes, our prime function is to be a place of worship and the only way we can remain open is by succeeding in persuading others to join us.

Our services are currently on a podcast and include prayers, a bible reading, a short talk about the reading, and of course hymns and worship songs. If you are not free to join us on a Sunday morning at 10.30am, perhaps you would like to join our mid-week discussion group which we will re-start after Christmas? This group, known as 'Opendore', is for Christians of any denomination or none and for anyone who just wants to explore what we believe and why.

Best wishes to you all,

Brenda

(secretary to the Church Council of Appledore Methodist Church)

P.S. Christmas will not be cancelled! Look out for the Christmas Services in Appledore this year. The birth of Jesus will be celebrated with great joy in both of Appledore's churches in 2021 whether or not we have been able to buy all the gifts we wanted to or have a Christmas meal with all the usual trimmings!

## November Church Rota 2021

	<u>Service</u>	<u>Sides person</u>	<u>Reader/ prayers</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>
7 <sup>th</sup> November	Family Service	Tom	Tony/ Brenda	Donna
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Armistice	Donna	Keith Fazzani	N/A
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Stone Church	NO	SERVICE IN	APPLEDORE
21 <sup>st</sup> November	All Age Worship Stone Church	N/A	NA/ Chris	N/A
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Advent Sunday	Clive	Jane/ Frances	Tom

## November 2021 Church Flower Rota

	ALTAR	WEST END
Nov. 7 <sup>th</sup>		
(Remembrance)	Fay Steed	Paddy Moseley
Nov. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy Thomas	Helen Downing –Waite
Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Frances Smith	Vicki Sargent

HORNE CHAPEL: Judith Clifton

There will be no flowers in church during the season of Advent which, this year, begins on November 28<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to take your turn, please telephone J.C. on 758285 or text 07840 356681 – and the same numbers if you are unable to break the code for the kitchen / Glory Hole for oasis etc.

### Produce in the Porch

Thanks to everyone who leaves used jam jars and flower pots in the church porch. We gratefully use them all and hope you will please continue to help us in this way. During November and December, in addition to our usual range of preserves and plants, we will have a Christmas gift table with seasonal delights on offer. Don't forget too that there is always a great selection of books for you to take home and enjoy. Our well established cake bake days will continue on alternate Saturdays, the next ones being on November 6<sup>th</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup>. As always, every item (and ingredient) for sale is donated and all proceeds go directly towards the upkeep of our beautiful church.

J.C.

## Please Collect

Following the Flower Festival & Tricia's Retirement Service, we now have quite a collection of china plates, tins & trays in church. If you are missing anything, please collect from the steel catering trolley outside the kitchen door or call Donna on 758256 to arrange a time to look through the cupboard in the kitchen.



# GRAPEVINE

## NOVEMBER 2021

Childhood Memories of A Life in Appledore

### Bonfire Night

Every year the local lads would build a Village bonfire at the top of the Playing Field where the Tennis Courts are now.

The boys would pull a large car trailer round the Village collecting material from residents for the bonfire - newspapers, cardboard, hedge cuttings etc. Many of the small farms around the Village grew runner beans, and the dead bean bine and old beanpoles were ideal.

To build the bonfire the first stage was to create a type of wigwam using any suitable timber that was available, leaving an opening. Inside this wigwam all the paper and cardboard would be placed whilst all the other material collected would be stacked around the outside. When the bonfire was to be lit, a burning torch would be thrown through the opening, to ignite the newspaper so that the bonfire burnt from the inside.

On one occasion the lads were collecting bean bine from a farm. The farmer had said that all that was on the ground could be taken, bean bine and old broken poles, but not the new poles stacked against a shed. Well, the temptation was too great. Sturdy bean poles would be just right for making the wigwam, so some new poles were quickly placed onto the trailer and covered with bean bine.

Back at the Playing Field the trailer was being unloaded when the local policeman came over to the bonfire site. Panic - had the farmer seen the poles being taken? No - the local policeman was just being sociable, but when he saw the new beanpoles he said –

“You’re not going to burn them, are you? - I’ll buy them off you “!!

The result, thanks to the unsuspecting farmer and village policeman - the Villagers got to see some extra fireworks that year!



## POSITION OF SECRETARY, APPLEDORE VILLAGE HALL

### The key responsibilities:

- To support the Chair in ensuring the smooth functioning of the Management Committee.
- Ensuring that Management Committee meetings are prepared, held and recorded in line with the Charity Trust Deed.
- To be an active member of the Management Committee, supporting the hall aims and contributing to meetings.

### Duties and Tasks:

- Preparing and co-ordinating the Management Committee agenda, minutes and officers' reports and circulating in good time prior to the meeting.
- Attending the Management Committee meeting to record the relevant discussion points and minute the actions and to then produce and forward the agreed minutes and any other necessary paperwork to all Committee members.
- Ensure that the Chair signs the minutes once they have been approved and file for retention.
- To retain up-to-date contact details for all Committee members.

### Time commitment:

Around 6-8 hours a month.

### How to apply:

If you are interested in this role and would like to apply or would like more information, please contact Huw Jenkins. [Huwjenkins55@gmail.com](mailto:Huwjenkins55@gmail.com).

Here is just a snippet from our Veterans Opening Day!

The newly formed Appledore Old Boys got off to a flying start in their first ever veterans game as they beat Burton Grove 3-1 at home on Saturday 9th October.

A large number of families turned up to watch "Dads' Army" put in a solid performance as goals from Billy Rice, Richard Baker, and Paul Paddock secured a great first win for the Smugglers.

Ex-Manager Paul Shilling must have been delighted with what he saw, as this was the first time the team had played together.

Next up is Medway at home on October 23rd - 2.15 kick off. Then away trips in November to Whitstable Town and Teynham.

Thanks to all old Appledore players and managers returning to their roots, and big thanks to Linda for organising food and drinks.

James Kelly



# Appledore Local History Society

## Poppies Added to Graves of Soldiers



This month poppies have been added or have been repainted for the graves of those who either died in service or who served and survived war but passed later on. Either way we believe our soldiers deserve recognition and remembrance.

People in the USA thank anyone who has served for their country in war with 'thank you for your service'. The poppies added by us now are important to convey a similar message here in the UK.

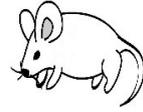
We hope that we have covered all graves within the Appledore graveyards (closed - around the church, and new - at Old Way). However, if you know of anyone who served and who we may have missed, please do tell us and we will make sure that they are highlighted in a similar way next year.

The war memorial in the Methodist Chapel shows us those who served and survived as well as those who fell in WW1. We also have the war memorial within the church showing those who fell in both WW1 and WW2.

This year Appledore Local History Society will lay a wreath of remembrance once again at the Beacon on Mill Hill, where the Beacon carrying plaques for all those who fell in WW1 and WW2 from Appledore (according to our records) was erected in 2018 as part of the Battle's Over UK wide event to mark 100 years since the official end of WW1.

## THE MOUSE

By Dippy Dora



I can hear the sound of nibbling in the house  
It's probably my friendly little mouse  
He's company you see  
When I have my cuppa tea  
And finishes the crumbs, so I don't grouse

Behind the skirting board's his home  
So he doesn't have so very far to roam  
There's food, so tasty, quite nearby  
So his little cupboard's got a good supply

His beady little eyes don't miss a trick  
His little legs are very, very quick  
As he dashes out to seize a luscious bit  
And back again to have a chew at it

I prefer him not to leave his 'card'  
Unfortunately that is really rather hard  
His anatomy is made to tease your nose  
And his 'scent' is everywhere he goes

Regrettably he may have to move along  
And with him take his little 'pong'  
There are some lovely woodland houses  
Just right for little mice

So off you go – but mind that nasty trap – Oops !!



## **Parish Council Update November 2021** (<https://www.appledorekent.org> )

### **Highways and By-Ways**

Councillors continue to report highways issues but residents can also make reports on <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem> or ring 0300 41 91 91.

The council is waiting for the results of the traffic survey between the Recreation Ground and the Village Hall. The next step is to survey footfall in the area. In the meantime, Friends of Appledore Footpaths has been surveying all the footpaths in the area, noting any works required. They are working alongside the Footpath Warden. The group is now waiting to hear back from Kent Public Rights of Way about which repairs or improvements they can action. The Parish Council would like to reiterate its thanks to the group for taking this on. Residents can report footpath issues on <https://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-on-a-right-of-way>. These links can also be found on the home page of the Council website.

### **Heathside Parking**

The parish council is working with the various borough departments on this issue but is yet to hear back on the option to use some of the open landscape frontage for roadside parking. It may be some time before anymore is heard about building 4 affordable one-bedroom flats in the open area near the young people's shelter.

### **Parish Council Finances**

The majority (95%) of next financial year's funding will come from the Parish Council's share of residents' council tax bills. At the last meeting, a first review of expenditure for 2022/2023 year revealed that the Council should be able to cover the regular expenditure from council tax, however it could be tight. Any over-spend would have to come out of Council reserves which are now at a much-reduced level to 7 years ago. Due to yet another delay, this time by the archaeological officer, the window to start, this year, work on the houses for the ex-Council field, has passed. This in turn delays the Parish Council receiving rental income from the council owned affordable house to be built there. There may have to be an increase in the Parish's share of council tax in the interim period for just a short while.

### **Next Council Meeting - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm, at St. Peter and St. Paul**

The Council politely requests that all who attend continue to wear facemasks unless they are speaking. Sanitiser will still be available for those who wish and please show consideration for others who may wish to have some space.



## Village Hall Extension and Refurbishment

Work on the project is progressing well. The windows and doors have been delivered and are being installed.

### Main Hall

The walls and ceilings have been decorated and the scaffold removed.

### Small Hall

The walls and ceilings have been decorated. Storage cupboards are being built.

### Loft conversion

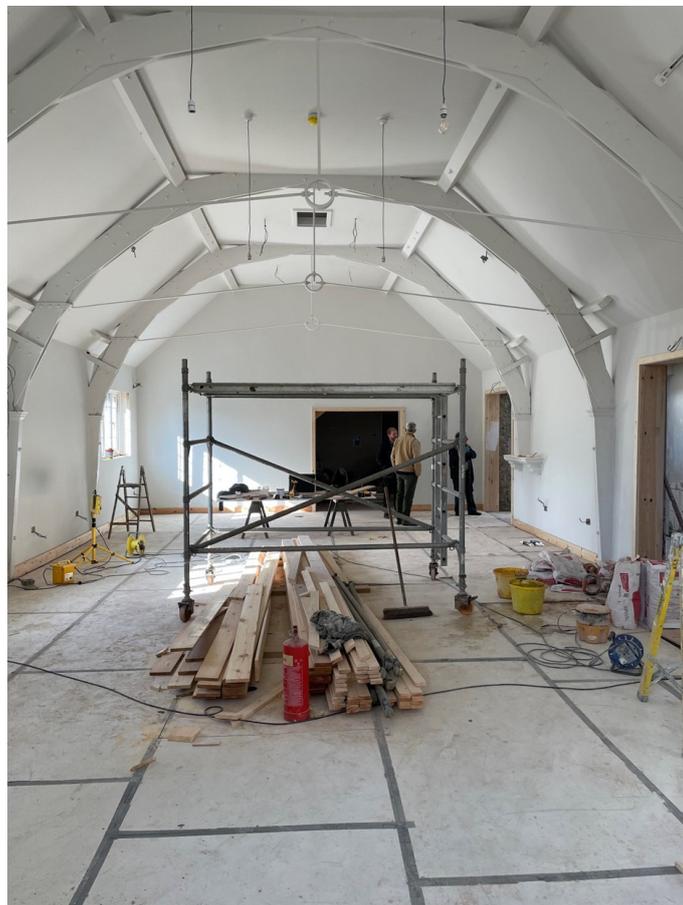
Building and decorating is complete, doors to be fitted to storage areas.

### Exterior

The position of the new steps to the front entrance has been changed to avoid damaging the roots of the adjacent oak tree.

### Next steps

The kitchen and toilet areas will be tiled, the exterior of the building rendered and painted and the timber cladding added to the side and rear extensions of the building.



## BRODIE

As winter draws closer and the mornings and evenings are getting colder, after a long walk I am happy to snuggle up in front of the fire.

It's disappointing that we haven't managed another visit to the beach recently. Something to do with not being able to use the car. But we have had lots of lovely walks across the fields and by the canal. When there is a flock of sheep in the field, I have to go on my lead and can't play with my ball. Talking of which, I am slightly out of favour as we do seem to be losing rather a lot. It's not that I don't keep an eye open for where the ball will land but, sometimes, they seem to land out of reach in a deep ditch or in the canal and on one occasion one sailed out of sight far across the field. When I got there, it had disappeared. "Fetch!" she kept shouting at me, and I was searching everywhere but no luck. On another occasion when she threw the ball, it landed in the middle of a flooded field. So, in I went straight after it, grabbed the ball and swam back to dry ground. She sounded a bit anxious so I raced back and gave her a good shake of my coat as I was completely soaked in muddy water. I thought she would be pleased I brought the ball back but sometimes I think I don't get it quite right! Then recently it landed in a deep ditch, so down I went into the ditch which turned out to be a lot deeper than I first thought. Down and down I went searching for the ball all the while I can hear her shouting, "Brodie come out at once!" It was a bit of a struggle climbing out backwards minus the ball again! In total we have lost five balls recently which sounds rather a lot - I suppose it is - lost five, found two.

Until next time then, meanwhile I'm on best behaviour, (trying anyway).

Much love,

Brodie x



OVER 60s

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2021

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11th

Our three-course Traditional Christmas Lunch for the over 60's will be a takeaway again this year (vegetarian option available on request). The meal will be cooked and delivered to you ready to pop in the microwave or the oven.

To book your meal contact

**Marilyn Ray on 758 586 - 07796266085**

before **December 1st.**

Unfortunately no bookings will be accepted after this date so book early to secure your meal.



## Where have all the birds gone?

I have just returned from a visit to dear old friends who live in the depths of the country in Devon. ‘How lovely,’ you might say. Certainly, it was lovely to see those glorious, wooded hills and deep valleys, and to experience the peace of an area with almost no noisy vehicles. But after a while the peace became ominous. It was silent, totally, morning to evening. You see, there was no birdcall. Nothing, not even the irritating repetition of wood pigeons, or the cawing of rooks. In other words, there were no birds. I did once see a seagull, and counted two wagtails and one blackbird, and that was all. Not only were there no birds, but my friends’ pond showed no sign of life because it was totally dead.

So why were there no signs of wildlife? My friends explained that almost all the farming in Devon was arable, and indeed I saw very, very few fields full of grazing cows or sheep. If there were no animals in the fields, then there were no animal droppings, and to live, many insects need animal droppings, and if there are no insects, birds have nothing to feed on. The farmers were growing crops to feed us, and to grow the maximum possible crops they were using herbicides and pesticides, so the insects and the wild plants, on which many wild creatures breed and feed, were killed off by the chemicals. So, there were very few hares, rabbits, mice and voles, and if they weren’t there, what would the foxes hunt? The ponds in my friends’ land were also dead, because of the runoff of chemicals from the fields higher uphill. So again, there were no insects or fish, both of which are necessary for some bird species. This is the dying world which is being created by our fellow farmers in this beautiful county, and it is a world about which we have been warned time and again since the middle of the last century. How many people remember Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring*? It is here now, in Devon, and in many other counties too, I daresay. Also, because of the lack of pollinators, my friends have to pollinate their beans by hand.

I have to say that discovering this dead environment was a tremendous shock, and what joy it was to hear a robin greeting me as I arrived home, and to hear many woodpigeons and jackdaws, and watch the great tits and nuthatch and woodpecker on my bird feeder. Yes, we are so fortunate in Appledore to experience all of this, mainly because the chief farming practice here is pastoral with sheep. But how long will it be until we too live in a dead, silent countryside? Already the numbers of many bird species are declining rapidly around here. When did you last see a siskin, or hear a chiffchaff? When did you last see a flock of lapwing swirling over the marshes? This is a dying world, and it’s our fault, because we want cheap food, and weeding is a job no longer done by hand, and losing some of your crop to insects or slugs is so easily solved with insecticides. Perhaps you don’t care about the lack of birds, but you may feel differently when you can’t have beans or sweetcorn, and pretty flowers cost you a fortune.

I, for one, am shocked by what I didn’t see or hear in that dead countryside.

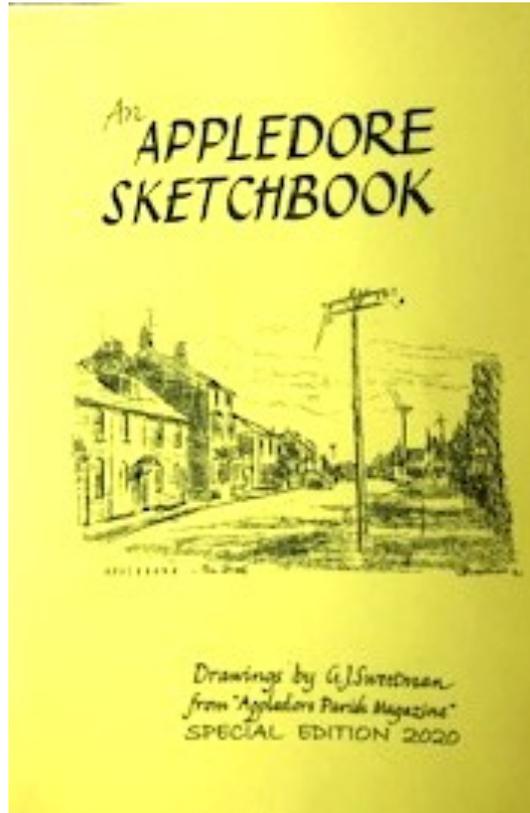
Heather Parker

## Parish Councillor Contact Details

James Perkins (Chair)	01233 758107, mobile 07789 916132 email <a href="mailto:apc.jperkins@gmail.com">apc.jperkins@gmail.com</a>
Roger Hiskey (Vice-Chair)	01233 758097, mobile 07816 672919 email <a href="mailto:apc.rhiskey@gmail.com">apc.rhiskey@gmail.com</a>
Charles Wilkinson	01233 758316, mobile 07562 302809 email <a href="mailto:apc.cwilkinson@gmail.com">apc.cwilkinson@gmail.com</a>
Helen Hennig	01233 758436, mobile 07759 006324 email <a href="mailto:apc.hhennig@gmail.com">apc.hhennig@gmail.com</a>
Gary Kinsley	07565 504629 email <a href="mailto:apc.gkinsley@gmail.com">apc.gkinsley@gmail.com</a> Contact by messaging welcome
Derek Winter	01233 758570 email <a href="mailto:apc.dwinter@gmail.com">apc.dwinter@gmail.com</a>
Chris Vane	07816 672919 email <a href="mailto:apc.cvane@gmail.com">apc.cvane@gmail.com</a>
Parish Clerk – Mary Philo	01797 270790 email <a href="mailto:apc.mphilo@gmail.com">apc.mphilo@gmail.com</a>

Website [www.appledorekent.org.uk](http://www.appledorekent.org.uk)

# FOR SALE!



As part of our 60th birthday celebrations we have put together a sketchbook of Appledore. These are drawings done in the 1960s by the first Editor of the Parish Magazine, Mr Sweetman. It is a fascinating glimpse into the history of Appledore and what the village looked like then. Mr Sweetman travelled all around the village sketching what he saw. Many of you will recognise your homes as they looked then. You might also see what the land looked like before your house was built!

Some of the individual buildings named include: the Methodist Chapel; the Forstal; Horne's Place Chapel; Oxney House; Swan House; the cottages on Court Lodge Road; the primary school; Victoria Terrace and Griffin Cottages; Hawthorn Cottages; many views of the Church - inside and out - as well as country views along the Military Canal and Gusbourne.

If you would like to purchase a copy - the cost is £5 - please contact either the Editor on 01233 758249 or Brian Knight on 01233 758319.

## Photocopying & Printing

The Parish Magazine provides a Photocopying & Printing Service.  
Prices are: Black & White 6p per page, Colour 15p per page.  
We can print single- or double-sided.

For further information or to place an order please contact Brian Knight.  
Tel: 01233 758319 or email [thrknng@aol.com](mailto:thrknng@aol.com).

## Calling all Children of Appledore!

We invite all the children of Appledore to design our bumper December/January Parish Magazine cover! The winner will have the entire front cover and will win a small prize! The cover should reflect the season/festivities.

Open to all ages 1-18

Details:

A4 size – portrait

Colour or black and white

Any medium that can be scanned/printed

Clear outline

Deadline – 18<sup>th</sup> November

Please send your entry via email to the Editor:

[appledoremagazine@hotmail.com](mailto:appledoremagazine@hotmail.com)

Or deliver to 74 The Street, Appledore

Good luck!

