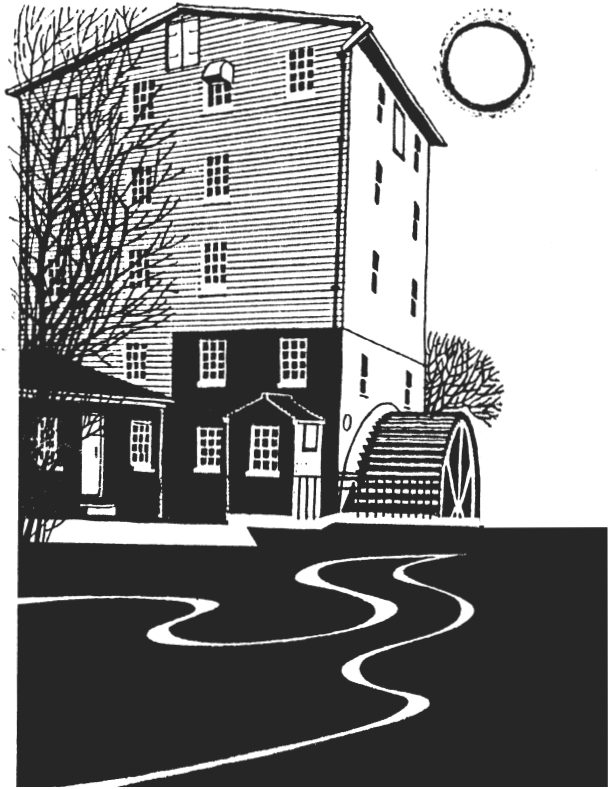


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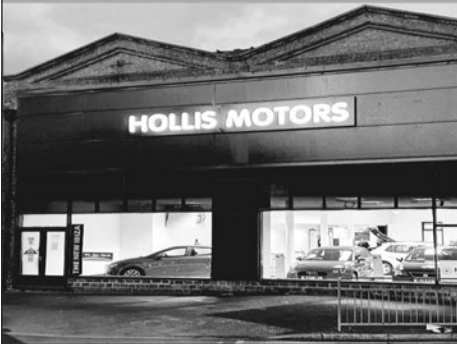
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# Editor's Welcome



Welcome to the summer issue of Rivall.

I first discovered River back in 1992. I'd just moved to Kent with my girlfriend (now wife) and was on the nerve-wracking 'visit my parents for Sunday lunch' journey. As a London lad, I had no idea what to expect.

I had been told that River was a village, although when I drove along Lewisham Road, it seemed more like a small town to me. Villages in Kent were, to my knowledge, places where the Larkins lived, and a local bobby blew his whistle at kids scrumping for apples.

River wasn't like that. It had three pubs. THREE! You could go on a pub crawl. There was a supermarket, a green grocer's, a rugby club, a football 'stadium'... even a Chinese takeaway. This was my kind of village.

No surprises then, that when my father-in-law died over a decade later (the late, great Alan Bonney, long-time stalwart of the Royal Oak) and Barbara, his wife, decided to return to Wales, Sarah and I purchased the family home.

With three young sons in tow, we moved in and have been comfortable and content ever since. The boys all went to River Primary. They joined the Scouts in Minnis Lane. They visited Santa at the Corn Mill. And they hung around outside the Co-op and played in the Rec - just as the kids of River still do today. It was, and is, a wonderful place to bring up a family.

And now they've all gone off to university, and Sarah and I are empty-nesters. But when the Rivall asked if anyone would be prepared to take over its production, we raised our hands. With my nearly 50 years of writing and editing for a living, and Sarah's equally long tenure as a graphic designer, we hope we've got the smarts to keep four editions a year dropping (thanks to our volunteers) through your letter boxes.

So, if you see us around the village, let us know (email: [davisanddavis@btinternet.com](mailto:davisanddavis@btinternet.com)) if there's anything you would like to see included in its pages. Because without your contributions and support, it's just paper.

All the Best

Rick

# River Parish Council

We are busy planning another event for River. This year's fete will be held on Sunday the 12th July from 11am to 4pm at the River Recreation Ground.



Join us for a wonderful day of fun, laughter and community spirit.

This much-loved annual event promises something for everyone. Enjoy a lively programme of arena events, get your groove on with music from DJ Ken-tastic, and cheer on your favourites at the ever-popular dog show.

We are hoping to have displays of vintage cars for our car enthusiasts. Families can enjoy a mini fairground packed with rides and fun activities. Browse through a variety of craft stalls showcasing handmade goods and local clubs doing fantastic work in the community.

Feeling hungry? Take a stroll through our food court offering a delicious range of treats to suit every taste. And for the first time this year, we're excited to offer our younger residents the opportunity to sell their toys for a bit of extra cash for the summer - a perfect chance to pick up a bargain or find a new favourite toy. Places are limited to under 16s only, contact us for more information.

We have a favour to ask – we are looking for volunteers to help us on the day with set up and tidy up. If you have an hour spare, we would really appreciate your help. Contact Christiane under 07379 871460 if you would like to volunteer. We also have some spaces left for stalls around the arena. Email [events@riverparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:events@riverparishcouncil.org.uk) for more information.

Whether you're coming for the entertainment, the shopping, the food, or simply to soak up the friendly village atmosphere, the River Village Summer Fête is the perfect way to spend a summer's day. Bring your friends and family - we look forward to seeing you there!

# River Methodist Church

LINDA BEVERTON

*We are part of River and River is part of us*

River Methodist Church has been present in the village for 150 years. We started with our Chapel in Common Lane and added to the building over the years. We had a wonderful weekend celebrating with Ministers and friends, past and present, reminiscing and sharing our vision of how we are growing and why.

Although we do not have a Minister attached directly to our congregation at the moment we are still available for baptisms, funerals and weddings, including same sex marriages. Please contact Linda on 07765 027156 if you would like to know more.

We have now become even more integral to village life. Our lower hall is used every weekday by River Pre School, our church has wonderful acoustics and is used by several choirs during the week. We hold a very popular mother and toddler group on a Wednesday morning from 10 - 11.30am

We are now the home for St John Ambulance who meet every Tuesday and Thursday evening.

Our building and our members have been active in the village leading children's groups, youth clubs and most recently the arrival of Chit Chat Community Coffee Shop. It is not just a building, because Church is not the building. It is the people who live out their Christian lives as Christ taught us. Its not *what* we do but *how* we do it.

We are an inclusive Church; not just for LGBT but for all who may find difficulty with life through illness, disability or grief.

We have been able to offer young people the opportunity to have some work experience and have loved to see the way they have grown in confidence, our customers love having them around too.

[cont]

Do please pop in for a chat at Chit Chat on a Monday or Friday between 8.30am and 2.00pm. We have some amazing hot food and cakes on offer. There is always someone to sit and listen. If you need prayer ask for Linda.

Remember, church is not the building. It is the people who live and share their faith with those in their community. Loving, caring, listening and most of all praying.

*Blessings to you all*

Linda



**RUN BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY**

Chit Chat celebrated their 4th Birthday on 6th March with a buffet. It was well supported by the community and volunteers.

You are welcome to come along to River Methodist Church on Mondays and Fridays from 8.30am until 2.00pm for breakfast, hot or cold drinks, Paninis, Toasties, and a freshly cooked meal of the day. Homemade cakes are also available. Breakfast is available until 11.15am and lunch until 12:45pm

All Day Breakfast is served on the last Friday of each month.



*Come and meet our volunteers and have a chat with your friends.*



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# River Bowling Club



The bowls season has now started, and our first friendly was Captains vs Vice Captains. Each team had club members on it. The game was won by the Captains' team.

A quiz took place on 11th April, which was enjoyed by all.

If you would like to learn a new skill, you are welcome to join us at the clubhouse on Friday evenings from 5pm, when a member will give you an introduction on how to play bowls. There are different sizes of bowls, so you can find the one that suits you.

Alison Dale



## Living Lively River Voices

*Community Choir for the over 50s*

The group recently sang as part of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of River Methodist Church, which was enjoyed by both the audience and members of the choir.

This group of men and women continues to meet at River Methodist Church at 2.00pm on Thursdays in term-time to enjoy singing together and to have fun, tea and biscuits.

We are a very friendly group. Come along and have a free taster session - just turn up, or for more information call Matthew 07951 572920 or email: [matthew@livinglively.org.uk](mailto:matthew@livinglively.org.uk)

# River Gardeners Association

REECE JACONELLI

*River is blooming - thanks to you*



A massive shout out to our River Gardeners members and the fantastic volunteers who've kept our village planters looking stunning.

Want to get involved and be part of the team that keeps River vibrant? Email us at [info@rivergardeners.com](mailto:info@rivergardeners.com)

*Celebrating the Champions of the River Gardeners Spring Show!*

What a spectacular Spring Show we enjoyed this year at River Village Hall. From vibrant blooms to mouth-watering bakes, from creative crafts to picture perfect photography, our community once again proved just how much talent thrives in River.

A huge 'congratulations' to all our winners - and to everyone who entered, supported, judged, or simply came along to cheer. You filled the hall with colour, creativity and community spirit.

## **Floral & Garden Winners**

Our talented gardeners brought their A game, showcasing everything from immaculate vegetables to stunning floral displays. The winning entries were a true celebration of patience, skill and a little bit of River magic.

## **Baking & Cooking Champions**

The Bake-Off table was a showstopper. From towering cakes to perfectly crafted pastries, our winners impressed the judges with flavour, finesse and flair. The standard was so high that even the judges needed a quiet sit down afterwards.

[cont]

## Craft & Floral Art Stars

This year's craft and floral art categories were bursting with imagination. Our winners blended creativity with craftsmanship, producing pieces that stopped visitors in their tracks.

## Photography Winners

With themes ranging from nature to village life, our photographers captured the beauty of the world around us - and the judges had a tough time choosing from such a strong field.

## A Round of Applause for Every Entrant

Whether you won a rosette, placed in a category or simply took part, you helped make this Spring Show one of our most vibrant yet. Your enthusiasm is what keeps River Gardeners thriving.

Here's to our winners, our volunteers, our judges and our wonderful community. Roll on the next event — our Summer Show 4th July.

### *The Spring Show winners:*



KATE TERRY CUP: *Most points in Show* - Jenni C

CHARLES HEDGECOCK TROPHY: *Most points in Vegetables* - Ray B

MRS C.E. HEDGECOCK MEMORIAL CUP: *Most points in Flowers* - Jenni C

DAFFODIL SOCIETY BRONZE MEDAL & CERTIFICATE:

*Winner of Class 17* - Jenni C

SOUTH EAST DAFFODIL SOCIETY:

*Cert. Of Merit. Best Exhibit in Class 18-25* - Sharon K

PANSY CUP: *Winner of Class 28* - Delia H

[cont]

E. MOORE CUP: *Best Exhibit of Cut Flowers* - Sue V

CHAIRPERSON'S CHALLENGE CUP:  
3 *Society Bulbs (Bulbs given at AGM)* - Barbara B

FRANK BETTS MEMORIAL TROPHY:  
*Best Exhibit in Cactus/Succulent* - Giles F

DOBBY CUP: *Most points in Floral Art* - Sue V

BEGINNERS FLORAL ART CUP - Sharon K

POINTS CUP: *Most points in Cookery* - Trudie L

JACKSON CUP: *Most Points in Craft* - Patricia K

ROSETTE: *Best Exhibit in Children's classes:*  
3 *Decorated Fairy Cakes* - Rheanna V (Age 10)

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: KENT FED  
*Photo: Spring Morning* - Bernard S

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: KENT FED  
*Student Photo: The Colour Yellow* - Leon M

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: KENT FED *Craft:*  
*An Item of Quilting/Patchwork* - Jenni C

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: KENT FED  
*Cooking: 5 Chocolate Chip Cookies* - Trudie L

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Chit Chat is open as usual on a Monday and a Friday 8.30am to 2pm at River Methodist Church on Lewisham Road, come and enjoy our barista coffee, wonderful homemade cakes, or come for lunch and enjoy one of our homemade lunches.

Breakfast is served until 11:15 am or you could have an all day breakfast on the last Friday of the month.

Everyone welcome, friendly welcoming space for all.

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# News from River Lea

## *From the residents*

Recently, there has been a lot of excitement around the ongoing renovations. The improvements are coming along very well, with noticeable progress that is already brightening up shared spaces and adding a fresh, modern feel to the home. We do hope that there hasn't been too much disruption to the local community.

We are enjoying our weekly tennis classes with Tom from Kent Tennis Club. He is great at getting everyone involved with different abilities. Children from Sallygate school come weekly which we really look forward to. The inter-generational interaction is wonderful.

As we move further into the year, there's also a growing anticipation for the arrival of warmer weather. The gardens, already a favourite spot, are set to become the heart of social life once again. Plans for garden parties and outdoor gatherings are something everyone is looking forward to, an opportunity to enjoy good company, fresh air, and a touch of sunshine. You are all welcome to join us, keep your eyes open for the posters.

# News from River WI

In April we had a brilliant and very entertaining talk and demonstration on how women managed rationing during WW2.

Our PLANT, CAKE AND BOOK SALE is on Saturday 30th May at 10am and our popular QUIZ NIGHT is on Saturday 6th June at 7.30. Booking is essential - tables of up to eight £5 per person. Bring own drinks and nibbles.

We are having a cream tea on 18th June and we have sessions on live colour styling to enhance body shape (16th July), myths about hypnosis (20th August) and on 17th September, a session on British Sign Language.

We meet at 1.30pm at the Village Hall and visitors are very welcome. For details please ring me on 07541 697505 or email: [margarita45@gmail.com](mailto:margarita45@gmail.com)

Maggie Waite, Secretary

# WI Favourite Summer Recipe

## COURGETTE, DILL & FETA FRITTERS

*British courgette season runs from June through October, with peak availability and best flavour typically during July and August. While available imported all year, British-grown courgettes are at their best in summer.*

### Ingredients

- 2 courgettes
- 1 tsp salt
- 15g dill
- 2 spring onions
- 60g feta
- ¼ tsp fresh nutmeg
- Salt and pepper to season
- 1 egg
- 2 tbsp buckwheat or quinoa flour
- ½ tsp baking powder



### Method

Using a grater or food processor, grate the courgettes. Sprinkle with 1 tsp salt, stir well, and let sit for 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. This will release the water. Place in a strainer, and rinse well.

Using your hand or a spatula, press down firmly to remove as much water as possible. Place on a few paper towels and blot the top with paper towels. You really want to get these fairly dry.

Place the courgettes in a bowl, adding dill, spring onions, feta, nutmeg, salt, cracked pepper and the egg. Mix well.

Add the flour and baking powder.

In a pan, heat oil or butter over a medium heat. When the oil is hot, drop ping-pong-sized balls of the mixture into the oil.

Brown each side until golden, approximately 3 minutes each side.

Remove from the oil using a slotted spoon and drain on kitchen towel before serving.

---

*Do you have any favourite Autumnal recipes? Please send them in to us for the next issue which will be distributed at the start of September. Thank you.  
Email: [davisanddavis@btinternet.com](mailto:davisanddavis@btinternet.com)*

# River Garage Safari

Sunday 5th July 2026  
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## Dover Flower Club

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We meet on the fourth Monday of the month at Whitfield Village Hall, Manley Close, CT16 3LY when we organise a full programme of flower-based activities throughout the year.

Our next meeting is on MONDAY 22nd JUNE when Susan Shaw will give a flower arranging demonstration entitled 'A Tailor of Tales'

On MONDAY 27th JULY we will visit a spectacular garden in Sandwich.

Monthly activities also include talks and flower arranging workshops to help members develop their skills.

Our members enjoy welcoming visitors and anybody can attend our meetings which commence at 7.15pm at Whitfield Village Hall.

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Fresh meals, regular activities and a full complement of highly trained nursing and care staff help us to maintain the best possible care and comfort for our residents.

Refurbishments to our home and improvements to our service are in process and ongoing.

If you or your loved one is considering the need for residential or nursing care, please feel free to contact us or come and visit us to see what we can offer.

We look forward to welcoming you to our home.



## Temple Ewell Nursing Home

Wellington Road, Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent, CT16 3DB  
01304 822206 (Office) / 01304 822246 (Nurses)

[www.crownwoodhealthcare.com](http://www.crownwoodhealthcare.com)

[adminteh@crownwoodhealthcare.com](mailto:adminteh@crownwoodhealthcare.com) / [managertenh@crownwoodhealthcare.com](mailto:managertenh@crownwoodhealthcare.com)



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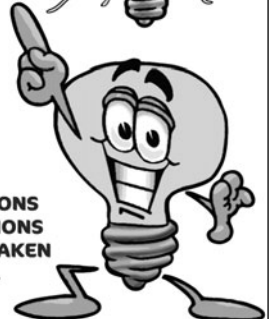
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Holiday Home

# Brook Cottage

Temple Ewell



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  - Fri, 11AM-12PM Hawkinge Community Centre
- For details of these and other classes contact  
Anna: 01304 205 405 or visit [www.pfstaichi.com](http://www.pfstaichi.com)



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## Ryan Hanson

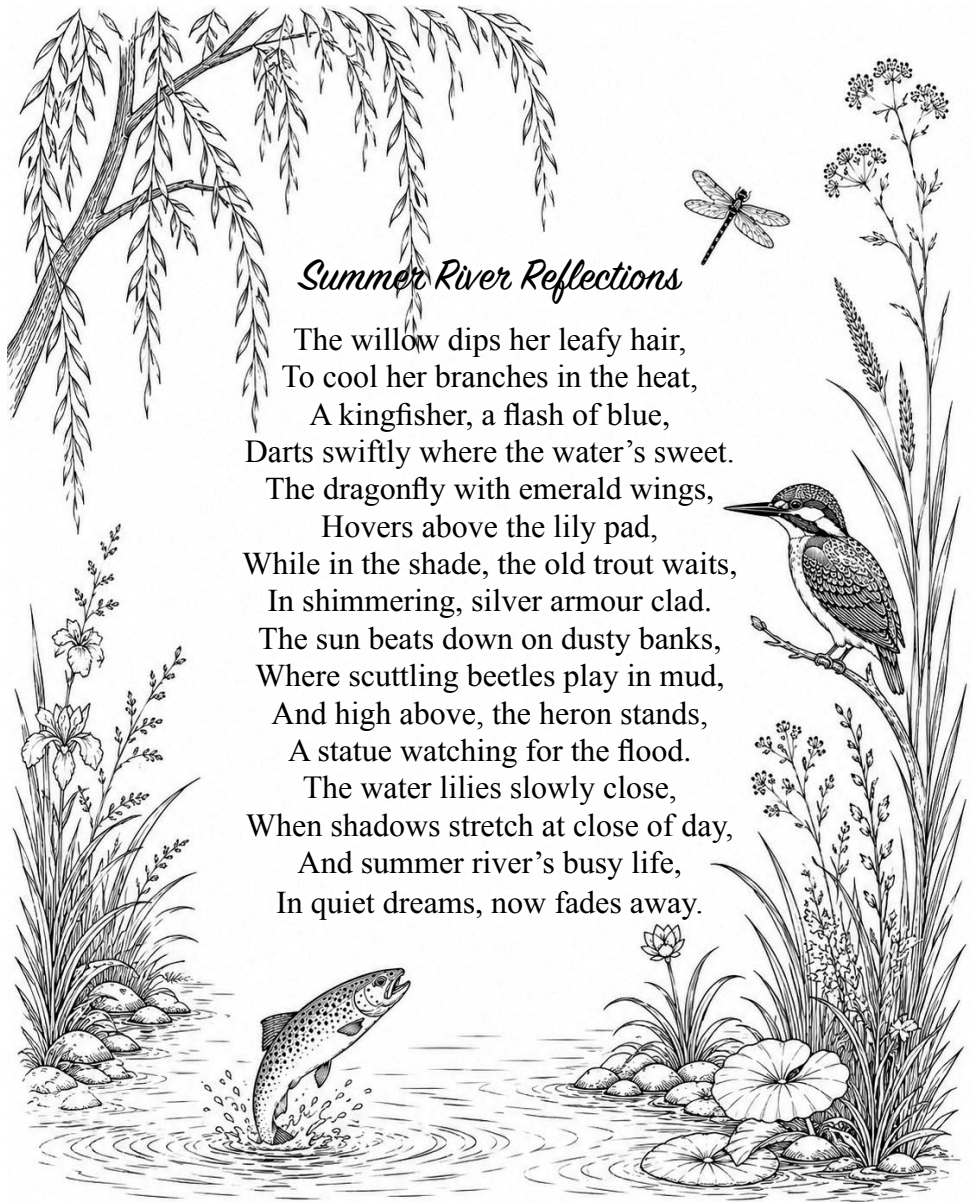
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Email [ryan.hanson@trulifinancial.co.uk](mailto:ryan.hanson@trulifinancial.co.uk)



## *Summer River Reflections*

The willow dips her leafy hair,  
To cool her branches in the heat,  
A kingfisher, a flash of blue,  
Darts swiftly where the water's sweet.  
The dragonfly with emerald wings,  
Hovers above the lily pad,  
While in the shade, the old trout waits,  
In shimmering, silver armour clad.  
The sun beats down on dusty banks,  
Where scuttling beetles play in mud,  
And high above, the heron stands,  
A statue watching for the flood.  
The water lilies slowly close,  
When shadows stretch at close of day,  
And summer river's busy life,  
In quiet dreams, now fades away.

---

*This is a poem generated by Artificial Intelligence. As good as the human kind?  
Or obviously created by computer? Think you can do better? Why not send us  
your River rhymes? Email: [davisanddavis@btinternet.com](mailto:davisanddavis@btinternet.com)*

# Kearsney Railway Station

Hello! My name is Martine and I am the new resident member of staff at Kearsney station.

As some of you may know, the station has had a complete refit including new seating and flooring in the booking hall and we can now offer rail cards, season tickets and help with any general enquiries.

I have reinstated the bookshelf and have a small selection of preloved books. All I ask is a donation to the Alzheimer's Society, a charity that is very close to my heart.

The opening hours are Monday to Friday 6.40am - 10.20am

I love to chat, so please pop by and say hello, I'll even pop the kettle on!

I'd also like to add that I am now also offering take away tea and coffee for your journey, for a small donation in the charity box.

## Local Events

WI Quiz: 6th June

Parish Council Meeting: 9th June  
(+14th July) at *Methodist Church*

Kent Police community drop-ins:  
10th June (+8th July & 5th Aug)  
at *Kearsney Abbey Tea Rooms*

Fathers Day: 21st June

River Gardeners  
Summer Show: 4th July

Dover Regatta: 4th/5th July

River Garage Safari: 5th July

River Village Fete: 12th July

# RIVALL

THE VILLAGE MAGAZINE  
OF RIVER, KENT

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1/8th page: £55

1/4 page: £90

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# Useful Information

## VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Bookings for the River Village Hall can be made with Jean on: 01304 823803.

More information on the Village Hall can be found at:  
[www.rivervillagehall.co.uk](http://www.rivervillagehall.co.uk)

## VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

Village Representatives - Alison Dale and Jean Thomas

## REPRESENTATIVES OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

WI – Elaine Grayling

River Gardeners - Pat Hicks and Mary Wright

## RIVALL

RIVALL is published by the Village Hall Trust, a registered charity.

Views expressed in RIVALL are not necessarily the views of the Trust.

EDITOR - Rick Davis: [davisanddavis@btinternet.com](mailto:davisanddavis@btinternet.com)

ADVERTS - Sarah Davis: [davisanddavis@btinternet.com](mailto:davisanddavis@btinternet.com)

DISTRIBUTION - Mary Eyre-Jackson: 01304 823132

*Deadline for submissions for the next issue of RIVALL is 1st August 2026*

# River Village Hall Activities

## Monday (except Bank Holidays)

YOGA	10:30 - 11:30	07882 410895
TAI-CHI	12:00 - 13:00	07882 410895
YOGA	13:15 - 14:15	07882 410895
KUNG FU	17:30 - 18:30	07841 353109
KARATE	19:00 - 20:30	07786 814998

## Tuesday

TAI CHI	09:30 - 11:00	07411 224467
AGE 55s DANCE & FITNESS	11:30 - 14:30	07772 165320
PILATES	18:00 - 19:00	07968 089159
KUNG FU	19:00 - 20:30	07590 845212

## Wednesday

BALLET	16:00 – 17:00	07585 652694
PILATES	17:30 - 21:00	07834 839801

## Thursday

BALLET	15:30 - 18:30	07585 652694
KUNG FU	19:00 - 20:30	07841 353109

## Friday

KEEP FIT	13:30 - 14:30	03000 412222
BALLET	15:30 - 18:30	07585 652694
KARATE	19:00 - 20:30	07786 814998

## Saturday

BALLET	09:00 - 12:00	07585 652694
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## Sunday

CHRIST CHURCH	09:00 - 13:00	07521 089482
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# Useful Telephone Numbers

Chairman – Nick Dixon	07815 691638
Parish Clerk - Andrew Denyer	07518 414792

## UTILITIES (EMERGENCY ONLY)

Gas	0800 111999
UK Power Networks	0800 7838866
Water Board	0800 7311933

## POLICE

Control Room	01622 690690
In an Emergency	999
Non-emergencies	101
Kent Crimestoppers	0800 555 1111

## HOSPITALS

Canterbury Hospital	01227 766877
William Harvey Hospital	01233 633331
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Hospital	01843 225544

## OTHER MEDICAL

NHS on call	101
River Pharmacy	01304 820573
Lydden Surgery	01304 832160
Dover Health Centre	01304 865500
Buckland Minor Injuries Unit	01304 222611

## OTHER MISC

Citizens Advice, Dover	01304 820573
Library	01304 204241
Dover District Council	01304 821199



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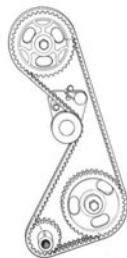
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