

GREAT CHART WITH SINGLETON PARISH COUNCIL



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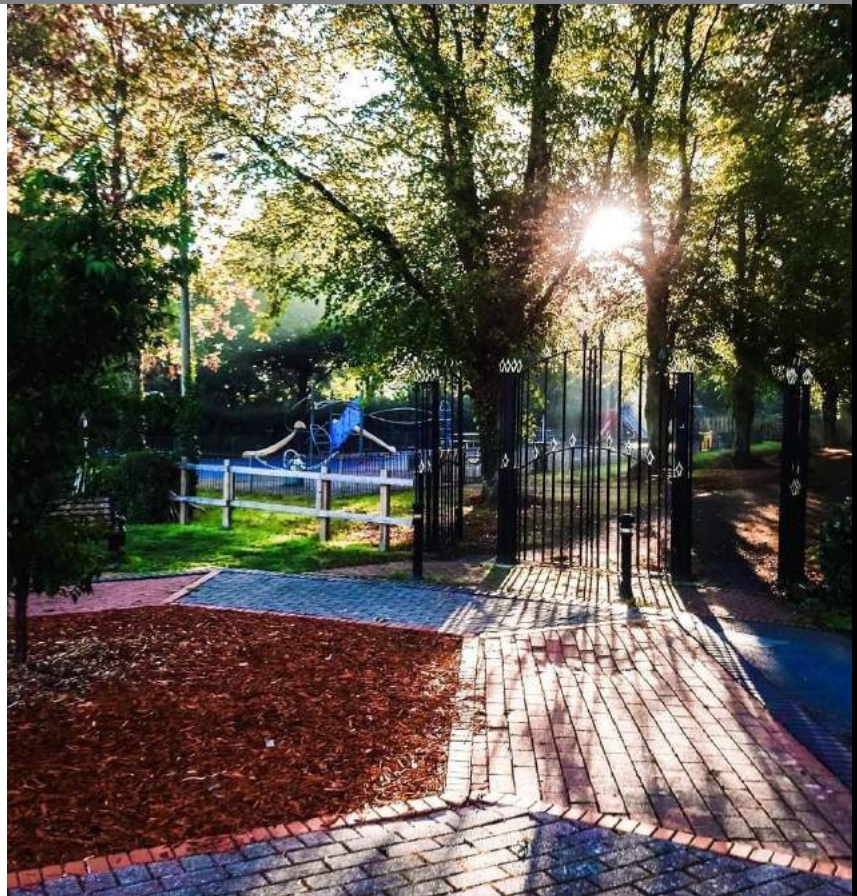
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- Parish Youth Worker
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Council meeting dates
 - 10th October
 - 14th November
 - 12th December
- Pop Up Cafe
 - 12th October
 - 16th November
 - 12th December



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Keep In Touch

 www.greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk
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Photo Credits

Page 1 - Oast Park by Samantha Rolfe, Lamb by Harry Walton
All other photos are either council's own or provided with the relevant article

Newsletter Advertising and Articles

This newsletter is produced by Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council and is distributed to every house within the Parish and also included on our website and social media pages.

We welcome submissions for articles and events from local clubs, groups and businesses that benefit those living within our parish.

Any views or opinions included in this newsletter are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Parish Council.

We are able to offer advertising and sponsorship opportunities for local businesses.

Please contact the Clerk using the contact details above for more information.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II

1926 - 2022



Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council were greatly saddened to hear of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday 8th September 2022.

Due to official protocol our Council meeting was held at Great Chart war memorial purely to pay our respects. Vice Chair Cllr Sullivan laid some flowers and Chairman Cllr Wiffen read aloud the following words:

"First, let me formally record the deep sadness felt by Great Chart with Singleton parish council on the news of the death of our sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II

I have been surprised by my own reaction to the death of her Her Majesty the Queen. I was shocked by the short interval between the news that doctors were concerned about her health and the announcement from Buckingham Palace that she had died. A matter of hours.



Following this, a strange sense of personal loss, the end of an era, a portent of change.

The Monarchy, not something that impinged on the everyday life of most people, was quietly there, in the background, a steadying presence that was perhaps not as apparent as it might have been.

For the vast majority of people in this country, and indeed the world, the United Kingdom has had but one head of state, Queen Elizabeth II. Her passing, announced just four short days ago has had a profound effect in this and many other countries around the globe. Despite a well established plan for succession, a palpable sense of uncertainty filled the hours following her death. This uncertainty has been amplified by the almost simultaneous arrival of a new prime minister.

The death of Her Majesty the Queen has come as a sharp reminder of that underlying continuity.

We often refer to the Royal Family, and must remember that the Queen was its matriarch. Four children, eight grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. While we have lost a sovereign, they have lost the head of their family - a mother, a grandmother and a great-grandmother and our first thoughts must be for them in their grief.

But the world continues to turn and we have a new King, King Charles III, and we can only hope that he lives up to the wonderful example set by his mother."

Please note: the remainder of this newsletter was produced before the news of Her Majesty's passing, and has been scheduled for delivery after her funeral, therefore the remainder of the newsletter has been printed in colour.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



Welcome to the Autumn edition of our parish newsletter. We've achieved a lot since our last newsletter so let us fill you in on what has been going on and what we have planned. June seems a long time ago now, but our Big Jubilee Lunch event has its own write up on page 8.



Heading into autumn also means it must be about time for a scarecrow hunt! The trail will run Friday 28th to Sunday 30th October and the theme for 2022 will be BOOK CHARACTERS. Check out our event page using the QR code for more information, and the registration forms and maps will be on there nearer the time.



Over summer the Parish Stewards have been helping out with a number of biodiversity related projects across the parish. The parish followed No Mow May in some areas to help pollinators do their job. They have also installed a new planter around the Singleton village sign, and started to create a meadow area along Pound Field Walk. There are a number of other projects in the planning or very early stages and we will showcase them when there is something to show.



A number of changes have taken place within the parish council itself since our last newsletter. At the annual meeting Ian McClintock stood down as Chairman (but not as a councillor) whilst Malcolm Wiffen takes the reins for a while, you can read his thoughts on page 6. Kyran Wilford stood down as a councillor due to personal commitments, allowing Dave Gatherer to take his place. The staff employed by the council also increased when Sarah Gaunt joined as the new Youth Worker. You can find out more about what Sarah has planned on page 10.

The Platinum Jubilee bench that was unveiled at the Big Jubilee Lunch has now been put into its permanent home on the Viewing Point, next to the path that runs between Hoxton Close and Normandy Way. It has been treated and stained and will hopefully be a welcome place to stop and take in the views over Ashford or just rest your legs partway through your journey.



Whilst Pilgrims FC continue to play on the main playing field in Great Chart, there is work planned for the smaller field on Singleton Road. The current goals are definitely past their best, and the goal mouths have also seen better days. The work planned will start with levelling the land back out, then installing two new sets of goals allowing more than one kickabout to happen at a time.

Although the initial work to improve the outdoor gym and basketball pitch went well on Cuckoo Park, a number of issues have stopped the work being completely finished. Thankfully the pitch is now fully marked up, and the last piece of gym equipment was installed in July. We are still waiting for the surface of the gym to be re-laid and we will post on social media ahead of any disruptive work being carried out.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



After correspondence with a resident, work was started on clearing green waste and repairing a fence damaged by illegal dumping. The area is owned by the parish council and unfortunately local residents had been using the area to dump grass cutting and old branches. Please can we ask residents to dispose of their green waste sensibly and not to cause problems for others



After footpath AW234 was rerouted and the ground was cleared of brambles, funding was sourced to install new fencing around the new allotments area, and also to replace the fencing that was around the existing allotments as well. It is hoped that the new allotments will be allocated by the end of 2022 and the waiting list will then be considerably shorter



Each year the parish council nominates a resident to receive a County award for their volunteer work within the parish. As we have not been able to hold an Annual Parish Meeting for a couple of years, we had two awards to give out. The first was to Dave Gatherer for his work with uniformed youth groups, and the second was to Jenny Tippen for her work in running the volunteer group responsible for the Ashford Community Woodlands



Another recognition award that we were finally able to give out post COVID was a Freedom of the Parish scroll awarded to Marjorie Brissenden. Marjorie has lived in Great Chart for more than NINE decades! She has many stories to tell and has been involved in village life for as long as most people can remember, especially with her beloved cricket. As a regular at our Pop Up Cafe, it seemed a fitting place to present her scroll over summer.



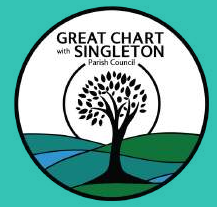
As usual, the Stewards have been out and about doing both planned maintenance, and in response to residents requests. This includes trimming back overhanging trees on the footpath between Lodge Close and Harvest Way, and cutting back vegetation that was covering the Bradbridge Green sign. The council is sometimes restricted in where we can help as it depends on who the land belongs to, but if we can't help, we will point you in the direction of those who can.



After a recent campaign by one of our councillors, KCC agreed to install Pedestrians Ahead signs and SLOW markings on the road that runs through the Ashford Community Woodlands. It was felt that the increasing number of cars needed to be made aware that many people cross over that road from a hidden crossing point. Please can we ask drivers to see the national speed limit on that road as a guide, not a target.



THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Since our May meeting, I have had the honour of being elected chair of the parish council. I would like to thank the outgoing chair, Ian McClintock, for all his sterling work over the past few years. Ian remains a member of the council and I'm sure will return as chair, next year.

So, for me this feels a little like a caretaker role and I hope I can meet the high standards set by Ian as we go through to next year's parish council elections.

As many of you will know, we don't hold a full parish council meeting during August, but most of the committees will meet at some point during the month, to keep things ticking over. Our next full meeting takes place on Monday 10th October and I would encourage you to come along and see the council in action. Remember, the council exists to serve the needs of its parishioners. Speaking of which, the council is currently planning the 2023-24 budgets, which will include the required spending for any of its planned projects. Below is a little explanation of what the parish council has to do, and what it would like to do. But as I already said, we are here to serve the needs of parishioners, so what would **YOU** like us to do?



What do **YOU** want to see from **US**?

As a parish council we have to submit our budget requests to Ashford Borough Council in the December before the Financial Year starts the following April. This means we have to be good at planning ahead.

Here at Great Chart with Singleton we already manage the play park in Great Chart and the one opposite John Wesley School. We maintain the footpath and land between Hoxton Close/Strouts Road/Normandy Way, the flowerbed at the bottom of Singleton Hill and the poo bag dispensers and defibrillators that are placed throughout the parish.

We like to engage with residents during events we hold - such as our monthly Pop Up cafe's, twice yearly activity days at Singleton Environment Centre, and we have plans to host an annual event along the lines of our Big Jubilee Lunch.

However, the parish council is here to serve the needs and wants of its parishioners. What would **YOU** like to see in the parish?

- More environmental work?
- More events? What sort of events?
- More access to councillors and clerks? How?
- Better communication? How would you like to find out about things?

We will be asking these questions on social media over the next couple of months, but not everyone uses social media. So if you have any ideas please

~ drop us an email - theclerk@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

~ write a letter - Parish Office, Singleton Village Hall, Hoxton Close, Singleton, Ashford, Kent, TN23 5LB

~ or even pop in to see us - we are upstairs in the newer side of the hall, at the end of the corridor



MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR



Each newsletter we introduce you to one of the councillors that make up your Parish Council—you may well recognise their faces already. In this issue Sally Gathern is answering your questions. She is councillor for the Singleton West Ward.

1) What is your name and what roles do you hold in the Parish?

My name is Sally Gathern. I am the Chair of the Amenities, Open Spaces and Environment Committee and I also sit on the Complaints Committee.

2) Tell us a bit about yourself.

I moved to Singleton with my family in 1995. We liked the area and the local school and felt it was where we wanted our children to grow up. I have held several community volunteer roles over the years and am currently Vice-President of the newly formed Singleton WI, Akela at 1st Great Chart Cubs and a Parish Councillor. I am also involved in children's work at Singleton Church and the Make Lunch project at St Francis Church. I have 7 children, 4 grown up, 3 still at home and attending local schools, and 2 granddaughters.

3) Why did you become a Councillor and what skills have you brought to the table?

I became a councillor about 10 years ago because I wanted to have a say in how our community was shaped. I am passionate about the environment and have attended many conferences and workshops to become better informed about conservation, climate change and related issues. As a former teacher I am also interested in, and have experience of, education and working with children.

4) What do you enjoy most about being a Councillor?

My favourite part of being a councillor is seeing a project come to fruition. It has been very exciting to see projects such as the creation of wildflower meadows and the North Field project taking shape after so much preparation and planning. I also enjoy engaging with local people, from all walks of life and generations, and hearing their ideas for our community.

5) What do you personally think is the most important part of the Council's work?

It's really quite impossible to choose one aspect of the council's work that is most important. We are a very active council and I feel the many, varied projects that our councillors are involved in all play a vital role in enhancing our community. At the risk of sounding cliched, our most important role is to serve the community we represent.

6) What do you feel is the Council's biggest achievement to date?

Again, I don't feel I could pick a single achievement. We make every effort to serve everyone in the community and our projects reflect that. Our pop-up cafes help alleviate loneliness, especially amongst our older residents, and the appointment of a Youth Officer will enhance our offering for young people locally. Our environmental projects enhance the local area for everyone and will help to build a more sustainable and enjoyable future for all.

7) What do you personally want to achieve as a Councillor in the future?

I would like to further improve our environment. One of the commonest complaints I hear from residents is about litter, so I am constantly working with other councillors to come up with ways to tackle this. I would love to create a community orchard, planting fruit trees that local people can take the fruit from. I have seen this in other local areas and it has worked very well.

8) What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love spending time with family and friends, reading, and walking in the local woodlands. But my favourite way to spend my free time is working on my allotment. I am a terrible gardener but I love the whole process of digging, planting and (hopefully!) growing food that my family can eat. Having an allotment has shown me just how much gardening can improve people's physical and mental health, as well as enhancing local biodiversity and ecosystems.





BIG JUBILEE LUNCH



Our Big Jubilee Lunch took place on the Great Chart Playing Fields on 18th June 2022 in honour of the Queens Platinum Jubilee. We had a steady stream of visitors all day, and we were very impressed with the families who turned up with picnics and sun tents and stayed for the whole day.

We were so busy making sure that everything ran ok, we didn't do too well on taking any photos. We've been sent a few by residents and stall holders so we've included some here.

The free bouncy castles and soft play area were a huge hit, and we didn't see them empty at any point throughout the day! They will definitely reappear at any future large events we host.



The queue for facepainting never went down, and any donations received were given to the local groups who helped behind the scenes to make the day a success.

Music was provided at various intervals during the day by Ashford Concert Band - who performed a lovely rendition of the National Anthem, and the Vision Signing Choir - who sign the lyrics to a number of popular songs.



We had a small number of local hot food vendors and stall holders with us all day. The WI ladies were serving cream teas and helping out with Lost Property, Lost Children and First Aid - and we thank them for their help on the day.



Emergency Exit Arts ran a craft area during the event, decorating a crown for Flora the Singleton Giant. She was presented with her crown at the end of the event.

We had so much fun, and received such positive feedback, that we have plans to do a similar event next year - keep your eye on our communication channels for a date and more information soon!



PARISH EVENTS



The Parish Council meets on the 2nd Monday of the month to discuss local issues and to make decisions. The meeting venue alternates between Singleton Village Hall and Great Chart Village Hall. The dates and venues for the rest of 2022 are confirmed below, why not come along to a meeting to find out more about the Parish Council's activities, and have your say. For more information on agendas and minutes please visit our website www.greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk and click on The Council tab

The remaining dates for 2022 meetings are:
10th October 2022 - Singleton Village Hall
14th November 2022 - Great Chart Village Hall
12th December 2022 - Singleton Village Hall

IT'S COMING... GREAT CHART WITH SINGLETON SCARECROW TRAIL

The theme for 2022 will be
BOOK CHARACTERS

Register 1-18th October
Display 28-20th October

For more information scan the QR code
or visit our www.greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk/Events_31368.aspx

OCTOBER

Council Meeting: 10th
Pop Up Cafe: 12th
Scarecrow Trail
28-30 October



NOVEMBER

Council Meeting: 14th
Pop Up Cafe: 16th
Bike Marking
17th November



DECEMBER

Council Meeting: 12th
Pop Up Cafe: 14th



PARISH COUNCIL PROJECTS



Hello, I'm Sarah and I'm the Youth Worker for Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council I have been in post for almost 3 months now. In that time, I have been meeting lots of people. I've met groups and people who are already working in our parish, I've spoken to schools, and I've also spoken to young people, children and their parents about what they want to see happen in the parish. It's been great meeting so many new people and getting to know so many organisations that work in the area.



So having spoken to lots of people about what they want, the hope is that we will be launching some new groups for children and young people in the parish. We hope to have a group for children aged 8 - 12 years old, a group for ages 13+, a youth forum, a project group and one street-based session (this is where youth workers go to parks, such as Cuckoo Park, and speak to the young people who are hanging out there). In order to do this, we are at the point where we are recruiting volunteers to help get these groups up and running. To do this we are working with the Volunteer Centre, and we will be posting about this on our social media accounts and on the noticeboards. When the groups are ready to go, we will also post about them on our social media accounts and on our noticeboards.

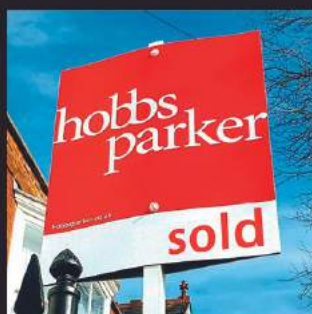


If you have a young person (aged 11 - 19) in your household there is a short survey, they can fill in to help us understand what they would like in the parish. Scan this QR code to access the survey.

If you want to volunteer or have any questions or want to pass on comments or a suggestion, then please contact me on YouthWorker@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk.

If you are
thinking
of selling or
letting your
property...

Call the
experts!



Sarah Holgate (Ashford)
01233 506260

Simon Godfrey (Tenterden)
01580 766766

www.hobbsparker.co.uk

REPORTING



In the complex web of local authorities and different agencies, it is often difficult to know who to report a problem to. We have put together the list below, which may look long, but covers the vast majority of issues. It is important that any issues you see are reported to the correct organisation so the problem can be dealt with quickly and efficiently.

Kent County Council

To report any emergency issues call **03000 414141** (Monday – Friday, 9am to 5pm), and **03000 419191** outside office hours, or go to www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem

- Street light faults
- Potholes
- Traffic signal faults
- Overgrown vegetation (including hedges and grass)
- Drainage
- Flooding

Contacting Kent Police

Report a non-urgent crime online

www.kent.police.uk/report

Talk to the Police on LiveChat-available 24/7

www.kent.police.uk/contact

In an emergency, if the crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999**

If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to **60066**

Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council

For issues relating to any of the areas below, please email the Parish Office at TheClerk@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

- Cuckoo Park (opposite John Wesley School)
- Great Chart Playing Fields (the area with the park and outdoor gym)
- The Viewing Point and the path running alongside Singleton Village Hall
- Dog poo bag dispensers
- The raised flowerbed at the bottom of Singleton Hill

Ashford Borough Council

For issues relating to any of the following, please go to www.ashford.gov.uk and click on Report, or call **01233 331111**

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- Abandoned trolleys
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Allotment issue
- Bonfires
- Fly-tipping
- Light Nuisance
- Noise Nuisance
- Odour
- Overgrown Borders/Shrubs/Hedges or Grass Trees

HOUSING

- Squatters and unauthorised occupants
- Repairs
- Tenancy Fraud

COMMUNITY

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Public Toilets and community toilet scheme issue

ANIMAL ISSUES

- Dog fouling
- Lost or stolen dogs
- Stray dogs
- Dead animals

STREETS

- Illegal street trading
- Street cleansing, graffiti, vandalism or litter
- Overgrown Borders/Shrubs/Hedges or grass
- Overflowing/damaged litter bin

BINS

- Assisted collections
- Missed collections
- Replace, lost or broken bin
- Discarded syringes
- Litter/dog bin issue

FOOD AND HYGIENE ISSUES

- Suspected food poisoning
- Poor hygiene practices
- Problem with a food product

PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL

- Dangerous structure
- Fly-posting
- Planning breach



LOCAL AMENITIES



The Great Chart with Singleton Parish is well provisioned with local halls, COVID permitting they are all now back up and running for groups and events.

SINGLETON VILLAGE HALL



The Hall consists of the existing building which has 1 large Main Hall (approx. 140 people seated) and 1 small side room. There are kitchen & WC facilities including disabled.

The new building has the Extension Hall downstairs (approx. 60 people seated) with a fully fitted kitchen & WC facilities including disabled.

On the first floor is the Extension Hall upstairs is of a similar size (approx. 60 people seated) but can be divided off into two halls (approx. 30 people each) with a soundproof partition wall. This is accessed via a wide staircase or a lift for those with mobility issues. There are WC facilities and a small tea/coffee making room with a sink.

To book at Singleton Village Hall please contact the Bookings Secretary on bookings@singletonvh.co.uk 07887 575647 or visit www.singletonvillagehall.co.uk

GREAT CHART PLAYING FIELDS AND BUXFORD PAVILION



The playing fields have been looking beautiful in the summer sunshine, although the ongoing dry weather has turned them a little browner than when these photos were taken. They were a great venue for the Big Jubilee Lunch (see page 8). Hopefully some of those who visited were able to see the inside and enjoy the facilities available. The fields also hosted the Gurkha Peace Foundation annual walk in June.

Pilgrims FC are now back for the 22/23 season with training and matches for children and adults alike.

If you are interested in hiring the pavilion for a fitness activity, meeting, party or event, please call 01233 427407 or email bookings@greatchartplayingfields.org.uk



Please be aware that due to the ongoing work to improve the quality of the football pitches for Pilgrims FC, there will no longer be any car boots held on the playing fields.

GREAT CHART VILLAGE HALL

Great Chart Village Hall, which has looked over the village of Great Chart since 1908, is now fully reopened to its regular user groups and event hires. It is the venue for the parish councils Pop Up Cafe on the second Wednesday of the month, and every other month it also hosts the Parish Council meeting, but is also a favourite with a number of other clubs and groups. The hall has a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Great-Chart-Village-Hall-134684416590425> and bookings can be made on 01233 610173.



SINGLETON ENVIRONMENT CENTRE / REPAIR CAFE

One of Singleton Environment Centre's biggest successes is the Ashford Repair Cafe. It is run in one of our workshops and continues to grow and grow. We've given them our page in this newsletter to tell you more about what they do.



It was not very long ago, that when things were broken or wearing out, people would always seek to repair, rather than replace them...

Here in 2022, we at Repair Cafe Ashford would like to thank all of you from our parish and further afield, who have thus far sought out our workshop with your broken belongings, giving us the chance to try to rescue them from the rubbish heap. In the last 12 months alone, we have received a plethora of puzzles to ponder - be they jigsaws of smashed porcelain, retro radios with wires galore, clocks to drive us cuckoo, vacuums that had bitten the dust, lamps in need of lightbulb moments, teddy bears in tatters... and in one case, part of a fridge door containing (guess what?..) a printed circuit board. That modern contraption had managed to reverse its function, illuminating the owner's food whilst the fridge door was closed.

Since our opening in 2018, hundreds of items have arrived at our doors, from people trying to boycott the throw-away, and support the Repair Cafe, culture. In return we have unscrewed, dismantled, drilled, sanded, remoulded, furrowed our brows... had a tea break... collaborated, reupholstered, rewired, stitched, up, clicked together, clamped, rescrewed, camouflaged, glued, brushed and soldered on...to repair around 70-80% of the items we have received.

Phew! Due to popular demand, in the last year, we have doubled our opening days, from two afternoons per month to running every Wednesday afternoon between 1pm - 4pm, at the Singleton Environment Centre Workshop. We share our experiences with others who want to buck the throwaway trend and set up Repair Cafes in other towns because we're always happy to see more people wasting less and fixing things. Nestled amongst one of the few leafier, birdsong-filled settings in Ashford, you might agree if you visit that we have plenty of inspiration to try.

Ashford Repair Cafe is a member of the international Repair Cafe organisation. We are a motley crew of ordinary people from varied backgrounds, volunteering our technical skills and experience for free, trying to reduce waste, make people smile and increase hope for a sustainable way of living. We run on donations and only charge for any parts you ask us to replace. We might just save your stuff from the tip and help to save some valuable repairing skills from being lost, by sharing them with younger generations. Our regular volunteers currently span age groups, from those in their 30s to their 80s - each contributing to an inspiring mix of life experiences and perspectives. We often find we have much more in common than boring stereotypes would have us believe as well.

So, if you've items at home and you keep thinking, "That'll come in handy" or "I'll get that fixed one day.." maybe next Wednesday is that day! Maybe you could save a little money, a few memories and prevent a tiny chunk of landfill too? Why not give it a try? Give a stuff about your stuff and dare to repair!

Find Repair Cafe Ashford every Wednesday 1pm - 4pm, at the Singleton Environment Centre Workshop, Wesley School Road, Ashford TN23 5LW.

For enquiries email: ashfordrepaircafe@outlook.com

To find us on social media:

[@AshfordRepair](https://twitter.com/AshfordRepair)

<https://www.instagram.com/repaircafeashford/> @repaircafeashford

<https://www.facebook.com/RepairCafeAshford/> @RepairCafeAshford



GROUP REPORTS



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Peter New B.E.M. 91725 Kent Police Volunteer & Community Neighbourhood Watch
Contact peternew1@aol.com



CRIME TRENDS

These remain much the same however there are a few worrying spikes. Across Kent cooking oil thefts have risen. Public Houses and other establishments have been hit. However, 2 separate arrests have been made and all the suspects arrested came from London so there is a warning there. Number plate thefts have increased allowing criminals to fill up vehicles at a garage and drive off without paying. The camera at the garage will read the stolen plates. Always report that theft please.

We must work harder to stop **PREVENTABLE AND AVOIDABLE CRIMES.**

I manage a huge Neighbourhood Watch system with extensive coverage in Great Chart and Singleton. I recently gave a presentation to your council on how I work. I write on about 160 Facebook groups across your district and indeed the wider parts of Kent. You can read those at your leisure, it is general information, and I know many of you do. What I also provide is a very personal email service and if the crime is near to you then you will be alerted by a specific and targeted message into your household. I do not bombard you. I need you to read that special message that is in your area and maybe even your road. Everything is free all you do it read, digest and act on any advice given.

So now you have read that do not think "I will do that later" just send an email to: peternew1@aol.com
You will then be in Neighbourhood Watch. If you want to ask any questions, then call me on 07768437422

Crime cannot flourish in Communities that care! Your council care, my police colleagues care and importantly I care. This is a time for the good guys to stick together. Stay safe, secure, alert, and vigilant
Thank you for your support, Peter.

GREAT CHART CRICKET CLUB

The last 2 years have been difficult for many of us, quite obviously, but have proven to be a real challenge for amateur sport in general and cricket in particular. However, I am happy to report that Great Chart CC has recovered well from the covid restrictions and has come out the other side in a far stronger position. In this respect, on behalf of the club, I would like to particularly thank the Parish Council for all their help during those difficult times.

We have welcomed many new playing members recently, both before and after covid and whilst we are not quite yet in the position to run 3 adult teams again, we are currently having no difficulty raising 2 teams for the existing Saturday and Sunday XIs. As always, the results themselves have sometimes been mixed but it's great to see the camaraderie and club spirit returning to Great Chart.

However, the real success story is the 'Colts' with well over 30 girls and boys, of all races and creeds, attending training on Sunday mornings and seemingly, more joining every week. This has enabled us to run both under 11 (in conjunction with Wye CC) and under 13 teams this season and we hope to be able expand on that next season. Thanks should go to all of those (including parents) who give up their time to help with what is both the present and the future of our club.

For those of you with an interest in cricket, but who maybe haven't come along in the past, we are very much a family oriented club and we are always on the lookout for new adult and junior members. Social members are also very welcome in our well stocked bar which is priced way below the pubs!

Why not come along and say hello?

Paul Arnup, Honorary Secretary - GCCC



GROUP REPORTS



1ST SINGLETON SCOUTS GROUP

Singleton Scouts have had another busy term providing a varied program. Beavers and Cubs started the term with a water sports session at Conningbrook Lake. They had the opportunity to try kayaking, canoeing, paddleboards and bell boating. The weather was glorious and all the young people had an enjoyable afternoon, so a huge thank you to the Kent Scouts Watersports team who organised the session.

At the end of May our cubs joined several other groups at the District Cub Camp at Godinton. This was a fantastic chance for the young people to be able to experience sleeping in a tent with their six and practise some basic scouting skills like lighting a fire, whittling with a knife and pioneering. We all went home very tired but happy and are already planning our next adventure.

Beavers visited Woodchurch Scout Group and took part in the District Activity Day. They practised their archery and climbing skills, learnt to shoot an air rifle and rode in a go cart.

During the term both sections have gained a variety of badges and these were presented at the recent AGM including 2 bronze awards for Beavers which is the highest achievement a beaver can earn.

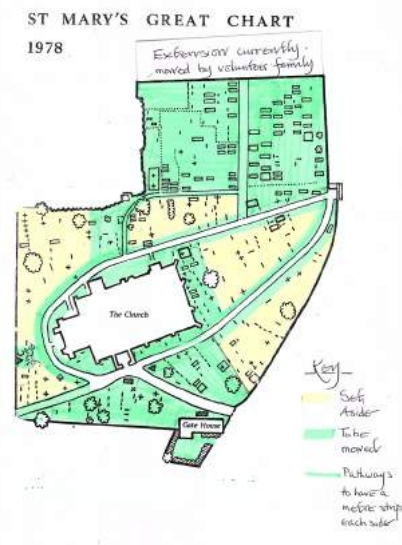
After a busy term leaders will have a well deserved summer break, but planning is underway for the autumn program, and by the end of September there will also be a scout troop.

ST MARY'S GREAT CHART

As many of you in Great Chart and Singleton will already know, parts of St. Mary's churchyard have been left un-mown, as maintenance is very labour intensive and difficult to sustain. In consultation with Singleton and Great Chart Parish Council and Ashford Town Parish Church Council, it has been agreed that we leave specific areas for set-aside or conservation.

(see the map of the churchyard). The purpose of this is to encourage biodiversity, as well as maintaining pleasant areas to enable people to visit family graves. The set-aside areas will be cut down once a year at the end of the growing season, so the following year the set-aside areas will provide a welcoming habitat for insects, birds and wildflowers.

This policy is widely recommended by bodies such as The National Trust and the Church of England; more information can be found concerning churchyards on the Diocese of Canterbury website/Nature and your church. St. Mary's Great Chart Local Leadership Team, Great Chart in liaison with Ashford Town Parochial Church Council and Singleton and Great Chart Parish Council. Further information: info@ashfordchurches.co.uk



U3A - ASHFORD, WYE AND DISTRICT BRANCH

**AN OPEN INVITATION TO ALL PEOPLE WHO ARE RETIRED/SEMI-RETIRED
"COME, SEE WHAT WE DO!"**

The u3a gives you the opportunity to develop your interests, make new friends and have fun. We have almost 40 different interest groups to choose from - the choice is yours.

WEDNESDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2022

REPTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Repton Avenue, Ashford, TN23 3RX

OPEN FROM 9.30a.m. - 12.30p.m.

FREE ENTRY, ENTERTAINMENT & REFRESHMENTS

Website: u3asites.org.uk/ashford-wye



GROUP REPORTS



SINGLETON WI GROUP



Singleton WI celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with fun and games, we made crowns with marshmallows and spaghetti! Quite a challenge! We also decorated our own crown biscuits.

In July, we celebrated our 1st birthday. We invited members from other Ashford WIs to celebrate with us. We had a party with entertainment from magician Richard Harrington. In October we will hold our first annual meeting where we will (re)elect our committee and officers. In November we are having a talk from Ashford Guide Dogs and in December we will be celebrating with Puddings and Prosecco, as well

as our local Christmas meals.

We also have a monthly book club, craft club and take part in the Community Heroes scheme by doing litter picks. We welcome women of all ages.

We meet every 1st Thursday of the month (except August) from 7-9pm at Singleton Environment Centre. If you could book via the link, that would be helpful:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/singleton-wi-monthly-meetings-129619>

First visit is free, so why don't you come and give us a try?

www.facebook.com/SingletonWI or contact President Hannah on 07542 436522



GREAT CHART & GODINTON WI

Great Chart & Godinton WI meet on the third Wednesday of every month, commencing at 7.30pm at Godinton Village Hall, Godinton Park where we enjoy many and varied activities alongside other afternoon and evening groups such as playing darts; crafting or having a knit & natter session in the local pub.

New members and visitors are always welcome so come along and join us. As life continues to get back to some sort of normality after the effects of the Pandemic, we have remained cautious but continued to enjoy many interesting and enjoyable activities. Back in the Spring of 2022, we were able to celebrate our centenary, albeit a year late but was a great event with the planting of a commemorative flowering cherry tree on the green by Great Chart village hall followed by afternoon tea and cakes. Visitors from other local WI's joined us together with other officers of the East Kent Federation of WI's. The Parish Council made a generous donation towards the cost of the tree and we were delighted that Aniko was able to come along as their representative.



The Queen's Platinum jubilee kept us very busy with members crafting away making bunting and other items as we joined with Singleton WI in holding a stall at the Big Jubilee lunch held at the Great Chart playing field. The event was highly successful and a most enjoyable day. Great Chart & Godinton WI members continued their celebrations at their June meeting with a party event, playing games and partaking in tasty treats together with marmalade sandwiches bought along by Paddington Bear, personal friend of our Queen.....

For further details of our WI find us on Facebook = Great Chart & Godinton Women's Institute or email: secretary@greatchartgodintonwi.uk or president@greatchartgodintonwi.uk



CLUBS AND GROUPS



Please be aware that times and dates may change due to coronavirus restrictions

1st Great Chart Scouts Group - Contact Dave or Sally Gathern 01233 633966
Beavers (6-8.yo) - Friday 5-6:30pm
Cubs - (8-10.5yo) - Friday 6:30-8pm

1st Singleton Scouts Group - Contact Jill Lane 01233 641773/ 07799 886549
Beavers (6-8yo) Wednesday 5:15-6:30pm
Cubs (8-10.5yo) Wednesday 6:30-8pm

Great Chart & Godinton WI
Secretary Janet Goodwin: 01233 332510
Committee Member Pam Grigg: 01233 878013
19:30 on 3rd Wednesday of the month at Godinton Village Hall

Singleton WI
Meeting at Singleton Environment Centre on the first Thursday of the month. Contact Hannah on 07542 436522, singletonwiekf@gmail.com or @SingletonWI

Ashford Community Woodland
ashfordcommunitywoodland@hotmail.co.uk
www.ashfordcommunitywoodland.org

Repair Cafe Ashford
Email: lenchitt@yahoo.co.uk
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at SEC

Eco Kids
Thursdays & Fridays 10-11:30 at Singleton Environment Centre. Email Jenny on ecokidssec@gmail.com

Ashford Volunteer Centre
Telephone: 01233 665535
Email: contact@ashfordvc.org.uk
Website: <https://ashfordvc.org.uk>

Speed Watch. Contact area co-ordinator Garry Parry 01233 640110 garry@whp.co.uk

Paek Ma Taekwondo - contact Master Geoff 6th Dan 07836 621060 at SVH.
Tuesday 5:30-6:30pm /6:30-8 Juniors and Seniors
Thursday 6:30-8pm Juniors

Dream Dragons Theatre - Wednesdays 7-10pm at SVH. Contact 01233 668767 or www.dreamdragons.co.uk

Stardust Studios - Children's dance classes at SVH. Contact Natalie Kitts 01233 625786/ 0984956 or info@starduststudios.co.uk

Flora the Singleton Giant.
Contact Peter 01233 610241
peter@singletongiant.org.uk

Great Chart Cricket Club
www.greatchartcc.co.uk

Ashford Concert Band. Thursdays 7-8:30pm at John Wesley School
www.ashfordconcertband.co.uk
info@ashfordconcertband.co.uk

Grace Fellowship at Singleton Road
www.gracefellowship.org.uk

Friends of Singleton Lake
Website: www.friendsofsingletonlake.co.uk

St Mary's Great Chart & Singleton. Sunday services - 9:30am at St Mary's Great Chart and 11am at St Mary's in SVH. Contact Libby Varley 01233 620371. office@stmarysgreatchart.org
www.stmarysgreatchart.org

Pilgrims Football Club - Contact Kyran Wilford 07984 352008 kyran@pilgrimsfc.co.uk

USEFUL INFORMATION



VENUE CONTACT DETAILS

**Singleton
Village Hall**

Tel: 07887 575647
Email: bookings@singletonvh.co.uk

**Great Chart
Village Hall**

Tel: 01233 610173
Email: greatchartvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

**Great Chart Playing Fields
Buxford Pavilion**

Tel: 01233 427407
Email: bookings@greatchartplayingfields.org.uk

**Singleton Environment
Centre**

Tel: 01233 343885
Email: centremanager@singletonenvironmentcentre.org.uk

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

William Harvey Hospital
01233 633331

Kent Highways Service
03000 418181

Environment Agency
03708 506 506

Environment Incident Reporting
0800 80 70 60

South East Water
0333 000 0001

Floodline
0345 988 1188

UK Powernet
0800 029 4285

Power Cut
0800 31 63 105

Samaritans
116 123 email jo@samaritans.org

Kent County Council - Enquiries - Social Services
03000 41 41 41

Emergency Services **999**
Press **55** on a mobile if unsafe to speak
Text **60066** if deaf/hard of hearing

Kent Police - non emergency numbers
Call **101** or use **Live Chat** at www.kent.police.uk
Call **111** for medical non-emergencies

OTHER INFO

Allotments

Contact the Parish Clerk on 01233 616923
theclerk@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

**Dog Warden
Colin Leek**

Tel: 01233 330340
Email: colin.leek@ashford.gov.uk

Mobile Library

Aske's Court: Friday 14:55-15:25
Knoll Lane: Friday 15:45-16:15
Coronation Drive: Saturday: 10:55-11:25



BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR CONTACT INFORMATION

ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Weald Central Ward Councillor: Jessamy Blanford	Tel: 01233 840050 Email: jessamy.blanford@ashford.gov.uk
Singleton East Ward Councillor: Bill Barrett	Tel: 07449 454044 Email: bill.barrett@ashford.gov.uk
Singleton West Ward Councillor: Kalysha Howard-Smith	Tel: 07586 332504 Email: kalysha.howardsmith@ashford.gov.uk
Washford Ward Councillor: Neil Shorter	Tel: 07827 253400 Email: neil.shorter@ashford.gov.uk

KENT COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Councillor Charlie Simkins	Tel: 01233 756705 Email: charlie.simkins@kent.gov.uk
Councillor Dirk Ross	Tel: 07776 270416 Email: dirk.ross@kent.gov.uk

COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Ashford Borough Council	Tel: 01233 331111 Web: www.ashford.gov.uk
Kent County Council	Tel: 03000 414141 Web: www.kent.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL STAFF

Parish Clerk Aniko Szocs	Tel: 01233 616923 Mobile: 07354 472314 Email: theclerk@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk
Deputy Clerk Paula Cowperthwaite	Tel: 01233 616923 Mobile: 07354 472313 Email: paula.cowperthwaite@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk
Parish Steward Peter Walkden	Email: theclerk@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk
Assistant Parish Steward Robert Heath	Email: theclerk@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk
Youth Worker Sarah Gaunt	Tel: 01233 616923 Mobile: 07354 471871 Email: youthworker@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk



PARISH COUNCILLOR CONTACT INFORMATION



CHILMINGTON WARD

Cllr Ian
McClintock

Tel: 07919 278828
Email: ian.mcclintock@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

GREAT CHART WITH SINGLETON NORTH WARD

Cllr Paul
Tate

Tel: 07850 082023
Email: paul.tate@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

SINGLETON EAST WARD

Cllr Katrina
Alexander

Tel: 07791 632493
Email: katrina.alexander@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Janet
Sullivan

Tel: 01233 645400
Email: janet.sullivan@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Malcolm
Wiffen

Tel: 01233 635016
Email: malcolm.wiffen@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Dave
Gathern

Tel: 01233 635016
Email: dave.gathern@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

SINGLETON WEST WARD

Cllr Peter
Barker

Tel: 01233 610241
Email: peter.barker@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Yolanda
Barker

Tel: 01233 610241
Email: yolanda.barker@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Geoffrey
Darvill

Tel: 01233 642357
Email: geoffrey.darvill@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Sally
Gathern

Tel: 07815 803862
Email: sally.gathern@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk

WASHFORD WARD

Cllr Tom
Ackrill

Tel: 07780 470668
Email: thomas.ackrill@greatchartsingleton-pc.gov.uk