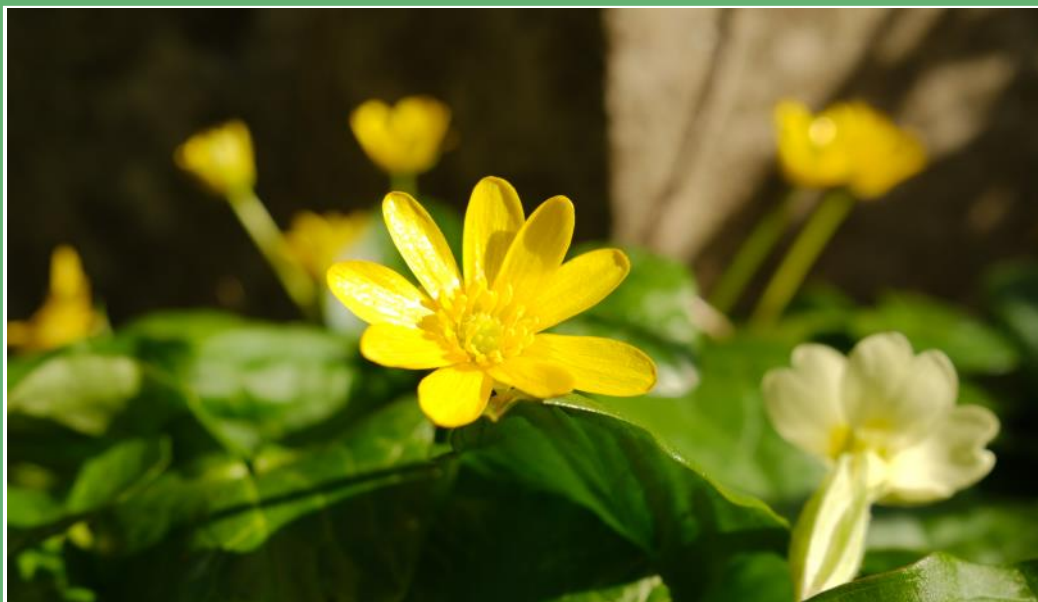


WEALD VIEWS

In the Three Suttons

March 2021

Online Version
5 p





St Peter & St Paul,
East Sutton Road,
East Sutton,
Kent ME17 3DE

**CHURCH OFFICERS
OF:**

**ST. MARY'S,
SUTTON VALENCE**

**SS. PETER & PAUL,
EAST SUTTON**

**ST. MICHAEL'S,
CHART SUTTON**

Vicar THE REV'D FIONA HASKETT
fiona.haskett@btopenworld.com **01622 891804**
Benefice website: **www.handschurches.org**

Churchwardens

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Mr S. Pereira
01622 843146

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Mrs J Ireland
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Hon. Secretary PCC

Mrs N Worsfold
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Ms H. Knowler
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Mr G. James
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Captain of Bells

Mr N. Hodgson
01622 863337

Ms H. Knowler
01622 749012

CLERGY LETTER

Dear Friends

Well I don't know about you, but as I write this letter things seem to be looking a lot more positive. The unseasonably cold weather, ice and snow has given way to warmer, spring like days, while, snowdrops, crocus and daffodils are all coming into bloom – could winter finally be over?.

Meanwhile, Boris's four stage roadmap out of the pandemic is giving us all real hope that the end might finally be in sight on that front.

Of course we all know that we are not there yet, it's not too late for another cold snap, while the slightest miscalculation by the government experts or the development of another mutation of the virus could set us all back some months. However, despite all this it would appear that we finally have light at the end of the tunnel and doesn't that make us all feel so much better? Hopefully it will also enable us to cope with the restrictions that are still in place for our own good that much better.....it's always easier when you can count down the days to the end and start planning for the future with a



definite date in mind. I for one would never manage to give up all the things I give up for Lent if it wasn't for the fact that I know there is a limit to my deprivations.

However, although I know we are all excitedly planning and looking forward to being able to do the things we once took for granted again, and there is nothing wrong with that, I would also encourage you to stop and look back from time to time. Think about how you have managed over the past year, who has helped to make life bearable for you? Have there been any "silver linings"? How about

positive changes in your lifestyle, have there been any? I'm sure there have. The last 12 months has been an extremely difficult year for everyone, for some far more difficult than others, but that doesn't mean to say we can't draw any positives from it. I believe that no experience should be wasted..not even bad or difficult ones, instead we should learn from them and use them to build a better future.

But there is one other thing that I have been acutely aware of over the past

Continued on next page....

year. That is the number of people who, in the world's time of crisis, have turned to God for help and support and asked him to journey with them as they have faced all the challenges that have come before them....I am confident that he hasn't refused or let anyone down.

So my second request to you all. Just as I have encouraged you to look back and take the positive experiences of the pandemic into the future, I would also ask you to continue to put your trust in God, to walk with him day by day,

regardless of what is going on in your life or in the world. For just as he helps all those who turn to him when life is difficult, he also enables us to live much better, happier, peaceful and hopeful lives when things are going well.

May God Bless you all this month.



Written in March

The cock is crowing,
The stream is flowing,
The small birds twitter,
The lake doth glitter,
The green field sleeps in the sun...

There's joy in the mountains,
There's life in the fountains,
Small clouds are sailing,
Blue sky prevailing,
The rain is over and gone.

From a poem by William Wordsworth

WEALD VIEWS

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The final deadline for the submission of material is the 14th of the preceding month. Acceptable formats for articles are MS Word, MS Publisher or text files. PDF files can sometimes be used, but as their proportions cannot be altered without distortion, they can't always be used. Suitable picture formats include: Jpeg, BMP, PNG, GIF, etc.

Church Services in the Suttons

At the time of writing we are still unsure as to exactly when we will be able to start our services in church again. However, we are hopeful that it will be before the end of the month and certainly in time for us to celebrate Easter. We will do all that we can to make sure that you are all kept fully up to date with all developments.

In the meantime, please don't forget that there is an on-line service every Sunday which is available on YouTube via the Hands Churches website or the Headcorn and the Suttons Facebook page. We will also be very happy to send out hard copies of the service sheet and sermon to anyone who does not have access to the internet—please contact Fiona or one of the Church wardens if you would like one.

Don't forget Mothering Sunday on 14th March

In praise of Mothers

A mother's love endures through all. - Washington Irving

Life doesn't come with a manual. It comes with a mother. - Anon

Life began with waking up and loving my mother's face. - George Eliot

Mothers are like buttons. They hold everything together. – Anon

A mother understands what a child does not say. - Jewish Proverb

All I am I owe to my mother. - George Washington

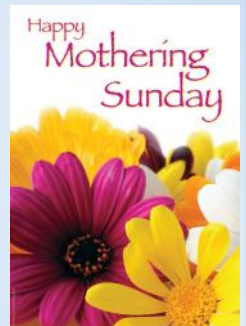
Mother's love is peace. It need not be acquired, it need not be deserved. - Erich Fromm

I can imagine no heroism greater than motherhood. - Lance Conran

A mother is the one who fills your heart in the first place. - Amy Tan

A mother's hug lasts long after she lets go. – Anon

Sooner or later, we all quote our mothers. - Bern Williams



The weather we have been having may have set some of our plants back a bit, but hopefully we are now through the worst of it! No sooner had it stopped snowing than it restarted on 11th February 2021!

Protect any plants that are particularly vulnerable with Fleece, even into March / April.

GENERAL

Before using a water hose, check you have an up to date licence, and there is not a hosepipe ban in your area!

In warm areas, prune shrubs that flowered late during the previous summer. Pruning in March encourages the development of shoots that will bear flowers later in the year.

If after clearing your garden shed, you have amassed chemicals which you do not need, do not tip them down a drain, as they may contaminate water courses. Instead consult your local authority for advice.

Old saying 'For every fog in March, there is likely to be a frost in May'!

Look out for Hosta regrowth between March and April. Check and treat all pots for 'Vine Weevil'.

LAWNS

Grass cutting begins soon. For the first cut, set the blades high, gradually



reducing their height as the season progresses.

VEGETABLES

From now and until May, sow radishes thinly in drills half an inch deep and ten inches apart.

Sow parsnip seeds in groups of three, six to eight inches apart, half an inch deep in drills fifteen inches apart. These are later thinned to the strongest seedling at each position.

GREENHOUSE

When the weather warms up, take chrysanthemum cuttings two and a half to three inches long, remove lower leaves, trim beneath a leaf joint and insert three quarters to one inch deep in equal parts moist peat and sharp sand. Water and place in gentle warmth. It may be necessary to delay this until later this month due to the inclement weather!

Sow broad beans three inches deep and eight inches apart in drills ten to twelve inches apart. Usually they are sown in double rows with a two foot wide path between each pair.

By mid March you should be able to sow carrots thinly in drills half to three quarters of an inch deep and nine inches apart.

Sow early peas four inches apart in drills two inches deep.

Continued on next page

FRUIT

Place cloches over a few strawberry plants to encourage early fruiting. It also prevents damaging the fruits.

Remove dead flower heads from bulb that have flowered. If left, they produce seeds at the expense of bulb development.

INDOOR PLANTS

Pot on all indoor plants that fill their pots with roots.

FLOWERS

Small baskets planted with pansies, polyanthus, small leaved and variegated ivies, heathers and cyclamen type narcissi create displays ideal for sheltered patios and cold porches. Keep the compost moist but not continually saturated.

VEGETABLES

In mild areas, plant early potatoes six inches deep and twelve inches apart in rows two feet apart. In cold areas delay planting for three or four weeks!

Plant onion sets four to six inches in rows twelve inches apart. The necks of the sets must be just above the soil's surface.

When sowing large seeds with hard coats, such as sweet peas, either nick the seeds, cut with a sharp knife or scrape with a nail file.

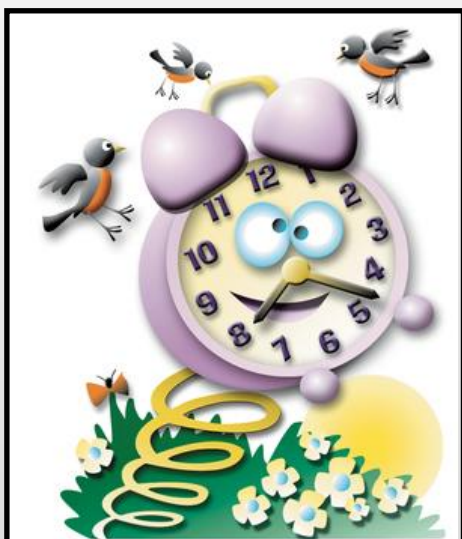
ORGANIC GARDENING

Gardens that attract butterflies are popular. In Spring Alyssum, Saxifrage, Aubrietia and Forget-me-not are appealing to butterflies.

We hope you will find at least some of these tips helpful and interesting but in view of the weather conditions you may have to adjust the timings!

Best wishes to you all from Keith and Jean

Keith and Jean.



Don't forget to put your
clocks forward
on 28th March

150 years of the Royal Albert Hall

Joyce Grenfell wrote a wonderful song, Joyful Noise, about three lady choristers: Miss Clissold, Miss Truss and Ivy Trembley.



Their greatest delight was to sing in an oratorio at the Royal Albert Hall. 'It may be like a gasworks with a green-house roof above it, and it may lack convenience, but all the same we love it.' That love has marked the life of the Royal Albert Hall over 150 years as this month we celebrate its opening on 29th March 1871.

After the success of the Great Exhibition, Prince Albert dreamed of creating a more permanent cultural area in London to promote and popularise the arts and sciences. On his death in 1861 at just 42 years, it was decided to erect a memorial and a 'Central Hall.' And so the Royal Albert Hall was built. At heart it is an impressive concert hall promoting classical music with an annual performance of Handel's Messiah from 1876, and from 1941 the BBC Proms: 8 weeks of concerts in the summer welcoming musicians from all over the

world and culminating in the memorable Last Night. Composers from Wagner and Verdi to Bernstein and Britten have

conducted and had works performed there.

But the Royal Albert Hall has also hosted an amazingly wide variety of events through its life: the Beatles in 1963, Ella Fitzgerald in 1990, poetry evenings, sport (boxing, tennis and basketball), the Cirque de Soleil, Teenage Cancer Trust concerts, and the 25th anniversary performance of The Phantom of the Opera in 2011. It has provided a platform for Winston Churchill, Einstein and the Dalai Lama. Many of us will have poignant memories of the annual RBL Festival of Remembrance held every November since 1923: a moving occasion that culminates with the shower of poppy petals.

Sadly, because of the restrictions with the pandemic, the Hall's programme of events has had to be limited in scope since last year, but the frieze on the outside of the building remains to

inspire. There we see a celebration of the rich variety of arts and sciences that include music, sculpture, painting, astronomy and navigation, and the words Thine O Lord is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty - a reminder that all our creative work here is a reflection of the wonder of God the Creator.

‘He will never forget at all The day he played at Albert Hall’. That line from the Kinks’ song Session Man invites us all to celebrate and give thanks for the richness of the life and work of the Royal Albert Hall as we look back over its 150 years and as we look ahead with hope and faith to a richer future.

Due to the increase in covid-19 cases in Kent we walk leaders decided to suspend our walk in Smarden on the 9th of December and to review early in the New Year the January walks.

January 2021 Dates

Wednesday 13th

Wednesday 27th

Don't forget, it is now necessary to book



a place on each walk on a first come first served basis and although this is a nuisance it is working well.

For further information on any of our walks, contact Barry:

barry@watersideoast.com or to book your place contact **Paula 07525 260539** or try **paulasmale@btinternet.com**

Barry Walker

Why not contact a lonely neighbour?

The public have been urged to write letters to their lonely neighbours, as the Government has announced a £7.5million cash injection for community-boosting activities.

It is hoped that people will “reach out virtually and help combat loneliness”, says Robert Jenrick, the Communities Secretary. This could be done either by

“picking up the phone or writing a letter.”

He urges, “Let’s all do what we can to connect with our older neighbours, in a Covid-secure way, so they feel less alone and know how valuable they are to their communities at this time.”

The charity Age UK has said it reckons there to be about 1.4million older people in England who are “chronically lonely.”

Let's clap for mothers!

As Mothering Sunday approaches, let's hear it for all the mothers who have been on the frontline of helping our country survive the Covid pandemic!

Just as we've clapped on our doorsteps for the NHS and other heroes, let's applaud all that mothers have done – often balancing home and employment – during these long lockdown months.

Research shows that mums have carried out most of the home schooling and household tasks – with many also holding down important frontline roles in the NHS and other essential services.

Women spent more than twice as much time as men on their children's home schooling and development during the lockdown, according to a study by University College London. It measured how parents responded while schools and nurseries were closed to most families.

The survey, reported by the Guardian newspaper, found that women across several age groups took the major share of childcare and home schooling. Those with primary school-aged

children “were considerably more likely” to have given up working than fathers with children of the same age.

The pressure on families was further increased as many grandparents and other carers were unable to help. Family and friendship networks were

put under strain with contacts restricted to online Zoom or Facetime calls that are often difficult with younger children.

This Mother's Day, daffodils and chocolate may seem very thin reward for the major contribution of mums

across our nation.

In normal times, they have a challenging and demanding job to do. Through the pandemic, they have risen to the challenges and sought to ensure children thrive despite the lockdowns.

As we celebrate Mother's Day, let's recognise the amazing efforts made by mothers in the home with their children.

Let's also celebrate the vital roles many also play – as do those without children – in the NHS, in education, in the government and civil service, in keeping vital supplies flowing – and in our pulpits and across our churches.



Smile Lines

Bishop

A little girl told her mother, "We went to a confirmation service at the cathedral and I saw the bishop. Now I know what a crook looks like!"



Definitions from church life

AMEN: The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.

PEWSHEET: Your receipt for attending Mattins.

HYMN: A song of praise usually sung in a key two octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: The last song at Sunday morning worship, often sung a little more quietly, since most of the people have already left.



JONAH: The original 'Jaws' story

SIDESMEN: The only people in the parish who don't know the seating capacity of a pew

From a parish newsletter:

'Children are normally collected during the Offertory Hymn'

Knock knock

A conscientious minister decided to get acquainted with a new family in his church and so he visited them one Spring evening. After his knock on the door, a lilting voice from within called out, "Is that you, Angel?"

"No," replied the minister. "But I'm from the same department."

Switched on

A housewife was helping her aged mother get up the stairs on their brand-new stair lift when the minister telephoned her. He was horrified to hear her say: "I'm so sorry, but I'll have to ring you back. I can't talk right now because I've finally got Mother in the electric chair and I'm eager to press the switch and see if it works!"



Give me a sense of humour, Lord, give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humour out of life, and pass it on to other folk.



Chart Sutton has a small but successful shop in the heart of the village on The Green run entirely by volunteers for the benefit of the community.

It is looking for more volunteers to help run it. It is open between 7am-5pm Mon-Fri and 8am-12noon at the weekend and Bank Holidays. Hours to suit, most volunteers do 2 hour stints. There are some permanent slots available but if you would rather be available for ad hoc covering that is fine as there are times when last minute cover is required.

The volunteers are a great bunch who very much enjoy being part of the community, meeting a wide variety of people. If you are interested in becoming part of this team please call either Valerie on **843232** or Jane on **843743** for an informal chat.

Sutton Strollers



Join us and enjoy the glorious countryside around The Three Suttons on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Contact:

Chris.....**01622 842629**

Graham.....**01622 745484**

1st March: St David's Day, time for daffodils

1st March is St David's Day, and it's time for the Welsh to wear daffodils or leeks. Shakespeare called this custom 'an honourable tradition begun upon an honourable request' - but nobody knows the reason. Why should anyone have ever 'requested' that the Welsh wear leeks or daffodils to honour their patron saint? It's a mystery!

We do know that David - or Dafydd - of Pembrokeshire was a monk and bishop of the 6th century. In the 12th century



he was made patron of Wales, and he has the honour of being the only Welsh saint to be canonised and culted in the Western Church. Tradition has it that he was austere with himself, and generous with others - living on water and vegetables (leeks, perhaps?!) and devoting himself to works of mercy. He was much loved.

In art, St David is usually depicted in Episcopal vestments, standing on a mound with a dove at his shoulder, in memory of his share at an important Synod for the Welsh Church, the Synod of Brevi.

17th March: St Patrick, beloved apostle to Ireland

St Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. If you've ever been in New York on St Patrick's Day, you'd think he was the patron saint of New York as well... the flamboyant parade is full of American/Irish razzmatazz.

It's all a far cry from the hard life of this 5th century humble Christian who became in time both bishop and apostle of Ireland. Patrick was born the son of a town councillor in the west of England, between the Severn and the Clyde. But as a young man he was captured by Irish pirates, kidnapped to Ireland, and reduced to slavery. He was made to tend his master's herds.

Desolate and despairing, Patrick turned to prayer. He found God was there for him, even in such desperate circumstances. He spent much time in prayer, and his faith grew and deepened, in contrast to his earlier years, when he "knew not the true God".

Then, after six gruelling, lonely years he was told in a dream he would soon go to his own country. He either escaped or was freed, made his way to a port 200 miles away and eventually persuaded some sailors to take him with

them away from Ireland.

After various adventures in other lands, including near-starvation, Patrick landed on English soil at last, and returned to his family. But he was much changed. He had enjoyed his life of plenty before; now he wanted to devote the rest of his life to Christ. Patrick received some

form of training for the priesthood, but not the higher education he really wanted.

But by 435, well-educated or not, Patrick was badly needed. Palladius' mission to the Irish had failed, and so the Pope sent Patrick back to the land of his slavery. He set up his see at Armagh and worked principally in the north. He

urged the Irish to greater spirituality, set up a school, and made several missionary journeys.

Patrick's writings are the first literature certainly identified from the British Church. They reveal sincere simplicity and a deep pastoral care. He wanted to abolish paganism, idolatry, and was ready for imprisonment or death in the following of Christ.

Patrick remains the most popular of the Irish saints. The principal cathedral of New York is dedicated to him, as, of course, is the Anglican cathedral of Dublin.



Noticeboard

100
Club

St Mary's Monthly Draw

Winners of the
February 2021 draw

First Prize - Mr John Wilding

Second Prize - Mr Lionel Marchant

Congratulations!!!

**The
Children's
Society**

Once again it is time for me to collect in the Children's Society Boxes for emptying. If, like me, during this strange year, you have not acquired much in the way of loose change, do not worry. However small, all donations are much needed and appreciated by the Children's Society.

I need to collect the boxes in by the end of February. Once opened I will return them to you. If you would like me to collect your box, please call me **01622 843748** and I will happily do so.

Last year we raised **£338.31p** for this worthy cause. If you are not currently part of this scheme and would like to help us raise money for the Children's Society by donating your loose change, I would be happy to provide you with a collecting box.

I thank you all for your continued support.

Mary Brett



Kevin took himself off to his study to pray for peace

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

For information ring
Rosie **01622 842034**.

Hello.

We hope that now that spring is in the air you restrictions are hopefully easing, you are all feeling a little more positive.

Here at St Michael's, we are hoping to be able to restart our services by Palm Sunday, which falls at the end of the month.

We are definitely intending to have a service of Holy Communion on Easter Day at 8.45. We are sorry, but we will still not be able to belt out our favourite Easter Hymns, but at least some progress is being made.

Looking further ahead, I do hope we will be able to have a few fund raising events, maybe a jumble sale and our history/cream tea afternoon. Of course we will advertise events as we make plans.

Do remember, the Vicar is still contactable if you need to talk to her (**01622 - 891804**) and services continue to be streamed on the website and Facebook.

St Michael's PCC

St Michael's Church, Chart Sutton



From the Registers

Funerals

February 2nd at St Peter & St Paul's East Sutton—Paul Davis.

February 4th at St Mary's Sutton Valence—Emma King

February 22nd at St Mary's Sutton Valence—Peter Green



Baptisms, Blessings & Weddings

With the recent news that the government is hoping to ease the lock down restrictions over the coming months, we are once more in a position to take bookings for Baptisms (Christenings), Blessings & Weddings in church. Please do contact Fiona if you would like to talk about having any of these life celebrations in church.

.What, I wonder, has this year's spring got in store for us?

Many so-called spring bulbs will already have flowered but there

will still be plenty more to come – some of them not flowering until April. And what about our deciduous trees and shrubs? Given a bit of warmth and longer daylight hours their buds will begin to swell and some will have burst into leaf by the end of the month. It's a wonderful time of year when life returns again to our gardens and to the countryside. Not everything has been hibernating, though, and those birds and animals that remained active during the winter will soon be caring for the next generation of their species. Mind you, as I write these jottings in the second week of February any signs of spring lie buried beneath a thick covering of snow and there is no doubt that we are still in winter; and it's not just the snow that tells us that; the biting cold east-north-easterly wind leaves us in no doubt about it. I don't think that many of the supposedly half hardy plants that have happily survived left in the ground in recent winters will still be alive this spring and don't suppose that some of the plants in my unheated greenhouse will have enjoyed several nights in a row of sub-zero temperatures. We shall have to wait and see what, if anything, has proved to be hardier than expected.

March Jottings



Whatever the weather, though, British Summer Time starts on the last Sunday of the month. It's always nice to have lighter evenings

but, for those who rise early, it's not such fun with dawn suddenly an hour later just as we were beginning to enjoy seeing the sun rise as we got up.

Michael Beaman

Miscellaneous observations on daily life

Don't judge a book by its movie.

The way some people love to find fault, you'd think there was a reward.

The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail and not his tongue.

Content makes poor men rich; discontent makes rich men poor. - Benjamin Franklin

I think there may be insanity in my family. They keep asking me for money.

It turns out that being an adult now is mostly just googling how to do stuff.

We would be glad to pay as we go, if only we could catch up paying for where we have been.

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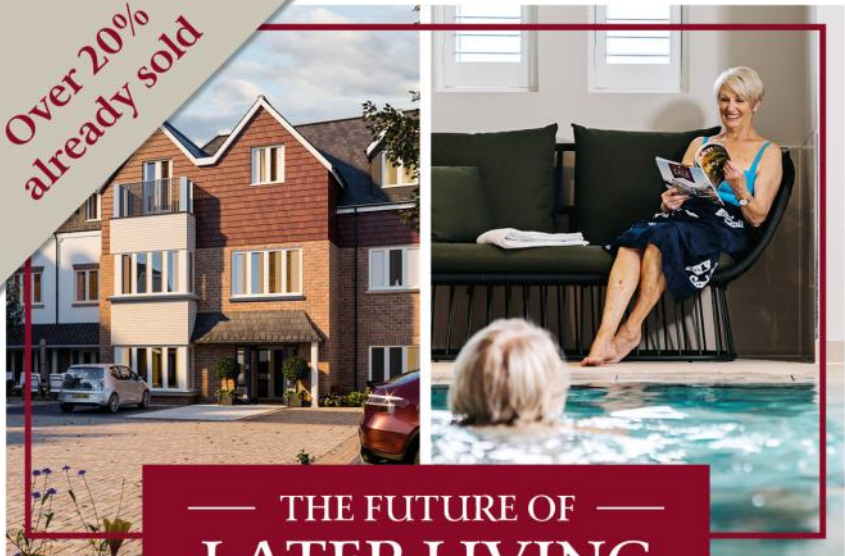


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Area supervisor - Janet Greenroyd - 07773 397131



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AROUND THE SUTTONS

Clubs, Societies and Activities



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EAST SUTTON COMMUNITY YOUTH THEATRE	Mr M Dyer-Ball	01622 844321
EAST SUTTON WHIST DRIVE	Mr R Morgan	01622 843955
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	Mr M Fitzgerald	01622 743270
SUTTON SAINTS FOOTBALL CLUB	Janet Burnett	01622 844135
SUTTON VALENCE CHORAL SOCIETY	Mr A Hutchinson	01622 843325
SUTTON VALENCE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION	Mr D.Gallafant	01622 842439
SUTTON VALENCE HOCKEY CLUB	Mr L Davies	01622 844046
SUTTON VALENCE KARATE CLUB	Mr S Pereira	07768 388163
SUTTON VALENCE MUSIC SOCIETY	Mrs A Hutchinson	01622 843325
SUTTON VALENCE TABLE TENNIS CLUB	Mr A Collins	01580 892755
SUTTON VALENCE TENNIS CLUB	Mrs J Waterman	01622 768654
SUTTON VALENCE WOMENS INSTITUTE	Mrs R Easton	01622 842034
THE SUTTONS BEAVER SCOUTS	Samantha Chapman	07809 135501
THE SUTTONS BROWNIES	Mrs S Smith	01622 730680
THE SUTTONS CUB PACK	Mrs L Waring	01622 843112
THE SUTTONS SCOUT TROOP	Mr T Waring	07754 701086
THREE SUTTONS DARBY & JOAN CLUB	Mrs M Mackleden	01622 861783
WARMLAKE SHORT MAT BOWLS	Mrs B French	01622 843560
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Chart Sutton	Cllr. Steve Munford	01622 741310
East Sutton	Cllr. Martin Round	01622 890276
	Cllr. Karen Chappell-Tay	079186 75619

CLERKS TO THE PARISH COUNCILS

Chart Sutton	Mrs T. Jenkins	01622 745043
East Sutton	Mrs J. Burnett east Sutton parish council@gmail.com	01622 844135
Sutton Valence	Mrs J. Burnett clerk@suttonvalence.org.uk	01622 844135

DOCTORS

Cobtree Medical Practice		01622 843800
Langley Surgery		01622 863030
Sutton Valence Surgery		01622 842212
On Call Care : 0845 1552255	NHS Direct : 0845 4647	
Maidstone Hospital		01622 729000

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS

101

THREE SUTTONS HELPLINE

M.844301

M.842346

01622 842346

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Support Line

01622 604396

SCHOOLS

Sutton Valence School	Head: Mr B Grindlay	01622 845200
Sutton Valence Preparatory School	Head: Miss C Corkran	01622 842117
Sutton Valence Primary School	Head: Miss M Terry	01622 842188
Sutton Valence Pre-School	Mrs F Davidson	01622 842388

KENT MESSENGER REPRESENTATIVES

Sutton Valence - Mrs J Burnett	clerk@suttonvalence.org.uk	01622 844135
Chart Sutton - Mrs V Underdown	valerie95@outlook.com	01622 843232

VILLAGE HALL HIRE BOOKINGS

East Sutton Filmer Hall	Mrs J Coyle	07703 815215
Chart Sutton	Annegret Fidock (csvillagehall@hotmail.com)	01622 844741
Sutton Valence	Mrs J Burnett (svvhbookings@gmail.com)	01622 842024
Youth Centre (behind St Mary's Church)	Graham Haskett (temporary arrangement)	01622 891804

HEADCORN AND THE SUTTONS

www.handschurches.org

SUTTON VALENCE VILLAGE WEBSITE

www.suttonvalencepc.kentparishes.gov.uk

EAST SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

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