

Doddington, Newnham & Wychling Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2025



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Sunday - 12 noon-4pm

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CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE SEPTEMBER 2025

7th September <i>Trinity 12</i>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Teynham
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Norton
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Doddington
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Eastling
14th September <i>Holy Cross</i>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
	10.30am	All Together Now	Lynsted
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Newnham
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Oare
	10.30am	Morning Prayer	Throwley
17th September	11.00am	Holy Communion	Wychling
21st September <i>Trinity 14</i>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Teynham
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Norton
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Doddington
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Eastling
	4.00pm	Harvest Evensong	Stalisfield
28th September <i>Trinity 15</i>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
	10.30am	Family Holy Communion	Lynsted
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Newnham
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Oare
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Throwley
	4.00pm	Evensong	Teynham

Together in Boots – Friday 26th September from Doddington Church 2.00pm
Mindful walk – return to church for tea and cake

Please check church notices and online for any potential change in services to those published above.

www.kingsdownandcreekside.co.uk

Rector: Paula Jardine-Rose Parish Office: 01795 521831

Church Wardens Contact Details:

Newnham: Bruce Leckie (01795) 890550
Doddington: Les Roberts 07944 284173
Wychling: Robbie Jardine (01795) 886165

Dave Buckett (01795) 890240
Matthew Jevons (01795) 886341



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Message for the Month

Every autumn, many churches and schools across the UK fill tables with tins and fruit; they sing about gathering the crops and give thanks for what has been provided. Harvest Festival, with all its colour and comfort, remains one of the few church traditions that still connects our everyday lives with the land, each other and with God. While most of us no longer work the soil ourselves, many of us still find something deeply meaningful in this annual moment of gathering and celebration. A moment to say thank you, to replenish the food store, to give generously to others and to mark the turning of the seasons.

But in 2025, in a world shaped more by ideas, information and services than by physical sowing and reaping of crops, we in High Downs Parish have been asking ourselves a few questions and we'd love to hear your thoughts too:

Where does Harvest fit today? How do we align it to our current cultural climate and 'off the shelf' modern lifestyle? Apart from material sustenance, what might it offer as a 'spiritual food' or discipline, especially around stewardship, generosity and of gratitude?

In the New Testament, the concept of harvest often takes on a more spiritual dimension. Jesus speaks of the Kingdom of God as a field ready for harvest (Matthew 9:37), connecting the theme with the call to share the Gospel.

St. Paul encourages believers in Galatians 6 verse 9 "not to grow weary in doing good" and pointing to a future harvest of righteousness and reward for those who have sown wisely and steadfastly. He also uses harvest language to speak directly about financial generosity, urging the church to give freely and faithfully: "Whoever sows generously will also reap generously" (2 Corinthians 9:6).

So, while most of us no longer plant literal seeds, the pattern of sowing, tending, and reaping remains a deeply Christian rhythm. It is one that still speaks into our spiritual lives and needs, our relationships, and even our finances.

Harvest is a natural moment to give thanks for what has grown, it may be a time for spiritual and financial reflection, but it can also invite us to ask deeper questions: What am I investing in - this harvest to come? What kind of fruit am I hoping to see? What am I storing up for the future?

For those of us working in offices, caregiving, teaching, or tech, the agricultural imagery might feel distant. But the spiritual practice it reflects is timeless.

Harvest prompts us to pause, to reflect and to review. And, in our modern age, that might mean looking prayerfully at how we live our lives, our priorities, our financial habits, our patterns of generosity and most especially our dependence upon God who ultimately provides for us.

It reminds us that giving is often slow and unseen, deliberate work that requires faith, fortitude and patience. God sees the seeds we sow, even when the fruit is not yet visible, in our produce, productivity and in our good deeds.

Harvest is not just a tradition to be remembered. It's a rhythm that can shape our whole life; our hearts, our spirits in a way that helps us to review, recommit and re-invest in our rootedness with God and creation.

Mark Harlow



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Doddington Village Hall (unless otherwise stated)

Weekly

Valley Players: Tuesday evenings, September to December from 7.30pm. If you are interested in helping or taking part in future productions pop in and leave your name and contact details. Backstage help particularly welcome. Contacts Les Roberts 01795 886332

Buddies Parent and Toddler Group: Friday morning (term-time) 9 to 10.30am. All children aged 0-4 and their carers are most welcome. New **Contact**: Amy – email: amykemp788@gmail.com

Doddington Ukulele Movement: Thursday evenings 8pm.

Guitar Group: The Chequers, Wednesdays 7.30-9.30 pm. All levels welcome. bobbiallen@btinternet.com

Yoga: every Tuesday 10am and Sundays. Bookings and contact details via <https://bookwhen.com/https-chrisstookesyoga-co-uk>

Monthly

Doddington Parish Council: 2nd Monday 7.30 pm. Local residents welcome to observe, and there is a section for questions and comments from the public.

Historical Research Group: 4th Monday 7.30pm. Exploring local history and archaeology in the three parishes. Now back meeting regularly. Contact: Karen Potts karennpotts@gmail.com

What's On Tai Chi with Rhonda: selected Mondays @ 7pm for an hour: For more information and bookings please email: bex.taichi@yahoo.co.uk; Mob: 07985 001782.

Newnham Village Hall (unless otherwise stated)

Weekly

U3A Art Group: Every Monday afternoon 1-4pm. Contact: Sue 01795 890627.

Newnham Brownies: 5.30pm - 7.00pm every Tuesday (term-time only). To join & find out more about Brownies, please go to WWW.girlguiding.org.uk to register your child's interest on the GO Membership system. You will be contacted within a few days about local packs and contacts.

Outdoor Gym Club- Start time changed from 11.15 am to 9.30 am every Wednesday

Monthly

Newnham Parish Council Meeting: 2nd Thursday each month at 8pm



Nearby towns and villages

Stalisfield Youth Club: Meet twice monthly in Stalisfield Village Hall 7-8.30pm .

Contact: Catherine Norwood, email: clnorwood@doctors.org.uk See last page for dates.

Zumba: Day and evening classes in Teynham, Faversham and Eastling. Contact Leigh Miles 01795 890149, 07873431952, leigh.fitness@btinternet.com, or www.milesdanceandfitness.com

Useful contacts

Doddington Neighbourhood Watch: To be kept informed of local incidents and general notifications issued by the Kent NHW police, please email: neighbourhoodwatch.doddington@yahoo.com
Suspicious happenings should be reported by phone on 101, or 999 in an emergency.

Scams – for help and advice with online scams contact Citizens Advice scams action on 080250 5050

Doddington and Newnham online: www.doddingtonkent.uk

<https://www.newnham-pc.gov.uk/>

Facebook: Doddington Village and Newnham Village each have their own Facebook sites

Helen Whately: MP for Faversham and Mid Kent - email: helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

Address: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Tel: 020 7219 6472

Terry Thompson: Ward Member for East Downs: TerryThompson@swale.gov.Uk. Phone.07968810638.

Rich Lehmann - County Councillor for Swale East. Tel: 03000 415013 email- Rich.Lehmann@kent.gov.uk

Angela Dye is your Neighbourhood Watch contact for Newnham. email: angeladye@gmail.com



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✅ Please warn your vulnerable friends and family to be alert.

✅ If you need work done on your home or garden use a safe, local trader from [KCC Trading Standards Checked](#)

✅ [Report cold callers to Kent Police](#)

You can also report it to the charity CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111. You'll stay 100% anonymous, always.

☎️ For advice Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 0808 223 1133.

For scam alerts as they are issued please add us on [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#).

Thank you.

Mark Rolfe

Winter Fuel Payment Scam

⚠️ Kent residents targeted by a Winter Fuel Payment scam.

❌ The messages claim to be from DWP (Department of Work and Pensions) and promise a £300 payment will be deposited into your bank account if you click the link provided to submit your application.

The link directs you to a realistic website under the control of the criminals, where they will look to steal your personal and financial data.

❌ The DWP never send text messages or emails asking for your bank details for Winter Fuel Payment purposes.

If you receive a scam message:

✅ Do not click any links.

✅ Do not reply to the message.

✅ Do not share personal or payment details.

☎️ If you think you have been a victim of any type of scam, contact your bank immediately by calling 159 and report it the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.



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Our main Foodbank centre continues every Wednesday and Friday, 1.30-4pm, Gospel Mission, Tanners Street, Faversham ME13 7JL



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Car Import Scam

⚠️ Kent resident targeted by a car import scam.

The resident purchased a car online for a set price including shipping and clearance. The seller claimed the car was in a UK port, but it wasn't, and proceeded to ask for more money.

This is a scam.

⚠️ Be very careful when buying online. Always do your research on a company and make sure they are who they say they are.

☎️ For advice contact the Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 0808 223 1133.

TAI CHI CLASS

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Newnham Parish Council

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Councillors: Sue Gunner 890627, Angela Dye,
Pippa Pawlik 0796 301443, Donald Cockrill and Jane Crampton

Clerk: clerk@newnham-pc.gov.uk

The Chairman would like to invite all Newnham residents to the next Newnham Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 11th September at 7.30 pm to hear the latest news regarding the ongoing enquiry of the Highstead Park development.

The Action Group (Doddington, Newnham, Teynham Lynsted with Kingsdown and Tonge Parish Councils) have had many meetings over the last few months and Doddington's Parish Chairman, Steve Coates will be present to keep you up to date with the latest information and to answer any questions you might have or, alternatively, make enquiries on your behalf.

Newnham Parish Council is looking for more residents willing to join the current members of the Council and help keep our village thriving over the years to come.

NEXT MEETING OF NEWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL – 11TH SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7.30PM
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FRAGMENTS FROM TIN BOXES

by Richard Oldfield

Monday 27th October - 7.30pm

Doddington Village Hall

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Doddington Village Hall

Friday 26th September 7:30 pm

Entry £5 on the door

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feet Re-Polish
Pedicure
Soak Off only

Lashes & Brows

Lash Lift & Tint
Lash Lift no Tint
Lash Tint
Brow Tint
Lash & Brow Tint
Semi Permanent Brows

Lash Extensions

New Set
Infill
Lash Removal

Dermaplaning

Micro needling

To book an appointment, or for further information: Phone: 07494 293397
Email: ellakbeautytherapy@gmail.com



Experience Luxurious Sustainability at The Old Cherry Barn.

Discover eco-conscious elegance in our newly built (2021) luxury retreat, nestled in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

The open-plan living area is perfect for relaxing and dining with loved ones.

Cozy up by the log burner in winter, or open the bifold doors in summer to enjoy alfresco dining on the large private patio and garden.

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Newnham,
Sittingbourne ME9 ONE



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- Repairs to Re-Roofs

Looking for help

assisting an elderly gentleman in Doddington in his own home.

2 -3 shifts a week of 24 hours. To include preparing meals and light housework.

He is mobile with the use of sticks but needs some supervision.

Good company for him, his happiness and safety are of utmost importance.

Contact details: johawkins_uk@yahoo.com

Tel: 0782 446 0052

Have some fun and enjoy a challenge at the

Quiz Night

Doddington Village Hall

7.30pm Friday 17th October



Bring your own drinks and nibbles
to share with friends.



Teams of 6-8
£5 per person



Q.≡
A.≡



To book your place call Elaine on 01795 886378
or email: elainep.coates@hotmail.co.uk

Raising money to maintain Doddington Village Hall

NEWNHAM VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

The winning numbers of the
August draw were –

1st Prize 66

2nd Prize 47

3rd Prize 85

The Hall Committee would like to
thank all our members for
their continued support.

New members are welcome –
numbers cost
£2 per month.

Contact Julie on
01795 890205

or julied103@hotmail.com
for more information

DODDINGTON and DISTRICT VILLAGE SHOW Saturday 6th September 2025

Please read your schedule very carefully, especially the Rules & Hints for each Section. If you have a query, ask a Show Committee Member. Phone numbers are on the back page of the Schedule.

Entry forms and fees should be handed in to Pump Cottage, The Street, Doddington by Thursday 4th September 2025 – the deadline is 6pm or earlier if possible – please don't leave it until the day of the Show!

Exhibitors to stage their entries on Show Day from 8.30am to 10.00am.

Craft Items should be clean and undamaged.

We hate to see entries disqualified as “not to Schedule – oversize”, so wherever measurements are stated in a Class, particularly for Flower arranging and the Tray of Vegetables but also for paintings and pencil drawing, **please measure your entry**. For Flower Arranging and the Tray of Vegetables, measure your entry when staged – there will be tape measures available in the hall for you to use.

If you won a Cup last year, could you please return your polished trophy to Barbara Roberts in the week before the Show – Thank you.

We know this year may see a drop in horticulture entries due to the weather conditions we have been experiencing. However, we hope this means that many more of you might enter the cookery and craft, painting and photography classes.

If you have any surplus produce that you would like to donate for the Sales Table or a Raffle Prize, we would be very pleased to receive it. Please bring to the village Hall on Show Day.

Show Schedules still available at the various village outlets, if you are struggling to find one, please contact Barbara on 07971 07 527 or email barbara7roberts@gmail.com

SEE YOU AT THE SHOW!

MOBILE LIBRARY

Sunnyside, Doddington.

Wednesday mornings 9.45am to 10.15am (fortnightly excluding bank holidays).

3rd Sep

17th Sep

1st Oct

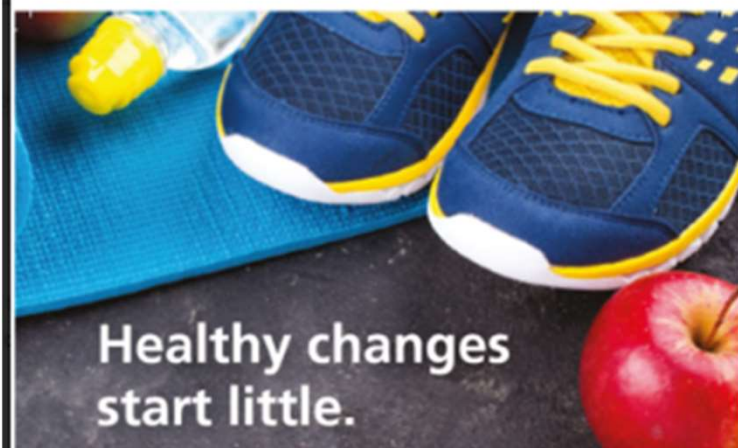


WHAT HAVE WE BEEN READING?

WHICH BOOK? – HOPE DIES LAST by Studs Terkel (2003)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? – Studs Terkel was an American oral historian and radio presenter, and the book consists of individuals talking about living through the momentous periods of the 20th Century, including wars, the great depression, the civil rights movement, and more. Studs spoke to politicians, military men, union activists, prisoners, lawyers, priests and many more people, some well-known, like the singers Pete Seeger and Arlo Guthrie and the economist John Kenneth Galbraith, others not. The theme of the book is how to maintain hope – and to act – in the face of mounting authoritarianism, division, and inequality. Though more than 20 years old, it is a timely read at a time when decency, humanity, and compassion seem to be increasingly regarded as sins rather than virtues.

WAS IT ON THE MOBILE LIBRARY? – No, but the Kent Libraries website allows you search and order from beyond the Kent system, and the book actually came from Camden!



Healthy changes start little.

Whether you want to lose weight, get active, quit smoking, or just feel better about life, One You Kent is here to support YOU.

Phone: 0300 123 1220

Email: katherine.johnson27@nhs.net

www.oneyoukent.org.uk

Services provided by Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust.

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Healthy changes start with little changes. We can help **YOU** go smokefree, lose weight, get active, or just feel better about life.

Lead a healthy life



Lose weight



Go smokefree



Walk and talk



Health checks



Drop in for 1-1 support from 17 September 2025 at

Doddington Vicarage

The Street, Doddington, Sittingbourne ME9 0BD

Wednesdays 9am – 3pm



www.kentcht.nhs.uk/OneYou

ONE YOU KENT



FRIENDS of KENT CHURCHES

Annual Sponsored Bicycle Ride and Stride

Saturday 13 September 2025, 10am-6pm

Visit some of the 700 churches across Kent by bicycle or on foot

The Friends of Kent Churches is an ecumenical charity dedicated to the preservation of churches of architectural merit. Its main fund-raising event is the sponsored cycle ride and walk that takes place on the second Saturday in September each year. 50% of sponsorship money raised goes to the church chosen by the participant, with the other 50% going to the Friends who distribute around £130,000 per year in grants. In 2011 Newnham church was lucky enough to receive a substantial grant from the Friends towards the £20,000 cost of masonry repairs carried out that year.

You can lend your support by riding or walking to raise money yourself, or simply by sponsoring those who are. If you participate you will get the chance to enjoy some church architecture, a pleasant day out in the countryside and an assortment of homemade cakes and refreshments along the way.

For more information and sponsorship forms or if you would like somebody to ride with, please contact:

Bruce Leckie 130 The Street, Newnham

Tel: 890550

bruce.leckie@live.co.uk

**Save the Date- Thursday October 23rd, another Newnham
village community event !!**

Join us for a race night on the big screen at The George Inn!
Recorded races, make bets on the night or increase your chance of
winning by "buying" a horse in advance.
Ticket only event with dinner included in your ticket price.
All the family welcome - lots of competitive fun!
Leaflet drop to follow with more details!



Tally Ho Chaps!

WEDNESDAY MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDIES FROM 10th SEPTEMBER

After the popularity of the Lent Studies, and responses by those who took part, we are continuing to offer shorter studies of five weekly sessions, on Wednesday evenings at Doddington Vicarage from 7.30pm -9pm.

We will be studying "Acts for Everyone" by Tom Wright, one of the world's leading Bible Scholars.

The study says: "The mysterious presence of Jesus haunts the whole story of Acts. Jesus is announced as King and Lord, not as an increasingly distant memory but as a living and powerful reality, a person who can be known and loved, obeyed and followed, a person who continues to act within the real world. We call the book "The Acts of the Apostles" but we should think of it as "The Acts of Jesus: Part two". These studies help us to do so and to see how Jesus acts through the apostles to inform and empower our acts today.

Please emails me jim.pye@kc-hd.org.uk or ring 01795 890726 if you would like to attend.

Every blessing,
Rev'd Jim Pye



WISHING A VERY HAPPY
90TH BIRTHDAY TO
PETER GRIFFITHS
FROM ALL HIS FRIENDS &
NEIGHBOURS IN NEWNHAM





DODDINGTON VILLAGE



AUCTION

ONE DAY ONLY:
the return of the
village auction!

All proceeds go to the "fighting fund" of Teynham & Highsted **Action Group**, a consortium made up of Doddington, Newnham, Teynham, Lynsted with Kingsdown, and Tonge Parish Councils

Booking in items: Saturday 13th September – 8am-12 midday @ Doddington Village Hall, ME9 0BH

**SUNDAY 14TH
SEPTEMBER**

VIEWING:
9AM

AUCTION:
10AM

- Sellers' commission: 10% of selling price
- Buyers' commission: 10% of purchase price
- We welcome donations: either cash or items to be auctioned
- For Auction enquiries:
 - cllrllumsden@yahoo.com
 - cllrclarkdpc@gmail.com

HELP US TO STOP THE HIGHTED PARK DEVELOPMENT: A NEW TOWN OF 8, 400 HOUSES TO BE BUILT BETWEEN FAVERSHAM AND SITTINGBOURNE

[HTTPS://TEYNHAM-HIGHTED.ORG/](https://teynham-highsted.org/)



DIARY OF EVENTS - 2025

6 th September	Doddington and District Village Show (See page 16 for more information)	Doddington Village Hall
11 th September 8pm	The Old Boys Blues Band with Stef	The Chequers Pub
14 th September 9/10am (viewing 9am Auction 10am)	Doddington Village Auction (see page 19)	Doddington Village Hall
26 th September 7.30pm	Film Club: Green Book (see page 13)	Doddington Village Hall
17 th October 7.30 pm	Quiz Night (see page 15 for more details)	Doddington Village Hall
23 rd October	Race Night (more info to come through your door)	The George Inn Newnham
24 th October 7.30pm	Film Club: Mrs Warren's profession (National Theatre Live - see page 13)	Doddington Village Hall
27 th October 7.30pm	'Fragments from Tin Boxes', Talk by Richard Oldfield. (see page 13 for more details) All welcome. £2 entry.	Doddington Village Hall

Other regular activities are listed on Page 7.



Together in Boots

Join us for a monthly mindful walk
through woodland

**Leaving Doddington Church at 2pm
and returning for tea & cake at 2.45pm**

Humans and well-behaved dogs all welcome



On Fridays 26th September,
24th October, 28th November,

Enquiries to Lissie on 07790 287878
lissie1710@gmail.com



Did you know Newnham has a village
WhatsApp group? - where we share
news, advice and information or ask for
help when needed.

All villagers are welcome to join.

Contact Steve on 07540898617

NEWSLETTER - AVAILABLE IN EITHER PAPER COPY DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR OR VIA EMAIL

.....
All copy must be received by 6pm on the 20th of the preceding month
(15th for new adverts or changes to regular adverts)

Copy preferred in email or as an attachment to: gunnersue564@gmail.com
or to

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Tel: 01795 890627