



# WEALD VIEWS

## In the Three Suttens

June 2021

50p





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**

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CHART SUTTON**

Vicar THE REV'D FIONA HASKETT  
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Benefice website: **www.handschurches.org**

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**01622 842681**  
Mr S. Pereira  
**01622 843146**

Mrs N. Worsfold  
**01622 843101**  
Mrs J Ireland  
**01622 891058**

Hon. Secretary PCC

Mrs N Worsfold  
**01622 843101**

Ms H. Knowler  
**01622 749012**

Hon. Treasurer PCC

Mr S. Pereira  
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Mr A. Hutchinson  
**01622 843325**

Mr C Webb  
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Organist

Mr G. James  
**01622 842681**

Mr G. James  
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Captain of Bells

Mr N. Hodgson  
**01622 863337**

Ms H. Knowler  
**01622 749012**

# CLERGY LETTER

Dear Friends

Are we nearly there yet???

I certainly hope so, and judging by the government announcements and news reports it seems as though there is a good chance that we are. I know it's unlikely to be completely plain sailing from now on, but light is definitely shining brightly at the end of the tunnel and I'm sure that we are all looking forward to going out, socialising and hugging those nearest and dearest to us again.

But as we move forward, it's important that we also take with us the lessons learned over the past 15 months...and I believe there have been a lot. For a start, there has been a new appreciation for the simple things in life, like going for a walk or bike ride or just spending time with our families. The fact that the majority of us have been stuck at home most of the time has resulted in people both rediscovering old hobbies and pastimes as well as embracing new ones. This has only been possible because the pace of life for us all has, by necessity slowed right down, this in itself has been a good thing and I hope that folk will now appreciate that we don't need to spend our time rushing about, addressing a myriad of tasks and generally putting ourselves under pressure to "get things



done". There has most definitely been a great upsurge in people genuinely caring for their neighbours and it has been wonderful to see the way in which they have been so willing to go the extra mile to ensure that everyone is safe and has all

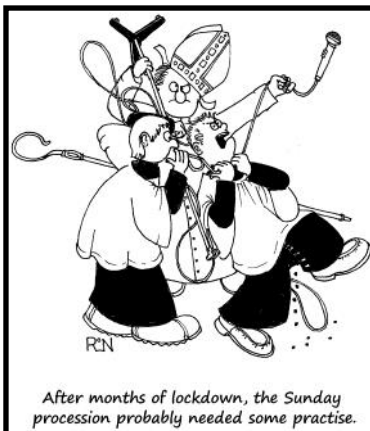
they need. While our gratitude towards health care professionals, members of the emergency services, school teachers, shop workers, postal and delivery drivers and anyone else whose job it is to help us, has grown immensely as they continued putting their own health and safety at risk for our benefit.

So yes, it has been a very difficult and challenging time for us all, but as we emerge from the restrictions, I pray that we will do so as a changed society that is far more caring and appreciative of others and of all that we have been given in life.

But it's not just our home and village life that I hope will change for the better as a result of the lessons we have learned over the last 15 months – I hope that our Church life will as well. Yes, there will be some things that will return to how they once were, although as they do so, I pray they will be met with a new sense of appreciation and engagement. I think we are all looking forward to being able to belt out our

Continued on next page...

favourite hymns, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee together after the service and actually sit right next to our friends as we journey through the service. But there are also some things that may possibly change – for example, our pattern of services, how should this look in the future – do we need to retain the 8am service of Holy Communion? is there a new and different type of service you think we could introduce? or even something that you would appreciate happening at a different time or different day of the week? – perhaps you would let me know what you think. The projector & screen at Headcorn has been invaluable over recent months when we have not been able to use hymn books and service sheets, should we think about installing them in any of our other churches as well? Our on-line and



virtual provision – this is definitely something that will continue well into the future, both in the form of live streaming of services and also the provision of activities and materials that people of all ages can take and enjoy at home.

I believe that as we immerse from the confines of the pandemic, we should look forward with a sense of anticipation and even excitement. Although very challenging, the last 15 months have given us the opportunity to step back and reevaluate all that we do – let's make sure we don't waste this opportunity to build on the things we have learned and the good things we have done by simply slipping back into our old ways.

With Blessings for the coming month.

*hane*

## 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, 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.



## Travelling crosses

We have a supply of beautiful travelling crosses, hand made in Oak by Alan Port, they come in two parts so can be easily transported and stand 6 inches high when put together. £8.00 each available from Fiona. All proceeds to St Peter & St Paul's church, Headcorn.



### The Royal British Legion's Official Centenary is on the 15th May 2021

#### Our Founding History:

*On Sunday 15th May 1921, a wet and dreary day, a small number of ex-Servicemen walked to the Cenotaph war memorial in London's Whitehall. As Big Ben struck nine, four men*

*representing societies that for three years had been rivals laid a wreath at the base of the memorial. On that wreath were the badges of the four organisations that would officially amalgamate to form the British Legion.*

*This moment was the starting gun for the Royal British Legion we know today. By Christmas of 1921 the ranks of our organisation had swelled to include 2,500 branches across the country, as well as overseas. These were the groups around which the armed forces community rallied after the First World War. They made change happen, fundraised during the Poppy Appeal, provided welfare locally and became the foundations for what has become the UK's largest Armed Forces charity.*

Your Sutton Valence and District branch continues to serve our service men and women and, although the last year has been a challenge, we are looking to get back on track with a **Coffee Morning (Hurrah) on Thursday 8th July 2021 at Chart Sutton Village Hall**. We look forward to welcoming back friends old and new, providing an opportunity for us to come together again, catch-up, enjoy an outing and bring a little normality back to our lives. Do please put the date in your Diary NOW.

*Mike FitzGerald MBE Chair of Branch*

Hello everyone we hope you are all well and looking forward to the summer in your gardens?



**GENERAL :** The risk of frost should now be well and truly over, when your containers can be placed outside.

**Flowers :** Tie up shoots of delphiniums to prevent them being damaged. Also, check other border plants to ensure they will not be damaged by wind and rain. Remove dead flowers from plants growing in tubs, window-boxes, troughs and hanging baskets. Cutting them off encourages the development of further flowers and smartens the display. Tidy up early flowering rock garden plants. Removing dead leaves and flowers helps to reduce the risk of attack from slugs and snails. At this time of year plants are quickly devastated by pests!

The best lavender to use for hedging is 'Hidcote'. Remember foxgloves thrive in

partial shade.

**Lawns :** When cutting lawns with an electric mower avoid treading on it immediately before it is cut. For safety

wear stout shoes and keep pets and children off it while it is being mown. **DO NOT CUT WHEN IT IS WET!**

If using an electric mower, start cutting at the side nearest the power source – there is then less chance of the cable being severed. **ENSURE A CIRCUIT-BREAKER IS FITTED INTO THE POWER SUPPLY SO THAT IF THE CABLE IS CUT THE ELECTRICITY IS INSTANTLY CUT OFF.** Cut lawns regularly. The more often they are mown, the less nutrients the grass takes from the soil.



**Vegetables:** Harvest rapid growing salad crops such as Radishes and spring onions, and use the space to sow another crop that matures quickly. Transplant Brussels sprouts into their growing positions, 75 cm / 2½ – 3 ft. apart in rows 75 – 90 cm / 2½ - 3 ft.

Continued on next page

apart.

A question we are often asked is 'When will my early potatoes be ready to lift?' As a rule you can start digging up early potatoes as soon as their flowers open. This should be 10 – 12 weeks after planting. However this spring was very late, so we would suggest that you dig up one plant first to see if the tubers have formed yet. If not, leave the rest to grow on. It may well be a later harvest than usual!

**Fruit :** Pick strawberries as soon as they are ripe. If left on plants they soon deteriorate. Place the fruits in small baskets to avoid them being squashed. Continue to tie in new raspberry canes to support wires. Allow only eight canes to develop from each plant. Summer-prune gooseberries by shortening side-shoots to five leaves. This directs their vigour into the development of fruit buds. When watering tomato plants remember to add tomato feed fortnightly. Immature fruits frequently fall from apple trees this month, this is known as the June drop. This is quite normal and is the tree's way of ridding itself of excess

**GREENHOUSES:** Damp down greenhouses to create a moist atmosphere by mist spraying the plants, floor and staging. Do this in early morning and mid afternoon so that excess moisture disappears by nightfall. A moist atmosphere at night when the temperature falls, encourages the presence of diseases.

**Organic gardening :** In summer there are many plants that attract clouds of butterflies. These include buddleia, marigolds, *Helichrysum bracteatum*, lobelia mignonette, scabious, Sweet Williams, lilac and thyme.

**Organic pest controls:** Rub aphids off. They are sticky but it is possible to rub them off plant stems with your fingers and thumb, taking care not to damage the plant. This way you can remove hundreds in just a few seconds, although you might want to don a pair of rubber gloves first! Do not overfeed as this encourages the aphids rather than deter them!

*Happy gardening and best wishes from  
Keith and Jean.*



## **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

**North Downs' sponsored Walk on behalf of Cancer Research UK  
(and your chosen cause)**

**Organised by the Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent**

## **Sunday 8 August**

The North Downs Walk in and around Harrietsham has been an annual event for the past 35 years, until last year when we had to cancel for the first time ever. However, we are determined to put on the event this year. It will be a somewhat different format BUT

- There will still be the choice of 4 routes 1,3 6 and 9 miles, all starting and finishing at Glebe Field, Harrietsham (opposite the church), and taking in the beautiful North Downs
- It will be fully marshalled and signposted with regular checkpoints for you and your dogs to take on refreshments,
- You will still be able to retain 50% of your sponsorship for your own cause or charity.

However due to various restrictions one or two things have had to change;

- We cannot hire Harrietsham Village Hall as it is being used for Covid vaccinations so we are intending using the field opposite the church as the start and finish point using gazebos for registration.
- A knock-on effect is that we cannot provide food this year
- We will also be asking you to bring a drinking vessel to fill up at the various checkpoints to save multi-handling of cups with the commensurate risk of spreading Covid

We do hope these inconveniences will not put you off and are hoping for a good turnout after almost 18 months without any real events

We are still finalising the detail but intend to start accepting registrations by Mid May. Why not check out our website <https://wealdofkentrotary.org.uk> to get regular updates and to find out more about us.



# Service Rota

Date	Sunday	Church	Time	Service	Readings	
6 June	Trinity 2	Sutton Valence	10.00	Holy Communion	2 Cor 4:13 – 5:1	Mark 3:20-35
		Chart Sutton	18.00	Evensong	2 Cor 4:13 – 5:1	Mark 3:20-35
		East Sutton		No Service		
13 June	Trinity 3	Sutton Valence	10.00	Holy Communion	2 Cor 5: 6-10, 14 - 17	Mark 4:26 - 34
		Chart Sutton		No Service		
		East Sutton	18.00	Evensong	2 Cor 5: 6-10, 14 - 17	Mark 4:26 - 34
20 June	Trinity 4	Sutton Valence	10.00	Holy Communion	2 Cor 6:1-13	Mark 4:35 - 41
		Chart Sutton	18.00	Evensong	2 Cor 6:1-13	Mark 4:35 - 41
		East Sutton		No Service		
27 June	Trinity 5	Sutton Valence	10.00	Holy Communion	2 Cor 8: 7-15	Mark 5:21-43
		Chart Sutton		No Service		
		East Sutton	18.00	Evensong	2 Cor 8: 7-15	Mark 5:21-43



## St Mary's 100 Club

St. Mary's PCC seeks your support as a subscriber to the 100 Club.

All members of the 100 Club contribute an annual sum of £12 (or a multiple thereof). Each £12 buys the member one share in the club. The total amount contributed is divided into:

- i. Funds to help meet the running expenses of St. Mary's Church
- ii. Monthly prizes paid to the two winners whose share numbers are drawn

Currently the 100 Club has 38 members - although many have multiple shares. There is no limit to the number of shares held. It is important that I receive your application by 30<sup>th</sup> June as the first of the renewed monthly draws will be in July.

Last year the 100 Club contributed £900 towards church funds, a slight increase on previous years. I hope you will consider joining the 100 Club and look forward to receiving your completed application form and cheque.

In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) I am required to obtain consent to hold your personal details. The details requested below will be held and used solely in connection with the running of St Mary 100 Club. Your signature on the application form will be taken as you having given your consent for us to hold these details and, should you be a winner, for your name to be published in Weald Views.

Due to the loss of many local banks we understand the difficulty in paying in cheques, so would like to offer you the facility to have any 'winnings' transferred direct into your bank account. If you are happy to use this facility, please include your bank details on the application form.

**Mary Brett**

(Promoter)

Telephone: 01622 843748 Email: mbrett11@btinternet.com

# Application to join St Mary's 100 Club

To: Mary Brett, 2 Malthouse Cottages, Chart Road, Chart Sutton ME17 3RA

I would like to subscribe to the St Mary's Church, Sutton Valence 100 Club for the year 2021/2022. I enclose my subscription (of £12 or a multiple thereof) of £ ..... payable to **St Mary's Church PCC**.

Name(s) .....

Address .....

Telephone .....

I would prefer to receive any winnings by: Bank Transfer / Cheque

***(Please select your option)***

Bank details required *(if opting for Bank transfers)*

Sort Code: .....

Account Number: .....

Account holders Name(s) .....

Signed .....

Date .....

Our walks have started again and we are, for now, walking in smaller groups. It is, therefore, still necessary to book a place in advance on a first come, first served, basis. If you would like to join us, please contact Paula on **07525 260539**.

## June 2021



**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>:** Meet in the car park at All Saints Church, Ulcombe (ME17 1DN) at 9:30 for a 9:45am start. A 3½ mile circular walk from Ulcombe to East Sutton lasting approximately 1½ hours. The area is undulating with one uphill stretch near the beginning and a steeper hill at the end. We will be walking on footpaths

and country lanes with two stiles.

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Meet in Egerton in the Millennium Hall car park off Elm Close (TN27 9DS) at 9:30 for a 9:45am start for a walk of approximately 3½ miles (about 1¾ hours) through orchards, pasture, woodland and some arable

fields. Some inclines and parts can be muddy following any recent rain. Stout shoes or boots recommended.

**For further information on any of our walks, please contact Barry (barry@watersideoast).**

*Barry Walker*



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 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

Contact:

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

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



## Virtual Messy Church



### Feeding the 5000

Kits will be available for collection from

St Peter & St Paul's, Headcorn

**29th May and 5th June**

Activities and information will also be available to download from the website



### What does your lawn say about you?

**A perfectly mown lawn may look beautiful, but it is also a sign of male control.**

So says Monty Don, the Gardeners' World presenter. He is wary of what he calls the 'male obsession' to achieve a closely cut lawn which is of pure and perfect grass, without any other plants in it at all. Monty Don calls such an attitude to gardening "controlling rather

than embracing," and reckons it is based on a desire to get just one more "aspect of life under control".

Instead, Don urges that at least part of our lawns should be encouraged to become wildflower meadows, which are much better for the environment. He explains: "Cutting grass burns fossil fuel, makes a filthy noise and is about the most injurious thing you can do to wildlife. Whereas, simply letting grass grow ... is probably the single most effective thing you can do in any garden of any size, to encourage, particularly, insect life, but also small mammals, invertebrates and reptiles."



Would you or anyone you know be interested in joining an Alpha Course?

Please contact Fiona if the answer is yes

# Noticeboard

**100**  
**Club**

## ***St Mary's Monthly Draw***

**Winners of the May 2021 draw**

**First Prize - Mr & Mrs Andrew Clarke**

**Second Prize - Mrs Jean May**

**Congratulations!!!**

**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**

For information ring  
Rosie **01622 842034**.

## **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.



## **St Mary's Sutton Valence**

**St Mary's** is open for regular services once again. Assuming Covid restrictions are lifted, we intend holding our regular monthly **Archive Exhibition and Coffee Mornings** on the first Saturday of the month, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., hopefully commencing on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Exhibition and Cake Stall
7 <sup>th</sup> August	Exhibition and Stall – TBC
4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Exhibition and Plant Sale

***We look forward to seeing you.***

## From the Registers

### Funeral

7 May – Gordon Hughes



## Food Bank

Many thanks to everyone who donates to our Foodbank collection point that is housed in the porch of Headcorn church. Thanks to your generosity we are able to deliver several large bags full of much needed food and toiletries to the Salvation Army Foodbank in Maidstone each week. They in turn, support 70 – 80 needy families in the area, including some in the Suttons. We have also been able to pass on a number of very generous donations that have been used to bulk buy much needed supplies. Current supplies needed are:

- Tinned meat products
- Tinned Fruit
- Long-life Milk
- Cartons of orange/apple juice
- Crisps
- Cereal Bars
- Jams and spreads
- Eggs
- Fruit & vegetables (please call before bringing)
- Toilet Roll
- Toiletries - toothpaste, soap, male/female deodorants (no razors)



Please note that our collection box is covered by CCTV and is emptied each day. Alternatively, please feel free to bring your donation to whichever church you would normally attend on a Sunday.

## June Jottings



I wrote in my May jottings that I reckoned it safe to plant out runner beans on VE Day. The nights had been so cold that I didn't sow any seeds in my unheated greenhouse this year until the end of April and they hadn't even germinated by VE Day let alone been ready to plant out – and that was just as well because when I went for my early morning dog walk on May 7th there was, yet again, frost on the grass. Let's hope that June's weather will be more like what we would expect at this time of year.



The hospitality industry must be pleased that the lockdown restrictions are going to be eased still further this month. I imagine that the initial easing allowing pubs to serve food and drink outdoors in April was not the success that it might have been because, despite the warmth of the sun, the air temperatures were below average for much of the time –

and in the evenings, of course, the sun was too low to have any effect. Cold beer is nice but the same cannot be said of hot food that has already started to get cold while the waitress is trying to locate you!



Next month will see the start of the latest form of limited overs cricket – 'The Hundred'. (Perhaps I shouldn't refer to it as a limited overs game because I believe the twenty five-ball units are not referred to as overs.) I can't really see the need for yet another new version of the game; the T20 format is both very successful and very popular.

And still on the subject of sport: what are the chances that the Tokyo Olympics will take place? Perhaps by the time this month's Weald Views is printed and distributed they will have been cancelled. If they do go ahead, they will certainly be very different from any previous Olympics as, presumably, there will have to be all sorts of Covid-secure bubbles.

What chaos this pandemic has wrought!

*Michael Beaman*



## India - engulfed by a tsunami of grief

Covid-19 has been overwhelming India in recent weeks, bringing its health services and institutions to their knees. Hospitals have run out of oxygen, medical staff cannot help the queues of desperate patients, and bodies are piling up as people die in vast numbers.

The Indian Christian community, like their compatriots, have also been suffering. Reports speak of many church leaders contracting the virus and some even dying. Their congregations, also sick and dying, are left without pastoral care.

Indian Christians report that more than 50-60 senior church leaders have died. One pastor said: "in the last seven days we have lost four pastors to Covid19." Another organisation lost three missionaries within a week. These examples are just the tip of the iceberg.

The lockdown is causing severe suffering to the poorest, the day-labourers, who now have no work and no income. Barnabas Fund is working with Indian Christian leaders to provide assistance, both food and medical help, for our brothers and sisters. If you would like to help support them, please go to: <https://barnabasfund.org>



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# AT YOUR SERVICE



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- FUNERAL DIRECTORS:** **A.W. COURT** - Headcorn Road, Grafty Green. Tel 01622 850840. Please see our main display advertisement.
- FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE**, 59 HIGH STREET, HEADCORN, KENT TN27 9QA Tel. 01622 920306 Your only local family owned Funeral Directors.
- GARAGE:** **HILLTOP GARAGE** - North Street Sutton Valence. MOT Testing, servicing and repairs etc. Tel 01622 844545



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**VEHICLE RECOVERY: HILLTOP GARAGE** Tel 01622 844545**KCC Community Wardens**

Wardens can offer support, advice and can refer to many partner agencies to help you. Wardens work closely with Kent Police and can also assist in tackling low-level crime and anti-social behaviour (such as graffiti, littering, fly tipping and vandalism).

**Your area warden Dawn Riach-Brown - 07773 397125**

Area supervisor - Janet Greenroyd - 07773 397131



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**01622 850840**



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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
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SUTTON VALENCE TENNIS CLUB .....	Mrs J Waterman	01622 768654
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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

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Support Line

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## SCHOOLS

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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](http://www.handschurches.org)

## SUTTON VALENCE VILLAGE WEBSITE

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

## EAST SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

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