



# Badgers Mount

Community News

Winter 2020



## Badgers Mount Parish Council News

[www.badgers-mountpc.co.uk](http://www.badgers-mountpc.co.uk)

[clerk@badgers-mountpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@badgers-mountpc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

### Planning

#### **Bluebell Cemetery, Old London Road**

Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) did not determine the application to extend the chapel to become a crematorium within the 8 weeks permitted, so the owners have appealed to the Secretary of State. The deadline for submitting further comments has now passed, and the Planning Inspectorate will make their decision in due course.

#### **Broke Hill Golf Course and Fort Halstead**

The decisions on the applications for these two major sites has been delayed until the summer. Planning Performance Agreements have apparently been agreed for these sites to extend the normal timescale no doubt due to the size of the applications, and also in the case of Fort Halstead, this is to allow the applicant to deal with all the consultation responses.

#### **Land east of The Cottage, Badgers Road**

A revised application has just been received for this development. While the new scheme appears to be visually similar to the building approved last year and addresses some of the previous comments, a full size basement is now proposed. This will entail a considerable amount of extra excavation and removal of spoil from the site, and then more new materials being brought in to build the larger house, both entailing numerous extra lorry movements.

### Neighbourhood Plan Progress

The Neighbourhood Plan progress meeting was held on Thursday evening, January 30th. Following an initial meeting we obtained

official approval to proceed last Summer and this meeting was to keep everybody informed on progress. We were pleased to see a full hall, and residents visited different areas covering ideas under four main topics. They were able to see and discuss the range of ideas put forward, and to leave their preferences and suggestions. There is an initial quick-look summary below of all those suggestions which scored more than 10 positive or negative marks. All of your inputs are being considered, and we hope that the initial Draft Plan should be available for local scrutiny by Summer 2020.

The timetable for completion of our Neighbourhood Plan depends on the progress of the Sevenoaks District Council Local Plan. SDC and the Planning Inspectorate are currently discussing this. We will be proceeding up to the production of our draft Neighbourhood Plan so that it is ready for consultation and referendum when allowed by SDC Local Plan progress.

Our thanks go to Tracey McCartney and Cathy Southwood for organising refreshments and to all of you who turned up for your suggestions and comments.

### Work to Date

- Sep 2018:** NP local start-up meeting
- Jun 2019:** Formal approval of NP by SDC
- July 2019:** Consultants under contract
- Oct 2019:** Vision Report & Transport study
- Jan 2020:** Progress meeting

### Work in progress

- Habitat Report & Topic Group Reports**
- Housing Survey** (SDC to carry out)
- Initial Draft Neighbourhood Plan**

### High-Scoring Items Quick Look For:

- Protect wildlife and woodland
- Maintain rural feel and AONB

- 🌿 Traffic calming & pedestrian crossings
- 🌿 Limits to housing density
- 🌿 Mixture of housing styles
- 🌿 New roads should be adopted and designed for safe use by all users
- 🌿 No development between Polhill Garden Centre and Calcutta Club site

**Against:**

- 🌿 Street lighting on unadopted roads
- 🌿 Office space and other business use
- 🌿 Local recycling facilities
- 🌿 Big multi-room houses on small plots

 **Badgers Mount Residents Association News**

[www.badgersmount.net](http://www.badgersmount.net)  
[secretary.bmra@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.bmra@gmail.com)

**Tree Planting**  
 For Badgers Mount and the planet

Following the tree safety works carried out last year along Highland Road, the Residents Association has placed an order with Potash Farm, Tree specialists to plant 10 new trees in the verges at the south east corner of the road. These are to replace those that had died and had to be removed, plus some additional specimens to enhance the environment of Badger Mount. The planting should be completed by the end of February, weather permitting.

We will be planting two English oaks, one green and one copper beech, plus chestnut, walnut and cobnut trees. In the fullness of time we shall all be able to enjoy the beauty of the trees and possibly partake of the nuts as a bonus.

We may not save the planet with our small contribution, but every little helps.

**Proposed House Numbering**

Some residents have shown concerns about how the Emergency Services would find their property. Looking on the BM web site does give some indication of property locations, once you have logged and typed in house locations.

BMRA are wondering whether the houses in Badgers Mount should all be numbered

(in addition to their existing names) in order to help Emergency Services and Couriers to find the correct house.

Last week at two separate incidents in a nearby village, emergency services failed to attend to two incidents in time.

A middle aged man who had cut one of his fingers on a milk bottle top was unable to open a sticking plaster. The lady who had lit a candle early evening wanted to go to bed but didn't have the puff to blow it out.

By the time the ambulance had gone up and down the road and then found the man's house, the cut had stopped bleeding.

The fire brigade were more fortunate, they found the house on their second pass. They woke the lady who said the candle had burnt out and was extinguished.

These both ended on a good note but things could have been different. If these had been real emergency incidents, trying to find a property which only has a name and no number could be a life or death situation. How much easier it would be if the By Pass had numbers and all of the houses on Badgers Road, Milton Avenue and Highland Road had numbers in addition to names?

The BMRA are considering how best to instigate this please forward comments to Arthur Evans, Star House [ae.bmra@gmail.com](mailto:ae.bmra@gmail.com).

 **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2019**

Many thanks to all the residents of Badgers Mount for their support with the 2019 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. The magnificent sum of £622.00 was raised which is a record for Badgers Mount. I would like to thank Sue Cunnell and Nichola Walker for their help in achieving this total. Next year who knows!! - **Gill Johnston**





## Badgers Mount Residents Association Social Events

socialevents.bmra@gmail.com  
evansmaev@btinternet.com

### Celebrate VE Day '75' in Badgers Mount

Friday 8th May



#### What is VE Day?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/48201749>

A suggestion is for an afternoon tea to be held in the memorial hall.

Providing an opportunity to relax and meet old friends and make new ones.

A chance to catch up on "village" news.

A moment to reflect and remember all of those lost to war.

Is this something you would like to attend?

Is this something you would like to help organise?

If we get enough interest and a small working group we will hold a VE Day celebration!

**Please contact Zena on 01959 534566 or [zbelton@live.com](mailto:zbelton@live.com)**

For the next Spring newsletter published, please send in your own personal or family stories about Badgers Mount during the war. Any unexploded bombs in your garden? did you all run out to the shelter in the night? did London light up at night? Was your grandad or great grandad part of the home Guard? or was your granny or great granny solving codes at Bletchley? We are sure others would love to read about such an important part of our history but with a personal link to Badgers Mount.



### Coming soon! Quiz night returns to Badgers Mount

Saturday, 16th May 2020

It's time to see if all those hours being pointless have paid off, if you have followed the chaser and put yourself in jeopardy, having got to the tipping point, you might need to ask the family. It's not just a question of sport, but be careful you might just be the weakest link, or the one who is university challenged. Time to make up your mastermind, after all, everyone wants to be a millionaire. We will have teams of 8, bring your own nibbles, drinks and glasses, there will also be a traditional ploughman's supper.

So gather up your clever friends, the ones with a rag bag mind of random facts, the ones who know everything about nothing, the musical expert, the sports fan and those who are a laugh to share the evening with. Drag them down to Badgers Mount hall for yet another fun-filled and memorable evening.

**7.00pm with first question at 7.30pm**

**Please contact Zena on 01959 534566 or [zbelton@live.com](mailto:zbelton@live.com) to book your team.**

### For your Diary

Make sure you have **Saturday 6th June** in your diaries for what is shaping up to be a major local community event. On this date, Otford will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of Henry VIII's stay at Otford Palace, and we're all invited!

In June 1520, Henry, his wife Catherine of Aragon, and his retinue were on their way to meet King Francis I of France at a lavish camp near Calais. The camp, with its impressive costumes decorated with gold, silver and pearls, became known as the Field of Cloth of Gold. The aim of the meeting was to bring Britain and France together as allies, but within two years, the two countries were at war.

A free, family event on Otford's Palace Field will take place during the afternoon and evening of the 6th June to commemorate the Tudor king's visit to Otford. There will be Tudor music, a Tudor market, Morris dancing, activities for children and a play full of intrigue and excitement. - **Don't miss it!**

Friday 6th March at 8pm – The Road Fund AGM 2020 will be held in the Memorial Hall  
Thursday, 14th May 2020 – BMRA AGM, Memorial Hall, Highland Road.

Thursday, 21st May 2020 – Badgers Mount Parish Council – Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Highland Road. The Council is hoping that Stephen Whitehead, SDC’s Planning Enforcement Officer will be able to attend to give a short presentation and answer any questions on planning enforcement that you may have.

## Community website

Please remember to visit the community website [www.badgersmount.net](http://www.badgersmount.net) where you will find a wealth of local information and links to other useful websites.

**Condolences** – One of the Parish Council's former Councillors, Peter Richards passed away recently. We would like to extend our sincere condolences to Mrs Richards and her family at this sad time.



**Badgers Mount  
Road Maintenance Fund**

[www.badgersmount.net/rmf](http://www.badgersmount.net/rmf)  
[rk.bmrmf@gmail.com](mailto:rk.bmrmf@gmail.com)

2019 ended on a very good note for the Road Fund and Badgers Mount. The eastern section of Badgers Road from its junction with Highland Road was totally resurfaced by Kent County Council. We are not sure how long this saga has been going on between KCC, the residents of that section of road and the Road Fund, but five, maybe six years have passed and the last two years were made worse by the disgraceful conduct of Vodafone and their contractors who built their mast, destroyed the road and left everybody else to pick up the bill. Shame on them! but a sincere thank you to KCC.



The Badgers Road entrance improvements have been appreciated by all, including the drivers, who despite providing them more road width, still insist on driving over the kerb and the grass! However it is proposed to plant this area with low level shrubs together with perennial flowers, to act as a traffic deterrent, but more importantly to visually enhance this main entrance from the Orpington Bypass. Discussions are ongoing with Nesbit House to hopefully include this work in conjunction with their proposal for landscape improvements round the seat at the top of the footpath alongside their care home.

The seat at the Badgers Road entrance has also been restored and our thanks to the Parish Council for arranging this. One can now take a rest from the climb up from Old London Road and again after the trauma of dodging the fast traffic when crossing the bypass.



We continue to receive complaints from residents about inconsiderate parking on the unadopted roads together with speeding drivers. Unfortunately and regrettably we are unable to enforce or police these issues. The roads were never designed for the volume of vehicles created by today’s society, but generally the problems are caused by visitors, contractors and delivery vehicles. The latter are often the speeders!

Where ever possible please, we would ask all residents to try and ensure their visitors and or contractor vehicles are parked on or immediately adjacent to your property.

Construction works create the biggest problems and we fully understand the difficulty, but would request please that drivers are asked not to park across or opposite private drives or accesses. Do not park at the corners of road junctions and do not park on the grass verges.



## **KENT HEIGHTS FLOWER CLUB FIRST THURSDAY EVENING MONTHLY MARCH – DECEMBER**

We are a friendly and social flower club who enjoy meeting friends and seeing how superb and creative floral displays can be easily produced from scratch by a professional demonstrator each month at our meeting. Starting with refreshments served from 7.30pm, with the demonstrator starting at 8.00pm until 10.00pm. There is a sales table at each meeting and a raffle, and the displays are raffled off at the end of the evening so you could go home with a wonderful arrangement to keep.

Held each month in March – December, we also have two meal events for our members and friends in July and December, plus a workshop in August.

We meet at Halstead Village Hall, Knockholt Road, Halstead, Kent TN14 7EX. Do come along and join us, it is always a good event.



### **Badgers Mount Memorial Hall**

[www.badgersmount.net/hall.htm](http://www.badgersmount.net/hall.htm)  
[wwithecambe.bmra@gmail.com](mailto:wwithecambe.bmra@gmail.com)

The Memorial Hall is the only community facility we have in Badgers Mount.

There are various regular activities on offer, Yoga, dance and ballet classes for children and adults, dog training, weekly Thursday coffee mornings including the fortnightly visit by the KCC mobile library, Women's Institute, Badgers Sett, meetings of the Parish Council and Residents Association Committees. Occasional social activities organised by the Residents Association are held in the hall.

The hall is available for hire for parties etc, and there are some weekday afternoon periods available for occasional or regular use.

For bookings please contact Will Withecambe via the email above or phone 07873 633516. Further details of hire rates etc are available on the Memorial Hall page of the Badgers Mount website  
[www.badgersmount.net/hall.htm](http://www.badgersmount.net/hall.htm)



### **Badgers Mount Women's Institute**

[lesleysalmon55@aol.com](mailto:lesleysalmon55@aol.com)

Badgers Mount WI has had a busy few months since our last report in this newsletter.

We enjoyed a thoroughly interesting and entertaining talk in November when our speaker, Antonia Gallop, took us on 'A Gallop Through The History of Carriage Driving'.

Together with Halstead and Pratts Bottom WIs we began our seasonal festivities with a Carol Service at St Margaret's Church. Later in the month saw us enjoy a truly scrumptious Christmas Lunch in the Memorial Hall with invited guests from Halstead and Pratts Bottom WIs.

The New Year brings us a busy and varied calendar of events and our first speaker, Mrs Jo Livingston told us about the odd corners of London from the waterways of the East to the Square Mile. We found her talk to be both interesting and entertaining.

Our March speaker will be telling us about 'Remarkable Story of Great Ormond Street Hospital', and we are very much looking forward to learning more about this marvellous place.

Why not come along and join us? Look out for the posters advertising our next meeting, which takes place every 2nd Wednesday in the month at 2pm in the Memorial Hall. Guests are always welcome, and we do serve the best cakes! - **Karen Lagarde**



### Bits and bobs from the residents

If you would like to contribute a small piece for possible inclusion in the next issue of this Newsletter please send it by email to: [secretary.bmra@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.bmra@gmail.com)



### A bit of Sudoku for the brain to finish!

4	3		6		7		1	8
7		6		3	1			2
	1	2			4	6		7
6	2		1	7		8		
		4	5			2		
1	8		2	4			9	3
3	6			1	5	4		
	4	7	3		2	1		6
2			4	6		3	7	

6					9		8	
7		5			4		1	6
4		1	6		7		9	2
		8	4	9		2		
9		2		6	8	7	4	
	6	4		7		9		8
2					1	6		
1			9					4
8			7	4				9

5	2		1		8	4	6	
4					3	2		
9				2	4		8	
	4	9		5		8	1	
	1		2	4		6	9	
6			8		9		5	4
1			6		2		4	
2	9		4		1	5		
3				9	5	1		

	5			2		7		
4		8		7		3	2	
		7	9			5		
8	4		2		7			1
7	1				8	9		
	2	9		4	1		5	7
5	7				4		9	3
	6	4	5			2	7	
9	8		7	1				5

3			1			2	6	
1	9				8			3
		5	6		3	1		
	3			9			2	5
5	1		2				3	
9	6	2						1
		1	9	6		3		
8		3		1				6
	2				5			4



## Local Information and contacts

### **St.Margaret's Church**

Church Road, Halstead. [www.knockholtandhalsteadchurches.org](http://www.knockholtandhalsteadchurches.org)  
Benefice Office - [rev.tim.office@gmail.com](mailto:rev.tim.office@gmail.com)

### **Rev Tim Edwards**

Telephone: 01959 5332133

Details of all church services can be found in the Parish Magazine, Church Porch, Village Crossroads Notice board and Web site - [www.knockholtandhalsteadchurches.org](http://www.knockholtandhalsteadchurches.org)

## Church Activities

### **Choir** Adults & Children.

Contact - Choir trainer  
Clare Pollard 07958 715292

**Organist:** Brian Shilling 01732 883766

**Youth Work** Contact - Rev Tim Edwards

**Tots Praise:** Pre-school children and carers.  
Contact - Lesley Cooper 01959 535131  
2nd Wednesday of each month at 2pm

### **Mens Fellowship**

Contact - Martin Couchman 01959 532253

### **Church Flowers**

Contact - Mrs. Jean Peel 01959 533180

### **Badgers Mount Memorial Hall**

Evening Service - 4 pm 4th Sunday of month

### **Holy Innocents' Catholic Church,**

off Sevenoaks Road, Orpington.  
Priest: Father Victor Vella  
Telephone: 01689 817537

### **London Rd Evangelical Church**

Knockholt.  
Pastor: S.E.Chase  
Tel: 01959 534732  
Services: 11 am and 6.30 pm every Sunday.

For further information see the Notice Board outside the Church.

## Shops and Services

### **Hancocks Shop and Post Office**

Newsagents, Lottery, Confectionary,  
Tabacconist, Cards, Groceries &  
All Postal Services.  
Knockholt Road, Halstead.

Open: Mon - Fri 5.00. - 18.00.  
Sat. 5.00. - 17.00. Sun 5.00.- 12.00.

### **Fresh Fish**

Van outside Hancocks Wednesday 12-2 pm  
Tel: Mikey's Plaice 07427 549475

### **Wilkins Farm Shop**

Shoreham Lane, Halstead.  
Eggs, Hay, Straw, Apples & Plums in season.  
Tel: 01959 532136

### **Polhill Garden Centre**

Butchers, Greengrocers, Bakers and Frozen  
Foods  
Tel: 01959 534212

### **Hairdressers**

Sandra, Brig-y-Don,  
Knockholt Road, Halstead.  
Tel: 01959 534034

### **Milk Deliveries:**

Milk and More  
Tel: 0345 6063606

## Refuse Collection

### **Badgers Mount**

Different days for different roads!

## Bus Services

London Bus Service, London Travel  
Information - 0207 222 1234

### **3**

Orpington, Green Street Green,  
Badgers Mount, Halstead, Knockholt Pound,  
Dunton Green, Sevenoaks.

### **Go-Coachhire**

[www.go-coach.co.uk](http://www.go-coach.co.uk)  
Tel: 01732 469800

## Doctors

### **Otford Medical Practice**

Leonard Avenue, Otford.  
Tel: 01959 524633

### **Green Street Green Medical Centre**

21 High Street, Green Street Green  
Tel: 01689 850012

### **The Family Surgery**

7 High Street, Green Street Green  
Tel: 01689 850231

### **Sundridge Medical Centre**

173 Main Road, Sundridge.  
Tel: 01959 562531

### **Chelsfield Surgery**

62 Windsor Drive, Chelsfield.  
Tel: 01689 852204

### **Brasted Medical Practice**

Tel: 01959 563811

## Chemists

### **Otford Pharmacy,**

High Street, Otford.  
Tel: 01959 522072

**Stevens Chemist**, 5 High St, Green St Green  
Tel: 01689 861094

**Lloyds Pharmacy**, Windsor Drive, Chelsfield.  
Tel: 01689 852417

**Day-Lewis**, 2 The Square, Riverhead.  
Tel: 01732 452452

**Accident & Emergency** – Nearest

**Princess Royal University Hospital**, Farnborough  
Tel: 01689 863000

**Tunbridge Wells Hospital**, Tonbridge Road,  
Pembury  
Tel: 01892 823535

**Sevenoaks Hospital**, Hospital Road,  
Sevenoaks.  
Tel: 01732 470200  
(minor injuries only 8am – 8pm daily)

## Primary School

**Halstead Community Primary School**,  
Otford Lane, Halstead  
Tel: 01959 532224  
Headmaster – Mr Hawkins

**Halstead Nursery**  
Held at Halstead Community Primary School  
Tel: 07950681846  
Contact: Tracey McCartney  
traceynursery@hotmail.co.uk

## Library Van

Tel: 03000 413131  
Alternate Thursdays:  
'The Cock' car park, Halstead 10.20 – 10.50  
Badgers Mount Memorial Hall 11.10 – 11.45

## Police Authority

All non emergency calls please ring 101  
**Community Support Police Officer**: Halstead,  
Knockholt & Badgers Mount – Amy Hardy

## Badgers Mount Parish Council

Parish Clerk – Geoff Dessent 07452 886977

## Badgers Mount Coffee Morning

Every Thursday 10.30 – 12.00 in Memorial Hall  
Contact: Gordon Plumb  
01959 534279

## Residential Care Home

Nesbit House, Orpington Bypass,  
Badgers Mount, Kent TN14 7AG  
Tel: 01959 580 220

## Halls for Hire

**Badgers Mount Memorial Hall**  
Phone Will Withecombe 07873 633516

**Halstead Centenary Pavilion**  
Phone the Clerk 01959 532206

**Halstead Parish Room**  
Phone the Clerk 01959 532206

**Halstead Village Hall**  
Details from Lewis Grey 07730 662518

## Clubs and Activities

### Brownies & Guides

Amalgamated with Riverhead.

### Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

Contact - Barbara Weekes 01732 462215  
or Rose Mear 01732 465062

### Badgers Mount Residents Association

Contact: Gill Johnston 01959 534463

### Contract Bridge

Contact - Peter Slevin 01689 853596

### Cricket Club

Contact - Richard Hughes 07967 589997

### Football Club

Contact - Paul King 01689 898161

### Friends of Fort Halstead

Contact - David Packer 01902 823884

### Halstead Players

Contact - Mrs Ronnie Barnard 01959 533330

### Halstead Reading Group

Contact - Mrs Jean Peel 01959 533180

### Horticultural Society

Contact - Barrie Blundell 01959 533074

### Kent Heights Flower Club

Contact - Maureen Evans 01959 535010

### Men's Fellowship

Contact - Martin Couchman 01959 532253

### Netball Club

Adults Contact - Helen Brown 01959 533687  
Juniors Contact - Keeley Smith 01959 534151

### Royal British Legion

Contact - Barbara Davenport 01959 532025

### Table Tennis

Contact - John Ward 01959 535099

### Women's Institute

Halstead Village Hall – Evenings  
Secretary – Val Dennett 01959 533344  
Badgers Mount Memorial Hall – Afternoons  
Secretary – Lesley Salmon 01959 532276

### RVS Monday Club

Contact - Jackie Johnson 01959 575432

### Yoga

#### Iyenga

Contact - Kathy Taylor 01959 532339

#### Hatha

Contact - Pam Keeper 01732 458930  
or Sabine Smith 07900 915134

### Pilates

Contact - Eden Summers 07984 782122  
or Lesley James 07702 307149