

The Burham Buzz

A free quarterly Community Magazine for the parish of Burham

Spring 2025



10K
Burham Pre-school
Sponsored Run

Sunday 18th May
STARTS at 9.30am

Mums, Dads, Friends and Family of Burham Pre-school are welcome to take part in our sponsored run starting and finishing at Burham Village Hall.

REGISTER NOW

Burham.pre-school@hotmail.co.uk

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Published by Burham Parish Council

www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk



Burham Parish Council

The Burham Buzz Community Magazine

What is it?

The Burham Buzz is a quarterly publication for the village and surrounding area. It is produced and delivered by dedicated local volunteers.

How do I normally get the magazine?

The Buzz can be delivered directly to you or your email inbox. You can also view the magazine online which makes the content available worldwide. If you are unable to access the internet please contact us and we will do our best to provide you with a printed copy.

How can I submit articles or suggestions?

If you have an article for possible inclusion in a future issue or suggestion for items you would like to see covered, or any other comments, then please let us know. See 'Contact us' below to get in touch.

Magazine Advertising

Advertising in the Parish Magazine is effective and excellent value. Adverts are prepared on a first-come first-served basis. You can have adverts from a full page to a few lines. Contact us for the current rates.

How to continue to receive The Buzz for free

You must let us know if you want to receive The Burham Buzz free of charge. Please call or email Pam, see Contact Us below. We would also like to hear from you if you do not have internet access.

Can you help?

If you could help deliver The Burham Buzz to your road, or adjacent roads, it would be a great help. We would drop off copies at your house for you to distribute over a week or so. Can you help please? Let Pam know if you can help share the load.

Contact us

Editorial - Articles - Advertising - Photos

pam@burhampc.co.uk

Tel: 01634 685936

www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk



Burham Parish Council

Editing of articles and items submitted

We hope you enjoy reading this magazine and welcome your contributions. We reserve the right to edit contributions or not to publish. The publication of any advertisement does not carry the endorsement of Burham Parish Council.

THE BURHAM BUZZ

Spring is sprung, first shoots signal awakening

In this issue....

The Burham Buzz	Page 3
Burham Cafe Church	Page 4
Community Events & News	Page 5
Belgravia & Burham link	Page 6
Whack those weeds	Page 8
Whispers of Yesterday	Page 10
Community Safety	Page 11
Spear chucker to cornucopia	Page 12
Country Lunch & books	Page 13
The WI, T & M Ramblers	Page 14
Phoenix Medical Practice	Page 16
Burham Parish Council	Page 17
Hi Kent, hearing loss	Page 18
All Saints Church Services	Page 19
What to do	Page 20
Where to go	Page 21
Business Directory	Page 22

Support the Buzz!

ADVERTISE WITH US

Hand delivered to Burham residents at competitive rates see page 11



The Buzz starts 2025 on an upbeat note and full of quiet optimism.

The second year of the revamped magazine has seen a record number of contributions submitted for the Spring edition! A great vote of confidence from all but it has proved quite a challenge to include everything, but we have managed to get everything in, we think!

In addition, the support from our advertisers has grown further with two new businesses coming on board to enable us to produce, print and deliver a copy of the Buzz to the households and businesses of Burham.

The support of our contributors, advertisers and your positive feedback is most welcome but we are always looking to do things even better.

If you have any ideas for improving The Buzz, additional content or if you would like to submit a contribution, we'd love to hear from you.

Useful Contacts

Burham Allotments

Dave Young 07719 854538

Burham Community Centre

Thurza Browne 01634 863322

Burham Village Hall

Aileen Bergin 0784 288 3028

Burham Parish Council:

Pam Saunders Mon-Fri, 10am-2pm
01634 685936 or email
pam@burhampc.co.uk

TMBC Bin Collection Days

www.tmbc.gov.uk/forms/waste-collection-dates

Fly Tipping

To report to www.tmbc.gov.uk & search 'fly tipping'

Potholes

www.kent.gov.uk & search 'potholes'

Kent Police

PC Georgia Marshall 101

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MALLING

Burham Cafe Church set for March launch



A tale of two vicars

The Rev Naomi & Rev Nicky (l to r)

Spring is in the air, well sort of, anyway. After the long dark days of winter, it is good to see more daylight, sunshine, and slowly but surely the buds coming out on the trees and the flowers push up with the promise of spring beauty to come.

And it's a time of new happenings as well. All Saints Church, Burham and Wouldham and the Burham Methodist community are creating a new worshipping space and community. On Sunday afternoon, 16 March, in the Burham Old School Community Centre, together we are launching 'Café Church.' This will be a gentle informal service of worship and praise accompanied by lashings of cake, tea and coffee and everybody is welcome. We will open

at 3pm and the service will begin around 3.15 to 3.30.

If you want the opportunity to sing some songs, have some time to pray or just simply be, to think about life and faith and everything around about us, why don't you join us as we set out together on this new venture.

We will be meeting on a regular basis, once a month (please see below for the dates) and whoever you are, you are very welcome to join in.

The dates we will be meeting are 16 March, 27 April, 18 May, 15 June, 20 July, 21 September and 19 October. All gatherings will be Sunday afternoons at 3pm. We look forward to seeing you.

Rev Naomi Oates &

Rev Nicky Rawlins

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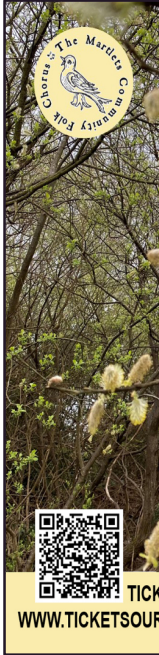

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The Martlets

Community Folk Chorus & Band

present

A Spring Concert

In aid of the Friends of St Mary's Restoration Fund

St Mary's Church, Burham


Saturday, 5th April, 2 pm

The Martlets Chorus & Band were established in Rotherfield, East Sussex early in 2022, under the umbrella of **Crowborough Arts**. They perform rousing and interesting songs and tunes, mostly in the English folk tradition. Led by professional musicians, Alessandra Testai and Robin Jeffrey, they have performed extensively, including at NT Batemans, Penshurst Place, St Denys' Church, Rotherfield and at other local venues, including for the King's coronation.

They will perform a programme of seasonal music.



www.crowborougharts.org.uk



Pensioner Just Missing Out Scheme

Eligible households can apply for vouchers worth £200 which can be used to help pay for food, energy or both.



You will be eligible for assistance if you:

- or a partner living with you is aged 66 or over
- are a Kent resident, permanently living within one of the 12 local authorities covered by Kent County Council (this excludes Medway, Bexley, or Bromley)
- have an annual household income (before tax) between £11,343.80 (£17,313.40 for a joint household income) and £40,000
- do not have more than £1000 in savings
- are not in receipt of Pension Credit

To apply, please use the QR code or visit www.kent.gov.uk/justmissingout

If you're not able to apply online, please contact your local Citizens Advice branch for support.

This scheme is funded by the UK Governments Household Support Fund and will close on 28 February 2025 or when all funds are spent.

ST MARY'S OLD CHURCH
 (DOWN BY THE RIVER)
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 PRESENTS:

QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY MAY 17th

7:00PM START
 £5 A HEAD 6 TO A TABLE
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 OR ON WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STMARYSBURHAM



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clerk@wouldhamcc.co.uk

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 £10 INDIVIDUAL £20 HOUSEHOLD

LOCAL HISTORY

The Master Builder and the Burham brick

Thomas Cubitt (25 February 1788 - 20 December 1855) was a master builder, notable for developing many of the historic streets and squares of London, especially in Belgravia, Pimlico and Bloomsbury. He was also the architect of Osborne House on the Isle of Wight for Queen Victoria

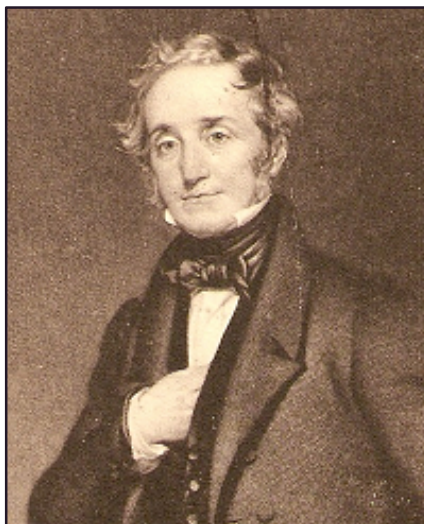
When Cubitt's exhausted Caledonian Road brickfield in east London needed replacing, he discovered the gault clay at Burham; this was perfect for his needs and was situated near to the river, which provided transport for the finished product.

Between 1851 and 1853 he set up a new mechanised brickworks at Burham on the east bank of the Medway. He acquired several parcels of land in the area on which his brickworks would be built. The land was also used to provide housing for his employees, which led to the expansion of Eccles.

He built Rose Villa for his works manager - William Varney - who had been in his employ for around 40 years, and nearby Rose Cottage for the works foreman Daniel Sharp. He also brought key workers from his London brickfields, but employed mostly unskilled local agricultural labourers, who could be trained on the job. Varnes Street and Belgrave Street in Eccles are road names that bear witness to Cubitt's enterprise in the area.

At the time, Cubitt's works were the most modern in the industry. They used machines which mixed and kneaded the clay, moulded it into shape, and fired the bricks in a system of kilns and drying rooms.

A network of tramways moved clay and bricks around the site. He used the lie of the land to reduce the need



Master builder Thomas Cubitt developed many of the historic squares and streets of Belgravia, Pimlico & Bloomsbury

for manual labour, raw materials were sourced from higher land, and each process occurred at a lower level, the finished product being created by the wharf side ready for loading into barges.

By 1859 the Works produced 25 - 30 million bricks per year, and employed between 600 and 700 men and boys. Drain pipes and ornamental flower and chimney pots were also manufactured.

The ornamental bricks that were produced can be seen above the doorways and windows of houses in Rochester Road, Church Street and Bell Lane.

Michael Boozer

Local Historian for Burham



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HORTICULTURE

Sycamore seedlings are sneaky beasts, here's how to deal with them



As spring gives way to summer it can feel like the weeds will take over completely, so vigorous are they after their long sleep. While it is true that they diminish over the years if your plot has been kept in good order it is also true that nature abhors a vacuum and any bare soil is an invitation to be quickly colonised by weeds.

Sometimes it looks like dandelions will take over the world. Deal with them early, don't let them flower. They quieten down as it gets warmer, until you get another flush of them when it cools down in the autumn.

At this time of year a good hoe is your best friend. First thing every visit I hoe all around, snip the weeds and gets the muscles moving. Planting in straight rows makes it easy and fast to hoe between the rows. You might need to hand weed in the rows but you can do that each time you thin the young plants.

Depending on which way the wind blew last autumn your plot can be host to sycamore seedlings. The hoe deals with them quite easily but they are sneaky beasts, disguising themselves as blackcurrant bushes and in amongst the raspberries. Once they get 2 proper leaves they are hard or impossible to tug out so they have to be eased out with a fork.

If you are lucky enough to have access to enough material, mulching

will prevent most weeds from germinating or growing as well as conserving moisture. Comfrey and borage grown on the plot are useful mulches as well as grass cuttings from paths. I have heard that strulch is a great mulch material but far too expensive to use over large areas. I tend to mulch around climbing French beans where it is hard to get the hoe in.

Nearly all weeds can be controlled by prompt action but sometimes they can get into places difficult to deal with. Couch grass and bindweed can easily get a hold among perennial crops and plants, especially under fruit bushes. Although I prefer to grow organically in my garden and on my allotment I am not precious about it and there are odd occasions I will reach for the roundup (glyphosate). A quick very careful squirt on growing leaves in spring when they are growing will see them gone without harming the bushes if you ensure you don't get any on the leaves of your current, gooseberry or raspberries. This uses a tiny amount of chemical - unlike when farmers spray entire fields with the stuff repeatedly.

Even with all your hoeing and weed spraying sometimes I find getting down and dirty to hand weed between your crops can be quite relaxing and therapeutic with a little music to keep you going.



Julia & Hilary would like to offer you a very warm welcome to The Windmill Pub. A community free house set in our beautiful village

ABOUT US

- We welcome and host many community groups
- We are always happy to host parties for special occasions
- We offer a great selection of lagers, ales, ciders, vodkas, and gins both alcoholic and non-alcoholic
- We have brilliant activities such as Jam nights, cash bingo evenings, quiz nights, live bands karaoke evenings, discos and pick your own music nights
- We have a fantastic walled garden where we hold our summer band nights
- We are extending the garden area to allow everyone to enjoy and soak up the weather and atmosphere
- We are dog friendly as long as on a lead
- Our kitchen is now open on Sundays providing proper pub grub at a reasonable price but you must book to avoid disappointment
- We look forward to seeing you soon!

WE ARE OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Monday - Thursday	12 noon - 11.30pm
Friday & Saturday	12 noon - 12.30am
Sunday	12 noon - 10.30pm



The Windmill Pub

292 Rochester Road, Burham, ME1 3RJ

01634 394882

www.windmillburham.com



The Windmill Burham

WHISPERS OF YESTERDAY

Pubs, cobblers, carnivals & kindly ladies: all you should know about Burham



Vince Wisdom was born in 1945 and has lived in Burham all his life. He was one of six brothers and as the family grew, he moved house several times before finally settling in Rochester Road. Vince went to the local primary school, that used to be beside The Windmill Pub, and at the age of 12 transferred to the Burham Boys' School, now the Old School Community Centre.

He has memories of Rochester Road when it was just a dirt track bustling with activity. There were a dozen or so businesses dotted along the central section with several pubs, butchers, grocers, general stores and a cobbler to name just a few! A single pump selling petrol, now a house, sticks out in his memory but the one person that made an indelible impression on the young Vince was a Miss Cole who ran a sweet shop. All the village children were made very welcome by her and able to buy a bag of sweets for 1d (less than 1/2p) or those without any money were often given one for free. A kind, caring person, she lived with her brother known as Jumbo and provided a bench in the shop for her pals to rest and chat! Vince a spritely 80 year old, is still very active in village life as Chair of the Trustees of the Old School Community Centre. He is also responsible for the general upkeep and maintenance of the Burham War Memorial gardens.



Jim & Dot Dowle moved to Church Street in the late 1960s as newly weds and have lived in the village for almost six decades. Their house was opposite 'The First & Last Pub', which caught fire and burnt down shortly after they moved in. Jim has vivid memories of trying to douse the flames with a garden hose and throwing grit at the windows to rouse the two sleeping landlords who were blissfully unaware of what was happening! The village rallied round to feed, clothe and rehouse the unfortunate pair whilst their own property was rebuilt.

Jim and Dot have always been active in village life and provided a lorry for the Carnival parade for many years which boasted 30+ floats, drum majorettes and a May Queen. They helped start, and still are active members of, the Burham Outings & Social Club which runs a wide range of trips and events for local residents. Jim was also much in demand as the volunteer driver for Burham Community Mini Bus which at the time was housed at Frost's Garage. One cause that is very close to Jim & Dot's heart is leukaemia research having tragically lost a young grandchild to the disease. They started fund raising through the Medway branch before establishing a family charity supported and sponsored by their own business J. Dowle Fencing & Tree Surgery

Supporting Burham's Community

Since my election, I have arranged for the following grants to support Burham's thriving community:

£300 towards the **new defibrillator** at Frost's Garage

£300 to purchase educational games for **Burham Pre-School**

£500 for Sue Cave's '**Animals Lost and Found in Kent**'

£1,000 to help restore **Burham's War Memorial**

£500 to celebrate **Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee** and to give every child a commemorative mug

£711 for **litter picking supplies**

£500 for the new **Photographic History of Burham** project

£300 to give every child at Burham CofE Primary School a **packet of sunflower seeds** to grow over summer

£400 for **Christmas Hampers** for Burham's military veterans and residents struggling to make ends-meet

£55,000 to finance the new **Burham and Wouldham Community Minibus**

£300 to learning and development games for **Key Stage 1 pupils** at Burham CofE Primary School

"Everyone knows someone who has been helped by Andrew Kennedy."

I hope that is true - I have certainly done my best.

- When you elected me I promised not to claim a penny in expenses - and I haven't
- I promised not to accept any gifts or taxpayer funded hospitality - and I haven't
- I promised to oppose any pay rises and, if voted through by others, to donate that money to the local community - and I have!

If I can help, please get in touch: andrew.kennedy@kent.gov.uk

Sign-up for my newsletter at: tinyurl.com/AKMonthlyNews

Follow my work on Facebook: [Facebook.com/CllrAndrewKennedy](https://www.facebook.com/CllrAndrewKennedy)



COMMUNITY SAFETY

Pedal bike thefts, this is how to protect yourself



So far in 2025 we have received reports of pedal cycle thefts across the district including Burham. Often stolen bikes have been found but the owners have not been located. Please take a moment to register your frame number on the national bike registration database. The frame number is usually found underneath the bike between the pedals or where the back wheel slots in. The national bike registration database is online at www.bikeregister.com. This way, if your bike is ever stolen and recovered by the police, it can be traced back to you. Further ways to protect your bike:

Double lock it. Using two locks slows thieves down and makes your bike less of a target. Use two quality locks, at least one of which is a D lock. Thieves are less likely to carry multiple tools, so use two different types of lock if possible

Lock the lot. Lock the frame and both wheels to a secure cycle stand
Secure it. Secure your bike as close to the stand as possible to give any thieves little or no room to manoeuvre

Take removable parts with you. Take parts that are easy to remove with you, such as wheels, lights, baskets or the saddle. Or use locking skewers or nuts which can increase security by securing the bike's components to the frame permanently

Mark it. Get your bike security marked. It's a highly effective, visible deterrent to bike thieves

Act fast. If your bike has been stolen, contact us as soon as possible by contacting 999 (if happening at the time) or reporting online (non-emergency). Give us your frame number, cycle database number, a photo and any other details and make sure you update the status on the cycle database where you registered it. The sooner we know, the sooner we can act, which might stop it being sold on.

**PC 15982 Marshall – Burham
Neighbourhood Officer–Kent Police**

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Option 1

1/6 of A5 page: 6cm x 6cm £12.50 each issue or £45 for the year (4 issues)

Option 2

1/3 of A5 page: 12cm x 6cm £18.75 each issue or £60 for the year (4 issues)

Option 3

2/3 of A5 page: 12cm x 12cm £31.25 per issue or £100 for the year (4 issues)

Option 4

Full A5 page: 12cm x 19cm £37.50 each issue or £120 for the year (4 issues)

Contact Pam on 01634 685936 or pam@burhampc.co.uk

The **Methodist Church**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

COUNTRY LUNCH

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
12.45PM

THE OLD SCHOOL COMMUNITY CENTRE, BURHAM

TWO-COURSE LUNCH FOR JUST £3
ALL ARE WELCOME!



The Church in Burham Book Exchange to restart at new venue

We are re-starting our monthly Book Exchange which will take place in the Old School Community Centre on the first Friday of each month from 10.30 am till 12.00. All are welcome to bring along books they have read and no longer wish to keep and exchange each for one from our extensive collection.

Tea, coffee and homemade cakes are served and we ask for a donation of £3. Any profit will be given to a chosen charity.

We hope to start on March 7 and continue each month.

If you have any questions, please contact Eileen Smith on 07786281044.

Any changes will be advertised on Keep Burham Connected.

Meet the Manager *of Winchester House Care Home*

Friday 21 March • 09.00-11.00am

We would like to invite you to pop in on your way to work to meet our General Manager, Liza Burchell. Network with other professionals and enjoy a delicious breakfast of croissants, fresh fruit and juice.



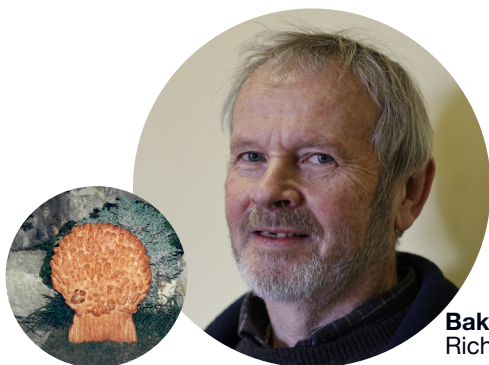
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WINCHESTER
HOUSE
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THE VALE BAKERY

Richard Wood, spear chucker to cornucopia



Baker man

Richard with an example of his skills

The Vale Bakery was established before the Second World War and has been a fixture in Burham for almost a century. Richard Wood took it over in the late 1970s and for almost fifty years has been producing freshly baked bread and mouthwatering confections, which are his particular speciality.

He grew up on the Isle of Sheppey and comes from a long line of family bakers with roots that go back to the early 1800s. He went to school on the isle before moving to Goudhurst School as a boarder. He completed his studies at the South Bank Polytechnic where he trained as a master baker.

After he graduated, Richard joined the family business Wood & Sons which had a thriving retail and wholesale business on Sheppey supplying local shops and major businesses such as Leysdown holiday park.

After six years of working with his father, uncle and cousins he decided to branch out on his own and a chance conversation with a

supplier led him to Burham where Mr & Mrs Smith, who owned The Vale Bakery at the time, were looking to retire.

After a transition period working alongside the Smiths, Richard took over the business entirely which employed five staff at the time. His wife ran the shop allowing Richard to concentrate on a busy wholesale round of pubs and shops including The Aylesford Priory where he supplied the Tea Rooms and residents for many years. His cornucopia or harvest bread with a horn stuffed with Kent fruits such as apples and pears was a particular favourite for Harvest Festival services.

In addition to his baking skills, Richard was an accomplished athlete in his youth and he was selected as first reserve Javelin thrower for the Helsinki European Games. He was also a keen skier until mobility issues forced him to give up the sport

The Vale Bakery is open mornings on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays

BURHAM & WOULDHAM WI

Forget the chores and come along and join us



We are very much into our new year programme of activities at Burham and Wouldham WI. While we meet at Burham Village Hall on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm that is really the anchor for a range of activities.

We have a range of speakers throughout the year, covering local history, gardening, food, drink and of course a chance to meet up and chat over a cup of tea and a biscuit or two. There is a monthly raffle and a competition to raise funds for charity.

Apart from that there are regular coffee mornings, walks, visits to Winchester House and quiz nights at The Windmill as well as events with other WIs and events and classes across West Kent.

There is always something to join in. Why not forget the ironing and household chores and come along and see what we are about, get in touch or turn up at a meeting – we would be pleased to see you.

Margaret Wood – 01622 718665 or BurhamWouldham@wkwfi.org.uk.

Tonbridge & Malling Ramblers Group Walks

Sunday 2 March - Leisurely, mainly flat circular walk on tracks around Haysden Country Park & Haysden Water. 4.8 mls

Thursday 6 March - Horsmonden Iron Industry walk taking in the High Weald Landscape Trail 5.5 ml

Sunday 9 March - Walk through British history in North America starting from Dryhill Nature Park and through Montreal Park, not too much mud! Moderate difficulty. 5.5 mls

Thursday 13 March - A leisurely walk following the River Medway from Tudeley. Mostly flat and without stiles. The return from Tonbridge is along quiet lanes and through orchards. 5.7 mls

Sunday 16 March - A gentle walk from Chiddingstone Causeway to Bough Beech with a break near the reservoir for a spot of bird watching. Moderate difficulty. 6 mls

Thursday 27 March - Circular walk from Birling across fields and footpaths with a gentle ascent to the Pilgrims Way. Return across open fields. Moderate difficulty; couple of stiles. 5.5 mls

For details and any late changes, see www.tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk or our [Facebook page](#).

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Phoenix Medical Practice

The Anima Appointment & Enquiry System

The new Triage Service 'Anima' system is now active for making appointments and medical queries. The exception is routine repeat prescription requests and long term condition review appointments which will be managed the same as before. Appointments for nursing and healthcare assistant services such as blood tests, smears, dressings, injections and ECG's will still need to be made over the phone initially but will be reviewed in due course. Please visit our website to register and create an Anima account if you have not already done so to enable you to use the service.

Defibrillators - situated at Burham Parish Office, Frost's Service Station, Wouldham Village Hall and the Community Centre, Tolhurst Road, Peters Village. If a machine is needed call 999 for the code and instructions.

Prescriptions - arrangements can be made to have these collected thanks to a service offered by the church. The surgery requires 4 days notice to prepare them and 24 hours notice is required for volunteers to collect them. Contact Rachael Harris on 07725 289194, who will be available to deliver medicines on Tuesdays and Thursdays for details.

NHS111 - for urgent medical help ring 111 or visit the website 111.nhs.uk

Robert Niechoj, Practice Manager

Surgery opening times

Monday & Thursday: 8:30am to 5:00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 8:30am to 6:00pm

Dispensary opening times

Monday & Thursday: 8:45am to 12 noon & 2pm to 4:45pm.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 8:45am to 12 noon & 2pm to 6:15pm

Phoenix Medical Practice

01634 867982 or www.phoenixsurgery-burham.nhs.uk

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BURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A roundup of the local news and issues



Website

The domain name for the website has been changed to "www.burhamparishcouncil.org.uk". The website is exactly the same, just the domain name has changed.

Highway issues

Scarborough Terrace (Rochester Rd) speeding: A formal request for a data survey to be carried out has been submitted to KCC for March/April 2025 which is approx. 6 months from when the work was carried out. This is to ascertain whether the work has been successful or not.

"Welcome to Burham" sign Village Road, Peters Village. KCC has advised: "This will be raised in the new financial year which will be from April 1 and should be completed by summer 2025. Once we have committed the works and have a date, I will be able to update you".

You may recall that we requested via the Highway Improvement Plan (HIP) three zebra crossings. This was due to the amount of potentially increased traffic through Burham due to the Land in Eccles development. Please see below the locations and the comments from KCC Highways.

"Following a brief desktop study, the First (Rochester Rd/Pilgrims Way before Bull Lane junction location) is not street lit and therefore the cost to upgrade this to a zebra would be significantly more than £20k as we would need to install lighting. In addition, the existing crossing is too close to the junction and therefore

this site would not qualify for a zebra crossing.

Second location New Court Rd, "junction" with Bell Lane – KCC Highways looked at the wrong location. They looked at Rochester Rd, just before junction with Bell Lane – They have been advised of this error. Correct location looked at New Court Road is not street lit, and the existing speed limit is 40mph therefore, this location would not meet the criteria for a zebra crossing.

Third Location New Court Rd junction with Church Street: KCC Highways have advised: Following a brief desktop study, this location is not street lit, and the posted speed limit is 40mph which does not meet the site requirements for a zebra crossing."

Whilst the pot holes and vegetation have been addressed on Pilgrims Way (split road), the litter is still very apparent. TMBC have been made aware and will address in due course.

Burham War Memorial

There has been no update on the installation of the 2 x plaques from Medway Memorials. They are waiting for the temperatures to rise, so hopefully we will have some news very soon. The same goes for the war memorial cross – whereby scans and measurements are required to be taken to enable The War memorial Restoration Company to manufacture the new cross.

BURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A roundup of the local news and issues

Devolution

It was announced on 5 February 2025 that Kent has NOT been accepted onto the Devolution Priority Programme and will not be postponing elections. Whilst devolution will still happen, it is some way off.

Dog Poo Bags

As most of you are aware, dotted around the village are some plastic bottles (strapped to railings, posts or fencing) filled with dog poo bags, which are there to assist, hopefully in an emergency only. Unfortunately, they are being “used” at an alarming rate. Please only use them when you have forgotten your own dog poo bags. They should not be taken to “top up” your own supplies.

Report it

Please remember to report any criminal activity or suspicious behaviour to the Police on 101 or via their website www.kent.police.uk.

Allotments

For those of you that have an allotment in Burham, you will be contacted soon regarding payment

for 2025-2026. As a reminder, there has been a slight increase in rents from £25 (full plot) to £26 (full plot). This increase is mainly to cover the increase in water charges.

Burham Pre-school Fun Day

Burham Pre-School Fund raising 2025: The sponsored fun run has been scaled back and now no longer requires the use of the recreation ground. The fun day for 2025 has been cancelled due to personal reasons but will come back bigger and better in 2026.

Parish Council

The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 14 April and will re-open on Tuesday 22 April, after Easter Monday.

If you have any items that you would like the Parish Council to discuss, just give me a call on 01634 685936, e-mail me on pam@burhampc.co.uk or join in at the next scheduled meeting, which is due 31 March 2025 7.30 pm at the parish building.

Pam Saunders Clerk

NEW BUS TIMETABLE

Nu-Venture introduced a new timetable for the 29 service on 20 January 2025 which can be downloaded from the link below.

If you do not have internet access, please call in at the Parish Offices for a hard copy.

https://nu-venture.online/onewebmedia/29_78_200125.pdf



Medway Makers Market

Food & Craft Fayres
At Burham
Community Centre
1 Bell Lane, Burham ME1 3SY

Dates & time
11am - 3.30pm

Find one of a kind Crafts,
woodwork, greeting cards,
stationery, glass ware,
knitted items, jewellery,
candles, melts and remedies,
unusual and unique crafts.

Also delicious cakes & savouries

Tues 11th February
Tues 11th March
Tues 25th March tbc
Tues 15th April



Mobile 078-6933-2074
Medway Makers Market

CHURCH & FAITH

All Saints Church Wouldham Services



EVERY SUNDAY

09.15am Morning Prayer
10.30am Holy Communion

EVERY FRIDAY during term time

09.15am Little Lights Toddler Church

EVERY LAST FRIDAY of the month

10.45am Coffee Morning

SPECIAL SERVICES & EVENTS

MARCH

30 Mothering Sunday

APRIL

13 Palm Sunday 10.30am
Old St Mary's, Burham**
14, 15 & 16 9pm Compline

17 Maundy Thursday Service 7-30pm

18 Good Friday 12.10pm to 3pm

Reflections before the Cross

20 Easter Sunday

5.30am - Dawn Service

10.30am - Easter Day Celebration

**Please note walkers will leave
Wouldham Church and from Bell Lane
Burham at 9.45am to reach
St Mary's by 10.30 am.

*Our thanks to Frost's Service Station
for supplying oranges and sweets for
The Christingle Services in Burham
and Wouldham*

**THE PENINSULA
BIG BAND**

**SWING & JAZZ MUSIC
EVENING**

**VISITING AGAIN DUE
TO POPULAR
COME AND JOIN US
FOR ANOTHER**



**8TH MARCH 2025
7.30PM START**

**LOCATION:
WOULDHAM, ALL
SAINT'S CHURCH**



**TICKET PRICE £10
PER PERSON
PAY AT THE DOOR
(CASH ONLY)**

Join Us
for fun evening of
HANGER
DINNER DANCE



**Live
MUSIC**

DON'T MISS THIS FABULOUS EVENING!
Grab a date or a few friends, dress up to the nines,
have your photo taken in a WW2 Jeep and dance
the night away on the 80th Anniversary of VE DAY

<p>7.30 -10.30pm FRI 9TH MAY RINGSHILL FARM, WOULDHAM ROAD ME1 3TP (PARKING ON SITE)</p>	<p>TICKETS (OVER 12'S ONLY) £25 PER PERSON (INCLUDING HOG ROAST/VEG OPTION) AVAILABLE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS</p>	<p>+ BRING YOUR OWN DRINK + 1940'S DRESS OPTIONAL + SPOT PRIZES + RAFFLE</p>
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80TH VE DAY
80TH ANNIVERSARY
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION
8 MAY 2025

For more info:
Email:
clerk@wouldhampc.co.uk



WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Burham clubs, organisations & services

All Saints Church, Burham & Wouldham

Burham & Wouldham Parish is in the Diocese of Rochester. The Church, of Saxon origin, is situated at High Street, Wouldham. Gwen Worcester

All Star Performers

We are a Musical Theatre company catering for 0-18yrs. All classes held in the Old School Community Centre on Saturdays. Facebook, 0738 808 4862 or allstarperformers@outlook.com

Bear Paws Quilters

The Club meets at the Community Centre twice a month on Wednesday evening, 7.30-10pm. We have approx. 30 members, covering all adult age groups. Kathy White. 0742 516 5742

Book Exchange

1st Friday each month, at the Old School Community Centre, 10.30am - 12noon Eileen Smith. 01634 867022

Burham Allotments

For availability and current rates; Dave Young 07719 854538.

Burham Baton Twirlers

Burham Village Hall, every Thursday 5pm-7pm Lyn Robinson 0772 937 3558

Burham Community Centre

This was formerly the Infants School which was purchased by the Parish Council and totally refurbished to include changing facilities. For hire, contact: Thurza Browne 01634 863322.

Burham Church of England Primary School

In modern permanent buildings, the school draws from Burham and further afield. It enjoys a good reputation for high academic standards, a strong Christian ethos, and a caring atmosphere.

Head: Holly Goddon 01634 861691

Burham Methodist Church

The church closed last year; however, it continues to have a presence. Contact Eileen Smith: 0778 628 1044

Burham Music Hall

Formed in the early 1970s, we currently host regular Quiz and Bingo nights as well as a Christmas Panto. New members are welcome to join our friendly company. We meet most Thursday evenings at Burham Village Hall. Simon Hughes 0798 035 7185

Burham Old Church of St Mary's (The church down by the river)

Spring Concert - The Martletts Chorus & Band *Saturday 5 April at 2pm*

The Tempest - This is My Theatre. *Tuesday 6 May at 7pm*

Quiz Night - £5 per head, tables of 6 *Saturday 17 May at 7pm*

More details on our facebook page: www.facebook.com/stmarysburham

Burham Parish Council Offices

The home of the Parish Office with a small meeting area. Parish Office, Rochester Road, by the Village Hall.

Burham Pre-School

We aim to help our children become independent, confident little people and cater for 2-5 year olds. We welcome families from Burham and local villages; give us a call to see if we are right for your little one? Burham Village Hall, morning & afternoon sessions available from Monday to Friday. Tracey Beechey: 0771 082 9954 or burham.pre-school@hotmail.co.uk

Burham Short Mat Bowls Club

The Club was established in 1990 and has 30 members and is open to all adult age groups. We meet on Mons & Weds evenings in the Village Hall 7.30– 9.30 pm.

Irene Benton 01634 867466

Burham United Charities

A local charity that provides assistance to those living within the old parish boundaries (i.e. Burham Village and parts of Blue Bell Hill). If you, or someone you know, are on a low income or has an exceptional need

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Burham clubs, organisations & services

which is not provided for by Welfare Benefits, we may be able to help.
Dave Young 07719 854538 or
Roger Kiralfy 01634 869900

Burham Village Hall

A large modern building in the centre of the village adjacent to the Recreation Ground. It is the venue for a wide range of activities including charity events, Burham Music Hall, wedding receptions and the Burham Pre School. To hire, contact: Aileen Bergin 0784 288 3028.

Burham & Wouldham Book Club

We meet every third Wednesday of the month in The Windmill Pub at 7.30pm to discuss the book we borrow from the library. A small friendly group with a wide range of opinions. Contact Gwen Worcester 0785 440 0506.

Burham Walking Group

We meet monthly at 10.30am on the last Wednesday of the month for a gentle local stroll. For details contact: Gwen Worcester 01634 672060

Burham & Wouldham Collection for local Foodbank

Collections continue in the two villages and you can donate at The Windmill Pub; 4 Church Street, Burham; 111 High Street, Wouldham; The Co-op in Peters Village or in the Wouldham church porch on Sundays from 9.30 to 12noon. If you require help please ring Gwen Worcester 01732 846314 for confidential advice.

Burham & Wouldham WI

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm at Burham Village Hall. Get in touch or just turn up – we will be pleased to see you.
BurhamWouldham@wkwfi.org.uk.
Margaret Wood 01622 718665

KCC Mobile Library Service

The library vehicle is parked in the Village Hall car park operating on alternate Tuesdays 2.25 - 3.25pm (red route). For updates and further info:

www.kent.gov.uk/mobilelibraries

Country Lunch

Held monthly at 1pm in the Old School Community Centre, on the 3rd Thursday in the month. A simple meal of home-made soup, bread, cheese, apple crumble & tea/coffee are served for £3. Eileen Smith 01634 867022

Duet Dance School

Held in the Community Centre on Wednesday between 3pm & 4pm.
Julie/Hayley 0783 478 0669

Force Medway Group

This is a self-defence group for all ages held in the Burham Village Hall on Weds 6-7.15pm & Fri 6-8.30pm.
Stuart Lowe 01634 862943 or 0755 796 249 www.forceselfdefence.com

Messy Church

Held at various locations locally at varying times.
Tonia Plowman 0759 357 5450

Sword Fencing

Held in the Community Centre on Thursday 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm.
tony.devine01@gmail.com

Sunday Karate

Held in the Community Centre 10am-12noon P Shepherd. 0775 792 5776

Thursday Morning Community Club

An informal get-together for all ages, we meet in the Old School Community Centre between 10.30am and 12noon on Thursday mornings. Admission fee is £2, and that includes all refreshments of tea/coffee, cakes and a free raffle. Hi Kent Hearing Clinic attends once a month and there are outside speakers sometimes. The Club also organises regular day trip outings.
Anne Taylor 01634 684927

Winchester House Care Home

Residential and 24-hour nursing care over five separate units. 180 Wouldham Rd, Wouldham ME1 3TR
Call: 01634 624957

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Burham businesses and services

The Butchers Block

Traditional dog friendly country pub with classic fare. 01634 786626
www.thebutchersblockpub.co.uk

Frost's Service Station & Store

Serving Burham for 50 years with garage services & a general store

Good Cod Mobile Fish & Chips

Burham Village Hall car park:
Wed. 4pm-8pm. 0784 018 1091

Happy House Chinese Takeaway

Chinese takeaway. Collection/delivery available. 01634 668326 or Facebook

The Robin Hood

700 year-old pub with two bars, formal dining and gardens. 01634 861500.
www.robinhood-pub.co.uk

The Vale Bakery

Fresh baked bread, pastries & pies on the premises. 01634 861572

The Windmill Pub

Village Pub with a beer garden. Family & dog friendly. 01634 394882 Facebook page or www.windmillburham.com



NHS Hearing Aid Maintenance Clinics

Hi Kent normally hold an aftercare clinic for NHS hearing aids in Burham on the second Thursday of the month at the Old School Community Centre, Bell Lane.

They are also looking for volunteers to help with the aftercare clinics .

Ring 01622 691151 for more information or visit <https://hikent.org.uk> to check availability and maintenance.

**Support the Buzz
Advertise with us
See page 12**

ROOFING REPAIRS

GRP Flat Roofing Specialist

Chimney Repairs / Pointing
Roof Windows / Skylights

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Guttering / Fascias / Soffits
Gutter Clearing and Cleaning
Exterior Painting

Call Nick: 07949 588464

01634 262582

AP Services

www.ap-services-kent.co.uk



The Burham Parish Council

Parish Council Offices, Rochester Road, Burham ME1 3RJ

The offices are located adjacent to the village hall. The Parish Clerk is Pam Saunders, her office hours are 10am-2pm, Monday-Friday. For the latest information visit our website which is updated on a regular basis.
email: pam@burhampc.co.uk t: 01634 685936
www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk
Burham Parish Council

Burham Parish Council Allotments

To enquire about availability of plots and current rates, please contact:
Dave Young 07719 854538

Burham Village Hall

Rochester Road, Burham ME1 3RJ

A large modern hall located in the centre of the village next to the Village Recreation Ground with a large car park. It has many facilities including a large main room, a kitchen, toilet facilities including disabled provision and access. Two other smaller rooms are also available. Hire charges:
Mon -Fri 8am to 8.30pm: £10 per hour. Fridays from 8:30pm &
Saturdays: £18-£25 per hour, depending on the activity. To book, contact: Aileen Bergin on 07842 883028

Burham Old School Community Centre.

Bell Lane, Burham, ME1 3SY

Formerly the village infant school, full of character, with parking close by in Bell Lane, the building has a large hall and a smaller one used for local clubs and charity events etc. Toilet facilities include disabled provision. Hire Costs: £10 per hour week days and £12 per hour at weekends. To book, Thurza Browne on 01634 863322

Wouldham & Burham Community Bus

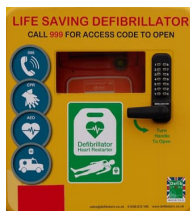
Provided by the two Parish Councils and operated by Compaid, a chargeable Membership scheme with weekly shopping trips to various local areas. Seats must be booked in advance. Additional charges for each trip. Open to residents of Burham and Wouldham including Peters Village. Application forms available from the Parish Clerk or from Wouldham Parish Council.



Published by Burham Parish Council

www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Burham Parish Council



Defibrillators

We currently have two defibrillators in Burham located outside:

The Parish Council Office

Frosts Service Station & Store

To access the defibrillator call 999 for the code and instructions