

# SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

## APRIL 2011

Edition 564

### SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

[www.sellindgepc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.sellindgepc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

The Parish Council met on 8<sup>th</sup> March and the usual items were on the agenda, finance and correspondence to name a few. The open session gave those present the chance to see the DVD that had been produced by the Residents Association and Cllr Susan Carey address KCC Councillors. I expect there will be more about that from others so will just go say that members of the PC felt the Residents Association had done a very good job compiling all the information and a vote of thanks was noted in the minutes. The Litter pick will take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> April and David Haining will be leading this as well as last year I expect. The PC were aware of the presentation that was to take place by eco-electricity, but under the rules of planning the Parish Council are unable to comment except in a general sense until an application is on the table to consider, however I am sure that your parish council will continue monitor the situation.

One of the letters for the correspondence session was to highlight the Explore Kent Walking Festival 2011. This is taking place between 18<sup>th</sup> July and the 7<sup>th</sup> August. So if you are some-one who enjoys walking keep a look out for more details.

With the elections coming up in May there is need for people to come forward to stand for election. If Sellindge only has the exact numbers of candidates to fill the places, we will still get a bill from the Shepway District Council, to pay towards the cost of producing your polling cards etc, you will see this as a small increase on your council tax.

The next meeting is on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2011, so do come along.

From your Parish Council Clerk Linda Hedley

### CALLING ALL SELLINDGE RESIDENTS! – SELLINDGE SPRING CLEAN

From 10:00am to 12:00 Noon on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>. Sellindge Parish Council has arranged the Sellindge Spring Clean Up Event. All rubbish collection equipment (Bags & hand held grabbers) will be provided, though please bring your own gloves if you require them. Please come along and have some fun as an individual, family or group and help the community of Sellindge be a cleaner and nicer place to live. Meet at the Village Hall car park Enquiries please contact Councillor Haining on 07980 684 108.

### ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATION FRIDAY APRIL 29<sup>th</sup> - GRAND VILLAGE PARTY

To celebrate the wedding of HRH Prince William and Kate Middleton there will be a grand free party for the children in the Village Hall from 1.00pm to 5.00pm, with lots of party games, food and a bouncy castle. In the evening there will be an American Supper (bring your own food and drink) in the Village Hall from 6.00pm to 11.00pm. If anyone would like to help with the parties, by helping out or making party food, trifles etc, please contact 01303 813 475 for more information

### SELLINDGE DOCTORS SURGERY CARERS REGISTER

Do you, without payment, look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbors or others because of either: long-term physical or mental ill-health/disability; or problems related to old age? If the answer is yes, you are a carer. If you would like your name to be added to our register of carers, then please let us know. We would like to help you if we can by providing information and support if needed.

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ENVIRONMENT ADVICE FROM SHEPWAY



It's that time of year again, with the clocks changing why not make the most of the extra hour of daylight and use it to save money and energy. When putting your clocks forward - remember to adjust the automatic timers on the heating, hot water and lighting to reflect the lighter warmer evenings.

Little changes like these can make a big difference to your energy bills.

**Clean your windows inside and out** - pull back the curtains to make the most of the natural light and warmth from the sun. **Hang your washing outdoors** - it will still be light and dry (on a fine day) when you get home from work (dew point doesn't set in until dusk). Use mother nature to dry your washing for free, and you'll reduce the risk of condensation in your home and enjoy the added benefit of the fresh smell of spring indoors. Consider spending time in the garden instead of sitting indoors watching TV:- **Set up a water butt** – collect rainwater to use for watering your plants. You can also use this clean water for washing down your paths, even your car. It will not only save water but also reduce your metered water bills. **Start composting** – get your plants blooming with free fertilizer by composting vegetable peelings, paper, cardboard and even household dust and dirt. **Clean out your greenhouse** – cultivate your own vegetable and flower seedlings. **Improve your outdoor lighting** – switch to energy saving light bulbs, or better still buy solar powered lighting so that you can linger longer in the garden and enjoy the lighter evenings. **Walk or cycle** instead of using the car – take time to enjoy the sights and sounds of the emerging beauty of spring. Use the extra daylight to experience nature first hand.

**TABLE TOP FAIR** – The next date for the popular Sellindge Village Hall Table Top Fair is Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am to 2pm. Tables can be booked in advance for £5.00 per table, please phone 01303 813 475 or on the day, if there are any left at £8.00.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** – The Annual general meeting of the Shepway Association of Neighbourhood Watch schemes will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at the Salvation Army Hall, Portland Road, Hythe.

**SELLINDGE EVENING WALKS** – Sellindge Evening Walks recommence on Tuesday 12th April at 6.45 for 7pm from the Village Hall Car Park. New and existing members welcome. Initially walks will only last an hour. Pace to suit participants.

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Caldecott Foundation are celebrating their centenary this year and are aiming to raise £750,000 to build a Vocational Learning Centre for the children in their care. They are therefore looking for local volunteers to distribute collection boxes within their area. If you could spare a few hours of your time for this very worthwhile organisation.

Please contact Sarah Hubble on 01303 815 637 or e-mail [sarah.hubble@caldicottfoundation.co.uk](mailto:sarah.hubble@caldicottfoundation.co.uk)

*Disclaimer – The views are the views of those making the submissions and is not necessarily the views of the Editor or Parish Council*

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## **SELLINDGE POP IN – A place for all age groups**

The Pop In is open Monday and Wednesday from 8.30am to 12 Noon, also now on Tuesday the Pop In is open from 8.30am to 4.00pm, where you can stop relax have a cuppa and a chat, browse the bric – a – brac or the good selection of books and meet friends or make new friends, you can also get information from one of the outside agencies who will be attending the Pop In on certain dates. The Pop In also holding information directories from Age Concern and Case Kent (Shepway).

The Pop In now has a Hearing library with a good variety of titles.

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – Louise Homewood who a Care Navigator for Age Concern, Hythe will be at the Pop In from 10am to 11am, offering information and help. She is the Care Navigator for Sellindge, Stanford, Stowting and Lympne.

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Hi Kent (a Kent charity for the deaf) for advice and hearing aid servicing, new batteries. – 2.00pm to 3.30pm. The Chiropodist will not be attending in April, next date Tuesday May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Please phone for details of the Ashford Care Navigator, for people from Brabourne, Smeeth and Aldington.

**NEED A LIFT** – Live in the Village or surrounding Villages and need a lift to the Pop In or the Surgery, then phone Michael on 01303 813 475 and you will be picked up and taken home, you can also pop in the local shops if you wish. This is a free service. Please note this service operates when the Pop In open, unless there is an emergency.

Michael Garrod would like to thank all the volunteers for all the hard work in making the Pop In a success.

**SDC CLLR MRS JENNY HOLLINGSBEE** 812 066 / Mobile 07887 918 458 / e-mail [jennyhollingsbee@fsmail.net](mailto:jennyhollingsbee@fsmail.net)

Another busy month with so much going on! I attended the opening of the Lydd Airport Development Public Enquiry and heard all the opening statements. This enquiry goes on until early July with a decision expected by the end of the year. Other Shepway District Council Meetings included one full Council, 2 Development Control, one Corporate Scrutiny, one Planning User Group Meeting, a meeting concerning Broadband in the Rural Areas and two briefings. On behalf of the Chairman, I opened the “Three Monkeys Film Festival “ which started with an exhibition of art inspired by film, literature and music held in the Civic Centre. I was extremely impressed with the quality of the paintings - it is worth a visit.

In the Ward, as the Playing Fields refurbishment and Youth Facilities is moving towards completion, there have been a number of meetings to finalise fittings, fixtures and equipment as well as preparations for the opening – date still to be confirmed – and the last meeting was in the Pavilion with members taking their own chairs or sitting on the floor! This followed a briefing I gave to the E Sedgwick & Sarah Godfrey Charities on the progress of the Playing Fields to date. This month, like other residents, I was amazed to discover that there was a proposal for a Wind Farm at the rear of Otterpool Quarry and managed to attend the Exhibition at the end of the day. I understand that Ecotricity have now submitted the official request for the scoping opinion and the application for a pair of metrological monitoring structures for Harringe Brooks Wind Park to Shepway District Council – so now is the time to make your views known – write to Chris Lewis, Head of Planning Services Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Folkestone CT20 2QY. And finally, as many local residents, I am deeply disappointed with the decision by KCC on the Otterpool Quarry Anaerobic Waste Recycling Plant Application. With local residents, I was present at the Meeting and despite the speeches from Ronald Lello, Ken Baxter, the CPRE and from Susan Carey, our County Councillor, the material reasons given for turning down this application were not deemed sufficient to go against Officer advice. I would publically like to thank Ronald Lello and his team, particularly Bob Edden, Les Barrett and Margaret Ludlow for their amazing amount of hard work and the depth of the detail that they went in to in order to prepare a report for the Officers and Members at KCC, also the DVD. The Chairman and Members of the Committee did comment on this saying that they could not remember ever having such a well presented set of objections. Please do bother!!!

On a really final note, please can those people who exercise their dogs on the Playing Fields, keep them on a lead and away from the playing areas. Just recently this has been a real concern with footballers and other users having to clear dog mess off the ground before they can play. Remember it is dangerous for young children in particular.

## **FROM YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

After so much hard work and such a good campaign by the village I am bitterly disappointed that Countrystyle’s application for a waste plant at the Otterpool Quarry site has received approval.

Our local County Councillors on the committee (Dick Pascoe for Folkestone North and Roland Tolputt for Folkestone South) voted against the proposal but nearly all the other councillors voted in favour. The only positive point was the acceptance of most of the conditions suggested by the residents’ association.

What happens next? There is no appeal against this decision but Countrystyle now need a permit from the Environment Agency. A representative for the Environment Agency was at the Planning Applications Committee meeting and heard what was said about the pollution on site. Countrystyle must meet conditions from the Environment Agency before it can operate and can be stopped from operating anytime it breaches these conditions.

A few people have sought to make political points about this planning application. Let me set the record straight. It is illegal for Councillors to be told how to vote by their political parties on planning matters, it is also illegal for them to make up their minds before they have heard all the representations at the meeting. So everyone votes as an individual rather than a party. The only three Councillors to vote against the Otterpool Quarry application were all Conservatives and among those voting for were a Liberal Democrat and an Independent member (the rest were Conservatives). Your District Councillor, your County Councillor, your MP and your former MP are all Conservatives and have all been against the Otterpool proposal. The officers at KCC are all professional planners and I have no idea what political views they have. The people who could stop this planning application whenever they like are Countrystyle Ltd and the landowner of Otterpool Quarry.

Susan Carey

## **SELLINDGE STEAM SPECIAL**

Plans are now well in hand for this event – however, we would welcome stall, craft and sideshow entries. We are also looking for arena events – bands, dance troupe or other display. further details email [jennyhollingsbee@fsmail.net](mailto:jennyhollingsbee@fsmail.net) or telephone 07887918458.

**JUMBLE SALE** – Stanford & Postling WI will be holding a jumble sale at the Village Hall on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April. Doors open 2.00pm. Any jumble may be left at the hall on the morning of the sale.

**JEAN TAPE** – Jenny and Steve Tape (Linton, Barrow Hill) would like to say thank you to everyone who sent flowers, made donations and attended Mums (Jean) funeral. Again thank you

### **THE GODINTON HOUSE PRESERVATION TRUST**

The Gardens are now open daily from 2.00pm – 5.30pm, come and see the bulbs waking up in the Wild Garden also take a stroll in the new Woodland Garden. House Open Friday to Sunday from 15<sup>th</sup> April 2.00pm – 5.30pm £8.00 (house and gardens)  
[www.godinton-house-gardens.co.uk](http://www.godinton-house-gardens.co.uk) Information phone Rachael on 01233 643 854

**NGS Open Day – 3<sup>rd</sup> April** Charity event, treat yourself to a Cream Tea and a wander through the gardens. Tearoom will be open.

### **SELLINDGE & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION WHY BOTHER? - LET'S JUST 'GET CARTER' INSTEAD!**

Yes why bother? What happened at the KCC Planning Committee Meeting in March which *approved* the Countrystyle application to build a Recycling Plant at Otterpool Quarry? What happened? First of all, our Susan – Cllr Carey made an excellent speech. What a pity the rest of them ignored it. Two members fell asleep soon after it began – although it is true they woke up in time to vote. One member made a speech about visiting the Airport Café many years ago and ‘didn’t find it up to much’. Most of those who did speak concentrated on what a very good idea it was to have a huge waste materials processing plant in the middle of the Kent countryside especially because it is surrounded by famous tourist attractions. “Paint it Heritage Green, chuck in a few trees and no one will even notice it.” typifies the level of erudition. Seemingly, it is all part of a KCC Planning Committee’s scheme to industrialise this part of rural Kent. The members meekly followed instructions given by the planners in the most one sided presentation that I can ever remember. There was no debate. No balanced examination of the issues. No concern or support for the lone Upper Otterpool dwelling or the independent Airport Café - the small Davids against the Goliaths. Not a single mention of the Petition just presented by Cllr Susan Carey demonstrating an incredible 96% of Sellindge villagers together with very high support from the other villages, rejecting the proposal. The implacable opposition of the Shepway District Council and Planning Authority, the Parish Councils, the CPRE, the small local organisations - in fact the opposition of almost the entire local population - was dismissed out of hand and without discussion or examination. No, instead of intelligent debate there was just a lot of old fogies sat around talking about paragraph 3 sub section ii . . . .

For three years we have worked to show just why this proposal is the right activity but in the wrong place. We have published our objections and even made a film about them. We have checked that the objections provide the substance for proper planning reasons to reject the proposal. We have provided the Planning Officers with our views in good time, unlike their disgraceful 4 working day notice of their 82 page, error prone and dense report. Even the vital Conditions are only being published as this is being written. The whole exercise seems to be a defeat for the democratic process. And as for Localism – forget it! This whole process has caused either immobilising cynicism or real anger and frustration in this village. Localism? The Big Society? God help us.

So why bother? Almost all the members of the planning committee fell in behind Chief Planner, Sharon Thompson’s *pre-written* summing up, which like the edicts of Mozart’s Queen of the Night, was a fine example of extreme obscurantism. Tightly armoured with their mechanistic formulae, the planners condemned our cause. Apart from perhaps three members, *not a single thought for the community who live here*.

What really disturbed me was the way they all regarded their reductionist versions of planning regulations as true reasoning, while anything to do with real human beings was regarded as unstable emotionalism - something unreliable and un-defendable. ‘Human beings cost KCC money so let’s leave them out of this’ is the ruling idea. Well our message for them is *we are* human beings and we are going to make sure they know it. *This is why we bother*. In fact we bother so much that we invite Paul Carter who sits on top of the KCC pile, drawing a substantial pay and allowance packet, (when did he last visit Sellindge?) together with Sharon Thompson who I doubt is under-paid, Cllr Christopher Smith, the grey-suited hatchet man of Maidstone, together with John Champney (less said about him the better) to address a meeting of Sellindge villagers. Yes, it seems a good idea to ‘Get Carter’! We need him.

Ronald Lello Chairman Sellindge and District Residents Association 01303 813 140 [sellindgeresidents@Gmail.com](mailto:sellindgeresidents@Gmail.com)

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### **WEATHER FACTS FOR FEBRUARY 2011**

Minimum temp. –2.75°C Tues.1 <sup>st</sup> & Tues.8th.	Mean night temp. 4.06°C
Maximum temp. 14.25°C Thur.24th..	Mean day temp. 8.83°C

The main feature of the weather in February was the lack of sunshine, with many days dull and overcast or with rain. Even so the total rainfall from 15 days was 62.99mm (2.48in) 96.12% of a February average. The day temperatures were fractionally up on normal but the night temperatures were up by 1.93°C. There were only 3 frosts recorded during the month.

### **CLUB / GROUP NEWS**

#### **SELLINDGE WOMENS INSTITUTE**

On March 9<sup>th</sup> Eileen Jennings made us realise that climbing Kilimarjaro is not as simple as it sounds and certainly not for everyone who thinks that they would like to ‘have a go’. A particularly interesting talk for a member of the audience who had done the climb 50 years ago.

On March 14<sup>th</sup> we hosted the ‘Auditions Day’ when people wanting to go on the speakers list came to give us 30 minutes of their chosen subject. The Main Hall was full of members from all the institutes in the area, who came to be the judges of the 8 candidates. Some very good, some not so good.

Our next meeting on Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup> in the Durling Hall at 7.30pm when Daphne Hitchcock will give us a Jewellery demonstration. The competition book title is ‘D’. Tea Hostesses Jane and Mary.

**ANGEL CENTRE** – The Angel Centre will be in the Durling Hall on Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> with an Evening of Clairvoyance with Marcus Cinganneli From 7.30pm Until 9 - 30 pm £5 - 00 On Entrance: Inc: Refreshments. Info: 01303 278 402

**SUNDAY 1 st MAY** in the main Hall, Sellindge MIND ~ BODY ~ SPIRIT FAIR 11 - 00 am Until 5 - 00 pm £2 - 00 On Entrance Readings with Mediums, Aura Photography, Tarot, Crystals, Gifts, Cards. Books Refreshments served all day. Info or to pre book readings 01303 278 402

## **GET TOGETHER CLUB**

The Get – Together Club outing **Change of Date.**

The outing day is now **Club day Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup> to OAD FARM, FAVERSHAM**

Coach cost £8 members, £9 non members plus £5 for Cream Tea. The coach picks up bottom of Swan Lane opposite The Chestnuts at 12.45pm then Greenfields at 1.00pm. Anyone wishing to join us please phone Sheila 01303 813 528

## **SELLINDGE GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION**

At the March meeting Sue Scrivens gave a very interesting and entertaining talk about the discovery of her Foxglove 'Saltwood Summer'. The journey from the first sighting through to the Chelsea Flower Show was incredible, a most enjoyable evening. The April meeting will be held in the Durling Hall, on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:15 for 7:30. The speaker will be Mr Don Wilks, who will talk about the 'Wonders of Bluebells'. Doris and Aileen will be making the teas. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

## **SELLINDGE WOMENS WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON CLUB**

The Ladies of the Sellindge Womens Wednesday Luncheon Club will be having their April Luncheon at the Hotel Imperial, Hythe, on Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting at 12 Noon for 12.30pm luncheon. Will members please let June Wales 01303 814 676 – know by Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup> if they're joining the group.

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **SELLINDGE CHRISTIANS TOGETHER**

At last the flowers and trees are bursting into bud and the countryside is becoming alive after a long cold winter. We now have the early light mornings and light evenings that make us feel so much better.

We also look forward to Easter when we can enjoy a few days with our families. Easter for Christians is a sad time at first, but then we can rejoice for our Lord was dead but now he is ALIVE. There are times we feel 'dead' metaphorically speaking but when we accept God as our Saviour we come alive. It will be good to see you at our Walk of Witness on Good Friday, meeting at our Parish Church at 10.00am or at any of our Easter Church services.

Our next meeting together will in the Village Hall on Sunday 3rd April at 11.00am Speaker is Mrs Margaret Woollven.

Our Art Club will commence on Tuesday April 12th at 10.30am at Brabourne Baptist Church Plain Road.

I look forward to meeting all those who have shown an interest in joining. If you would like to come but have not mentioned it yet please telephone me on 01303 812 484.

### **ST MARY'S CHURCH, SELLINDGE**

#### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

Please note that the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place after the morning service on April 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 12.30p.m. A light lunch will be provided. Everyone on the Church Electoral Roll is eligible to vote.

#### **MRS SHEILA JAQUET**

Mrs Sheila Jaquet, widow of Rev. Peter Jaquet, died recently at the age of 92. Having been the Vicar of Sellindge and in charge of neighbouring Parishes, Rev. P Jaquet and Mrs Jaquet moved to the Hull area, where Rev. P Jaquet undertook various Church related duties. They lived at Leconfield. Following the death of Rev. P Jaquet, Sheila moved to sheltered accommodation at Watlington in Oxfordshire to be near her daughters home in that place. Mrs Jaquet being fluent in German was engaged during the war in listening into enemy aircrew chatter, recording and reporting same. Her son lives in Edinburgh.

#### **CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL – ST MARY'S CHURCH**

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Village Praise at the Village Hall
10 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Parish Communion
17 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Easter Sunday Family Communion All welcome

#### **CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL – SELLINDGE METHODIST CHURCH**

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Village Praise at the Village Hall
10 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship led by Dudley Shipton
17 <sup>th</sup>	11.00pm	Morning Worship led by Revd Derek Hancock
24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	The Sacrament of Holy Communion taken by Revd Alan B Hewitt

#### **SELLINDGE CHURCHES**

A news reporter described it as the 'ripple effect'; first of all the massive earthquake which triggered the devastating tsunami which in turn gave rise to the explosions at the nuclear reactors. These are the big ripples, each with other associated ripples such as lack of food, lack of water, insufficient electricity and fuel, loss of home, loss of livelihood and worst of all, loss of life. Asking the question "why" brings no easy answers and we feel increasingly helpless in the face of such suffering. Perhaps it is in our very helplessness that we may find the answers. On Good Friday we will walk from St. Mary's Church pausing at the Methodist Church before reaching our final destination, the Village Hall. In our minds we stand with Mary the mother of Jesus who gazed helplessly at the cross, unable to do anything to alleviate the pain and suffering of the One who was dying there. Who could have believed at that point that the resurrection would follow three days later. And yet this was the miracle of Easter, new life out of death, light out of darkness and a chance to begin again. On behalf of all those who continue to suffer in Japan, Libya and Afghanistan and all other places of conflict and suffering let us continue to pray through the lens of Easter Sunday, holding on to the hope that ultimately God's perfect plan for restoration and reconciliation will be brought to fulfilment.

May we wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter.

Rev Sheila Cox

**Please let us know if we can help you in any way.**

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