



Herne & Broomfield Community News



Spring 2026



Proud to be working with our residents in Herne & Broomfield since May 1996



WE'RE 30 YEARS OLD!

This year the Parish Council celebrates 30 years of working for the benefit of our local area, liaising with city and county councillors, supporting residents, planning events such as the children's Christmas party and Santa float, and of course over the past few years overseeing the building of the Herne Centre and managing it, ensuring it offers a balance of activities and resources.

Why not come and join us, to help celebrate?

Sunday 10th May 2.30 -5pm

Buffet and live music from The Breeze

Tickets £10 per person

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parish Events:

Community Groups Day - 7th March

Easter Quiz Night - 17th April

Celebrate 30 - 10th May

Craft Fair - 16th May

Garden Safari - 7th June

The Almost Complete History of Britain - 12th June

Plus inside: News and updates

Details of other events around the parish

The Strode Farm development

Parking issues in the area

Sports coaching

Church dates

And a round up of local groups and societies

Keeping you informed about our Parish



If there is a problem in your area then talk to us and we will try to help.

All Parish Council Meetings are open to the public

You do not need to wait for a meeting to raise matters of concern.

Contact any councillor or ☎ our Parish Council Office 01227 742700

or email: parishclerk@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Website - www.herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

Supporting local business

Our newsletter is delivered to more than 3700 homes & businesses in Herne and Broomfield and is reproduced on our website

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The cost for a year (4 editions)

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1/4 page - £196.80, 1/2 page - £393.60

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Update on Strode Farm development

The Parish Clerk and City Councillors met with Vistry regarding an update on the development.

They were able to confirm there will be no vehicular access from the new estate on to Lower Herne Road. The new spine road they are hoping to open early 2027. Once the spine road opens then Lower Herne Road will close near Bullockstone Road junction. There are 132 occupied properties on the new estate with Phase A complete and Phase B underway. Phase C is due to start late 2026.

Meet Emma, our temporary new member of staff

We are happy to welcome Emma Sharp who started working in the Parish Council office on 3rd December 2025 as a temporary Admin assistant.

Emma Sharp, who has lived locally for six years, is looking forward to working for and being a part of the parish.



Looking for a way to help your community and make new friends?

Why not volunteer for the parish council?

Volunteers are invaluable in our parish work, carrying out jobs such as delivering newsletters, working in the cafe for a couple of hours a week and helping out at parish events.

To find out more, contact the parish office.

The Herne Centre Garden

We started to renovate the garden early last year, the soil was very poor and extremely compacted, the grass was sparse and patchy.

We persevered, dug and planted snowdrops and a selection of spring flowering perennials, later on we planted Alchemilla Mollis, Phlomis, Pulmonaria, Lily of the Valley, Plumbago, Japanese Anemones, Stachys, Rudbeckia, Geraniums, Hellebores, Verbena, Evening Primrose, Persicaria, Hypericum, Lupins, Poppies, Cosmos, Fuchsia and Ferns.

All of these came from our own gardens and donations from Centre users.

We are a very small band of volunteers with limited time available, but by early summer the grass had recovered and the flower bed started to flourish, but then we had the heatwave and no rain to speak of and discovered that the water butt fittings had perished and they were all empty and of course we had the hosepipe ban, so we watered as best we could with watering cans, some of the new plants struggled and frazzled but thankfully most seem to have survived and thanks to Tim the water butts are now fixed.

We are underpinning the garden with perennials with butterflies and bees in mind and will be putting in some bee boxes and bug hutches this year (home made, work in progress).

We will be adding annuals grown by seed, ageratum, cosmos, nepeta and gaura, if you have any unwanted or leftover packets of seeds or any spare plants we would be grateful for them, we also need a couple of watering cans.

When the weather warms up later in the year there are tables and chairs in the garden, it is a lovely spot to sit and enjoy a coffee and a slice of Jackie's delicious home made cake.

Dogs are most welcome (with owners) with a bowl of fresh water and complimentary doggy treats.

So we look forward to seeing you.

Gill Lambkin

Our Parish Councillors

Our Parish Council Office is located at the Herne Centre
☎ 01227 742700, access via School Lane Car Park.



Brian Austin



Victoria Binstead



Ann Blatherwick



Debbie Checksfield



Monica Collins



Carol Davis



Julia Davison



Linda Hill



Gill Lambkin



Derek Maslin



Tony Strong



Linda White



Jeremy Wilson

Questions or concerns about our Parish?
Please email:
parishclerk@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk
phone 01227 742700
or contact any Parish Councillor,
see back page



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A long established, independent business located in the heart of Herne Bay. We stock a wide range of food and accessories for pets, poultry, and wildlife. Our friendly team own a variety of animals so can offer help and advice backed up by personal experience.

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Girlguiding

1st Herne Brownies

1st Herne Brownies was formed in 1952 and we meet in Herne on a Saturday morning.

We are open for girls aged 7-10 years of age

There are lots of things to do as a Brownie, including badge work, cooking, singing, crafts, playing games and going on trips. We took part in the parish scarecrow competition in October and proudly took 2nd place with our giant stickman. In November we attended the Remembrance Service at Herne Church at which we carried our unit flag. We held a meeting in the church in November and the girls learned about its history with an interactive quiz.

The girls organised our annual coffee morning and fayre raising money for unit funds by running games, selling gifts and cakes as well as showing off their face painting skills. Food is a firm favourite in our unit and we celebrated bonfire night with a special meeting of craft activities and ate a few hot dogs as well!

We are always looking for new members to join and welcome anyone to come along for a taster meeting to see what we do. Just drop an email with your daughter's name, date of birth and contact number to alisonlowl@hotmail.co.uk

Alison – Brown Owl – 1st Herne Brownies



1st Broomfield Guides

We meet weekly to have fun, make friends and try new activities. Over the past few months we helped a community project to make up gift boxes for children in hospital, tried our hand at woodcraft with pin art and building bird boxes, met one of our local councillors and learned about parliament and local politics for Parliament Week, and also enjoyed a visit to the pantomime, worked on our first aid and leadership skills and enjoyed various arts, crafts and activities.

Guides are aged between 10 and 14.

Lin – Cat – 1st Broomfield Guides



If you're interested in joining us as a member or an adult volunteer, please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk for further details

Scouts



1st Reculver and Herne scout group have been based at Ross Wood scout camp for 8 years but now we have been asked to leave by the district team, so we are now looking for a new space to use for our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Ideally we would like somewhere in or near the Herne and Broomfield and Reculver area and big enough for at least 24 children to be able to run around on a Monday and Thursday evening. If possible, it would be amazing if it had some outdoor space as well. We are getting desperate as we are running out of time. If you have any ideas please

let us know as we have lots of children waiting to join our group.

We have also opened a section Squirrels for younger children age 4 yrs to 6 yrs, on a Saturday morning currently based in Herne Bay.

If you are interested in Squirrels or can help our group in any way so our Beavers, Cubs and Scout sections can keep going please contact any of our leaders

Thank you

rusty.1streculver@gmail.com

Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

For information please contact

Beavers age 6yrs - 8yrs (Brigid) 01227 742406

Email: rusty.1streculver@gmail.com

Cubs age 8yrs - 10½yrs (Tim) 07766 135890

Email: t.short4@icloud.com

Scouts age 10½yrs - 14yrs (Julian) 01227 742406

Email: skip.1streculver@gmail.com

Explorers age 14yrs - 18yrs (Martyn) 07956 677577

Email: martyn.wingrove28@gmail.com



Christmas in the Parish

Christmas was its usual busy season with the parish holding events to help local people to celebrate this festive time.

On Saturday 15th November was the Christmas Craft Fair at the Herne Centre, with 28 craft and games stalls. Food was on offer from our community café and Santa also came along to hand out gifts. It was well attended. We are holding 2 further craft fairs this year on 16th May and 14th November, stalls are only £10 and its free entry to the public, to book email: assistant@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk



On 9th December we held our Christmas Lunch Club at the Herne Centre, we fed 44 residents a wonderful home cooked Christmas Lunch and pudding, they all got a glass of bucks fizz and a present to go home with and all for the price of only £12. Thank you to Taylor meats for providing the turkey at a discounted price, and Morrisons for donating the drink and mince pies.

On 14th December 50 local children attended the free children's Christmas party at the Herne Centre, it was a lovely event, children enjoyed a disco, party

food and a visit to Santa's Grotto and a free gift. Thank you to Vistry for donating the books for Santa to hand out.

The Parish Council decorated a tree as part of the St Martins Church tree festival.

The best was saved to last with Santa out on his float visiting the children of Herne and Broomfield on the Santa Tour on 20th and 21st December.

A big thank you to Ian Sargent, Raj from MBS, our two volunteer drivers Bob Rolfe and Marc Collins, and our volunteers that walked with the float on both nights, and not forgetting Santa himself!

Thanks to all those that came out, especially braving the very wet conditions on Sunday.

We raised £300 for the community fund.



Strode Park Foundation's Giant Easter Egg Hunt 2026!



We are thrilled to host our charity community favourite, the Giant Easter Egg Hunt, and this year's event promises to be more egg-citing than ever.

Set in our beautiful garden at Strode Park House in Herne, bring your family and friends to enjoy a fun-filled Easter morning.

Every child will receive a chocolate egg after finding all five hidden eggs. Don't forget to look out for the gold and silver eggs to win fantastic prizes.

Take part in garden games and crafts, our raffle and tombola, showcase your Easter bonnet, and meet the Easter Bunny!

This much-loved egg-stra special fundraising event has sold out for the past two years, so be sure to book early to avoid missing out.

Location: Strode Park House, Lower Herne Road, CT6 7NE.

Date: Saturday 4th April 2026

Time: 10am to 1pm

Tickets: Child £4 and Adult £1

Buy your tickets now at

www.strodepark.org.uk/events

All proceeds go towards supporting people with disabilities.

Little Acorns (Herne) Preschool
Top Field, Rear of 71 Norton Ave
Herne, Kent. CT6 7TA

Charity No.1027456

01227 749317

littleacornsherne50@gmail.com



We are having a very busy term, enjoying lots of different activities centred around our story of the month 'The Gingerbread Man'... including making our own gingerbread men to decorate and eat!



The children have been out about enjoying winter walks, taking note of the environmental changes during these colder months. To celebrate Chinese New Year (Fire Horse) the children will have the opportunity to taste oriental cuisine and learn more about the cultures and traditions of Asia.

To end this term, we will be holding an open afternoon where we will be welcoming in our parents/carers and grandparents to join in with craft activities. During this we will be holding a Teddy Bears Orphanage for the families to buy a raffle ticket and see which soft toy they get to take home!

Our registers are currently full for the rest of this academic year and we are operating a waiting list for the September 2026 intake. If you wish to add your child onto our waiting list, please email to the above address and we will contact you later in the year to invite you for a show around.

Parking issues in Herne & Broomfield

The Parish Council is getting more complaints from residents about inconsiderate parking across the Parish. This includes parking on pavements, parking too close to junctions, across driveways and on grass verges.

This is happening mostly in Forgefields, Norton Avenue, Kingsfield Road, Windmill Road, The Meadows, Streetfield, Gorse Lane and the grass triangles at Broomfield.

We have tried, with Canterbury City Council, to have double yellow lines put in certain areas to negate the issue, but this has been opposed by some residents.

We also have had reports that when residents have asked people to move, they have been met with abuse.

To try and stop the cars parking on the triangles at Broomfield Pond, we are looking at planting hedges to try to stop cars damaging the grass verges.

In March we are also holding a closed meeting with the City Councillors, County Councillors, local schools, football club, police, nursery, KCC Highways Engagement Officer, and some local residents to try and work out solutions to the parking issues in Streetfield and Forgefields area.

The situation is getting dangerous, with children crossing between vehicles and cars being forced onto the wrong side of the road.

Please can we all be mindful. Walk when you can, or consider lift sharing with other parents, also local buses operate a frequent service to the villages.

Parking at the Herne Centre and Public Car Park

Parking in the Herne Centre car park is reserved for staff and patrons. Parking in the main School Lane car park is free before 10am and after 4pm.

There have been issues with parents using the Centre car park for school drop off and pick up, and in some cases they have been leaving their engines idling for some considerable time.

Myth: Starting an engine causes more pollution than idling.

Fact: Turning an engine off and restarting it after a minute or longer causes less pollution than keeping the engine idling and uses less fuel.

Myth: The engine needs to stay on to keep the battery fully charged.

Fact: Modern batteries need less engine running time to work and don't need the engine on constantly to keep them charged.

Myth: It is better to idle the vehicle as turning the engine off and on wears it out.

Fact: Idling dirties your engine with incomplete combustion, increasing wear and tear. Maintaining your vehicle is important for preventing breakdowns and reducing air pollution.

Myth: Catalytic converters need to be hot to work properly.

Fact: Yes, but an idling engine does not keep a catalytic convertor warm. They retain their heat for about 25 minutes after an engine is switched off.

Myth: When it's cold I need to keep my vehicle and passengers warm or warm up my engine.

Fact: It can take up to an hour for an engine to cool down. Turning off your engine but keeping the ignition on and the fan blowing, will provide warm air for some time.



COME ALONG AND FIND OUT ABOUT
THE EXCELLENT ACTIVITIES RUN BY OUR

Community Groups in Herne & Broomfield

Saturday 7th March

at the Herne Centre

Fun live
demonstrations



**Childrens activities and refreshments
available**



**BMX, Karate, Art, History,
knitting, Brownies, Scouts,
Circle Dance & lots more...**



Herne Centre Lunch Club

Held the second Wednesday of each
month:

11th February, 11th March, 8th April, 13th May

Main course - £5

Traditional home cooked meals such as cottage pie, fish and chips, chicken
pie and vegetables etc – dietary requirements catered for

Dessert - £3

**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL AND PAYMENT IN
ADVANCE** - To book call 01227 742700 or email:

assistant@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

Booking Closes the Friday before



HERNE & BROOMFIELD

Garden Safari

Sunday 7th June

11am—5pm*

* Check programme for specific garden opening times

Programmes available from the Herne Centre
from 1st June, and on the day from 10.30am.

£5 per adult, children go free.

(You **MUST** have a programme to join the trail)

Are you interested in showing your garden for
this year's garden safari?

We have a lot of positive feedback from those who do. We
will be holding an information evening for prospective
open gardens on Tuesday 17th March at 7pm at the Herne
Centre.

If you have any questions or want to find out more
email assistant@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk
or call 01227 742700



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First Question at 7:30pm

All monies raised will go towards Updating Band Uniforms



Herne and Broomfield Knit and Natter Group

**Mondays from 2pm until 4pm
at the Herne Centre**

£2 per session

No need to book, just turn up, includes tea/coffee & biscuits. Bring your knitting and crochet, make friends and chat while you knit.

Whether you are a beginner or have been knitting for years, everyone is welcome. Help with patterns gladly given and often patterns and wool passed on.

Short on ideas or no project? There are suggestions available for charity knits.

We look forward to seeing you.

Contact: Carol 07866264093

Monday Coffee at the Mill

On a miserable, grey, cold morning in January, what could be better than a coffee or tea and a slice of delicious home-made cake in a lovely, cosy room at the mill – a place to share your news and have a good moan about politics, the cost of living, losing the Ashes and.... Well, anything really. Friendships are being made, newcomers to the village are welcomed and small, well-behaved dogs are welcome.

Sadly inflation caught up with us last year and so, after the Christmas break, we had to increase the cost of a generous slice of cake to £2. All proceeds go to the Friends of the Mill and, as a Community Asset, we are another good reason to help the case for preventing any future sale of our lovely old Mill.

If you need a happy, warm start to the week, come along any Monday between 10am and 12 noon.

EASTER Quiz Night

Friday 17th April

**6.30pm
for 7pm
start**

**The Herne Centre,
St Martins View,
Herne
CT6 7AP**

£5 per person, tables of up to 8. ALL drinks MUST be purchased from the bar, but bring your own snacks

Broomfield Art Group



This year we not only celebrated the festive season with a delicious buffet lunch washed down with copious amounts of mulled wine (non alcoholic of course) we were also challenged to each produce a piece of artwork to cover the twelve days of Christmas. There were plenty of offers up to and including 'five gold rings' but the twelve drummers drumming, eleven pipers piping and so on, were not quite so easy.

We did manage to complete the whole set and all results were displayed in the café during the run up to Christmas.

We have now been allocated wall space in the same area for a small regular show of our paintings, some of which are for sale and make lovely reasonably priced special unique gifts for friends and families.

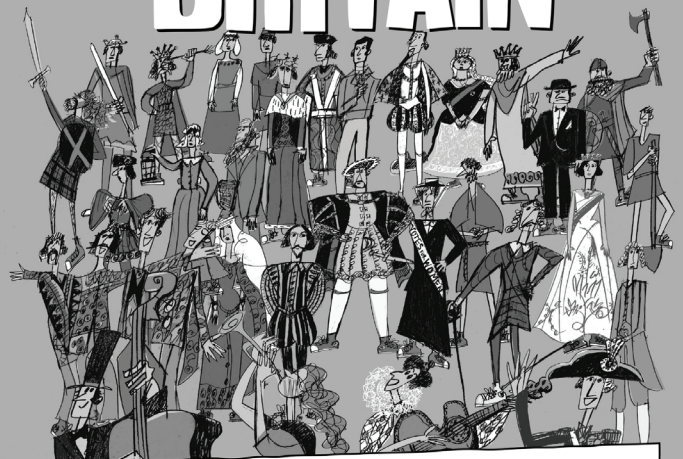
We continue to welcome artists of all ages and abilities, including nervous beginners, those who are experienced and have been painting for years as well as inbetweeners.

If you are interested, call in any Thursday morning between 10am and 12 noon to have a taster. We are non profit making – the first session is free, thereafter we charge £10 per month to cover our rent. Coffee and biscuits are at 11am, so that's always a good time to call. For more information contact 07747 080 675

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**The Herne Centre, Herne Bay
Fri 12 June at 7.30pm
Book online at thepantaloons.co.uk**



The Herne Centre Public Activities Timetable from March 2026

	Morning		Afternoon		Evening
Monday		Gentle Pilates 10.45-11.45am weekly	Knit & Natter 2-4pm weekly	Pilates 6-7pm weekly Al-Anon UK Group 6-7.30pm weekly	Salsa Class 7.30-10pm weekly Sewing Club 6.15-9.15pm 3rd Monday in month
Tuesday	Café Orders till 1.30pm Mixed Ability Pilates 9.30-10.30am	Café Orders till 1.30pm Gentle Pilates 10.45-11.45am	Parent & Baby Pilates 12-2pm weekly	Care to Dance 5.30-7pm weekly	Puppy Training Classes 7.15-8.45pm
Wednesday	Football Fun Factory 8.50-10.20am Yoga 9.30-10.30am	Little Music Stars Times by age 9am – 12.30pm weekly	Lunch Club 12-2pm 2nd Wednesday in month		Bounce 7-8pm weekly
Thursday	Café Orders till 1.30pm Art Group 10-12pm	Baby Yoga & Massage 11am-1.00pm	Gentle Workout 12.30-1.30pm weekly	Puppy Socialisation Class 6.30pm weekly	
Friday	Café Orders till 1.30pm Hartbeeps Times by age 9am-1pm weekly	Café Orders till 1.30pm Community Coffee Morning 9.30-11.30am weekly	Melody Singers Choir 10-11am Weekly	Tea Dance 1.30-4pm (3rd Friday of the month)	
Saturday	Assassin Class 9-9.45am weekly				
Sunday	Body Blitz 8.30-9.30am Alternate weeks Bounce 9.30-10.30am weekly	Pokidom Trade Club 12-4pm (3rd Sunday of the month)			



More information & photos at www.thehernecentre.co.uk

Follow us on **Facebook HerneCentre** or **Instagram herne.centre** for daily updates and special events



Our Community Café is now open three mornings a week!

On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9.30—last orders 1.30

A friendly welcome for breakfasts, light lunches,
homemade cake and more...

Coming soon - a revised spring menu with weekly specials!

We have highchairs for little ones
& a water bowl for dogs!

Free parking for Centre/Café users around our building



Coming Up at The Herne Centre...

Activity	Date	Details	
Community Groups Day	Saturday 7th March	Come along to find out about the excellent activities run by our Community Groups in Herne & Broomfield & what's on offer at the Herne Centre. Demos, children's activities & refreshments available.	Between 10am & 2pm
Antiques & Vintage Valuation Day	Monday 9th March	We Buy Vintage will be here, their website says: Face-to-face valuations. Clear explanations. Instant payment. Turn your unwanted gold, watches, jewellery, cameras, coins, collectables and much more into cash at our roadshow.	Between 10am & 3pm
Book Share Pre-School Story Time	Friday 13th March	Come and join Herne Book Share for their popular fun story session with craft activities.	Starts at 11.30am. A donation towards craft materials is welcomed if you can
Quiz Night	Saturday 14th March	This is a fundraising quiz for Invicta Concert band, contact rogers.trent@gmail.com to book or for more information	£5 per person, tables of 8 Booking essential
Pokémon Trading Club	Sunday 15th March Sunday 19th April Sunday 17th May	A walk-in event from 12pm to 4pm. Advice available on collecting, trading & grading. Refreshments available to purchase – teas, coffees, cake, bacon rolls and more...	No booking, £5 entrance ticket includes a mystery booster pack (Pokémon Vmax Ex or higher)
Book Browse	Thursday 26th March	Our lovely Book Share team are on hand with our stock of books all out on display to be browsed & borrowed!	Until 1pm
Hartbeeps Easter special	Saturday 28th March	10am - Happy House (toddlers to pre-school and younger siblings) 11am - Baby Beeps (sitting, crawling and toddling babies) 12.15pm - Baby Bells (newborn to toddling babies)	Booking opens Monday 2nd March – Easter Special Saturday morning!
Valuation Day Roadshow	Mon 30th March, Wed 6th May	Lockdales Auctioneers & Valuers will be here with their free valuation day roadshow. Their website says "whether you are considering a sale or simply seeking further information, our team of skilled professionals can help."	5pm-7.30pm (last entry 7pm)
Bat Talk	Tuesday 31st March	Provided by Dr John Puckett, Chairman of Kent Bat Group, more details to follow.	Evening – time tbc
Blood donations	Tuesday 7th April Tuesday 26th May	The Centre will be a blood donor station for appointments between 1.30pm and 9pm.	Visit blood.co.uk to register or book an appointment, you can drop in during the session for more information.
Lunch Club	Wednesdays 8th April 13th May 10th June	Our popular lunch club provides a main meal with a tea or coffee for £5 and £3 for a pudding. We love helping people meet new friends! Food served between 12.15 & 1.45pm, menu changed monthly.	Booking essential by the Friday before – ring 01227 742700 or email assistant@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk
Scorpio Soul Club	Sunday 12th April	Playing only vinyls – Northern Soul, Motown, Modern Soul, R&B and more! Find Scorpio Soul Club on Facebook, Instagram or Tik Tok for more information.	2.30-6.30pm
Herne Quiz Night	Friday 17th April	Join us for our fun Herne Centre & Parish Council quiz – Tables of up to 8, come as a group or make up a table with others - £5 a ticket. Bring your own snacks, purchase soft drinks or alcohol from our bar (please don't bring your own as this is against our licence)	01227 742700 to book or assistant@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk
Craft Fair	Saturday 16th May	£10 stall if you would like to sell, free entry to browse & buy! Lovely range of handmade items.	To book a stall – 01227 742700 or email assistant@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

NEW!

New to the Herne Centre this year is a Parent & Baby Pilates class on a Tuesday and a Baby yoga & massage class on a Thursday – both run by Millie, check out millierosemoves.com for more details and booking.

Heather who has been running puppy socialisation classes here on a Thursday has now started a Tuesday session for Puppy Training courses – visit wildshaped.co.uk for more information.

Also new for 2026 are beginner friendly yoga classes run by Janice on a Wednesday morning at 9.30am – www.janice-champion.co.uk.

Our Salsa class on a Monday is going from strength to strength, they now run from 7.30-10pm to allow time for lessons and putting the steps into practice every week – why not try out something new at the Herne Centre?

HERNE CENTRE DEPUTY MANAGER VACANCY

This role is to assist the Herne Centre Manager (the Manager) at the Herne Centre (the Centre).

The overall purpose of the role is to assist the Manager with the smooth running of the Centre, so that the Centre is a vibrant, friendly, well-run facility for users, and that it works to support the needs of parish residents. This includes identifying new opportunities by means of effective marketing, networking and innovative solutions, and accessing relevant funding sources to achieve this. A fundamental part of the Deputy Manager's role is to provide management support and cover at the weekends, to provide a continuous level of service throughout the week.

The role would suit a dynamic person with experience of working in an events/hospitality environment and who enjoys working with the public. It is essential to have good people skills and be an effective team leader.

This post will be full time, 37 hours per week, under the direct management of the Manager. Your main hours of work are to be Friday to Sunday, to cover weekend bookings. The remainder to be taken on two additional days of the week. The hours of work will be determined by the demands of the Centre, and therefore a level of flexibility is necessary, including the ability to work evenings. In addition, you should be able to be contacted out of hours.

In return we offer a competitive salary, enrolment into the Local Government Pension Scheme, and flexible working hours.

Full details of the role and how to apply can be found on the Parish Council website: www.herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

Alternatively, contact: Michele Nicholson, Parish Clerk, Herne & Broomfield Parish Council, Parish Office, Herne Centre, St. Martin's View, Herne, Kent CT6 7AP. Email: parishclerk@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk.

Closing date 13th March 2026

Sports Connect

Even through the winter months, Sports Connect CIC has continued to deliver our local youth sports sessions, with consistent attendance of between 6-12 children each week. We would normally take a seasonal break, but at the request of the children and their parents we've kept going. This is a real sign of how much the sessions are valued and how important regular activity and routine can be for young people.

We're also proud to share that young people in the area can access a free sports coaching qualification through Sports Connect. This has already created positive progression routes: we've recently employed another former member of the group to help run the sessions. Both members of staff are former players, have gained part-time employment with Sports Connect, and are now working towards further coaching qualifications. This development is being led by Jay Meehan who has been attending as a player and now a coach now for over 10 years. Jay is using his experiences to support young people to build skills, confidence and future opportunities through sport.

SPORTS
CONNECT

**FREE
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SESSION IN
YOUR AREA**

Cherry Orchard, Canterbury Rd,
Herne Bay CT6 7HD

TUESDAYS 17:00 - 18:00



FIND OUT MORE



We are always looking for and welcoming new young people to join. Whether someone is brand new to sport, already experienced, or simply wants to socialise and be active with friends, they'll be made to feel included. If you'd like to find out more, please come along and say hello at a session. Thank you as ever to the Parish Council for their support in funding the sessions.

Looking for an allotment?



Herne and Broomfield Allotment Society runs the allotment site at Ford Road, near the BMX track. We have around 70 half-plots, with onsite parking, toilet and water supply.

If you want to join the short waiting list, email HABAS@coinlea.co.uk

or call Lin on 07910 570250.

Please remember that an allotment needs a regular time commitment!

Newsletter Deadlines

6th February, May, August
& October

for delivery March, June,
September & November

We welcome local news or events

Friends of Herne Mill



Happy New Year to All.

An excellent Halloween event was held with about 800 visitors making their way through the Wootton Room for a 'Spooky' experience!

A good attendance for our AGM, held at the end of November, thanks to all those who attended.

The mill was lit up for the Christmas period, once again many thanks to all our volunteers.

KCC have allocated funds in their budget for the coming year, so we are hopeful some work will be carried out soon, starting with repairs to the cap. Wednesday morning work parties continue keeping working parts greased, small repairs are carried out and work in and around the mill, to keep everything tidy.

No further updates regarding divestment of the mills, when we know any more we will pass the info on. Short report this time, so I have included a rather nice poem.

Hope to see you all at the Community Day at Herne Centre on 7th March or visiting the mill when we open for Easter.



The Windmill

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Behold! A giant am I!
Aloft here in my tower,
With my granite jaws I devour
The Maize and the Wheat and the Rye,
And grind them into flour.

I look down over the farms,
In the fields of grain I see,
The harvest that is to be,
And I fling to the air my arms,
For I know it is all for me.

I hear the sound of flails,
Far off, from the threshing-floors,
In barns, with their open doors,
And the wind, the wind in my sails,
Louder and louder roars.

I stand here in my place,
With my foot on the rock below,
And whichever way it may blow,
I meet it face to face,
As a brave man meets his foe.

And while we wrestle and strive,
My master, the miller stands
And feeds me with his hands,
For he knows who makes him thrive,
Who makes him lord of lands.

On Sundays I take my rest,
Church-going bells begin,
Their low, melodious din,
I cross my arms on my breast,
And all is peace within.

FRIENDS OF HERNE & BROOMFIELD PONDS

I'm pleased to look back on another good year of our six (bi-monthly) very productive and enjoyable 'Tidy-Up' sessions, held on Sunday mornings between 10.00 am to around midday, finishing up in the Huntsman & Horn with a welcome hot drink and biscuit, kindly provided by the pub.

These friendly sessions have been very well attended by our enthusiastic group, that have helped considerably in keeping both the small 'garden' area and the surrounding pond perimeter looking well managed and maintained.

Many thanks to all our members for their involvement and support, and also to Canterbury City Council for authorising the prompt removal by contractors Canenco of a characteristically large pile of cuttings from the end of each session. Thanks also for their schedule of regular strimming and grass cuts throughout the summer months.

Particular thanks are also due to the Huntsman & Horn, Broomfield Post Office and Goldfinch Nursery for their generous donations to our funds. This enables us from time to time to have larger additional jobs done, such as grinding out the stumps recently

of a patch of invasive grey willow bushes that had grown up by the pond edge.

One benefit of the recent wet weather, following the extended dry summer period, is that the pond is again encouragingly replenished, with the ducks correspondingly active and happy.

The pond is designated as common land, meaning that it relies on volunteers to take an interest in it, and help preserve its historic and natural charm.

Our schedule of 'Tidy-Up' sessions for the coming year are as follows -

8th March
12th April
7th June
13th September
11th October
15th November

Please make a note of the dates and feel free to join us whenever you're available.

Many thanks - you won't be disappointed!



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Herne & Broomfield Local History Group

Founded 2003 – Member of British
Association for Local History

Our Annual General Meeting in November 2025 was well attended. Thanks were given to the officers and committee for their work. Lifetime Honorary Membership was presented to Margaret Burns for her contribution to the History Group since its formation in 2003. As a founder member, Margaret has been involved in many of our activities, including researching the history of Herne's buildings and past families for enquiries and publications. She has spent many hours working behind the scenes as well as very ably hosting our meetings. Her many talks on our local area are popular, always contain interesting details and are well received. The meeting ended with an illustrated talk by Margaret on her memories of a weekly shopping trip with our mum in the 1950s. It was a great reminiscence trip for the audience too!

Sylvia McKean

Our 2025 programme ended in December when we enjoyed an evening of Christmas Carols with Keith and Susan Record and their team of Handbell Ringers, all of which helped to put us in the mood for the Christmas Festivities. We have arranged a new programme for 2026. As usual we are always pleased to welcome visitors and new members – and past members who perhaps we have not seen for a time, to our meetings when there is time for questions and informal discussions over a cup of tea afterwards.

OUR NEXT MEETINGS ARE:

Tuesday March 3rd one lane two parishes - Part Two of Carol Davis' Research on Herne's Braggs Lane; discovering families who once lived in this rural part of the parish. Superior Wethers, Locomotive, Gypsies,

Poultry, Tragic Fire, Bankruptcy, Dairy and Coal Boring.

Tuesday April 7th - a short walk on a long pier. Margaret Burns looks at the history of, and life around, Herne Bay's three Piers. Built for passenger steamers, the earliest wooden pier gradually rotted away; the second was too short; whilst the 20th century one suffered serious damage in a 1978 storm.



Tuesday May 5th - Ramsgate tunnels. Ramsgate Tunnels Education Outreach Manager Lynn Turner, reveals stories of life in the tunnels from early days of WW2 when the system evolved into an underground city with over 1,000 permanent residents, to the exploits of later urban explorers.

CAN YOU HELP?

A recent enquiry to provide some history and background of a house in Hunters Forstal Road Broomfield has resulted in some interesting information on previous residents. Alice and Alfred Foulks lived in Hunters Forstal Road from c1900 – 1949. Alfred Foulkes who died in 1949, was evidently a small market gardener who supplied fresh produce to local homes and hotels - all grown in his own garden. He was also a bit of a character, well known as a veteran darts player playing in local pubs for the East Kent League. He delivered newspapers around the district for 30+ years on his tricycle well into his eighty's. It would be interesting to know whether any readers or their families have any memories of this gentleman who was well-known during this time – and perhaps may know more about his market gardening activities?

Margaret Burns

ALAN FRANK DILNOT JP 1938 - 2025



Herne & Broomfield Local History Group Committee, Members and Friends would like to pay tribute to our dear friend Alan Dilnot who sadly passed away on 19th November 2025 after a long and debilitating illness.

Alan was a founder member of our History Group when it was formed in 2003. He soon became Chair of the Group and remained in post until 2021 when he retired due to ill health.

Alan's family history was part of Herne's past. In the 1850s his ancestor Richard Dilnot set up a grocers shop in Herne on the site of today's village shop. His grandfather Frank was the village Butcher - the family lived in nearby Colonial House. His great uncle Thomas Edward Dilnot was for many years the local Registrar, and his great aunt Emma Dilnot, the village postmistress for around 50 years.

Herne's First World War memorial, on which two of his great uncles are remembered, was one of Alan's particular interests. In 2015 he led the Group's team who arranged the unveiling of Sgt. Harry Wells' Victoria Cross memorial plaque by Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Viscount De L'Isle. Together with Cllr Alan Marsh, in 2020 Alan negotiated the funding of the

cleaning of the War Memorial which involved KCC's Community Fund, War Memorials Trust and Church of England authorities.

Both Alan and his wife Shirley were responsible for the survey of St Martin's churchyard. This took many hours of meticulous work recording the surviving headstones and resulted in the 2013 survey publication which has proved to be an invaluable reference resource. Alan also made contributions to our book *Historical Herne and Broomfield* published in 2007 - in particular the chapter on Herne's Church of England School, where he was on the Board of Governors. The installation of a plaque on Herne's school boundary wall in 2012 commemorating Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee was another of Alan's achievements. In 2021 Alan and Shirley were presented with Honorary History Group Life Membership for their contribution to the History Group.

Alan was adept at keeping committee meetings on track with his usual sound advice and wise guidance. We will always be grateful that he took such a great interest in our local history and both he and his contribution to the Group will be remembered by us for many years.

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HERNE BAY FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETY - *Friendship through Flowers*

Over the course of our year 2025/2026 we have had flower arranging demonstrators, workshops, our Kent Area AGM and many other activities. Our Club Show in November was held in the St Martin's Church Hall, as was our annual Wine and Wisdom. One of the demonstrations, titled 'Holiday' was demonstrated by 6 of our highly competent members. They completed arrangements that represented a holiday they had been on and the audience of members and visitors had to guess where they had been. It was a highly successful evening and has been requested again, with a different title.

We held an indoor workshop, that was well attended, and members could choose to create a Christmas design. Some did a table arrangement that stood on a square of wood with an outer ring of pine and other cones with a beautiful flower arrangement of their choice in the centre, a spacial orb again with a flower arrangement centre and a topiary tree, which gained the most participants. In the afternoon a hand made wreath was made from willow and then decorated.

Our December meeting was a Christmas Lunch, which over 30 members attended and was enjoyed by all who attended.

Set out below is our Schedule for the next few months:

19th March. A Workshop with Helen Hare / Club Competition 'March Magic' / Bookstall

16th April. Marion Matharu 'Floral' Fiesta' / Club Competition / Christine's Plant Stall

21st May Patricia White & Karen Card 'A Night At the Theatre' / Club Competition / Christine's Plant Stall

17th June. Susan Tausig 'Sumptuously Summer' / Club Competition / Christine's Plant Stall

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month except for the December meeting. There is no meeting in August. We meet at Pettman House, William Street, CT6 5NY. 7.00pm to approx 9.45pm. No entry to the hall before 7.00pm. Our current subscription fee is £40.00. And visitors £7.00 per visit.

Should you have any queries please contact our Chairman Sue Forrester on 07729-255839.



HERNE ROSE AND GARDENING CLUB

We are a friendly club which welcomes anyone with a keen interest in gardening at any level of expertise.

We hold monthly meetings (excluding January and August) which cover a wide range of horticultural activities.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm at Herne Church Hall, Canterbury Road, CT6 7HE.

We organise trips to local gardens and those further afield and hold social and fundraising events. We host a wide variety of enthusiastic guest speakers at our meetings, followed by a cuppa and biscuits, a raffle and plant stall.

It feels as though it has been a long winter, yet as I write we are just starting to see the spring bulbs emerging, the snow drops will soon be followed by the daffodils and we will be well on our way to warmer days and spending time in our gardens.

We are always delighted to recruit new members to our club, you are welcome to join one of our meetings as a guest for a nominal fee. Why not bring a friend?



NEWS ROUNDUP

At our AGM in November we had a "change of guard" when 3 key members stepped down from the Committee after a combined 94yrs of service ! Margaret Burns retired after a long tenure as Chair and has become our Vice President. Ian Clapp retired from the Committee after many years and is now our Honorary President, and Terry Jewiss retired after long service on the Committee and balancing our books as Treasurer. They were each presented with gifts as a token of our gratitude.

The new Committee has been beaver away to put together our Programme for this year's activities commencing with Registration on Feb 17th and on March 17th we have Mrs Sue Marshall speaking on The English Love Affair with Irises and our Spring Competition.

Elaine Maslin (Chair)

maslinelaine@gmail.com

For more information check us out online and on Facebook





HERNE BAY CEMETERIANS

Volume 2 of the memorial inscriptions (plots U-EE) is now available for reference at the library, cathedral archives and local history groups.

Our winter months have been busy using our resources to produce a handful of local house histories commissioned by the current owners. We've also been able to help quite a few people from far and wide by locating (often unmarked) burials at the cemetery.

Later in the spring, we'll return to the cemetery to check our original transcriptions for Volume 3, before going to print. We are working closely with the Cemeteries department at Canterbury City Council and soon hope to have news regarding the formation of a cemetery friends group.

For more information please watch for updates on Facebook and Instagram or contact

mandyboxall@aol.com



Sunday 29th March - Palm Sunday

9:45am Palm Sunday Parade from St Martin's Hall to St Martin's Church, with Palm Sunday Service at St Martin's starting at 10.00 am.

Usual services in our parish*:

8am: BCP Holy Communion every Sunday

9am: BUBBLE CHURCH – on 2nd & 4th Sundays (for families)

10am: 1st Sunday – All Age Service (with band & children's craft)
2nd & 4th Sunday – Communion (with children's activities)
3rd Sunday – "Sausage Sarnie Sunday" at St Peter's, Greenhill

Wednesdays at 9:15am - short Midweek Communion

St Martin's April Services 2026 (including Holy Week & Easter)*

**(Note changes of usual pattern in April due to Easter)*

Holy Week Monday 30th March	7pm Holy Week Compline	St Martin's
Holy Week Tuesday 31st March	7pm Holy Week Compline	St Martin's
Holy Week Wednesday 1st April	9:15 am Holy Week Communion	St Martin's
	7pm Holy Week Compline	St Martin's
Maundy Thursday 2nd April	7pm Maundy Thursday Communion	St Martin's
Good Friday 3rd April	10am Walk of Witness – followed by Hot Cross Buns at 11am	From St Martin's to St Peter's
	3pm Reflection at the Cross	St Martin's
Sunday 5th EASTER DAY	6am Sunrise service	St Martin's
	8am Holy Communion	St Martin's
	10am Easter Sunday Sung Eucharist	St Martin's
Wednesday 8th April	9:15 am Midweek Communion	St Martin's
Sunday 12th April 2nd Sunday of Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion	St Martin's
	9:00 am Bubble Church	
	10.00 am All-Age Service (Note change of usual pattern due to Easter)	St Martin's
Wednesday 15th April	9:15 am Midweek Communion	St Martin's
Sunday 19th April 3rd Sunday of Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion	St Martin's
	10.00 am Family Communion (Note change of usual pattern due to Easter)	St Martin's
Wednesday 22nd April	9:15 am Midweek Communion	St Martin's
Sunday 26th April 4th Sunday of Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion	St Martin's
	9:00 am Bubble Church	St Martin's
	10.00 am Eggy Breakfast café church (Note change of usual pattern due to Easter)	St Peter's
Wednesday 29th April	9:15 am Midweek Communion	St Martin's

St. Martin's Matters

As this newsletter arrives for your perusal, we will be heading toward Easter, which falls this year on 5th April. The ways we mark this in the parish and journey towards the celebration are shared in this publication – please have a look and come and join us.

Easter is a time of joy, when we celebrate the message of hope that Christians see in the belief that Jesus died on the cross and was resurrected so that we might have eternal life. When we eat our Easter eggs, we are presented with symbols of new life in the egg that is also the symbolic shape of Jesus' empty tomb. Even Easter bunnies and Easter flowers capture the celebration of new life in spring at this time of year.

Hope and joy are both something important to reach out for in our modern world that seems to be so disillusioned, and messages of hope often are drowned out – let alone opportunities for joy.

I wonder what gives you joy and makes you hopeful. Maybe it is a hobby or interest. Sport and creativity are ways in which we can often find opportunities for joy and hope. Taking part in sport or rooting for your team, enjoying singing or art, going for a walk in the country or by the sea... there are so many ways to discover joy and hope around us – and this magazine showcases all the many things on offer in our community.

Recently I was privileged to be invited to a showcase for the school and community dance groups at Herne Bay High School. There was such joy in the participation together in moving and dancing- across generations.

This reminds me of the good old school assembly favourite "Lord of the Dance", which seems to be often requested by young couples getting married these days as a memory from their school days. The story of Easter is contained in the words (search them up!) and it captures the both the hope and joy of Easter and what we might find in dancing:

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

For Christians it is a reminder that Jesus promises "I'll live in you, if you'll live in me" as we sing in this song, and invites us to discover for ourselves the one who is "the Lord of the Dance".

Blessings,
Chris



*The Rev'd
Chris Dyer*

St Martin-in-Herne Church is open in the daytime for visiting, quiet reflection or space for prayer.



Explore this ancient building at the heart of our community. Enjoy the history and stories of this village and those who have lived and worshipped here. Light a candle in memory of someone special or for light in the midst of troubles.

Please remember it is a very old building and whilst every effort has been made to keep people safe, do take care moving around the different spaces.

Curry Night

Friday 13th March

St Martin's Hall, Herne

7pm

BYO drink

£10 per person on the door

In aid of St Martin's Church funds

Please book: revchrisdenyer@gmail.com

or 01227 906662 or sign up in church

Save the Date

**Easter Egg
Bingo!**

Saturday April 4th

Time TBC

St Peter's Church &
Community Centre,
Herne Drive, Greenhill

In aid of St Martin's, Herne
& St Peter's, Greenhill

BARN DANCE

with Ceilidh Band

Rejoiced

Saturday 2nd May

7pm-10:30pm

St Peter's Church & Community Centre,
Herne Drive, Greenhill

£10 per person (under 16 free)

Book via our website

www.st-martin-in-herne.com

Click on the link to Eventbrite

BYO drinks & snacks

Hot Dogs to buy & Raffle

In aid of local church funds



Parish Council Meetings

are held on the
second Thursday of the month
at the **Herne Centre**

Details are on the Parish noticeboards and website

herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

All meetings are open to the public

Residents may address councillors in the adjournment but
may not interrupt the meeting.

**You do not need to wait for a meeting to raise matters
of concern - contact any councillor or call our parish
council office email**

parishclerk@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

☎ 01227 742700

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Website www.thehernecentre.co.uk

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☎ 01227 749678

Delmergate Pharmacy,

38 Broomfield Road, ☎ 01227 366042

Out of hours emergency healthcare ☎ 111

Urgent Treatment Centre, Queen Vic. Hospital, King Edward

Ave. Herne Bay, CT6 6EB open 7 days a week,

365 days a year from 8am - 8pm ☎ 01227 594756

also at Estuary View, Whitstable ☎ 01227 284309

Schools

Herne C. of E. Infants School. ☎ 01227 740793

Palmers Close, off Streetfield, Herne

Herne (C.of E. Aided) Junior School. ☎ 01227 374069

School Lane, Herne

Pre-Schools - Broomfield

Dan Dans Nursery, The Meadows. ☎ 07772 567501

Goldfinch Nursery, Ford Road. ☎ 01227 749957

- Herne

Little Acorns, Norton Ave. ☎ 01227 749317

Windmill Nursery, Palmers Close. ☎ 01227 740793

Religion

St Martins Church, Herne Street, Herne ☎ 01227 636960

URC Church, Margate Road, Broomfield ☎ 07854 071010

Church of St John Fisher & Thomas More ☎ 01227 375139

65 Herne St, Herne

Your Parish Council

Contact any councillor or call the office 01227 742700.

Cllr Carol Davis, B.E.M., Chair, Tel: 01227 372519

Cllr Jeremy Wilson, Vice-Chair, Tel: 01227 366618

Cllr Brian Austin, Mobile: 07713 326934

Cllr Victoria Binstead, Mobile: 07809 429199

Cllr Ann Blatherwick, BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E.,
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Cllr Gill Lambkin, Mobile 07906 686822

Cllr Derek Maslin, Mobile: 07725 715494

Cllr Tony Strong, Tel: 01227 371070

Cllr Linda White, Mobile 07910 570250

To email councillors, insert their name between cllr and @, eg:
cllrjoeblogs@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

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CT6 7AP. (all access through School Lane Car Park)

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Mon. - Fri. 9am - 2pm, answer phone at other times

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parishclerk@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

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assistant@herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.herneandbroomfield-pc.gov.uk

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Email: Mark.Mulvihill@kent.gov.uk

MP: Sir Roger Gale

Tel: 01843 848588 Tel: galerj@parliament.uk

**This newsletter is produced & delivered by Parish Councillors
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