

CUXTON NOTICEBOARD



The Newsletter by and for the people of Cuxton February 2024

Cuxton celebrates with much-loved traditions

Christmas Tree Lighting Event

Villagers braved the evening cold to come to the library on Saturday 9th December, where they mingled with mulled wine, browsed the stalls in the library, and sang carols around the tree. The fantastic singers, live music and nativity scene got many into the festive spirit.



After plenty of planning, the parish councillors were also out in force, serving the refreshments, singing in the choir and getting ideas for this year's event. They would like to thank all those who attended, the library team and the amazing volunteers who helped put the lights on the tree and set up the event.



Wheel of Cuxton Sleigh

Sunday 17th December saw the return of the ever-popular early visit from Father Christmas. Children and adults alike revelled in the excitement and nostalgia of the sleigh and all its jolly occupants.

During the afternoon, villagers took to social media to share updates of the sleigh's location and their own stories of how this wonderful tradition has been part of their family festivities for many years.

Cuxton Recreation Ground Pitch Awarded!

Thanks to the efforts of Cuxton 91 football team, the FA have awarded the pitch at Cuxton Recreation ground 'Good Pitch' status.

Cuxton 91 first took over the care of the pitches in the village 13 years ago and have contributed nearly £15,000 of their own funds to pitch maintenance in that time.

Additionally, they have secured £29,000 of FA investment over the last 4 years and regularly have to provide reports and pitch condition updates as part of that arrangement. So, the award was a very welcome development for the club.



News from Ranscombe Farm Reserve

We're aware it's been a long while since we last provided an update within the Cuxton Noticeboard, but hopefully you'll be hearing from us more regularly again from now on!

There has been a lot of work going on across the 130 ha (320 acres) of woodland this autumn and winter, thanks largely to a grant from the Veolia Environmental Fund. This has included 'haloing' of 18 mature Oak trees that were buried deep in



and suppressed by the Sweet Chestnut coppice and involved cutting down the trees immediately surrounding them to provide them with more light. This will hopefully allow them to recover and go on to live for many more years to come. There has also been further work to widen rides – the open routes through the woods that benefit a broad range of plants and insects – and this February we will be employing the services of a large heavy-duty forest mulching machine to remove tree stumps within the rides that will make their ongoing management a lot more straightforward. In certain areas we've also been continuing to remove sweet chestnut coppice from the woods, encouraging other tree species and so working to make these areas more diverse in their structure and mix of species.

In the woods at Mill Hill, closest to Cuxton, we will be using the mulching machine to grind out stumps at selected points along the main ride. This may look quite drastic at first, but it will allow us to manage these open areas much more effectively by annual mowing, and hopefully establish more of the chalk grassland habitat rich in wildflowers and butterflies that currently occupies the area at the eastern end.

If you would like any further information about the above or wish to get in touch more generally about Ranscombe, then please contact:

ranscombe@plantlife.org.uk.

Ben Sweeney, Plantlife

30th Strood (Cuxton and Halling) Scout Group



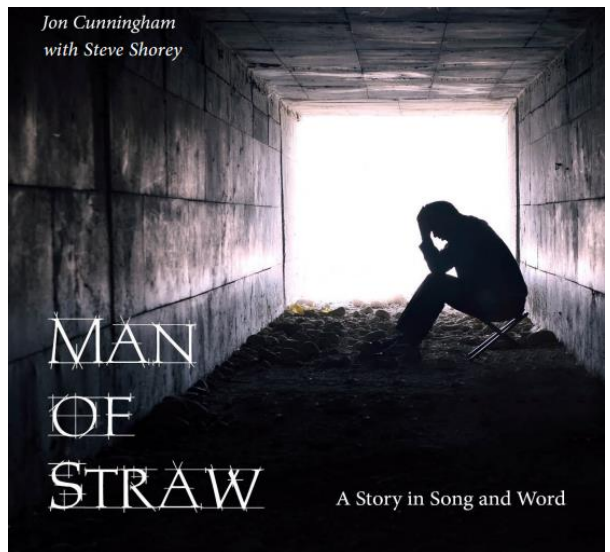
Sat. 9th March

7.15pm for 7.30pm start

Teams of 8 people max. £6 per head.
Please bring your own food and drinks.

To book your place, please contact Matthew on
01634 727424.

Thank you for your support!



Jon Cunningham
with Steve Shorey

MAN
OF
STRAW

A Story in Song and Word

Venue - St Michael and All Angels Church
Rochester Road, Cuxton, Kent. ME2 1AF
Saturday 24th February 2024. Doors 7:00 pm

Free Entry with retiring collection - In aid of Cancer Research UK



Man of Straw is a story in song and spoken word by Jon Cunningham. Jon is a 'well travelled' songwriter but also with experience in community working. This performance includes 12 original songs on the theme of valuing people.

Additional guitar and technical support by Steve Shorey

A note from the Academy of Cuxton Schools...

Dear Cuxton Community,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful break with your friends and family. I am pleased to let you know that from September 2024, we will have our own nursery and wrap-around care provision. We strive for the highest standards of education for our pupils, so this is a fantastic development for the school and the local community.

I want to assure you that, as many of these children are already going to Beehive/Buzz, traffic flow within the village shouldn't be significantly impacted by this development as I know this is often a concern of residents. Please do spread the word with regards to the provision opening and encourage friends and family to look at our admissions page on our website: www.cuxtonschools.co.uk/admissions-nursery/

As a school, we are always looking for ways to work with the local community. We are currently looking for skilled people, who would be able to help us make welly racks. Learning outside the classroom is one of the main drivers of our curriculum. We go outside rain or shine and would love for our children to have wellies in school at all times to enable this to happen. This means we need to find somewhere to store 420 pairs of wellies! If you feel you can support in anyway in either sourcing the materials or building welly racks themselves, please do contact us.

When I wrote to you last, the plea for members of our community to come and read with children was also a real success. Reading is fundamental and we want to provide our children as many opportunities as possible to read to an adult. Thank you to those who are already giving up their time to support. If this is something that interests you, please do not hesitate to express an interest.

Finally, I want to thank any members of the community who joined us for our Christmas Fete. This was once again a great success. We raised a huge amount of money for our school, which is being invested back into the school via the leasing of school IPADs and also the refurbishment of our music room.

I do hope you have a prosperous 2024! I look forward to working with the Cuxton Community throughout this year.

Charlotte Aldham-Breary, Headteacher.

CUXTON TINY TOTS

Fun weekly play time for babies and toddlers with different activities each week.

For updates and information check out our facebook page: [Cuxton Tinytots](#)

Everyone is welcome with hot and cold drinks provided as well as biscuits and fruit for all. £5 for first child and then £1 for siblings.

Wednesday Term Time - 9.45am - 11.15am
Cuxton Social Club Hall



OPENING SEPTEMBER 2024

A BRAND NEW 2 YEAR old room

NURSERY AT

The Academy of Cuxton Schools
for children born between September 2021 and August 2022

The Academy of Cuxton Schools are proud to announce the opening of their brand new 2 Year old room in September 2024. This wonderful new learning environment will ensure your child has the best possible start to their education journey!

Set in the heart of the Cuxton community, with fantastic facilities, we offer a unique experience for your little one and a nurturing ethos.

Community
At the heart of our community

Adventure
Little people, big ideas

Resilience
Growing resilience through early experience

Excellence
Excellence through exploration

OPEN DAYS
29th November at 9.30am
5th December at 9.30am
9th January at 1.30pm
24th January at 9.30am

To register your interest please scan the QR code or click the link

I'M INTERESTED

For further information please see the school website:
<https://www.cuxtonschools.co.uk/admissions-nursery/>

THE ACADEMY OF CUXTON SCHOOLS
Beehive Centre, Beehive Lane, M22 9ET

The Academy of Cuxton Schools is part of The Primary Trust

ZUMBA®

MY KIND OF HAPPY HOUR

Invite your friends to Zumba class.
Everyone welcome

♥ Zumba with Vicki ♥

Mon-6.30pm -Zumba fitness-£7
Tue-6pm-Zumba Gold-£6
Wed-6.45pm-Zumba fitness-£7

Cuxton School hall (opposite Social club)
Pay on the door or book online at bookwhen.com/zumbawithvicki.

Contact me on 07841379027 for more information

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

The White Hart - Tel: 01634 789969

14th Feb – Valentines Menu and
live music duo

16th Feb – The Substitutes - 8.30pm

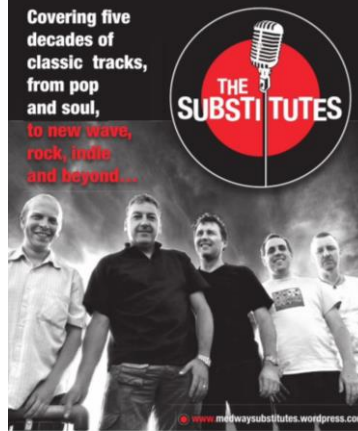
Cuxton Social Club - Tel: 01634 718068

www.cuxtonsocialclub.co.uk

9th Feb – The Pepper Beatles Tribute Band

7-11pm - Ticketed event

Contact the social club for
tickets



**LIVE at THE WHITE HART
Friday 16th Feb 8:30pm**

Tribute Night with THE PEPPER BEATLES KENT - UK



From 'TWIST & SHOUT' to 'HEY JUDE'
All the best songs from the amazing Beatles repertoire

Cuxton Library

Open Tuesday 9am to 1pm,
Thursday & Friday 2pm to 6pm,
Saturday 10am to 4pm (no lunch
closure).

Public computers are available for
one hour sessions for library
members. There is a charge of £3
per half hour for guest sessions.

White and blue recycling bags are
available for collection during
opening hours.

Email:

cuxton.library@medway.gov.uk

Tel: 01634 337799

Medway Council Portal

Medway Council has a website that deals with a variety of
problems including; dogs, fly-tipping, roads, street lighting and a
range of other issues.

https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200176/report_a_problem

Cuxton Recycling Centre: To book a slot go onto the Medway
Council site and select a date and time. **NO booking, NO entry.**

<https://www.medway.gov.uk/tipbooking>

Medway Council Traffic Enforcement Hotline: 07718 130962

Doctor out of hours: 111

Police: 101 for non urgent matters

Public defibrillators: Boxes on the walls of the Social Club, Church
Hall, School and Cuxton Railway Station

Cuxton Parish Councillors

Gerald Chalker (**Chairman**) ged@cuxtonpc.org.uk
Matt Nightingale (**Vice-Chairman**) matt@cuxtonpc.org.uk
Julie Porter julie@cuxtonpc.org.uk
Simon White simon@cuxtonpc.org.uk
Sarah Wilson sarah@cuxtonpc.org.uk
Julie Jensen julianne@cuxtonpc.org.uk
John Vye john@cuxtonpc.org.uk
Sheila Chamberlain sheila@cuxtonpc.org.uk
John Manning johnt@cuxtonpc.org.uk
Martin Burley martin@cuxtonpc.org.uk
Tracy Thorley tracy@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Ward Cllrs: Matt Fearn matt.fearn@medway.gov.uk 07739 706432;

Phil Filmer phil.filmer@medway.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: clerk@cuxtonpc.org.uk

01634 730951 / 07483 349613

The Parish Office: The Pavilion, Cuxton Recreation Ground, Bush
Road, Cuxton ME2 1EZ Website: www.cuxtonpc.org.uk

Academy of Cuxton Schools

Spring Term 3 2024

Wednesday 3rd January –

Friday 9th February

Spring term 4 2024

Tuesday 20th February-

Thursday 28th March

To submit copy or to advertise an
event in this newsletter, please
contact the parish clerk by emailing:
clerk@cuxtonpc.org.uk



Articles to be submitted by 15th of each month. No publication in August or January. Unless otherwise attributed, the content of this newsletter is developed by the editor. Views contained are not necessarily those of the Parish Council. Every effort is made to check the accuracy of items produced and submitted. The Parish Council and newsletter editors accept no liability for other contributions, which remain the copyright of the contributors.