

Rural Roundup



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Photo: Don Hough

Issue Number 120

February 2022

A Free Community Magazine

covering

Kingsdown

Ringwould with Oxney

Ripple - Sutton - Ashley & Studdal

Little Mongeham and Walmers

Rural Roundup Terms and Conditions

Editorial

The editor's decision on all editorial matters is final.

Any opinions stated in the editorial pages of the magazine are those of the individuals concerned and not those of the magazine.

Foul language, insults or abusive comments will be removed from any copy submitted before publication.

Stories and photographs which may be of interest to people within our circulation area are welcome.

All readers are welcome to contribute material; however, inclusion will be at the discretion of the editor.

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Hello, and a warm welcome to February's Rural Roundup!

Firstly, a huge thank you to Doreen Clarke for her sterling effort in editing Rural Roundup for the past 23 years. A terrific achievement!

Don and I are very pleased to be taking up the mantle in 2022 and look forward to continuing Doreen's excellent work. We hope that you will bear with us while we find our feet.

Please continue to send in any items of interest for inclusion in the magazine, but remember to use the new contact details below.

We are looking at both the possibility of returning to a printed version and also a dedicated website for the magazine. We'll keep you updated as things unfold.

We look forward to getting to know you over the coming months and years and thank you in advance for sending in all your news and stories.

Monica & Don Hough

Tel: 07733107257

**Closing date for copy for the *March Issue* of Rural Roundup
Monday 21st February 2022**

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Hello.

This is the long haul time of year. Christmas is over. I want Spring and I want it now! I follow a lovely gardener in Broadstairs, “The Frustrated Gardener”. I don’t mean I lurk behind lamp posts; he posts interesting and optimistic gardening tales! Anyway, he said that the tradition of Twelfth Night and quick removal of anything festive was introduced by the Victorians. Before their decision to get the peasants back to the grindstone and stop all their disgusting festivities, we in the UK used to keep our decorations up until Candlemas or Epiphany. I bet the Pagans kept on celebrating, too! So, we tried leaving ours lights on after Twelfth Night. I felt a little paranoid and wondered why nobody checked to make sure we were still alive.

But, let’s look ahead, not back!

The February meeting is on Monday 28th in the Village Hall 7:45. There will be a talk by Jane Scotchmer “Travels in Burma” and a seed swap. I will be bringing some basil seeds. I seem to have forgotten I already had some and ordered more. And then, whoops, I did it again. I think that’s a Britney Spears’ song, but I doubt she was talking about basil seeds. Do you need a list of February jobs? Can’t wait to get out there and tidy up, sew some seeds, prune the clematis etc etc. I have bought some Eremurus, or Foxtail Lily, to sew for a change. Fingers crossed! The above mentioned Frustrated Gardener posted a photo of a huge delivery of well rotted manure. We definitely need to feed our soil with something. Sometimes I miss our veg patch. Especially when I saw a friend’s onion sets all started off in her greenhouse. But then I remember when rats chewed all our onions before we had even harvested them. We could see the teeth marks. Must have been rats? Maybe squirrels are partial to onions? Gardening...so much joy and wonder, so many disappointments!!

Before I go, Thank you to Gardening Presenter Peter Seabrook. RIP Hope to see you all at the February meeting.

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Welcome to my first newsletter of 2022

Thank you so much to those of you who have contacted me and expressed their thanks for these newsletters, especially those who don't do 'social media' and the like. Makes my efforts worthwhile. Below are a few things you may find of interest. Please pass them on to others - **Jane**

Natasha Rose Douglas is starting her 'Singing for Pleasure' next week in Walmer, Deal and Sandwich, and has posted this on FB:-

Dear All,

Come and join me in for some singing fun in January!

We'll be preparing songs for a performance with the [Deal Music & Arts](#) festival in the summer, taking a journey through Deals coal mining, hop picking, fish-ing, smuggling history, (plus we'll sing a variety of beautiful folk songs from around the world at each session!).

[#communitychoir](#)

In case you missed it, this is from the Kingsdown Carol Singers.

Thank you to everyone who came singing, provided accompanying trombone support, organised meeting places, provided mulled wine and mince pies, and gave generous donations. It was a brilliant 10 evenings and £2776.36 was raised for Deal Food Bank and St John's (Kingsdown) Church Fund. The money has now been sent for secure keeping and will be given to these two causes in the early new year.

It is the Queen's platinum Jubilee weekend 2nd to 5th June this year. I have heard of at least two individuals who are interested in 'doing something' for this, and I believe the Parish Council are considering something. Anyone else interested in a community event?

The Kingsdown & Ringwould WI would like to take part in plant a tree for the Jubilee. The first question on the application form is to supply the location of the proposed site.

Does anyone have any suggestions and where permission to plant would be obtained? Please send your suggestions directly to:

Suzanne Le Chevalier President K&R WI **Tel: 07814 267 506**

Continued p9

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Important Information

I have been asked to spread the word about a couple of things happening around the village.

The Golf Club have applied for a variation to their premises licence to include 'off sales' from 8am every day to midnight weekdays and 1am at weekends. Any comments to DDC by 7th February.

The road/path that goes from the top of The Rise to the woods is actually on private land. The owner is apparently so fed up with the amount of dog mess etc found in the area that he is considering sale to a developer, which cannot be good news for the village! Access to the woods will then be via alternative routes.

I have also been asked to circulate this update - 'after 10 years of being too overgrown to traverse, Bridleway ER23 from the Avenue to Pond Road St Margarets at Cliffe is now open for horses, cyclists, ramblers and dog walkers. Anyone looking for an excellent ramble away from the traffic in peaceful surroundings and covid free should find this new route to be just what they need.'

Thanks **Jane Banks**

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NEWSLETTER 1st FEBRUARY 2022

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

We hope you all had a Happy Christmas and are looking forward to the New Year. We thought now was a good moment to announce our programme of events for the early part of 2022. All these events are free to members but cost £4 to non-members.

Illustrated Talk

On Monday **7 February 2022, Kingsdown Village Hall, 7:30pm** Gordon Wise will give a talk showcasing some of the research that has been done by the National Trust into the **Second World War History of the 540th Coast Regiment Royal Artillery** who manned the three gun sites of Fan Bay, South Foreland and Wanstone Farm. The three sites worked together as a unified command and hopefully by the end you will have an understanding of the guns, the actions and some of the stories and visits associated with the Regiment. The guns at Wanstone Farm were the largest guns mounted on UK soil. No booking necessary, just turn up.

Illustrated Talk

On Monday **7 March 2022, Kingsdown Village Hall, 7:30pm** Clive Alexander, former Heritage Manager and Urban Designer at Dover District Council will give a talk on **Conservation Planning**. No booking necessary, just turn up.

Walk and Talk

On Sunday **10th April 2022** Gordon Wise will lead us around the **South Foreland Battery**. Meet at 2pm St Margaret's at Cliffe Village car park. This walk will be about 4 miles across mostly reasonable walking ground, although good sturdy footwear is recommended! Gordon also recommends dressing appropriately as it is possible to have all four seasons in one day on Wanstone.

Continued

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Kingsdown Conservation Group continued

The walk will start, and finish, at the Village Car Park in St Margarets (free parking). From there we will walk part of the heritage trail into the South Foreland site and from there on to Wanstone Farm, D2 Anti Aircraft Battery, Fan Bay and returning to the Car Park via the South Foreland site. What he hopes to show us is what existed during the war and we will be able to retrace the steps of the dignitaries that visited the Regiment. It will also be an opportunity for you to see the work the National Trust are doing on the land acquired in 2017. Limited numbers, **booking essential** contact sue_lamoon@hotmail.com (01304 372763)

Walk and Talk

On Friday 29th April 2022 Sue Buckingham will lead us on a **Spring Flower Walk**, helping us to identify species and telling us all about their origins and peculiarities. Time and place to meet to be confirmed. Limited numbers, **booking essential** contact sue_lamoon@hotmail.com (01304 372763)

In July Sue Buckingham will lead a **longer wildflower walk** starting at the rifle range, walking up onto the golf course road and onto the cliff top. Date, time and place to meet to be confirmed. Limited numbers, **booking essential** contact sue_lamoon@hotmail.com

Thanks to Sue Lamoon and Clive Chandler for leading the walk around the village boundary on 14 November. Congratulations to those who completed the circuit.

And finally, KCG sends a huge Hoorah to everyone involved in this year's Kingsdown Carol Singing. You really did the village proud.

Keep Smiling

Alison, Anne-Marie, Helen, Ian and Sue



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Save the Children Quizzes Resume

The monthly Save the Children Quizzes at the Deal Vics Cricket Club have now resumed. The next quiz is on Thursday 27th January at the Deal Vics CT14 7RQ 7 for 7.30 pm no booking required £2 per head, all welcome. The following quiz will be on 24th February.7 for 7.30 pm.

All profits to Save the Children. Even before the pandemic, 258 million children were locked out of school. Millions of children never see inside a classroom. Others drop out due to overcrowding, conflict or simply because they are a girl. Here in the UK, the poorest children do less well than their wealthier classmates and low literacy is linked to low pay and unemployment. Save the Children ensures that children keep learning no matter what. Save the Children has no political allegiance. In the UK, Save the Children is improving early years learning and keeping childcare costs on the political agenda.

Sarah Spong Chair Deal Save the Children.
<http://www.savethechildren.co.uk>



Lilies for Easter in memory of loved ones

For Easter, in Kingsdown, we ask people if they would like to donate Lilies in memory of loved ones. In the past the price has been about £2 to £2.50 a stem and the Church flower ladies arrange them in the Church on the Saturday before Easter Sunday as part of the Easter flower arrangements. It would be so good to get back to this now that life is returning to some sort of normality.

If you would like to donate lilies, please get in touch with Barbara Ridout
Email mumno196@aol.com Tel 361019
Or Georgina Maude Email gmaude@outlook.com Tel 389253



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Ripple Parish Council

Road Safety

Speed watch

Ripple Parish Councillors have undertaken their Speed watch training and have carried out the first Ripple Speed watch session during November. There will be regular sessions at various safe sites in the village as identified and approved by Kent Police. Thank you to Mongeham Parish Council for sharing their recording device with us and thank you to Chris Saville for assisting with the on-site training. This will be the first of regular sessions in our continued traffic calming measures for the village.

Highway Improvement Plan

Councillors have a remote meeting scheduled with KCC highways in early December to discuss the next steps in our plan.

Parish Council Meetings

The dates of the next meeting in the Village Hall

10th February 2022

Meetings start at 7.00pm

If you are unable to attend but would like to make comment, please contact the Clerk.

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*Notes from the meeting held on Monday 10th January 2022 in
Sutton Community Centre*

Councillors and members of the public were wished a Happy New Year
by Cllr Merriman

Defibrillator

The new pads have been installed and the battery has been received and is all ready for installation. Cllr Smith offered to do this.

Verge opposite Canton

The Councillors discussed the installation of bollards to protect the verge. KCC Highways have been approached for their advice on the matter. Cllr Densham offered to look into installing concrete posts on the verge under licence with Highways.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy for a parish councillor. Clerk to contact DDC and the vacancy to be advertised on the notice boards in the parish with instructions for any interested parties to contact the Clerk.

Precept

The Councillors discussed the precept requirement and decided to request £13,149 for next year's precept/budget.

Planning

Several DDC planning decisions were noted at the meeting. The planning log is up and running on the website for parishioners to check local applications

Litter Pick

Saturday April 9th was fixed as the date for holding a litter pick in the parish. To ensure the event is inclusive for families, areas which would be safe for children to litter pick were briefly discussed. Cllr Calthorpe kindly offered to produce a risk assessment and to book the Community Hall for the event.

Orchard

A pruning session at the orchard was discussed, to be held on Sunday 13th February. Cllr Akhurst has offered to take the lead in organising the working party. Cllr Calthorpe offered to produce a risk assessment.

***The next ordinary meeting is on
Tuesday 1st February 2022 at 7.30 pm***

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Sutton - Ashley & Studdal



Sutton Parish Community Centre
Management Committee

at the Community Hall, Downs Road, East
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7.00pm for 7.30pm start

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(if no reply leave message and contact number)

Bring your family! Bring your friends!



Next meeting will be Friday 4th February

in the Community Centre, Studdal, 7.00 for 7.30pm.

All welcome - come and join us!!! Tel. Olive 01304 372 069.

Let's be Sociable...



We are a very friendly group that meet from 10.30am 'til 11.45am
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15th February 2022



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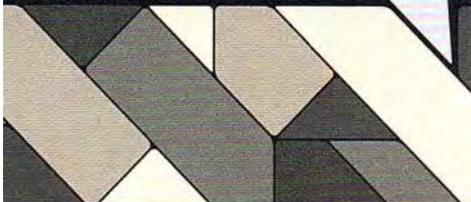
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Highlights of the Meeting of Walmer Parish Council held on Wednesday, 3rd November 2021 at Deal Parochial C of E School, Walmer.

Chairman's report: Cllr James Murray applauded the Climate Emergency Working Group following successful installation of the Drill Field EV charging points off Canada Road. An excellent example of how even small organisations can contribute towards helping the problems facing the planet re global warming.

Crime and anti-social behaviour: Members welcomed PCSO Kerry Skirrow who then provided a report on anti-social and criminal activities in Walmer.

Walmer in Bloom: Chair Cllr Mrs Sue Le Chevalier reported that while there would be no public award ceremony this year awards have been distributed by members of the team personally delivering awards to winners who were delighted to receive them.

Events Committee: Chair Cllr Marguerite Beard-Gould reported that plans for the Carols by Candlelight on December 18th are moving along well. The Christmas programme will be available at the next meeting.

Climate Emergency Working Group: Cllr John Lonsdale reported that the new Thermal camera had now arrived and staff training would begin shortly so that the Council could offer help to homeowners hoping to reduce their energy bills.

Report of The Clerk: New Logo for the Council: The Clerk gave a report on starting a design process which will be open to the public, replacing the old Council logo, with something that reflects Walmer in 2021. The designs specification will be broad but will take in both the built and natural environment of Walmer. The deadline for submitting designs will be 1st January 2022.

Staff report: The Clerk reported that the new trainee Deputy Town Clerk Mr Roland Aldred, had started work, was working well and was familiarising himself with the functions of the office. The Clerk explained that the Council had improved its secretariat/administration to a mainly full-time provision commensurate with the growing needs of the council and Walmer's rising population. The council had found that it was insufficiently resilient in the past.

The current establishment will have a self-generating succession capability built in which will cope far better with ever changing circumstances.

The Clerk outlined a proposal to extend and refit the rear ground floor room at no 62 into a conference room capable of holding all but the largest meetings in comfort and with the minimum of energy and carbon use.

Review of Governance Documents: The Clerk presented a report on the management of old documents and the resulting archive and members agreed that the suggested management method of digitising most records instead of destroying them completely be adopted and that the Council should introduce an online archive within its website

The Council wishes to record their condolences to the family of Sir David Amess, the MP who was murdered while doing his duty and asked the Clerk to write to the appropriate people to pass this on.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 8th December 2021, 7.00pm, Deal Parochial School, Walmer.

Deputy Clerk, Walmer Town Council

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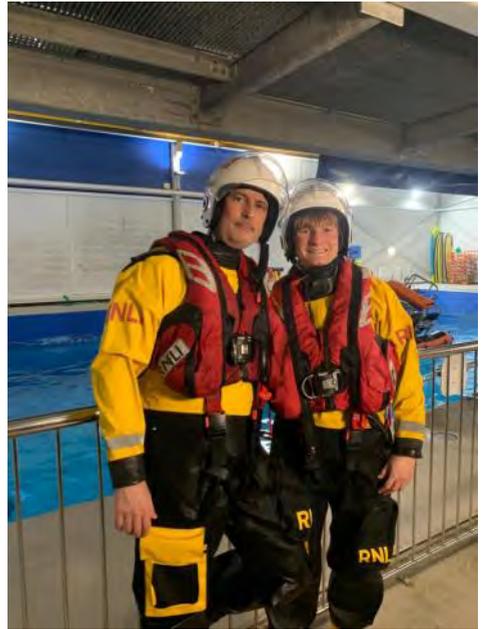
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Walmer lifeboat volunteers have experienced a busy end to 2021 and start of 2022.

Volunteers left their Christmas Day celebrations responding to two paging alerts. The first call at 10.13am was after numerous 999 calls to the Coastguard about an empty rhib (rigid hulled inflatable boat) which was seen drifting in St Margaret's Bay. It was eventually found just outside Dover Harbour and was taken under tow into the harbour.



The second incident at just after 1.30pm was after a report of a person in the water just off Sandown Castle. The casualty unfortunately turned out to be a drifting deceased sheep. It was agreed with the Coastguard to let it wash ashore on the wind and tide to be dealt with by the appropriate authorities later.

Walmer's Lifeboat Operations Manager Denis Brophy said, 'Two shouts on Christmas Day is a first in my lifeboat career and I think a first for the station.' He asked that his thanks be passed on to the families and friends of crew who responded. The station's Area Lifesaving Manager Allen Head also added his thanks to the team and their families, commenting that they had shown the 'very best of selflessness' in their commitment.

2nd January saw the first call of the year when while exercise towards Dover Harbour crew saw a number of life jackets floating in the St Margaret's Bay area. A shoreline search was carried out but nothing was discovered, Five were recovered on the return journey and more were noticed under the cliff by The Monument. These were reported to the Coastguard to be collected by the Deal Coastguard Rescue Team later.



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On returning from this call, crew were greeted by Sabrina Burford and Keith Ebden from the P&O vessel Spirit of France. They presented the station with a cheque for £130, money raised from a Christmas raffle and quiz.

A wet, breezy and chilly Saturday 8 January saw volunteers and sponsor and local businessman Tom Ledger's Leaf Tree Services set about chipping a forest of Christmas trees for Walmer's third annual lifeboat fundraiser. Over 500 trees were chipped.

Prior to the event which was advertised as 'Recycle your tree to help save a life at sea', a compound was set up next to the lifeboat station on The Green to enable people to drop off their trees. A leafletting, banner and poster campaign around the town before Christmas, a live on BBC Radio Kent and the offer of a collection service by volunteers contributed to the number of trees recycled.

Over £2,000 has been raised by the event with more donations expected. The tree chippings are used for biofuel, a source of renewable energy, some of which goes to help power Discovery Park in Sandwich. Plans are already being discussed for a similar event next year. Walmer crew members Victoria Ward and Mark Rowley returned on 11 January from an intensive two-day Crew Emergency Procedures course at the RNLI College in Poole which forms part of their training development plan.

The course, which was a mixture of theoretical and practical training, began on Monday morning with a fire safety and pyrotechnics session. In the afternoon inshore lifeboat D Class and Atlantic capsized procedures were conducted in day and night-time conditions in the training pool at the College. Tuesday saw a full day learning sea survival theory with practical pool-based sessions. Later practical activities included swimming with and without life jackets then swimming in immersion suits. A simulated case study was undertaken which included 'jumping off a ship' from 4m board into the pool, entering life raft in simulated night and rough weather conditions before being rescued.

Speaking after the course, Victoria said, 'The experience was massively eye opening but fun, challenging yet highly rewarding. We both feel more confident moving forward in lifeboat careers'.

As always, Walmer lifeboat volunteers would like to thank the people of Walmer, Deal and the surrounding area for their continued support.





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What is the Council doing about climate change?



Dover District Council has acknowledged the serious impact of climate change globally and in our everyday lives. The Council declared a Climate Change Emergency recognising the need for urgent action.

Outlined below are some of the current/ most recent initiatives and actions it has taken to reduce emissions:-

The Council has Grants/Schemes available to help residents in receipt of certain benefits, or on a low income with a vulnerability to living in a cold home (age/ health conditions) to improve the energy efficiency and increase the heat retention of their homes which decreases the need for energy and as a consequence reducing carbon emissions. More information can be found on the Council's website (<https://www.dover.gov.uk/Environment/Energy-Advice/Grant-Schemes.aspx>), or by calling 01304 872414.

New council housing built in the district will include solar Photovoltaics (PV), electric heating and provide additional insulation. These measures will significantly reduce the environmental impact of the developments and help reduce the long-term heating costs for the tenants.

The Council's Green Energy Grant Scheme is available for local businesses to help small businesses save carbon, become more energy efficient and save money. Recently DDC has given a grant of almost £10,000 towards the cost of new solar panels at a local farm shop.

Following a successful funding bid to the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV), 49 electric vehicle charging points have been installed across the district (in car parks and on-street).

A new fleet of electric buses will operate on Dover Fastrack when it's launched in 2023, which will become Fastrack Kent's first zero-emission bus service.

Key works have been given the go ahead at St Margaret's Bay to help boost sea defences and continue to protect the area for the future.

Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens owned and managed by DDC have been awarded The Green Flag Award, in recognition of the enhancement of wildlife habitats, re planting the orchard, and the provision of facilities for people to learn about parkland heritage and biodiversity.

The Council celebrated National Tree Week by planting native trees to create a woodland walk at North Deal recreation ground. The trees offset the manufacture of 25 eco dog waste bins installed across the district by DDC. A further 14 trees gifted to the district from the Royal & Ancient following the 149th Open at Royal St George's have also been planted in Sandwich, at a community garden in Aylesham and Kearsney Parks adding to the 63 new fruit trees planted recently.

DDC will continue to take action to reduce emissions over which it has control and influence to meet the ambition of becoming a net zero emitter by 2030 and to support the district to become carbon neutral by 2050.

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February Services

Date	<i>Ringwold</i>	<i>Kingsdown</i>	<i>Ripple</i>	<i>Sutton</i>
2nd WED		10.00 Holy Communion BCP		
6th SUN	09.30 Holy Communion	09.30 Breakfast Church	15.00 Even- song	15.00 Messy Church
13th SUN	09.30 Morning Prayer	0930 Holy Communion		11.00 Holy Communion
16th WED		10.00 Holy Communion BCP		
20th	09.30 Holy Communion		11.00 Holy Communion	
26th SAT	16.00 Celtic Communion			
27th SUN	09.30 Prayer and Praise	09.30 Holy Communion		

Tea and Chat returns this week on Thursday
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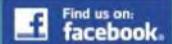
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Associate Priest: Rev'd Carolyn Wood, 01304 366 605
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Church Wardens

Patrick Macwilliam (Ringwoud) 01304 373 888
Email: patrick.macwilliam.pm@gmail.com
Elizabeth Bembridge (Kingsdown) 01304 374 630
Email: elizabethbembridge@gmail.com

Deputy Church Wardens

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Ringwoud Village Hall	Michel Dourthe	07923 165076
	<i>Email: rvhringwoud@yahoo.com</i>	
Studdal Church Hall	Mrs Claire McLaren	07742 779 430
Sutton Community Centre	Meg & Darren Parfitt	01304 239 190
	<i>Email: dcparfitt@sky.com</i>	
Walmer Baptist Church Hall	Administrator	01304 373 853
	<i>Email: admin@walmerbaptistchurch.co.uk</i>	
Walmer Parish Hall	Elaine Wickenden	01304 366 605
	www.walmerparishchurches.org	

Ringwoud-w-Kingsdown Parish Council

Chairman: Sarah Willson		07511 108 585
(Locum Clerk) Linda Hedley	<i>Email: parishcouncil.rwk@gmail.com.</i>	
<i>(Please visit the website: www.ringwoudwithkingsdownnpc.kentparishes.gov.uk)</i>		

Ripple Parish Council

Chairman: Mr Keith Morrison		07852 314 616
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Sutton-by-Dover Parish Council

Chairman: Miss Barbara Merriman		01304 369 256
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Walmer Town Council

Chairman: Mr James Murray		01304 360 976
	<i>Email: cllrjamesmurray@walmercouncil.co.uk</i>	
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Secretary: Claire Tenhove 01304 379 727

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Ripple Tea & Chat

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Midweek Bible study/prayer meeting, Wednesdays 6.30 pm

Mums & Tots, Thursdays 9.30-11.30

Drop-in cafe, 10am-12 Saturdays

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Services during the month and beyond

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My Community Voice is more than just a messaging service; it allows you to reply to the alerts Kent Police send you, share information & tell us about the issues affecting you.

Dover District Police are committed to engaging with communities to increase trust, confidence & to help protect people from harm. Kent Police, partners & the public working together can build resilient & safe communities, reduce & prevent crime.

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- The Five Bells, Ringwoud.
- Glendale Lodge, Kingsdown.
- Kingsdown Village Hall.
- Ripple Village Hall.
- Walmer & Kingsdown Golf Club.
- The Lifeboat Station, Walmer.
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