

# The Burham Buzz

A free quarterly Community Magazine for the parish of Burham



Spring 2024

**Published by Burham Parish Council**

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



Burham Parish Council

# **The Burham Buzz Community Magazine**

The Magazine 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 magazine is delivered directly to your email inbox. You can also view the magazine online making the content available worldwide to anybody who may be interested. If you are unable to access the internet please let us know 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.

## **Subscribe to receive future issues for free**

To subscribe complete and return the slip on page 21 and The Burham Buzz will be delivered direct to your inbox free of charge. Alternatively email or call Pam for a slip. 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 a couple of roads nearby, 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](mailto:pam@burhampc.co.uk)

Tel: 01634 685936

[www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://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. However 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.



## From the Editor

Welcome to the first edition of the Burham Buzz community paper. Initially we will be producing four editions a year that we hope will inform, engage and entertain. We want to ensure you keep up to date with all things Burham and share what is happening in our community.

## Your News and Views

This is your community paper and we want your input from the word go! Don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to share something in the next edition. Do you belong to a Society or Club and want to promote its activities? Maybe a community event you want to publicise? Or perhaps you have snapped a striking photo? If you have a contribution to make about Burham let us know. The Burham Buzz is distributed locally and is also uploaded to the Parish Council website and social media platforms such as facebook to provide the widest possible coverage.

We look forward to getting your input on all things Burham has to offer! If you are reading this from outside the area, we would love to hear from you too. To get in touch see 'Contact us' on page 2.

S Sangha, Editor

## Useful Contacts

### **Burham Parish Council:**

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

### **Allotments**

Dave Young 01634 867669

### **Burham Village Hall**

Aileen Bergin 0784 288 3028

### **Burham Community Centre**

Thurza Browne 01634 863322

### **KCC Community Warden**

Simon White 07813694140  
Simon.white@kent.gov.uk

### **Kent Police**

PC Georgia Marshall 101

### **Fly Tipping**

www.tmbc.gov.uk and search  
'fly tipping'

### **Potholes**

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



## Wouldham & Burham Community Minibus

### **The W & B Community Minibus**

This is a joint initiative between Burham & Wouldham Parish Councils working in partnership with Compaid to operate as a not-for-profit community transport scheme. A brand new 15-seater minibus was leased with funding from Kent County Council. Residents of the two parishes, including Peters Village, can apply for membership to use the Community Minibus.

### **Weekly Shopper Bus**

Compaid runs a regular weekly shop and ride service for residents who still like the independence of doing their own shopping or going for coffee/lunch in a local Medway town. The shopper minibus is driven by a Compaid driver and provides a local pick-up service to a local supermarket with a café as well as central drop off points in local towns. This service is available on the following days: Monday to Strood # Tuesday to Hempstead # Wednesday to Chatham # Thursday to Strood. The charge for this is £10 flat rate for a return trip and must be booked in advance and you must be a member of the Scheme.

### **Day Trips for Residents**

In the months ahead, it is hoped the minibus will be available with a trained driver for community trips and outings to places of interest outside the village such as historic venues, garden centres, markets, events and the seaside. We need volunteer drivers and we always welcome new recruits! Keep an eye on the noticeboards and website for details.

### **How to join the scheme**

Passengers must be registered as a member of the Community Bus Scheme. If you wish to become a member the annual cost is £10 per person or £20 per family. Please contact the Parish Clerk for a membership application form.

01634 685936 or email Pam@burhampc.co.uk

## Burham Parish Council News



### **Allotments:**

We do have some unallocated allotment plots if you are interested from April. Please contact David Young on 01634 867669 for more details.

### **Car Parks**

We are arranging for our three car parks, Bell Lane, Church Street and the Village Hall to be relined including the disabled bays and any hatched areas. This will necessitate the closure of the car parks whilst the work is being carried out. We hope the car parks will only be closed for a short period of time. Notices will be placed on cars etc. once we have full details.

### **War Memorial**

Crack in cross repair: A decision from the War Memorial Trust has been deferred pending further information from the contractors, with a deadline of end of February. Previous contractors contacted for further information. This has now been submitted to the War Memorial Trust and hopefully we should hear back from them early May.

### **Litter Pick**

A village litter pick will be organized in due course, once Spring has finally sprung!!

### **Council Tax**

Residents will have received their Council Tax bills by now. This bill covers the tax due to KCC, KCC Adult Social Care, TMBC, Burham Parish Precepts, Kent & Medway Fire Authority and Kent Police including the Police and Crime Commissioner. Council Taxpayers can pay in 12 monthly instalments, if they wish, instead of the normal 10 monthly payments by emailing: [revenues@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:revenues@tmbc.gov.uk). This must be done by 31st March 2024 to take effect in the coming financial year. Anything coming after that will apply for the following financial year. Once the request is made it will roll over to subsequent years automatically.

### **CPR Training**

There are a number of websites that offer on-line training free including BHF. YouTube has lots of videos and guidance from various sources including St Johns Ambulance. High Speed training offer a certified online course for £26 ex vat. London Hearts (who supplied our 2nd Defib) have a video available at <https://vimeo.com/557677120/e7524918c5>. Please contact the Clerk if you should require the link.

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## Burham Parish Council News

### **From the Police**

Our team has expanded which means PC Georgia Marshall now has less areas and can devote more of her time to Burham. Hopefully the residents will see her around more often from now on.

### **Tracey Crouch MP**

As you will be aware, Tracey will not be seeking re-election for Chatham and Aylesford. She has been an exceptional champion for our community and had a national reputation through her work on loneliness, fixed odds betting terminals, cancer and her Independent Review into Football Governance. We have always found her willing to help or give advice on ward matters and casework and she will be greatly missed by many of our residents.

### **From the Kent County Councillor**

In early summer the new “Community Bridge” website will be launched, featuring information on almost 200 local groups and societies. This has been arranged/organized via C/Cllr Andrew Kennedy. Groups can be searched by village, by activity or by postcode and the site will not only provide full details of each group, but where and when they meet, how much they cost and who to contact for more information. There will also be a print version for those who don't have digital access. The whole project will be funded through grants and donations and Andrew hopes it will be a very help-

ful resource to bring people together and promoting our community.

### **From KCC Highways**

*Scarborough Terrace speeding:*

KCC highways have confirmed that they would support enhancements of the 30mph speed limit terminals, by installing a “30” roundel road marking, edge of carriageway lining either side to create visual narrowing, installation of a Glasdon village gateway and replacement of the existing speed limit terminal signs. This would require a full design which would be shared with the Parish Council but before they proceed, they have requested to explore funding opportunities with the parish council. A detailed quote will be provided as part of the design work, but the proposals could cost up to £4-5k. The Parish Council has offered a suggestion of 10% of the total project cost as the results were unknown. KCC have advised that given their limited budget, may not be able to commit to allocating the balance to the scheme at this time. We await further information.

*Church Street:* KCC Highways will arrange and fund some road narrow signs with a ‘no passing places’ plate to be installed on the grass verge just before the entrance to the car park as well as the junction with New Court Rd. The ‘road narrows’ warning signs have been ordered, to be installed before 25 April 2024. KCC Highways do not propose to



## Burham Parish Council News

make Church Street one way at this time as the ditches still allow two vehicles to pass, certainly when travelling towards New Court Rd, but will continue with the installation of the road narrow warning signs and continue to monitor the situation. We await the installation of the signage.

*New Court Rd Speeding/accidents:* This has been added to the KCC Highway Improvement Plan for comments from KCC. Data surveys were carried out in three locations early 2024. Further data was provided by KCC Highways and although we respect the data results, we still have high concerns about the number of vehicles travelling at over 60mph. More accidents will occur unless some form of speed control is installed. KCC Highways have been advised of our concerns. KCC will discuss the location with their contacts at Kent Police to see what their thoughts are on the

matter. Also KCC could ask about the possibility of installing 40 roundels on the carriageway to complement the existing repeater signs. We await further information.

### Next Meeting

If you have any items that you would like the Parish Council to discuss you can call or email me or come along to the next scheduled meeting, which is due 29 April 2024, 7.30 pm at the parish building. Pam Saunders, Parish Clerk. 01634 685936 or email [pam@burhampc.co.uk](mailto:pam@burhampc.co.uk)

All Parish Council information as well as Community Information is available on our website and our Facebook page:

[www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk)  
Facebook 'Burham Parish Council'

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## The Church in Burham - sad end of an era



It is with deep sadness that the decision has been taken for The Church in Burham to close. The reason for this is that over recent years several of our members have either moved away or have died. Our congregation has therefore diminished together with our income. The result of this is that we are no longer financially viable.

The process for closure will take a few months and until that time services and our other activities will continue. Once this process is complete, the building will be sold. There has been a Methodist Church in Burham since 1847. A group of Christians met originally in their homes before, with the generosity of the Knott family, land was donated and money raised to build, first the Church and later the rooms at the rear.

Sunday services will continue to be held at 10.30am each week, with a quarterly Ecumenical service with All Saints' Church Wouldham. We will continue to hold our Country Lunch on the third Thursday of each month at 1pm and our Book Ex-

change on the first Saturday of each month at 10.30 am till 12noon.

We hope that you will continue to support us at this time. Information will be posted on Burham Face Book as the situation becomes clearer. This will be a sad loss to our village and your thoughts and prayers will be appreciated.

**Rev. Naomi Oates 01732 875072**

### Activities to continue for now

The usual and regular activities in The Church in Burham will continue in April, May and June.

Book Exchange will take place from 10.30am till 12 noon on Saturdays April 6th, May 4th and June 1st when you are welcome to bring books you have read to exchange for others from our good selection while enjoying tea or coffee with a slice of homemade cake. We ask for a donation of £1.

Country Lunch will take place at 1.00pm on Thursdays May 16th and June 20th. Please note there will be no Lunch in April. All are welcome to enjoy a meal of homemade soup with crusty bread and cheese, followed by fruit crumble and ice cream with tea or coffee to finish. We ask for a donation of £3. Please check Burham Facebook for any changes that might be necessary nearer the time.

**Eileen Smith**



## Burham Clubs & Organisations

### All Star Performers

We are a Musical Theatre company providing local classes for ages 0-18! All Star Performers is composed of four different age groups. All classes work on performances for our bi-annual showcase in a fully equipped venue to display our student's amazing talents! We also run a Baby and Toddler music movement called 'Little Stars' which is a class to aid children's development. All classes are held in the Old School Community Centre, Bell Lane on Saturdays. Check our Facebook page or contact us: 0738 808 4862 or [allstarperformers@outlook.com](mailto:allstarperformers@outlook.com)

### Bear Paws Quilters

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

### Book Exchange

1st Saturday in the month, at the Church Hall, 10.30am -12noon  
Eileen Smith. 01634 867022

### Burham Baton Twirlers

Held in the Burham Village Hall every Thursday 5pm -7 pm  
Lyn Robinson 0772 937 3558

### Burham Musical Hall

Formed in the early 1970's, we have produced a variety of shows and events for the village. We currently host regular Quiz and Bingo nights,

as well as a Christmas Pantomime. New members are always welcome to join our friendly company which meets most Thursday evenings at Burham Village Hall.

Simon Hughes 0798 035 7185

### Burham Old Church going digital

Alongside their new programme of events for 2024, the Friends of St Mary's Church (Burham 'Old Church' down by the river) are improving the information available on this wonderful historic old building. Our new email address for the Friends [smcburham@gmail.com](mailto:smcburham@gmail.com) can be used to make any enquiries about the Friends, events at the church and its history. A website is also under development, for launch around May, which will be found at [www.stmarysburham.co.uk](http://www.stmarysburham.co.uk) (though don't try it until then). This will feature all the events planned, a brief history of the church, details of its architecture, a gallery of pictures, the Churches Conservation Trust (the national charity managing the church), and how to join the Friends. Look out for it after May. Philip Badman  
Friends of St Mary's Church

### Burham Pre-School

At Burham Pre-school we aim to help all our children become independent, confident little people. We care for children aged 2-5 years and our team work hard to promote emotional, physical and mental well-being in all our children; we help to

## Burham Clubs & Organisations

develop the skills the children need to be ready for their next steps into school life. We welcome families from Burham and all local villages; why not 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. Contact Tracey Beechey: 0771 082 9954 or [burham.pre-school@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:burham.pre-school@hotmail.co.uk)

### Burham & Wouldham Book Club

We meet every third Wednesday of the month in The Windmill Pub at 7.30pm. We are given a warm welcome by the pub and are able to sit comfortably and discuss the book we received from the library the previous month. We are a small friendly group with a wide range of opinions on the book we have read. The Club gives a chance to read something

you may not have chosen yourself to read. For more information call 0785 440 0506.

Gwen Worcester



### Burham Sure Start Centre

The decision to close the Children's Centre in Bell Lane was taken by KCC in November last year and it is anticipated that the closure will start at the end of May/beginning of June this year. KCC further advise: "This will not include the closure of all of the buildings as we need to ensure that we are protecting the delivery of the service during the change process and the closure of some sites is contingent on works being completed in other locations to ensure that the Family Hub service can be delivered fully. The process of the closures is complex and so we anticipate the full implementation period will run for most of this calendar year; however we are mindful that we wish to make the transition as smooth for service users as possible. We expect to be issuing further updates linked to specific buildings over the coming weeks'. For further information call 03000 418008 or visit: [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk), and search 'Childrens Centre'

## Burham Clubs & Organisations

### **Burham & Wouldham WI**

We meet every third Tuesday in the month with a variety of speakers on different topics. We also have the opportunity to take part in a range of other activities such as paddle-boarding, walking, quizzes and a chance to make our voices heard about topical issues affecting our lives. We are a small friendly group and welcome new members; if you are interested come along at 7.30pm and keep an eye on Facebook for details of the next meeting. You will be warmly welcomed, give us a try before joining.

Eileen Smith 01634 867022

### **Country Lunch**

This is held once a month at 1pm in the Church Hall, usually the first Thursday in the month. A simple meal of homemade soup, bread, cheese, apple crumble and tea/coffee are served for £3.00. The lunch is open to all.

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. [www.forceselfdefence.com](http://www.forceselfdefence.com)

Stuart Lowe 01634 862943 or 0755 796 249

### **Messy Church**

Held at various locations locally at varying times

Tonia Plowman 0759 357 5450

### **Short Mat Bowls Club**

The Club was established in 1990 and has 30 members. The Club is open to all adult age groups and meets on Monday & Wednesday evenings in the Village Hall 7.30-9.30 pm.

Irene Benton 01634 867466

### **Sword Fencing**

Held in the Community Centre on Thursday 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm.

[tony.devine01@gmail.com](mailto:tony.devine01@gmail.com)

### **Sunday Karate**

Held in the Community Centre 10am-12noon

P Shepherd. 0775 792 5776

### **Thursday Morning Community Club**

This is an informal get-together for all ages that has been meeting in the Burham Old School Community Centre between 10.30am and 12noon on Thursday mornings for nearly 20 years. 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 sometimes outside speakers, including the Community Warden. The Club also organises regular day trip outings.

Anne Taylor 01634 684927

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## Phoenix Medical Practice



### **NHS111 -**

If you require urgent medical help ring 111 or visit 111.nhs.uk

### **Defibrillators -**

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

### **Prescriptions -**

can be arranged to be 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 Rachel Harris (who will be available to deliver medicines on Tuesdays and Thursdays) on 07725 289194 for more details.

### **Hearing aids -**

availability and maintenance from <https://hikent.org.uk>. They are also looking for volunteers to help with the aftercare clinics they normally hold on the 2nd Thursday of the month at Burham Community Centre. Ring 01622 691151 for more information.

### **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**

33 Bell Lane, Burham, ME1 3SX.

Tel: 01634 867982

[www.phoenixsurgery-burham.nhs.uk](http://www.phoenixsurgery-burham.nhs.uk)

## How will your Girlguiding story start?



The poster features three colored boxes at the top: a blue box for 'Rainbows Woudham For ages 4 to 7', a yellow box for 'Brownies Woudham For ages 7 to 10', and a dark blue box for 'Guides Woudham For ages 10 to 14'. Below these is the text 'Join us today!' in a large, blue, stylized font. Underneath is an illustration of a diverse group of girls and adults, including one girl in a wheelchair and a dog. The text 'The adventure starts here' is written in a pink, cursive font. Below that, it says 'Make new friends, build your confidence and inspire our young members in Woudham.' and 'Register your interest to volunteer in Girlguiding' with the URL 'http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer'. At the bottom, it says 'More information' with an email icon and 'wouldhamgirlguiding@gmail.com'. The bottom of the poster has a dark blue background with colorful icons of Girlguiding symbols like rainbows, stars, and triangles.

**Rainbows**  
Woudham  
For ages 4 to 7

**Brownies**  
Woudham  
For ages 7 to 10

**Guides**  
Woudham  
For ages 10 to 14

**Join us today!**

**The adventure starts here**

Make new friends, build your confidence and inspire our young members in Woudham.

Register your interest to volunteer in Girlguiding  
<http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer>

More information  [wouldhamgirlguiding@gmail.com](mailto:wouldhamgirlguiding@gmail.com)

**Join us**  
If your daughter would be interested in joining Rainbows (age 4 to 7) Brownies (age 7 to 10) Guides (age 10 to 14) there are spaces available now. Please register at [Girlguiding.org.uk](http://Girlguiding.org.uk).

**Volunteers are welcome**  
Or if you are interested in volunteering, contact Ashley Crowdey, 0785 248 5291 or email: [wouldhamgirlguiding@gmail.com](mailto:wouldhamgirlguiding@gmail.com)

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## Tonbridge and Malling Ramblers



The Tonbridge and Malling Ramblers are one of 13 groups in Kent and part of the national Ramblers walking organisation. We explore the beautiful countryside of Tonbridge and Malling and surrounding areas.

You don't have to be a Ramblers member to try up to three 'taster' walks with us. If you're new to our walks, please contact the walk leader to check that their walk will suit you.

### Thursday, 18th April

10am at PCP behind the village Hall opposite The Bell, High St, Kemsing, TQ555587, TN15 6NA. Kemsing. 5.5mi / 8.9km

### Sunday, 21st April

10am at Five Oak Green Village Car Park, TQ651452, TN12 6RD Five Oak Green to Spring Grove 5mi / 8km

### Thursday, 25th April

10am - Redstart Pub, Barming -only park in the pub car park if you are eating/drinking after the walk. Otherwise, park on Heath Road at the North Street end. If you are eating at the Redstart Pub after the walk

contact them directly to book your table space advising them that you are part of the Ramblers group. Redstart Pub 01622 727001, TQ725547, ME16 9HF. Barming to East Malling. 6mi/9.7km

### Sunday, 28th April

10am at Long Mill Lane, Plaxtol. Please share cars and park considerately. TQ610535, TN15 0QR Graham's Plaxtol walk. 5mi / 8km

### Thursday, 2nd May

Meet in The Square, Hadlow at 9.50am to sign in and hear the walk briefing. TQ634498, TN11 0DD. Hadlow River Walk. 4.5mi/ 7.2km

### Thursday, 9th May

10am at Park along Old London Rd, Wrotham, TQ610593, TN15 7DL Trosley Trot. 5.5mi / 8.9km

### Thursday, 16th May

10am. Park sensibly in Church Road, West Peckham. TQ645525, ME18 5JL. West Peckham wander 5mi 8km

### Sunday, 9th June

10am, TQ608572, TN15 8RE LBR walk. 8mi / 12.9km

*Please check for the latest updates before setting out. Go to our Facebook page or visit [www.tonbridgeandmallingsramblers.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeandmallingsramblers.org.uk).*

## The Burham Buzz

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## Burham Church of St Mary the Virgin - the old church



One thing that has been in existence at Burham since the Domesday survey of England in 1086 is the 'Old Church'. The core of the nave was built in the 11th century; its fabric consists of spoil recycled from even earlier times, including debris from Roman buildings. Other material used in its construction includes tufa, a type of rough ragstone, firestone, Kentish rag, dressed ashlar and flint. North and south aisles were added in the late 12th or early 13th centuries, but were removed at a later date. At some time during the 14th century the chancel was enlarged, but was then restored to its original size, probably in the 16th century, when the nave aisles were demolished.

The present porch, a later addition, was built using the spoil from the demolished south aisle. The windows—now blocked, in the north and south walls are Norman in style.

The low square tower at the west end of the nave was added during the 15th century.

Early wills give an indication of the appearance of the interior. That of John Philpott, 1498, mentions the stairs to the rood loft. The rood screen would have separated the

chancel from the nave. The stairs and the rood loft are no longer in existence; rood lofts were removed from churches during The Reformation. Wills of 1511 and 1516 mention gifts for painting the rood loft and several references to the light 'before the great rood' are also to be found. In addition to the light to Our Lady, which probably hung over the high altar, many other lights are also mentioned. These include those dedicated to the saints George, Nicholas, Christopher, Michael, Stephen, Lawrence, James and to the Holy Trinity. The light dedicated to St Christopher was most likely hung near to the south door. The crucifix light mentioned in the will of Robert Frere in 1511 would have hung before the great rood loft, over the entrance to the chancel. In the late 18th century, Edward Hasted describes the church as having some good painted glass in the windows.

Three bells formerly hung in the church. The middle one was the oldest known bell in the Diocese. It was made by Richard de Wymbis c1300. In 1516 Thomas a Dene left 6 shillings 8d for the treble bell to be changed to a tenor within 12 years. The treble, dated 1700, is the ear-

## Burham Church of St Mary the Virgin - the old church

liest known bell made by Richard Phelps of Whitechapel. The other, which dates from 1734, was also made by Phelps and is one of his latest.

The Church Registers date back to the 1600s. The earliest recorded baptism is that of Francis Day, daughter of Richard Day the younger and his wife Joan, on 6 May 1627. Notes in the Registers give interesting information about the people living here. For instance one note states that Henry Poore of Burham was chosen by the parishioners to be the Registrar of the Parish on 19 December 1653. An odd entry records the burial of a dwarf, Jane Chamber's, on 24 February 1693.

The records show that between 1653 and 1699 money was allowed, presumably from the poor relief funds, for a wooden leg for Katherine Linney, and also paid to Walter for thatching the Parish House. The oldest legible memorial inscription in the churchyard, recorded in my audit in 2000, was that erected in memory of George, the son of George and Eliza (Elizabeth) Peckham of this parish, who died 20 March 1700.

One of the curiosities of the old churchyard was a memorial stone, now lost, dedicated to the Burham Belle. It bore a carving of a twisted face and the words: "Behold Burham's Belle, a delight/With her curls

asymmetric and tight;/Let us hope that her Biz/Was as straight as her Phiz/And she kept, like her nose, to the right."

It is not known who she was, but the phrasing is considered to place the stone in the 19th Century. She may have been a local character, or possibly a woman found drowned.

By the 1920s the church was no longer used for regular worship and its fittings had been removed, with the exception of the font. A new larger church had been built in 1881, and the old one was used mainly as a mortuary chapel. Gradually the old church deteriorated, until the intervention of the Friends of Friendless Churches and the Kent Churches Preservation Trust. Extensive repairs were carried out, rescuing the building from virtual dereliction, which were completed by 1956, and the church was re-hallowed by the Lord Bishop of Rochester on 16 September of that year. The parish could not afford the maintenance of two churches. Therefore the old church became vested in the Redundant Churches Fund for preservation on 22 June 1973, and the Fund has since carried out necessary major repairs.

**Michael Boozer, Burham History**

**Advertise with us!  
see page 22 for details**

## Friends of St Mary's Church



Palm Sunday Service: Sunday 24th March 10.30am

Coffee Morning: Saturday April 27th 11-12noon

Quiz: Saturday May 18th 7.00pm

Persuasion by This Is My Theatre: Tuesday June 18th 7.00pm

Cream Tea with Music: Saturday August 31st 2-4pm

History Talk (Open Heritage Day): Sunday September 15th 2pm

Filaments Art Collective: Oct/Nov TBC

Carols by Candlelight: Saturday December 14th 6pm

Times and dates can change  
For more information go to  
[www.facebook.co.uk/stmarysburham](https://www.facebook.co.uk/stmarysburham)

## Burham Services & Facilities

### All Saints Church, Burham & Wouldham

Burham is part of the Burham & Wouldham Parish in the Diocese of Rochester. The Church, of Saxon origin, is situated at the end of the High Street and on the bank of the Medway.

Gwen Worcester

### Burham Allotments

For availability and current rates;  
Dave Young 01634 867669

### Burham Community Centre

This was formerly the Infants School which was purchased by the Parish Council and totally refurbished.

Further improvements have been made to provide changing facilities. For hire, contact: Thurza Browne 01634 863322.

### Burham Church Halls

There is a main Hall and a smaller Meeting Room, suitable for up to 16 people. For hire, contact: Eileen Smith 01634 867022

### Burham Church of England Primary School

The Junior School moved to the modern building in Bell Lane in 1984, soon followed by the Infants School. All classes are housed in modern permanent buildings. The



## All Saints Church Services & Events

### Every Sunday:

10.15am Morning Prayer.  
10.30 Sung Eucharist.

### Every Friday in Term Time only:

Little Lights Toddler Church  
9.30am

### Last Friday of the month:

Church Coffee Morning  
10.45- 12pm

### Services

#### April 7th:

2nd Sunday of Easter 10.30am

#### April 14:

3rd Sunday of Easter 10.30am

#### April 21:

4th Sunday of Easter 10.30am

#### April 28:

5th Sunday of Easter 10.30am

#### May 6:

6th Sunday of Easter 10.30am

#### May 9:

Thursday 7.30pm : Ascension Day.  
St Marys Church Burham

#### May 12:

7th Sunday of Easter 10.30am

#### May 19:

Pentecost Sunday 10.30am

#### May 24:

Trinity Sunday 10.30am

**Gwen Worcester**

## Burham Services & Facilities

school draws pupils from Burham and equally from further afield. It enjoys a good reputation for high academic standards, a strong Christian ethos, and a caring atmosphere. Head Teacher:

Holly Goddon 01634 861691

### **Burham Methodist Church**

“The Church In Burham” Church St, Burham. Details of Services are on the Church and Old School Community Centre notice boards. Check our website for up to date details about the services and events. The Minister and contact details can also be found at [www.thechurchinburham.org](http://www.thechurchinburham.org).

### **Burham Parish Council Offices**

The home of the Parish Office with a small meeting area. Refurbished in 2014. Parish Office, Rochester Road, Burham, Kent ME1 3RJ (next to the Village Hall)

### **Burham Recycling Banks**

Containers are sited adjacent to the Village Hall for cans, plastic bottles, clothing, glass and cardboard/paper. The cardboard, paper & clothing banks generate funds for the village.

### **Burham Village Hall**

This is 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, short mat bowls, wedding receptions and the Burham Pre School. To hire, contact: Aileen Bergin 0784 288 3028.

### **Burham & Wouldham**

#### **Collection for local Foodbank**

The local food bank is The East Malling Centre. The two villages are continuing to collect and you can donate gifts at any of the pubs, 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. Tins and dry goods are urgently required. If you require help please ring 01732 846314 for confidential advice and assistance. Gwen Worcester

#### **KCC Mobile Library Service**

The library vehicle is parked in the Village Hall car park and the library operates on alternate Tuesdays 2:25 - 3:25pm (red route). For updates and further information go to: [www.kent.gov.uk/mobilelibraries](http://www.kent.gov.uk/mobilelibraries)

#### **St Mary’s Church, Burham**

This is now a redundant church which is maintained by the Churches’ Conservation Trust. It is usually open during the day. Events and Occasional services are held there and are advertised on Facebook, Keep Burham Connected. It is close to the old river Medway crossing and dates back to the 1200’s.

### **The Burham Buzz**

#### **DON’T MISS OUT**

**Get the next issue delivered straight to your inbox for free see page 21**



# Community Workshops & Notices

## Women and Girls Safety Workshops

FREE

5 week course starting Friday 26 April  
Girls workshops (13–18 yrs): 6pm to 7pm  
Women's workshops: 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Book now by scanning the QR code below or email [csp@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:csp@tmbc.gov.uk)



At The Angel Centre, Tonbridge TN9 1SF

Classes run by Kent Self Defence Workshops

For more details contact Alison Finch on 01732 876247 or look at [www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk)



**My Community Voice**  
Protecting the neighbourhoods of Kent and Medway

MCV is a two-way engagement tool brought to you by Kent Police

**Find out what's happening in your area**

Receive alerts from your local officers

Tell us what matters most to you

**Sign up** Sign up today and make your voice count

Find out more [www.MyCommunityVoiceKent.co.uk](http://www.MyCommunityVoiceKent.co.uk)

## HELPING TONBRIDGE & MALLING GET DIGITAL

You could be eligible to access free:

- Gifted 2-in-1 laptop
- Digital skills sessions
- One to one digital support

This is available for **Tonbridge & Malling residents** over the age of 16 and digitally excluded, that meet **one** of the following criteria:

- In or at-risk of financial hardship,
- Not in education, employment or training, or
- Looking to develop skills to support employment or career development.

Full eligibility details and how to apply are available at [www.digitalkent.uk](http://www.digitalkent.uk) or call **03000 410 950**.



Funded by UK Government



## Snodland Library

15-17 High Street, Snodland. ME6 5DA

**Get Digital!** Whether you need support with using your tablet, the NHS app or just getting online. **We're here to help.**

Third Tuesday of the month between 10am and 12pm on:

- 16<sup>th</sup> April
- 21<sup>st</sup> May
- 18<sup>th</sup> June
- 16<sup>th</sup> July
- 20<sup>th</sup> August
- 17<sup>th</sup> September
- 15<sup>th</sup> October
- 19<sup>th</sup> November
- 17<sup>th</sup> December

To book onto a session and find out more, please visit [digitalkent.uk](http://digitalkent.uk) or call **03000 410 950**.





# Burham Businesses

### The Butchers Block

Traditional dog friendly country pub with classic fare, Sunday specials, pints & outdoor seating.

01634 786626

www.thebutchersblockpub.co.uk

### Frost's Service Station & Store

Serving the locality of Burham for 50 years with a range of motor related services, including a convenience store.

### Good Cod Fish & Chips Mobile Service:

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

### Happy House Chinese Takeaway

Family run Chinese takeaway. Collection and Delivery available. 01634 668326 or check our Facebook page

### The Robin Hood

Venerable 700 year-old pub with wood burner, two bars, formal dining in a conservatory and gardens.

01634 861500

www.robinhood-pub.co.uk

### The Vale Bakery

Long established local bakery with pastries, veggie pies and bread baked on the premises.

01634 861572

### The Windmill Inn

Village Community Pub serving fine wines, spirits, ales and beers with a lovely beer garden. Family friendly with young kid's play area. Dogs welcome on a lead.

01634 394882

www.windmillburham.com

**GET THE NEXT ISSUE delivered straight to your inbox for free**

(please print)

Title..... First Name ..... Surname.....

Email address: .....

Burham Parish Council will use the information on this form to communicate and to send you regular copies of The Burham Buzz community paper. You can unsubscribe at any time by contacting the Parish Clerk: pam@burhampc.co.uk or Tel: 01634 685936

I consent to my data being used for the purposes detailed above.

Signed: .....

***If you are unable to access the internet please let us know and we will do our best to provide you with a printed copy.***

**Please return completed form to: Pam Saunders, Parish Council Clerk, Parish Office, Rochester Road, Burham, Kent ME1 3RJ (next to the Village Hall)**

# Hang on, before you turn the page...

## The Burham Buzz

Our Magazine delivered to every household in the parish provides a vital sense of community and belonging. To continue producing a print edition, it is vital you'll choose to support us today. Thank you.

Advertise with us  
Option 1: 1/6 page

Advertise with us  
Option 2: 1/3 page

### Advertise in The Burham Buzz

Adverts are prepared on a first-come, first served basis. Contact Pam and book your spot today. 01634 685936 or pam@burhampc.co.uk

	<b>1 issue</b>	<b>4 issues</b>
<b>Option 1</b> 1/6 of A5 page: 6cm x 6cm	£12.50	£45.00
<b>Option 2</b> 1/3 of A5 page: 12cm x 6cm	£18.75	£60.00
<b>Option 3</b> 2/3 of A5 page: 12cm x 12cm	£31.25	£100.00
<b>Option 4</b> Full A5 page: 12cm x 19cm	£37.50	£120.00

# 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](mailto:pam@burhampc.co.uk) **t:** 01634 685936

[www.burhampc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://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 01634 867669**

## 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 Peter's Village. Application forms available from the Parish Clerk or from Wouldham 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

**Published by Burham Parish Council**

Produced and delivered by local volunteers

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



Burham Parish Council