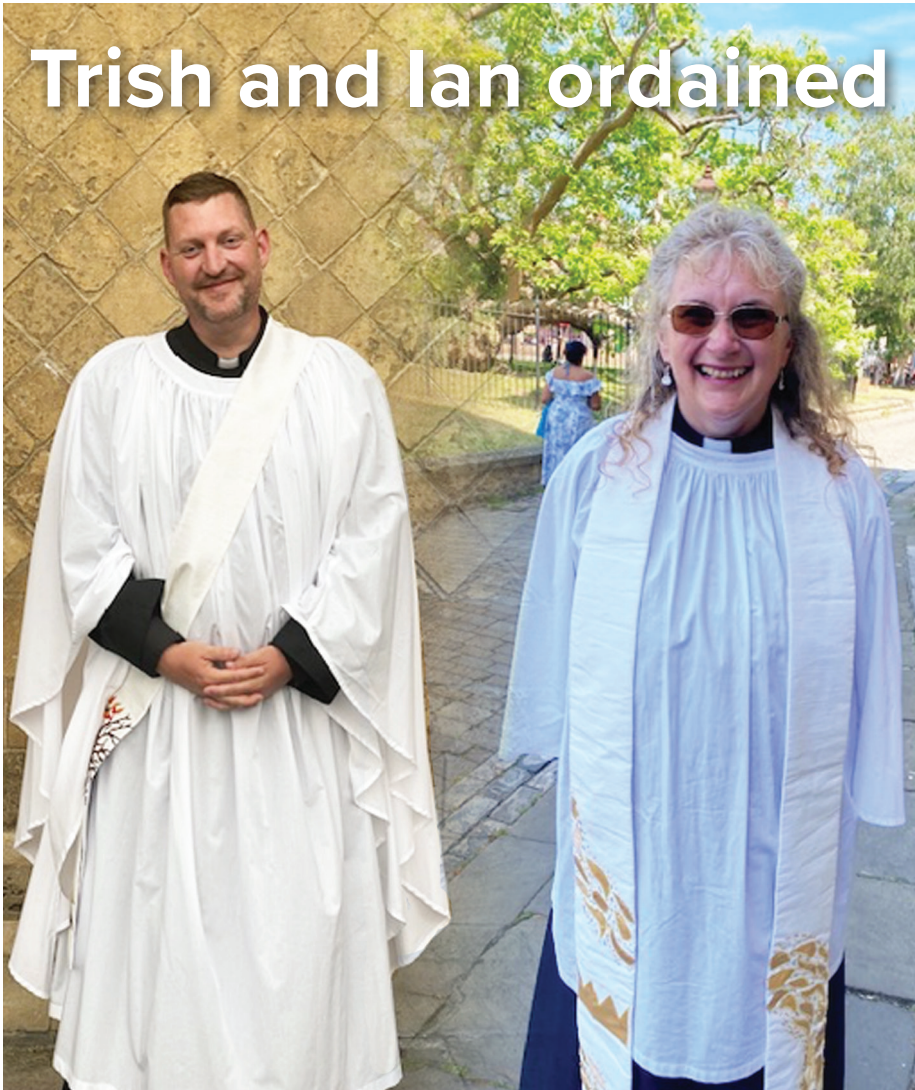


July/August 2026
No.359



LEYBOURNE VOICE

Trish and Ian ordained





FAITH *Pictures*

A resource for
small groups

Starting Monday 7th September

Sharing our faith can be challenging, but it doesn't need to be confrontational or frightening. We will learn how to share our beliefs in a non-threatening way, and join with God in what He is already doing in the communities around us.

In order to be as flexible as possible, we are offering sessions on a Monday afternoon or a Monday evening.

Choose either 1.30 pm to 3 pm or 7.30 pm to 9 pm, both in Leybourne church and come along for the six sessions being offered.

We'll be surprised just how easy it is to chat about what it is we believe in a simple way without sounding pious or better than anyone else.

If you are interested in joining us, talk to Helen, Carol, Trish or Stewart or contact Stewart on srbiggis2710@gmail.com and we'll make sure you have a spot.

Foreword

Anne Thomas, Churchwarden

Shortly after I was elected churchwarden this year, Rev Helen gave me a book about church management which outlined a churchwarden's duties. Through this I learnt, to my surprise, that if the occasion demands I must be prepared to step in and take a service, break up fights between parishioners, or speak to the media if some scandal occurs. Gulp! Hopefully it won't come to that.

Of course, I realised there would be meetings to attend, reports to write, and records to maintain (including something called a 'terrier' which turns out to be not a small dog, but a list of all the land belonging to the church). And all the stuff that has to happen for the church to be maintained and for the services to run smoothly. But I won't have to do that all by myself, as in addition to my fellow very experienced churchwarden Janet we have all our lovely PCC members and unsung volunteers who contribute in so many different ways – cleaning, prayer ministry, making and serving refreshments, providing music, helping with the children's choir, running events, maintaining the church building and the churchyard, and so much more. (We are always grateful for new offers of help by the way!) And of course, Helen

and all the other fabulous clergy without whom we couldn't have a church at all.

Which brings me to what I'm really looking forward to about the role. I will enjoy meeting and praying regularly with Helen, getting to know and listening to everyone who comes to our church, whether they be old friends or visitors, and deepening my own faith. I want to be open about whatever is going on and encourage people to ask questions and make suggestions about how we can best serve God and our community. I might not be able to do everything that everybody wants but I believe the more our community is involved in informing decisions the better those decisions will be.

To go back to the book Helen lent me, I prefer the summary of the churchwarden's duties it gives at the end 'leadership. labour and love.'

Anne Thomas



NOTICE



HARDSHIP FUND

As the cost of living crisis continues to cause difficulties for many we appreciate that some are finding it hard to manage on a day to day basis.

We have access to a fund which can be used for a wide range of hardship and welfare needs in this parish and the wider community. It may be more than food, there may be a situation that has arisen resulting in an unexpected cost, rent, energy bills, clothing or other essential needs. The fund is administered by the PCC and

can be accessed by contacting me **Janet** at **j.tootal@btinternet.com**

If our readers know of any families or individuals in need please encourage them to contact us and please be assured that any enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence. The fund is open to all so you do not have to be member of the Leybourne Church community to apply.

Please spread the word.

Janet
Churchwarden

BOARD

Link  Line

Call / text: 07817 293053

We can offer assistance with;

- Shopping for basic supplies
- Emergency food & sanitary supplies
- Prescriptions for collection

If you are vulnerable, we are here to help. If you have a neighbour who may be vulnerable, please draw their attention to this advertisement.

Beware of fraudsters. Do not give your card or pin number to anyone.

Supported by:

Leybourne Church.....www.leybournechurch.org.uk
Leybourne Parish Council...www.leybournepc.org.uk
Tonbridge & Malling Council.....www.tmbc.gov.uk

Leybourne Food Bank

Phone: 07817 293053

Email: leybourneinkline@gmail.com

Please donate non perishable food and sanitary goods. Donations can be left at the porch of Leybourne Church, any time, in the box provided.

Your donations really matter and will be used in Leybourne or the surrounding area in time of need.

If you are vulnerable, we are here to help.



Ss Peter & Paul Leybourne

“Leybourne Church seeks to serve God through prayer, worship, action and example in the wider community.”

Please contact the churchwardens on any parish matters: churchwardens@leybournechurch.org.uk

Churchwarden

Janet Tootal 07802 428662

j.tootal@btinternet.com

Anne Thomas

annethomas1@icloud.com

St Mary the Virgin Church



Choral Scholarship Programme Donor Appeal 2026

The Choral Scholarship Programme at St Mary's has been running successfully since 2021. It enables young people from the local community aged 7-18 to experience the church's wonderful choral tradition and to develop their own musical skills and enjoyment of choral music. The congregation at St Mary's also benefits greatly, as church services at least twice a month are enhanced by their singing. There are currently between 10 and 20 "Treblemakers" making up the junior choir and 8 Choral Scholars (Junior and Senior), in addition to the adult Core Choir (new members always welcome!) We are also seeking an Organ Scholar.

The programme has been funded each year from three sources:

- 1) Generous donations from the congregation of St Mary's
- 2) Initial grants from external bodies (such as the Royal School of Church Music, which gave St Mary's the inaugural Church Choir Award in 2023) and a generous annual grant from the Malling Memorial Institute
- 3) Fundraising by the choir itself, such as the Showcase Concerts

Although recently streamlined and reorganised, the scheme still costs in the region of £6000 per year.

Please would you consider making a donation towards the cost of St Mary's Choral Scholarship Programme?

When giving, please make it clear this is for **MUSIC** and give us your contact details so that we can claim Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer:

- Cheques to “West Malling PCC” - please write **MUSIC** on the reverse
- Bank transfer – “West Malling PCC”, a/c no. 64668827, sort code 55-81-07 - please write your surname and the word MUSIC in the reference
- If donating cash, please put it in an envelope marked MUSIC

Donations can be handed to members of the clergy or PCC at Sunday services or sent to: Benefice Office, 73 Rectory Lane North, Leybourne ME19 5HD.

Thank you!

***Nick Castell (Director of Music) &
Philip Le Bas (Treasurer)***

Rotary Club of Kings Hill



Kings Hill Rotary had a busy June, supporting community activities run by other organisations while also hosting its annual **Community Afternoon Tea** at the Holiday Inn and launching a new project, Books4Home.

The popular Community Afternoon Tea took place on 7th June and welcomed more than 40 guests, accompanied by family members, friends and carers.

This year's theme was **"100 years of Winnie the Pooh"**. Gifts, a quiz, music and flowers all reflected the theme. Gladys, a regular guest, joined the event again at the age of 109, and the Club looks forward to welcoming her back in 2027. Beautiful flower arrangements, created by Club member Wendy, were also given away in a free draw at each table.



The afternoon tea was funded through the Club's fundraising activities, including the Santa Sleigh around Kings Hill at Christmas. A good time was had by all, and the Club has received many warm messages of thanks. It hopes to hold the event again next year. Thanks also go to the hotel staff for their friendly service, which helped make the afternoon such a success.



Rotary Club of Kings Hill



Next came Books4Home, a Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland-wide venture.

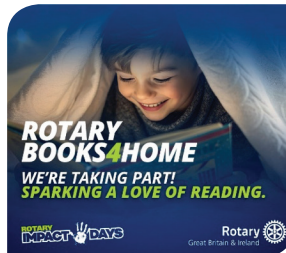
With children's enjoyment of reading reportedly at its lowest level since records began, **Rotary Books4Home** gives members an exciting opportunity to support schools, encourage a love of reading and make a lasting impact on literacy skills. Kings Hill Rotary has collected donations of 780 books and given 200 to the Discovery School and a further 200 to Kings Hill Primary School for pupils to take home and keep. The project also supports the environment because the books are good-quality, second-hand copies, rather than new ones. Books not suited to the age groups at these schools have been donated to other charities, including #makeadifferencetomaidstone and the BooksforZimbabwe project. This helps avoid books being sent to landfill and saves the equivalent



CO2 emissions of a 17-mile car journey, compared with producing one new book.

Sally McCarville, Assistant Headteacher at Kings Hill School said "these books may provide opportunities they would not otherwise have at home. We know that reading opens doors, sparks imagination and has the power to change lives and would like to thank Kings Hill Rotary for their continued support of our school and wider community"

If you would like to know more about what we do at Kings Hill Rotary and our upcoming events, please email us on khrc09@yahoo.com or follow us on Facebook.



Melody Makers present



The Greatest Showman

Leybourne church

Saturday 26th September 2026

At 3 pm and 6.30 pm

Free entry! Admission by ticket only, please contact
Stephen 07774 612651 or st@stephentomaslaw.uk

St Peter & St Paul, Leybourne
COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING



The Old Rectory

Oxley Shaw Lane, Leybourne

Wednesday 8 July

Wednesday 12 August

11.15am to 1pm

Come and join us for a relaxed time of warmth and
companionship in a friendly and supported
environment where people in the local community
can enjoy Tea, Coffee
and Cakes together.

THERE IS NO CHARGE

AND

ALL ARE WELCOME

Supported by Leybourne Parish Council



ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?

- 🔑 Specialist in UPVC & wooden doors
- 🚚 No call-out charge
- 🚫 No fix, no fee
- 🛡️ All work fully guaranteed
- 👴 10% senior citizen discount



For more help and advice
call Christopher
07772 111 222

Christopher
THE LOCKSMITH

www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk

CLASSES IN
LEYBOURNE,
EAST MALLING,
WEST MALLING &
KINGS HILL
AGES 2.5YRS- ADULT

LUCY ROBINS
SCHOOL
OF DANCE

ACRO - BALLET - BOYS
ONLY STREET - DANCEFIT
MODERN/JAZZ - MUSICAL
THEATRE - PRE SCHOOL
BALLET - PRE SCHOOL
STREET DANCE - STREET
DANCE - TAP



WWW.LRSD.CO.UK



St Martin's Ryarsh Coffee Mornings

**We meet for Coffee, Cake and a Chat
on the third Friday of each month**

**Join us anytime between
10.30am to 12 noon at the
DUKE OF WELLINGTON
Birling Road
Ryarsh ME19 5LS**

**Friday 17 July
Friday 21 August**

Lovely Birthday cards on sale supporting Fields of Life



ASCOT

Plumbing & Heating

01732 220443

New boilers • New cylinders • Servicing & repairs

**All
plumbing
jobs**



Blocked
drains



Sinks



Toilets

J. Lawrenson

Tree and Fencing Specialist

- Hedge cutting, reduction and removal
 - Tree pruning, felling and surgery
 - Stump and garden clearance
- All types of fencing supplied and erected, including panel and close boarded

Fully Insured
All waste and cuttings recycled

Please call James on
07759 137817
01732 849295

Or email
j.lawrenson@hotmail.com



The Copy Shoppe

Est. 1989

Our Services include:

- In-house Design • Scanning • Emailing
- B/W & Colour Digital Photocopying
- A2/A1/A0 Plan Printing, Copying & Scanning
- Binding • Laminating • T-shirt Printing
- Digital & Litho Printing

We print:

- Business Cards • Letterheads
- Leaflets • Posters • Postcards
- Order of Service (*Wedding & Funeral*)
- Personalised Invitations • Vouchers • Signs
- Workwear (*Vinyl & Embroidery*) • CAD Drawings
- Menus • Price Lists • Booklets • Invoice Pads
- Canvas Prints • PVC Banners • Roller Pop Ups
- Rubber Stamps • Labels.....& much more!

**A FRIENDLY,
RELIABLE, FAST
TURNAROUND SERVICE
right on YOUR
Doorstep!**

27 high street, west malling, ME19 6QH

Tel: 01732 870483

E: design@thecopyshoppe.co.uk
www.thecopyshoppe.co.uk



Andrew French

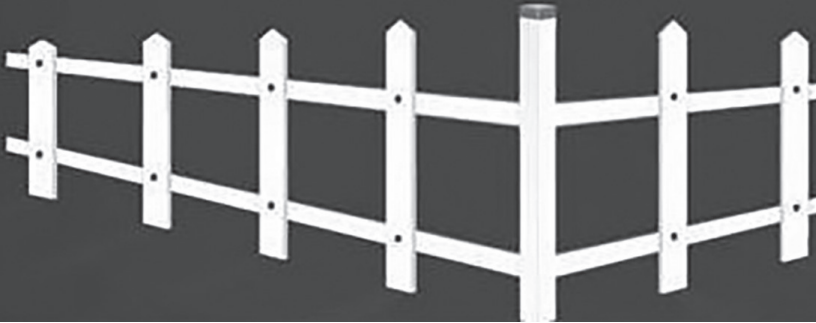
Free no obligation quotes

Fencing, Gates, Decking and
Pergolas

frenchandrewp@live.com
www.facebook.com/andrewfrenchfencing

07788 971584

01622 435799



The Kent Downs and Malling Team

invites you to

Toddler Praise

Monday 13 July

in SS Peter and Paul Leybourne

10.30-11.45 am

**Singing, story, craft, play, chat and refreshments
for children aged 0-5 and their carers
everyone welcome**

For more information or to let us know that you are coming please contact:
Rev Helen Burn: rector@kentdownsmalling.church



Kent Downs and Malling Team Ministry

Covering Addington, Birling, Leybourne, Offham, Ryarsh, Trottscliffe and West Malling

Team Rota July 2026

	Addington	Birling	Leybourne	Offham	Ryarsh	Trottscliffe	West Malling
Jul 5	10.00 Open House	11.00 Holy Communion	10.30 Holy Communion	9.15 All Age	9.30 Holy Communion		8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion 17.00 Choral Evensong
Jul 12	10.00 Cafe Church In The Village Hall		10.30 All Age	9.15 Holy Communion		9.30 Holy Communion	8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 All Age
Jul 19	10.00 Open House	11.00 All Age	10.30 Holy Communion	9.15 Holy Communion	9.30 All Age		8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion
Jul 26	10.00 Holy Communion		10.30 Holy Communion	9.15 Holy Communion		9.30 Morning Worship	8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion

Team Rota August 2026

	Addington	Birling	Leybourne	Offham	Ryarsh	Trottscliffe	West Malling
Aug 2				9.15 All Age			8.00 BCP Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion
Aug 9			10.30 Holy Communion		9.30 All Age		8.00 BCP Holy Communion
Aug 16		11.00 All Age		9.15 Holy Communion			8.00 BCP Holy Communion
Aug 23	10.00 Open House with baptism					10.00 Holy Communion	8.00 BCP Holy Communion
Aug 30			10.00 Team Service				8.00 BCP Holy Communion

BCP Book of Common Prayer