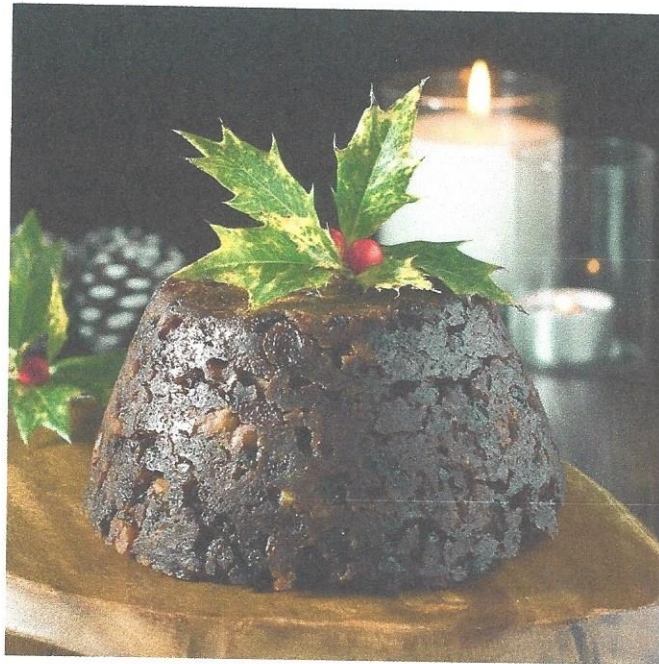


APPLEDORE PARISH MAGAZINE
December 2024/ January 2025

Festive Food Fair

Appledore Church



Saturday 7th December
9.30 – 11.30am

**Delicious home-made food items for sale,
rich Christmas cakes, flavoursome puddings, traditional mincemeat,
and an array of delectable cakes and preserves.**

***Hand-made crafts, wreaths, decorations, hand knits, cards, gifts and
much more***

**Savour our home-made refreshments while enjoying the music of our
accordion player.**

For more information: Judith Clifton 01233 758285

All editorial matter for publication in the **FEBRUARY** magazine should be sent to: appledoremagazine@hotmail.com, **NOT LATER THAN THE TWENTIETH OF JANUARY**. Please provide copy to our email address, as above, 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 50p 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 – Cash or Cheques (made payable to Appledore Parish Magazine) should be sent to: - Parish Magazine Accounts, c/o Brian Knight, Heathland House, Woodchurch Road, Appledore. TN26 2BB or by Bank Transfer to – Business Account Number 03213421 Sort Code 30-90-28.

We acknowledge donations in the magazine by name or anonymous, but not the amount. If you would like your name mentioned please tell us this when making a donation or inform the editor by email. Thank You.

We have received two anonymous donations in November, Thank You.



Advertising: Brian Knight 01233 758319

email: ThrKng@aol.com

A year's advertising (11 magazines) is £35 per 1/6th page. The magazine is delivered to 400 houses and is available to visitors via the Village Shop and church.

Welcome to the December and
January Magazine

Everything is very difficult for me at the moment, so I
am simply wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and
a Happy New Year.

Ruth

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May all the sweet magic
Of Christmas conspire
To gladden your hearts
And fill every desire.



WHO TO ASK

APPLEDORE ALLOTMENT CHARITY		
Contact	Iain Ramsden	01233 758763 appledoreac@gmail.com
APPLEDORE PARISH CHURCH		
	Revd. Can.: Lindsay Hammond Revd. Jeanette Kennett	01580 761591/07805840493 01233 758250/07888998874
Secretary	Philippa Perkins, email: philippaperkins.appledorepcc@yahoo.com	
Churchwarden	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
Refreshments/Safeguarding	Mrs. D. Clifton	01233 758256
METHODIST CONGREGATION		
	Mrs. B. Fazzani, Oakhouse Farm	01233 758322
APPLEDORE & DISTRICT RIDING ASSOCIATION		
Chair	Mrs. Sue Hutcheson	07795 957488
APPLEDORE VILLAGE STORES		
	51/53 The Street	01233 758320
ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR		
	Mr. Johnny Shilton	Johnny.Shilton@ashford.gov.uk
ASHFORD BOROUGH CITIZENS ADVICE		
		email: ashfordadvice@gmail.com
ART CLUB	Denise Stephens	email: georginajack@icloud.com 01233 758952
BRITISH RED CROSS		
Tenterden & Cranbrook	For general enquiries For medical loans specifically	01580 763359 01233 620356
CARM: Meeting Point		
Referrals	Dr Ruth Smith Helen Mattock	01233 758564 01233 758122
COMMUNITY RURAL WARDEN		
	Joanna Vos, email: joanna.vos@kent.gov.uk	07980 770578
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU		
	Town Hall, Tenterden Monday 10.00-16.00, Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 10.00 -13.00	01580 762371
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY		
	Ashford	01233 208000
DOCTORS		
	Appledore/Hamstreet Tenterden – Surgery Woodchurch	01233 730190 01580 763666 01233 860236
ELECTRICITY		
	Failure of supply UK Power Networks	105
APPLEDORE FOOTBALL CLUB		
	Secretary—Dean Clark Treasurer—Tom Missing Manager—Scott Tippet appledoresundayfc@gmail.com	07737337976 07584859269 07935729609
FRIENDS OF APPLEDORE CHURCH		
Chair	Mrs. F Smith, email: fmk33@gmail.com	
FRIENDS OF APPLEDORE STATION		
	Chair: T W D Blaney The Wish House	01233 758628 07710 637962

APPLEDORE GARDEN SOCIETY			
Chair	Helen Sloman		
Secretary	Tina O'Reilly		07968836603
	Jo Weeks		01233 758475
			01233 758420
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		
APPLEDORE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY	Chair: Brian Knight		01233 758319
	Sec.: alhskent@gmail.com		
PARISH COUNCIL	Chair: Roger Hiskey		01233 758 097
	Parish Clerk - Steve McIntyre	enquiries.apc.gmail.com	
PARISH MAGAZINE	Editor: Dr Ruth Smith, Griffin Park Cottage		01233 758564
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POLICE	Emergencies		999
Enquiries	Non-Emergencies		101
PCSO:	Kate Richards	katherine.richards@kent.pnn.police.uk	
RAMBLERS	Jo Weeks		07949357459
RECREATION GROUND BOOKINGS			
REFUSE COLLECTION	Bulky items, e.g. fridges, cookers etc. collected for £24 fee (for 4 items)		01233 331111
TAXI	Tenterden Cars		01580 762444
TENTERDEN & DISTRICT DAY CENTRE	Church Road, Tenterden		01580 762882
TENTERDEN COMMUNITY HUB			
	email: 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	Derek Winter	01233 758570
	Bookings	Marilyn Ray	01233 758586
	email: villagehallappledore@gmail.com		
	Hospitality Advisor	Linda Hiskey	01233 758097
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

Appledore Village Diary – December 2024 & January 2025

Monday	Baby Class - Yoga & Sensory 1pm – 2pm Aerobics 6.15pm - 7pm Pregnancy Yoga 7.30pm – 8.30pm
Tuesday	Hamstreet Surgery Prescription Collection 10.15 - 10.45am Art Class 1pm - 4pm
Wednesday	Baby Massage Class 1pm - 2pm Aerobics 6.15pm - 7pm Lindy Fit 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Thursday	Pilates 9.45am – 10.45am Citizen Advice—By Appointment
Friday	Tai Chi 10.15am - 11am

Monday 2nd December APC Meeting – 7.30pm Main Hall

Wednesday 4th December Repton Community Trust 10.30am Pavilion
Come along and find yourself some Christmas bargains.

Friday 6th December Garden Club Christmas Lunch Meal 12.30pm
The Bull Inn Bethersden

Saturday 7th December Christmas Food Fare 9.30 Church

Saturday 7th December Boot Fair 10am – 2pm

Sunday 8th December Antique Fair 10am – 4pm

Tuesday 10th December CARM Appledore Meeting Place
10am – 11.30am

Saturday 14th December Over 65's Christmas Lunch 12 noon

Monday 16th December— Carols with Salvation Amy 7.30
Black Lion

Tuesday 17th December CARM Christmas Lunch 12 noon
Black Lion

Friday 20th December	Ramble 1pm Recreation Ground
Friday 20 th December	Christmas Dance with the Rocketmen 7.30—11.45
Saturday 21 st December	Toys & Teddies 10am 24– 2pm
Sunday 22 nd December	Antique Fair 10am – 2pm
Sunday 22 nd December	Black Lion Christmas prize draw
Tuesday 24th December	Christmas Eve Crib Service 6pm Church
Wednesday 25th December	Christmas Day A Christmas Celebration 11am Church
Saturday 4th January	Church Bake Day Church Porch 9.30am
Monday 6 th January	APC Meeting 7.30pm Main Hall
Tuesday 14 th January	CARM Appledore Meeting Place 10am – 11.30am
Saturday 18 th January	Craft Fair 10am – 4pm
Sunday 15 th January	Antique Fair 10am – 4pm
Tuesday 28 th January	CARM Appledore Meeting Place 10am – 11.45am
Tuesday 28 th January	Appledore Garden Society AGM 7.30pm



Appledore Village Hall

Christmas Live Music Night
With
The Rockitmen

Friday 20th December
7.30 - 11.45pm

Tickets £15 each

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Raffle and Licensed Bar

For tickets call Marilyn on
01233758586

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN TENTERDEN, ROTHER AND OXNEY

We are a group of churches covering Appledore, Ebony, Newenden, Rolvenden, Smallhythe, St Michael's, Stone, Tenterden and Wittersham.

SERVICES IN CHURCH AND ONLINE DURING DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Beginning the Day with God, a ten-minute reflective service, will be **online only** from Monday to Saturday.

Ending the Day with God, a ten-minute reflective service, will be **online only** from Monday to Saturday.

Holy Communion will be celebrated in St Michael's Church every Wednesday and in Tenterden Church every Thursday, both at 10am. Both celebrations will last about twenty-five minutes. These services won't appear online.

From Christmas Day until Sunday 5th January, *Beginning the Day with God* and *Ending the Day with God* will be replaced by a single daily act of online worship entitled, *Follow the Star: Calm and Bright*.

There will not be a midweek celebration of Holy Communion in St Michael's Church on the 18th and the 25th December, nor in Tenterden Church on the 26th December and the 2nd January.

Tenterden Church will be closed after Sunday 5th January through to the end of July. Services will be held in Tenterden Church Hall.

To access our daily online worship, visit:

YouTube

St Mildred's, Tenterden

Online services, can also be accessed through the daily bulletin, *Connect Up!*.

To receive *Connect Up!* please visit our website, www.tentroxchurches.co.uk, and subscribe.

* **LS** below denotes a service which will be live streamed and then available on the St Mildred's YouTube channel.

Sunday 1st December: The First Sunday of Advent

11am Morning Praise (*Appledore Church*)

6pm Sung Evensong (*Stone Church*)

6pm Benefice Advent Carol Service (*Tenterden Church*): **LS**

Saturday 7th December

9am Women of the Nativity: Abigail's Story (*Newenden Church*)
followed by optional breakfast in the church at 9.30am

Sunday 8th December: The Second Sunday of Advent

11am The Eucharist (*Appledore Church*)

Saturday 14th December

9am Women of the Nativity: Mary's Story (*Appledore Church*)
followed by optional breakfast in the church at 9.30am

Sunday 15th December: The Third Sunday of Advent

11am Celtic Morning Prayer (*Appledore Church*)

Monday 16th December

7.30pm Carols with Hythe Salvation Army Band (*Appledore: The Black Lion*)

Saturday 21st December

9am Women of the Nativity: Shiphrah's Story (*Rolvenden Church*)
followed by optional breakfast in the church at 9.30am

Sunday 22nd December: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

11am The Eucharist (*Appledore Church*)

4pm Christmas Carol and Crib Service (*Stone Church*)

Tuesday 24th December: Christmas Eve

6pm Crib Service (*Appledore Church*)

Wednesday 25th December: Christmas Day

11am A Christmas Celebration (*Appledore Church*)

Saturday 28th December

9am Women of the Nativity: Rachel's Story (*Smallhythe Church*)
followed by optional breakfast in the church at 9.30am

Sunday 29th December: The First Sunday of Christmas

10am Benefice Eucharist (*Tenterden Church*): **LS**

Saturday 4th January

9am Women of the Nativity: Elizabeth's Story (Stone Church)
followed by optional breakfast in the church at 9.30am

Sunday 5th January: The Epiphany of Our Lord

11am Morning Praise (Appledore Church)
6pm Sung Evensong (Stone Church)

Saturday 11th January

9am Women of the Nativity: Mariamne's Story (St Michael's Church)
followed by optional breakfast in the church at 9.30am

Sunday 12th January: The Baptism of Christ

11am The Eucharist (Appledore Church)

**Sunday 19th January: The Second Sunday of Epiphany
And Plough Sunday**

11am Plough Sunday Service (Appledore Church)
6pm Benefice Choral Evensong (Appledore Church): LS

Sunday 26th January: The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle

11am The Eucharist (Appledore Church)



From the Minister's Desk

One Christmas I asked my class to prepare some prayers for worship. One child wrote, very simply 'Dear God, everyone misses you.'

It is hard to know what that child was thinking. On the face of it, they are words that would seem more appropriate on a postcard to much loved grandparents or a message to a poorly relative in hospital. Perhaps it was simply an affectionate phrase that seemed right to 'send' to God. But maybe there was more to it than that? On reflection, as we look forward to Christmas, those words bear thinking about: 'Dear God, everyone misses you.'

The Christmas story is the story of the God who is *missed*. For centuries, the prophets had foretold the coming of the Saviour, but when he came, few seemed to notice! Many doors were closed against him! The failure to recognise the Christ when he comes is a theme that runs through the gospels. It is there in the stories of his infancy, his ministry, his suffering and death, and his resurrection. Everyone, or almost everyone, 'misses' God.

But the words have another way of being read. Everyone misses *you*: that is, everyone would love *you* to *be* here, everyone longs for you; there is in every human heart a deep yearning for God, a desire for the meaning and purpose and peace of mind that God alone can give.

And the message of Christmas is that God acted decisively to meet this human need for him. God *has* drawn near, God has made his home with us: 'the Word', says St. John, 'was made flesh and dwelt among us'. Our God, longed for down the ages, has come to us at last! And the message of Christmas, and of Christianity, is not of the rumour of some far distant God, but of God who has made himself one with us: in the person of his blessed Son, he has shared our birth, and our life, and our death; and in his resurrection he points us to the life which lies beyond this life and lifts us into the gracious presence of the Father.

'Dear God, everyone misses you.' 'Dear child', says God, 'but you have come home to me, and I have come home to you'. And that rather puts me in mind of one of my favourite hymn verses of all time – in my book, strictly for Christmas morning!

'Yea, Lord, we greet thee
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!'

With every blessing for the Christmas Season

Jeanette

For information re Baptisms, Banns and Weddings, Funerals and other
pastoral concerns, please contact

Rev. Canon Lindsay Hammond

01580 761591/07805 840493/tentvic@gmail.com or Rev.

Jeannette Kennett

758250/07888 998874/caulkhead7@talktalk.net For

practical matters, please contact Church Warden

Chris Self 758078/chris.self45@gmail.com

PRODUCE IN THE PORCH

Thanks to everyone who leaves used jam jars, flower pots, plastic trays, books and knitting wool in the church porch. We gratefully use them all and hope you will please continue to donate in this way.

Our next Cake Bake day in the porch will be on Saturday 7th December Christmas Food Fare at 9.30 am followed by Saturday 4th January at 9.30 am and the first Saturdays of subsequent months. Come any earlier you may not always find that the sausage rolls have arrived as they are too hot to package!

If you feel the urge to make a cake / cookies/ savouries please contact either Judith (758285) or Donna (758256) who would be delighted to hear from you. As always every item (and ingredient) for sale is donated so all proceeds go directly towards the upkeep of our beautiful church.

The porch is open every day from 9.00 am until late afternoon where you will find our usual range of preserves, books, plants, flowers and other desirables.

Thank you for your support. J.C.

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA DECEMBER 24 / JANUARY 25

	ALTAR	WEST END	PORCH
Christmas	Denise Stephens	Helen Downing-Waite	Julie Flawn
Jan. 5 & 12	Sally Linington	Helen Hennig	Paddy Moseley
Jan 19 & 26	Julie Wooding	Wendy Selmes	Fay Steed
Feb. 2 & 9	Carly Amey	Kate Stevens	Donna Clifton

Horne Chapel: Judith Clifton

For the period between Christmas and Lent please will you keep your arrangement going for 2 weeks.

If you are unable to take your turn please telephone Judith on 758285 or text 07840 356681 – and the same numbers if you are unable to crack the code for the kitchen / Glory Hole for oasis etc. Please take the old flowers home with you or place in the black bin at church (not the green recycling one). Would you like to join us on the flower rota, we would love some extra helping hands. If so please contact me on the above number. J.C.

December Church Rota 2024

Date	Sides person	Reader/ Intercessor	Refreshments
1st December	Frances	Jane/ Brenda	Brenda/ Eileen
8th December	Clive	Roger P/ Chris	Donna
15th December	Judith	Thelma/ Frances	Eileen/ Helen
22nd December	Jo	Michael/ Tony	Fay
29th December	Helen	Vicki/ Donna	Donna

January Church Rota 2025

Date	Sides person	Reader/ Intercessor	Refreshments
5th January	Donna	Helen/ Brenda	Brenda/ Eileen
12th January	Denise	Jane/ Frances	TBC
19th January	Clive	Frances/ Donna	Donna/ Helen
26th January	Jo	Michael/ Tony	Fay
2nd February	Judith	Vicki/Brenda	Brenda/ Eileen

FAMILY WORD-SEARCH FOR CHRISTMAS

G	N	I	K	M	D	Y	G	C	R	I	B	R	A	S	S
N	A	H	B	I	O	E	M	A	R	Y	E	E	T	T	L
I	D	C	C	S	G	K	E	E	R	G	Y	E	I	H	E
F	O	R	A	T	S	R	L	S	N	I	B	D	N	G	I
F	N	U	M	L	D	U	F	A	E	E	A	N	S	I	G
U	K	H	E	E	R	T	M	R	K	L	B	I	E	L	H
T	E	C	L	T	E	D	B	A	A	N	G	E	L	A	C
S	Y	L	L	O	H	R	C	U	G	N	L	R	C	S	O
G	J	S	R	E	P	A	P	G	N	I	P	P	A	R	W
O	O	T	E	L	E	C	S	U	S	E	J	T	R	E	I
O	S	F	L	B	H	T	H	S	D	A	S	O	O	K	S
S	E	I	U	A	S	A	N	T	A	D	A	Y	L	C	E
E	P	G	Y	T	E	L	B	U	A	B	I	S	S	A	M
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	R	W	I	N	E	R	E
S	N	O	W	M	A	N	D	N	A	L	R	A	G	C	N
D	L	O	G	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	R	I	F

ANGEL	CRACKERS	JOSEPH	SNOWMAN
ASS	CRIB	KING	STABLE
BABY	DONKEY	LIGHTS	STAR
BAUBLE	ELF	MAGI	STUFFING
BETHLEHEM	FIR	MANGER	TINSEL
CAESARAUGUSTUS	GARLAND	MARY	TOYS
CAKE	GIFTS	MISTLETOE	TREE
CAMEL	GOLD	PUDDING	TURKEY
CARD	GOD	REINDEER	YULE
CAROLS	GOOSE	SANTA	WINE
CHRISTMAS	HOLLY	SHEPHERDS	WISEMEN
CHURCH	INN	SLEIGH	WRAPPINGPAPER
COW	JESUS		

When completed, the remaining squares/letters spell the names of two biblical characters connected with the Christmas story

Another short story from Roger Parrott:

AUNTY MURIEL

Muriel felt the envelope in her hands: too stiff for a letter, but not rigid enough for a formal invitation, she thought. Pity about the computer label for her address. And she hated "Ms". What is it about people today that they cannot provide the correct honorific? She slit the envelope open. Yes, it was her niece Caroline at last marrying Daniel at the end of June at St. James', but oh! not only was she *Muzz* Muriel Williams, but the entire package: invitation, wedding list, directions and accommodation list had been printed on a home computer and produced on paper cut by a cheap guillotine! They had never remembered her birthday and had never returned her Christmas cards; and although she had received a thank-you for little Alice's present when she was born, it had been one of many no doubt dashed-off on the computer and with no personalisation whatsoever. Well, it was just as well that she had no intention of pushing the boat out so far as her own wedding wardrobe would be concerned. It was to be the Scouts' jumble sale at St. Mary's hall in two weeks' time and she would see what she could find. Barnes was an affluent area and the quality of the jumble there always far exceeded that of other places. She was bound to find something - usually a designer label - that, even if in itself it was not perfect, she could always tweak it with a scarf or belt to produce a most acceptable effect.

The day of the sale came and went with Muriel emerging immensely satisfied with a dark blue Burberry skirt and jacket complimented by a striking, multi-coloured silk top from Fenwick's which lifted the outfit into a statement worthy of someone twenty-five years her junior. There was a tiny mark on the sleeve, but not so as anyone would really notice. The whole ensemble had cost her less than twenty pounds and fully deserved the gold-star treatment at her local dry cleaners.

Three days and eleven pounds fifty later, she was stepping out of the little dry-cleaners - who had managed to minimise the stain on the sleeve - when Hayyan called her back.

"Oh, Mrs. Muriel, we find in your pockets something."

"But I can't have left anything as it wasn't"

"Look! You do not wish to lose a such ring, now, isn't it?"

Now Muriel was very sharp-witted for her seventy five years and had appeared in many an am-dram show at her local theatre, so when she saw the rather large and opulent cluster of stones not in a modern style, self-interest and her acting took immediate control.

"Well bless you, Mr. Hayyan. I am so grateful. That is so clever of you". And, putting the ring securely into her bag, she popped a hasty pound coin, an old one she had found lurking in the depths of her purse, into his gratuity box. "Henry Hallpyke!" she said to herself. "Henry Hallpyke. They'll know what to do." And she took herself off immediately, down to the lower end of Kensington High Street to the well-known jewellery and silver shop.

"A beautiful, beautiful, piece," she was told. "Look after it well. It dates from the 1930's, probably by Bulgari. I heard of one similar which fetched thousands at auction. Try Christies - I think they have a sale coming up in a couple of months' time."

With that in mind, Muriel was taking no chances. She tucked the ring inside a zip pocket in her shoulder bag, slung it round her neck and under her arm and straightway called a taxi to take her home - after all, she could now afford such things, couldn't she?

Meanwhile, Elena was in trouble.

"What do you mean you can't find it? You just leave ring my mother gave you lying around *anywhere*? When did you last wear it?" Her husband was getting more frustrated by the minute.

"Let me think, Mishka." Elena walked backwards and forwards while Mishka fumed and lit another cigarette. Then, her breath coming in short bursts:

"Yes. The last time I remember wearing it - was at the Embassy reception - the small one you gave for some - business people

"It was worth *thousands* and you just took it off and left it lying around?"

"No, I got beetroot on my fingers and went to the cloakroom to wash my hands. I had to scrub and it was then I took the ring off and put it in the pocket of of Oh no! No, no, no!" And she crumpled, down on to the sofa, her head shaking "no" in hands which grasped her head ever more tightly as if to squeeze out any possibility of this nightmare being true.

"Elena?" There was a touch of disbelief mingled with frustration and mounting menace in his voice as Mikhail Nikolaevich glared at his wife.

"Blue suit. Beetroot stained the sleeve. I got rid of it. I-I-I gave for Boy Scout Jumble sale." Her tear-stained make-up gazed up at Mischka in red-eyed panic.

"To whom?" The voice was cold, calculating.

"Mrs. Aldridge?"

"Where?"

"23 Barton Road." The answers were on the tip of her tongue, the whole scene piercing her brain as cleanly as a shard of glass. "With some other stuff. Some of your things as well. Those shirts" Mikhail Nikolaevich turned to the phone on the desk, pressed a button and barked, "Pavel!"

"Straightaway, Mr. Volotskoi," came the voice of his secretary, but he wasn't listening. He went round and sat behind the desk and reached for a pen and notepad. "Go wash your face. I'll send for you when there's any news."

Elena wailed again and ran towards the double doors of the drawing room which were opened just as she got there by the large, brutish-looking man that was her husband's assistant. He ignored her and strode purposefully in to stand in front of his master's desk.

"Pavel Ivanovich, I have little job ..."

Elena knew better than to hang around, closed the doors behind her and ran upstairs to her room where she sat shaking on her bed.

Patricia Aldridge had been rather perplexed and not a little disconcerted when she opened the door to find a large, leather-coated male with cropped hair and a thick accent asking if she could remember a good quality, blue, lady's suit given for the Boy Scouts' jumble sale. It had been a mistake, he said, and his mistress would willingly pay five times the price and make a generous donation to the Scouts, if she could possibly remember who bought it. Patricia remembered only too well that she had placed the finer items on a special rail and yes, dear Mrs. Muriel Williams, come to think of it.

"Get my wife down here."

"Straightaway, Mr. Volotskoi," And in two minutes, Elena stood for the first time in two days in front of her husband. He rose from his desk, arms outstretched towards her.

"Lenochka, Lenochka! Why you do this to me?" And he put his arms round her and kissed her cheek. Then, in a much lower tone:

"Don't ever do it again. Pavel Ivanovich worked well but ..." He sighed - almost sadly - and stood back from her, bringing his hands round to take hers and slipping the Bulgari cluster over the third finger of her right hand.

"Mishka! You found it! You wonderful man, you!" and she threw out her arms to hug him. But not soon enough, as he had turned away from her and returned to his desk-top screen.

"Do try and wear something attractive tonight for the Henderson's"

"It's a pity Aunty Muriel didn't make it," said Caroline when they were eventually alone after the last guest had left.

"I wonder why," Daniel mused. "She said she was coming.

"It's unlike her to say she's coming and then not turn up. She's always so correct - painfully so at times. I'll give her a ring tomorrow - haven't spoken with her for ages - months - years even!"

Three months later the Coroner thanked Mrs. Caroline Thomas for the clarity of her evidence and the immediacy of her actions in discovering the body of her Aunt. He concluded that, in all likelihood, the broken neck was due to a fall she had suffered on the stairs as her possessions, including some small pieces of jewellery and fifty pounds in cash were all intact and therefore recorded a verdict of Accidental Death. No one noticed the large man with cropped hair and in a leather coat smile as he got up to leave.

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE NHS

Last month Wendy (Thomas) sent a lovely message via the magazine to thank everyone for all the support and well wishes she received as she went through a long and difficult period of health issues.

Not wishing to encroach on Wendy's piece, I left my own contribution until this month, and would also like to convey my sincerest thanks to all those who sent flowers, cards and general support, well wishes and offers of assistance during my recent episode of ill health and concern.

What I really wish to highlight is the reassurance that when the chips are down and you need help the NHS is not broken, and yes waiting lists for standard procedures are long and distressing and something needs to be done, but from my initial visit to the Doctor, a fast-track to Kent & Canterbury Hospital, a specialist appointment with my Consultant, a pre-op assessment at the WHH, a nuclear scan at K & C on the morning of my Op and then a race to get to the WHH where the Consultant, Surgeon and Team were waiting to carry out the Op that afternoon, I could not have asked for any more care and professionalism, and all this took place within just over a fortnight. A week later I again received the utmost attention when three times I had to go to A & E due to concern over the skin graft, and each time one of the team from Maxillofacial Unit came up to A & E and took over.

I apologise for labouring my experience but there appears to be nothing to report these days but doom and gloom, but I for one cannot be more thankful and indebted to a system that has been in place since 1948 and one which we must continue to support and maintain for the years ahead.

Tessa Knight

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Parish Council Update December 2024

(<https://www.appledorekent.org>)

Firstly, from everyone at Appledore Parish Council (APC) we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

As we enter 2025, APC are seeking your views on 2 projects being progressed:

Improving Road Safety

APC Highways Working Group has submitted a request to Kent County Council (KCC) for the following improvements:

- 1) **The Street (Hawthorn)** – Installation of 2 playground warning signs and “SLOW” road markings at either end of the Recreation Ground has been agreed by KCC. Possible installation of Speed Indicator Devices subject to result of recent speed survey.
- 2) **The Street (The Narrows)*** – Implement a priority traffic flow system, install a pavement and bollards.
- 3) **Heathside*** – Extend current pavement (situated on the East side of Woodchurch Road) up to Fourwents Junction, and refresh “SLOW” markings.
- 4) **Kenardington Road (Hornes Place)*** – Implement priority flow system & refresh “SLOW” road markings at the metal fenced blind corner section of the road outside The Wish.

* Improvements 2 to 4 are subject to KCC approval. KCC advised that 2 and 3 will likely be sizable and expensive, and 3 likely to require consents from land owners.

Electric Vehicle Points

A plan is in place to locate 2 x electric vehicle charging points at Court lodge Road car park. The project cost of approximately £5,000 includes 3 years maintenance. APC has received a grant of circa £2,500 towards the total cost. The charging points will be available for anyone to use and will operate on a “Pay As You Go” basis.

**Is there a requirement for communal Electric Vehicle charging points?
Do you agree or disagree with the selected road improvements?
Is there anything else you would like to say?**

Share your views by contacting Cllr Roger Kimber and/or Steve McIntyre (Clerk):

Email – abc.rkimber@gmail.com

Email – enquiries.apc@gmail.com

(In line with Kent Resilience Forum)

Keeping your home warm, efficient and safe

- Try to heat the rooms you use to at least 18°C if you can, as this reduces the risk to health of someone wearing suitable winter clothing.
- Overnight, people who are 65 and over or who have pre-existing health conditions, may find bedroom temperatures of at least 18°C are good for their health; this may be less important if you are a healthy adult under 65 and have appropriate clothing and bedding.
- If you can't heat all the rooms you use, heat the living room during the day and your bedroom just before you go to sleep.
- Get your heating system and cooking appliances checked and keep your home well ventilated.
- If you have an electric blanket, use it as instructed and get it tested every 3 years. Never use a hot water bottle with an electric blanket.
- Do not use a gas cooker or oven to heat your home; it is inefficient and there is a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning which can kill.
- If you are not on mains gas or electricity, make sure you have a good supply of heating oil, LPG or solid fuel so you do not run out in winter.

Keep the warmth in:

- Fit draught proofing to seal any gaps around windows and doors.
- Make sure you have loft insulation. And if you have cavity walls, make sure they are insulated too.
- Insulate your hot water cylinder and pipes.
- Draw your curtains at dusk and tuck behind radiators to help keep heat inside.
- Make sure your radiators are not obstructed by furniture or curtains.

Look after yourself

- Sitting or sleeping in a cold room is not good for you and increases the risk of heart attacks, stroke and breathing problems.
- Keep your bedroom windows closed on a winter's night; breathing cold air can increase the risk of chest infections.
- Exercise is good for you all year round and it can keep you warm in winter. Keep moving if you can, this will help keep you warm. Try not to sit for more than an hour, get up and walk around, make a hot drink and spread housework throughout the day.
- Wear a few layers of thin clothing rather than one thick layer; this will trap the heat better to keep you warm. Thin layers of clothes made from cotton, wool or fleecy fibres are particularly good for maintaining body heat.
- Wear shoes with a good grip to prevent slips and falls.
- Make sure you have spare medication in case you are unable to go out.

Food is a vital source of energy and helps to keep your body warm so have plenty of hot food and drinks.

- Aim to include 5 daily portions of fruit and vegetables. Tinned and frozen vegetables count towards your 5 a day.
- Prepare for cold weather. Stock up on tinned and frozen foods, warm clothes and any medication so you don't have to go out too much when it's cold or icy.

Power and utility companies have schemes which make at-risk groups a priority for reconnection following power cuts. Visit: www.ofgem.gov.uk

If you need to go out:

- Wear shoes with slip resistant, good grip soles.
- Make sure you are not caught out by snow and ice; stay tuned to the weather forecast and plan ahead with food supplies.
- In periods of severe weather such as snow and ice, do not travel unless necessary. Get up-to-date traffic information on the Kent Travel Information website.
- People are urged not to go to A&E or call 999 unless it's an emergency. If you are in any doubt NHS 111 can help you get the right treatment.



Harvest Supper

October 2024





Experts
in care
quality

With some of the highest regulatory ratings of any provider, families can enjoy peace of mind that their loved ones are expertly cared for.

If you're considering a care home, call **01233 438749** or visit careuk.com/montfort-manor



Trusted to care

**Montfort Manor care home
Ashford**

care UK

The Ramblers Walk 15th November 2024

Well this month's ramble has been a bit like a military exercise to organise as we decided to try out the footpaths to Wittersham. Thirteen of us meet at the rec and then go by cars to the Ferry Inn car park. Today we welcome to the group Mark who has lived in the village for many years and Kim and her 2 dogs Romy and Raffy, of course we have our trusty ramble dog Brodie with us as well. We have already parked cars in Wittersham and have partners on standby to collect us when we get to the other end!

We set off from the Ferry following the Reading Sewer on AT94 and then pick up the farm track to the bottom of Chapel Bank. We walk straight up the steep Chapel Bank Hill on footpath AT93 enjoying the beautiful panoramic views looking over to Stone and Wittersham. We walk round the top of Chapel Bank and down the other side on footpath AT260. About half way down the hill the footpath goes left through a gate in the hedge, we cross a quite boggy field whilst being watched by a flock of bemused Suffolk sheep, to another gate. Once through the next field we have a difficult stile to contend with, which causes a lot of laughs as we help haul each other over! We then walk round the edge of the last arable field and end up on the small road that goes down by the side of the Garden Centre on Reading Street.

We cross the road and take the lower footpath AB56 which follows the Reading Sewer. There are great views all the way along here overlooking the Rother Levels and wildlife is in abundance. The dogs keep disturbing pheasants that are hiding in the reeds and they take off squawking over our heads. We spot a large bird of prey on the ground a little way ahead and watch as it takes off. We can see its finely-striped tail and with its wingspan of about a metre realise it's a buzzard. We carry on our way crossing the odd bridge and stopping to put up posters about Dexter the dog that went missing whilst on holiday in Appledore. We spot another bird of prey soaring overhead and decide it is a Kite as it has a forked tail. We cross another bridge and stop to admire a family of swans. The Mum and Dad proudly show off 4 fully grown cygnets that are just starting to lose their ugly grey feathers and grow their beautiful white ones! Finally we reach Smallhythe Bridge which is just along from Smallhythe Place, the former home of Victorian actress Dame Ellen Terry and now a National Trust Property.

We turn left and have to negotiate a short stretch of the busy B2082 road before then clambering over a very unstable stile. We now cross some very green lush fields many with sheep in. The ground underfoot is quite wet as this is the Rother Levels. We carry on across more fields on footpath AT76 and are now walking uphill. The footpath is fairly well marked with signs and yellow tape and soon we turn right through a footpath gate that goes along the side of someone's garden and then ends on a country lane. We follow this going up and admire beautiful distant views over Wittersham. We are now in the area known as Peening Quarter. At the end of the lane we reach the main Wittersham road which we cross taking footpath AT88. We carry on, passing a tumble down farm cottage and through several more fields, one full of cheeky Shetland ponies. Finally we hit Swan Street and walk up to the now shut Pub in Wittersham to our previously parked cars and trusty lifts that await us! We have walked over 6 miles and some of us were flagging a bit at the end and needed a pick me up drink at the Ferry! A beautiful walk in lovely weather and it was great to try a new route.

See you all on the 20th December for the Christmas ramble!

Jo Weeks



THE BLACK LION CHRISTMAS prize draw



Win everything you need for
Christmas worth over £500!

Turkey : Joint of beef : Sausages : Gammon

Red wine : White wine : Port : Dessert wine

Christmas cake : Christmas pudding : Mince pies

Cheese & crackers : Christmas crackers

And more!

Just £2.50 per ticket

Draw takes place Sunday 22nd December

Friends of Appledore Station

Good News

Friends of Appledore Station are pleased to report that the overgrown vegetation alongside the pathway to Platform 2 at Appledore Station has been cut back to provide a clear line of sight for passengers, particularly for those who expressed concern that when travelling alone after dark, there was discomfort when walking along that route. Homegrown Timber (Rail) Limited are an approved Network Rail contractor, who specialise in vegetation management. The ownership, management and employees of the company engage in a targeted level of voluntary community work and Appledore Station has been the beneficiary of their generosity on this occasion. The HT(R)L Team spent all day on 19th October 2024, performing the necessary work, braving mixed weather conditions. The timing coincided with the recent partial closure of the Marshlink Line, for renovation work to the Ore Tunnel. The partial closure provided the opportunity for the heavy-duty equipment to be manoeuvred trackside and appropriately positioned along the pathway for the duration of the work. Refreshing the paintwork of the planters and replacement of the damaged signage will be undertaken within the next few weeks, in preparation for the Spring planting.



A plea on behalf of Appledore's pet community

Whilst I realize that animal welfare is not at the forefront of everyone's mind, can I please ask that if you are planning a firework display in your garden in future that you make sure it is on 5th November, so that pet owners can plan for it and make sure their pets are safely indoors? If you desperately need to let them off at another time, please can you at least warn those who live near to you in advance?

Thank you



Appledore Christmas Celebrations!

The Over 65's Christmas Lunch 2024

Saturday 14th December

12.00 noon arrival, for 12.30pm lunch

Appledore Village Hall

So the year has whizzed by and it is almost time for the Over 65's Christmas Lunch! We will again be offering a free, traditional four course, home cooked Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings. A vegetarian option will be available on request. The dessert is Christmas Pudding or Lemon Posset, please let us know your choice when you book. There will also be fun entertainment and a fabulous raffle to make it an exciting afternoon of festivities! Although the lunch is free if anyone wishes to make a money donation it would be very welcome, either before or on the day. Also any donations of raffle prizes would be very welcome.

We do hope you can join us but booking is essential by Monday 9th December 2024 so do not delay make sure you ring! Looking forward to seeing you all on the 14th,

Philippa, Tina, Jean and Jo.

To book your place, please contact Jo on:

Phone: 01233 758420 or text: 07949 357459

Email: Joweeks51@hotmail.com

Raffle Prizes

If anyone in the village is able to donate a raffle prize for the Over 65's Christmas Lunch Party on December 14th, it would be very gratefully received. Please ring Jo on 01233 758420 and I will happily arrange collection.

Many thanks.

CURRY NIGHTS

at Appledore Village Hall

On Saturday 8th MARCH 2025 @ 6.30 for 7

Film to be announced. Three course meal @
£16.50 per head

To begin: Nan Bread, Courgette Fritters,
Chick Pea Bhakti, Raita

To follow: Coconut chicken curry, Vegetable Curry,
Rice, popadoms/ Vegetarian option on Request

Finally: Mango and Cardamon Trifle

The bar will be open

Bookings Essential: call Linda 01233758097 by
Saturday 1st March