

# Speldhurst News



**March 2024**

**£5 per year**

**70p per copy**



# HENRY PAUL FUNERALS

## CONTEMPORARY & TRADITIONAL SERVICES

Independent Family Run | 24 Hour On-Call Service

10 High Street, Pembury, TN2 4NY

**01892 825505**

**HENRYPAULFUNERALS.CO.UK**



**Funeral  
Guide**



FUNERAL PLANS FROM  
**Golden Charter**  
Smart Planning for Later Life



**MG** Care Homes

*family owned, family focused*

### Warwick Park

55 Warwick Park  
Tunbridge Wells  
TN2 5EJ  
01892 541434

### Little Court

26 Roopers  
Speldhurst, Tunbridge Wells  
TN3 0QL  
01892 863414

For more information please call 01892 864429 or email  
[admin@mghomes.co.uk](mailto:admin@mghomes.co.uk)

[www.mghomes.co.uk](http://www.mghomes.co.uk)

# Contents

## Page(s)

♦ Welcome	2
♦ Diary at a Glance	3
♦ News and Announcements	4-11
♦ Speldhurst Parish Council	12-13
♦ Allotment & Gardening News	14
♦ A letter from St. Mary's	15
♦ Church Diary	16-17
♦ Nature Watch	18
♦ Vegetable of the Month	19
♦ Hendy Half Marathon	20-21
♦ Clubs & Organisations	22-23
♦ Advertising	24-32

# Welcome

Dear Readers

As I write this issue, the temperature is unseasonably warm. I also note from my photos from March 2023, that we had a spring-time smattering of snow, so I can only guess at the weather we're having now. What I can say for sure is that days are longer and we're headed for an abundance of new growth, which is always a joy! Our regular features from Alan Ford and Rob Kyte offer an insight into our natural world; I was fascinated to read about the secret world of ants!

Last month, our villages played a part in the extremely scenic part of the route for the 2024 Tunbridge Wells half marathon, with many local residents taking part amongst the hundreds of competitors taking up the challenge; see Page 20-21.

Speldhurst Parish Council would like to add a plea that residents read their news in the parish magazine, take a look at their website, where they can sign up for news alerts, and follow them on Facebook. They do their best to post important updates about the work they do - like providing and maintaining defibrillators (see P.4) - across all our media channels. They provide an amazing service to us all that we sometimes may forget.

If you or your children are budding journalists and have something to say, we'd love to hear from you! Email us on the address below. Have a wonderful month.

Best wishes

Maria

*On behalf of Speldhurst News Editors:*

*Maria Turner, Sara Turner, Judith Malim*

Please remember that copy for the **April 2024 edition** should be sent **before 10th March 2024** to: [speldhurst.news@gmail.com](mailto:speldhurst.news@gmail.com). Word, Publisher or pdf files preferred. Thank you.

SPELDHURST NEWS endeavours to include articles in addition to village, church and chapel news. These are taken in good faith and without prejudice, therefore the committee will not be held responsible for the accuracy of the content, nor will it be held responsible for any work or treatment received from the advertisers. Readers should satisfy themselves of advertisers' abilities before accepting a job quotation or undertaking a course of treatment. All articles & inclusions should be sent as a word document attachment. The editors reserve the right to amend submissions where they feel it is appropriate.



# Diary at a Glance

## March

Mondays	Library 2-4.30pm	p.8
Sat 2nd	Table Top Sale	p.11
Mon 4th Mon 18th	Bumps & Babes “ “	p.4
Wednesdays	Praise & Play	p.4
Sat 2nd	Penshurst Farmers' Market	p.9
Mon 4th	SPC Committee Meeting	p.13
Sat 16th	Quiz night Speldhurst Village Hall	p.6
Sat 16th	Tonbridge Music Club Concert	p.10
Sat 23rd	Blackham Village Hall Beer and Skittles	p.8

## June

Sat 15th	Village Fete
----------	--------------

# News & Announcements

## DEFIBRILLATORS IN SPELDHURST PARISH - REMINDER

Here are the locations for defibrillators:

- Langton Green Sports Pavilion, Langton Green Recreation Ground
- Ashdene House, A264 Langton Road, Langton Green
- Speldhurst Village Hall, St Mary's Lane, Speldhurst
- The Crown Inn, Old Groombridge
- Ashurst Village Hall, behind St Martin's Church, Ashurst

Further defibrillators - not maintained by the parish council - can be found at Groombridge Village Hall, Ashurst Recreation Ground, Rusthall Medical Centre, Sunnyside Community Hall and Rusthall Parish Council (35 Harmony Street). You can watch a short video from St John's Ambulance on how to use a defibrillator on the 'Defibrillators' page on our web-site [www.speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk). If anyone needs to use the defibrillator at Speldhurst Village Hall, they will find full instructions on how to access and use it at the site.

## What's on in Speldhurst for the Under 5's in March

Spring is well underway now with snowdrops, daffodils and crocuses blooming everywhere. Our groups are blooming too. Bumps and Babes is a coffee morning for new Mums. We meet fortnightly on Mondays from 10.30 am in The Chapel in Northfields. This month we meet on 4th & 18th March, so do get in touch with Jenny if you have an under 2 and would like to join us or just turn up. All are welcome.

Praise and Play, the St Mary's Toddler Group meets on Wednesdays from 9 – 10.30am in the church. We have great fun together. There's lots of time for free play for the children and a craft too. Towards the end of the session we gather together for a story and a sing song and also to ring the church bell, which the children love, before refreshments are served. So, if you've not joined us before do come along one Wednesday, you'd be very welcome. Meanwhile if you are new to the village and have pre-school children, or know someone in that position, do get in touch with Jenny on 01892 541200 or 07891318123 or at [jenny50fitz@gmail.com](mailto:jenny50fitz@gmail.com)



**Introducing our new Treasurer of The Speldhurst Community Shop: Steve Nicholls.**

Steve moved to Speldhurst, from Uckfield, in mid-September 2023, and lives in Barden Road.

Soon after arriving in Speldhurst, and as a way of fast-tracking into the community, he volunteered to work in the shop. As we got to know Steve we realised he had excellent financial and community experience and quickly recruited him onto the committee! Peter Moulton had expressed a desire to step down as treasurer to pursue other projects, so that seemed a natural fit. Steve has recently taken a step back from full time employment so has some free time. The committee were delighted when Steve agreed to take over as Treasurer.

Since 2016, Steve has been Treasurer of Brentwood Community Transport a Charity based in Brentwood, Essex. The charity provides subsidised bus services for members of the community who, have no other transport options; for them the bus service is an essential lifeline, to shops, friends, and the broader community. <http://www.brentwoodct.co.uk>. In addition, Steve has several other voluntary, finance/ consultancy, related roles. Steve is also a paraglider pilot and a member of the Southern Hang Gliding Club, and, not surprisingly, given his background, he is the Club Treasurer. Steve is also a keen cyclist, and a trained, high-mountain alpine guide/ skier in both - downhill and touring.

As we welcome Steve, we are saying goodbye to Peter Moulton. Peter is off to a new exciting project , so we wish him all the best and I'm sure we will still see him around the village!

From Edward Pinnell, our Chair:

*"Thank you so much Peter for your stewardship of the finances since we opened in 2019. For the committee, the members and our staff to have confidence and visibility on the finances is so important. And welcome Steve! We are delighted to have you on board, already contributing to both shop and chapel finance matters."*

Would you like to volunteer in the shop? We're always looking for volunteers.

Please pop in and see us, or contact Jo Eames on [Joames15@outlook.com](mailto:Joames15@outlook.com).

If you would like to have a say in the new shop or have something to say on anything else shop related please contact us at:

[speldhurstcommunityshop@gmail.com](mailto:speldhurstcommunityshop@gmail.com)



Save  
THE  
Date

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS HERE!

# QUIZ NIGHT

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH, 2024**  
SPELDHURST VILLAGE HALL, ST. MARY'S LANE

**£15 PP INCLUDING FOOD + 1 FREE DRINK!**

**7:00PM START**

IN AID OF **OPENARMS MALAWI**, FUNDRAISING FOR A MONTH-LONG TRIP,  
COMPLETING VARIOUS COMMUNITY PROJECTS ACROSS MALAWI

**any questions please email: [katiesmalawiquiz@gmail.com](mailto:katiesmalawiquiz@gmail.com) :)**

**Don't miss my quiz night on the 16th March!**  
**Tickets are still available!**

I am fundraising to help pay for a month-long volunteering trip to Malawi with my school in July. I will be going with OpenArmsUK, helping local school communities and the larger community with sanitation and other projects. Please come along and bring friends, family or whoever you can and enjoy a night of fun for a great cause!

Any questions, please ask my mum on 01892 863300 or email as above.

**Thank you, Katie Pinnell**



## Chapel Project Update

Thank you again to everyone whose pledges meant a successful fundraising in December. The Chapel Project Team are now progressing on the key elements required to move ahead with the project, namely

- finalizing plans and drawings for the extension and refurbishment of the Chapel
- applying for planning permission
- inviting tenders for the building contract
- establishing the charity to receive donations
- agreeing terms of a lease with Speldhurst Parish Council

Once all of these matters are either finalised or very well progressed, we will ask those who have been kind enough to pledge financial support to pay their pledged amounts to the charity (donation) and / or the community benefit society (community shares). Initially we had estimated that to occur in Q1 2024, but realistically that will not be until Q2 2024 given the several workstreams that need to be completed.

The other essential part of the Chapel Project is the purchase by Speldhurst Parish Council of the Chapel and site. It's very positive news that SPC have been successful in their application for a Public Works Loan Board loan, a key step in SPC's purchase of the Chapel. Before committing to buying the Chapel, SPC will also need to be satisfied that the matters listed above are finalised.

We will keep our pledgors, members and the village updated via email, Facebook and Speldhurst News. Thank you again for your support to date.

If you want to get in touch, please do at [speldhurstchapelproject@gmail.com](mailto:speldhurstchapelproject@gmail.com). Or leave your details at the shop for us to contact you.

The Chapel Project Team / Speldhurst Community Shop.



# BLACKHAM VILLAGE HALL



## BEER AND SKITTLES EVENING

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024

7.00PM

Come and enjoy a fun evening of Skittles and other old fashioned Pub games.  
£5 per person to include bar snacks



Licensed bar (cash or card)  
open from 7.00pm  
serving beer, wine and prosecco

Tickets from Ruth  
on 07890 303791

## SPELDHURST LIBRARY

**Mondays**

**2-4.30pm**

Speldhurst Library is part of the Kent Library Service (the last surviving library in Kent run by volunteers) and the books are housed in the committee room of the village hall. We are open every Monday afternoon from 2pm 4.30pm. We have fiction, non-fiction, large print and children's books. We look forward to welcoming you!



**Pat Carter**



## FARMERS' MARKET AT PENSURST

*Don't miss Penshurst Farmers Market this March for  
all the very best local seasonal food and drink*



**Saturday,  
March  
2nd, 2024**

**9.30 am  
to  
12.00 pm**

**Penshurst  
Place Visitor  
Car Park**



Spring gets into gear this month and with the increasing light levels and longer days, it's the perfect time to get out and about. Come along to Penshurst and discover the wonderful seasonal produce on offer from our talented producers from across Kent, Surrey and Sussex. With up to 25 regular stalls selling local food and drink there's plenty to tempt you.

Don't miss out on spring treats this month, including Rye Bay scallops now at their finest whilst this season's pink forced rhubarb is sweet and full of flavour. Game birds are available now too and a roast pheasant makes a delicious meal for two. Or try wild duck breasts served with a rhubarb sauce - the sharp balances the rich meat perfectly .

Don't forget to bring your kitchen knives and garden tools to be sharpened by our Knife Ninja ready for the new season; buy locally grown spring bulbs and shrubs from Low Wood Nursery to get into the ground now.

**Parking is plentiful, free and close by. Families and dogs  
are welcome.**

*Find us on Facebook*

*Find us on Twitter and Instagram*

[WWW.kfma.org.uk/penshurst](http://www.kfma.org.uk/penshurst)

Tonbridge Music Club presents  
**ENSEMBLE MOLIERE**  
Saturday, 16 March at 7.30pm  
Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Tonbridge



Come and join us for a delightful evening of music played at the court of Louis XIV, the Sun King, in 17<sup>th</sup> century France. Ensemble Molière will play music by, among others, Charpentier, Lully and Couperin, some of the leading French Baroque composers, with the pieces dedicated to every moment of the King's day. Hear the music which provided the background to the great King's daily life!

Ensemble Molière has five female musicians who all play historical instruments and has gained a reputation as an established early music ensemble. It was selected as the first-ever Radio 3 New Generation Baroque Ensemble for two years from October 2021, a new scheme run in partnership by BBC Radio 3, the National Centre for Early Music and the Royal College of Music.

Ensemble Molière has given concerts throughout the UK and Europe. They were finalists at the York Early Music International Young Artists Competition and Future Baroque Artist at the London Festival of Baroque Music. They have also been involved with some interesting cross-arts projects including one to celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Molière's birth. This saw the Ensemble joining forces with two clowns to create a new music theatre show which is an exploration of Molière's world through his words and the music of his time.

If you would like to come to Ensemble Molière's concert, and you are not a member, tickets cost £20 each and £5 for students and those under 18. They can be bought through our website, [www.tmc.org.uk](http://www.tmc.org.uk), where further information about membership, this concert and the rest of our 2023/24 Season can be found. Alternatively, you can also buy tickets by calling 01732 364204. We look forward to welcoming you to the concert!

Table Top Sale

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Fordcombe Village Hall

2-5pm

In aid of Demelza House Childrens  
Hospice

Twintage, Tropics, Arts & Crafts, Cake  
and many more stalls

Bottle and Chocolate tombola's

Coffee tea and cake served





#### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



#### PLANS FOR POCKET PARK

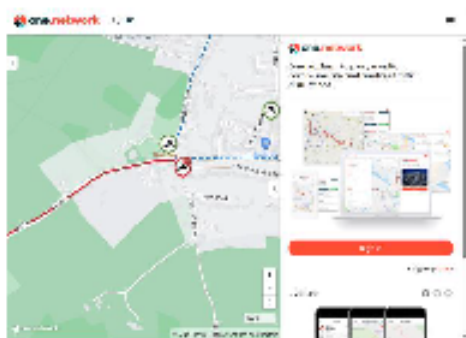
After working hard on our application for funding, we were thrilled to hear that Sussex Lund - part of <https://highweald.org/> - had approved a grant for a schedule of works to enhance biodiversity in Pocket Park, Roopers.

By the time you read this, we hope to have installed a new noticeboard in the park that will keep you informed about this important work. In the meantime, here is a photo of our resident wildlife expert Alan Ford putting up bird boxes in time for the nesting season (please note that Alan was supported on the ladder by Councillor John Turner, and health and safety precautions were observed at all times 😊).



### SGN ROAD WORKS

As you will know, SGN is currently undertaking works to replace gas pipes along the A264 to Langton Green. We understand that temporary traffic lights are expected to continue along this stretch of road until May 2024.



This is of course frustrating for everyone, so here is a reminder that we find the best website to use to keep up with roadworks is one.network: <https://one.network/uk>. We have noticed that SGN has been efficient at updating this website during the recent works, and it is worth visiting and creating an account so that you can receive updates.

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS – STAY UP TO DATE

It seems that many residents are still unaware that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC) no longer write to notify you when a neighbour submits a planning application. Instead, they post planning application notices on telegraph posts, fences, or gates outside or near the relevant property. However, these fliers are not always posted in the most visible places, and they can come loose and fall off.

So, the most reliable way to stay up to date with planning applications where you live is by signing up for planning notifications on the TWBC website: <https://tunbridgewells.gov.uk/planning/applications/notifications>

### PUBLIC MEETINGS – EVERYONE WELCOME

Full Council: 7.30pm, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March in the Committee Room, Speldhurst Village Hall.

### TO CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL

- Call the Clerk, Katie Neve on 01892 862927/07760 769513
- Or email [clerk@speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk)
- For helpful information, visit [www.speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk)



## ~ Allotment & Gardening News ~



### Garden Friends and Foes

I was reading a very interesting small book picked up at a National Trust secondhand bookshop about garden 'friends' and 'foes'. According to the author, because gardens are sheltered and contain a wealth of plants, they provide a haven for wildlife too. Apparently, private garden spaces in Britain cover about 1,801,151 acres. Twice the size of Kent. Bigger than the Lake District, Snowdonia and Yorkshire Dales combined. A lot of space by any reckoning. Consequently, the potential of gardens as a haven for wildlife is considerable. Many provide food, shelter and breeding sites for a wide range of animals which increases the interest and enjoyment of a garden.

But, back to 'friends' or 'foes'. Early in the list are ants. Apparently, for the few ants that we see 'marching' in columns around our gardens in search of food (these are the 'worker' ants), thousands more are below ground in a network of tunnels. Ants are commonly to be found under patio slabs, in flower pots, creating small piles of earth along the edge of the lawn or even attempting to tunnel their way into our kitchen! The common black garden ant is one of the most robust and prolific to be found. Colonies can grow to around 15,000 workers, but the average is between 5,000 to 7,000. Apparently, ants are friends because they kill insect grubs and caterpillars to feed their larvae. They also help to mix and aerate the soil – but I'm 'feeling' that this is stretching the 'friend' case somewhat. They're foes because their tunnels can undermine or even kill shallow-rooted plants. Red ants sting. They like to feed on ripe fruit, often herding and protecting aphids, milking them for sugary honeydew – often seen on vegetables like braid beans which can become infested in the spring (GAH!). As the queen lays eggs and the colony grows over the early summer months, worker ants will forage further afield to find new food sources. This will often bring them inside properties – which is when they can be a real nuisance.

If you are interested in these topics / types of discussions, there is a Facebook page where we go into a lot of this type of stuff. It is called Speldhurst Allotmenters & Gardeners and the web address is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/305824050847755>. Hope to see you there.

# A Letter from St Mary's

March 2024



Dear Friends,

## HOPE

Christian hope is not just a fuzzy feeling that things will turn out OK but a firm conviction based on the promise of Jesus that all who have faith and follow him will be welcomed into Heaven.

However, this may not fit with our own experience and we feel the world shifting dramatically around us. Millions of people are being displaced as a result of war and natural disaster. Our climate is under threat. Closer to home we worry about the cost of living, boat people, mental health issues and broken relationships.

In the midst of this noise, Jesus says, *“Do not let your hearts be troubled, trust in God, trust also in me. In my father’s house there are many places to live in...and I am going to prepare a place for you”*. At the end of the Bible there are hints at what this place might be like. It will be a place where, *“Every tear will be wiped away. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order has passed away...and everything is made new.”*

During his short time on earth, in the way he led his life and the words he used Jesus spoke of his love, his justice, his mercy and his grace. In doing so he gave hope to thousands of people.

Jesus’ enemies, those who live in darkness, sought to silence him and for a while they believed they were successful. They had Jesus crucified and he was sealed up in a stone tomb with a military guard. But the stone was rolled away and not even death could imprison him and Jesus broke free.

Nothing brings hope back to life like the empty tomb at Easter: the Easter message is of hope to a bewildering and uncertain world. Jesus speaks today as clearly as he ever did not only to thousands or even tens of thousands but to tens of millions of people and the number is still growing. The message – The Good News – hasn’t changed; it is that all who believe and trust in him will have the hope of an everlasting place in his heavenly home.

*Alleluia! Christ is risen – He is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

*John Perkins*

# March 2024



## **3rd March**

10 am Communion

## **10th March**

10 am All-Age Worship for Mothering Sunday

## **17th March**

8 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10 am Communion

## **24th March**

10 am All-Age Worship

6 pm Evensong

## **28th March - Maundy Thursday**

8 pm Communion for Maundy Thursday

## **29th March - Good Friday**

10 am Good Friday Service for All Ages at St Mary's, Speldhurst

12 noon An Hour at the Cross at St John's, Groombridge

4 pm A Musical Reflection at St Martin's, Ashurst

## **31st March - Easter Day**

8 am Traditional Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10 am All-Age Worship with Communion

In the spring we plan to run an Alpha Course which is aimed at people who wish to explore the Christian faith. If you are interested and would like to find out more please contact John at [revjohnp@outlook.com](mailto:revjohnp@outlook.com) or the church office.



Funeral and Burial in Churchyard

14th November

Muriel Willis

16th January

Constance Anne Burrows

**The Church Office can be contacted on 861187 or  
[speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com](mailto:speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com)**

**Normal office hours: 9 am to 12.30 pm**

See our website: [www.speldhurstchurch.org](http://www.speldhurstchurch.org)

St Mary's Facebook page: [facebook.com/StMarysSpeldhurst/](https://facebook.com/StMarysSpeldhurst/)



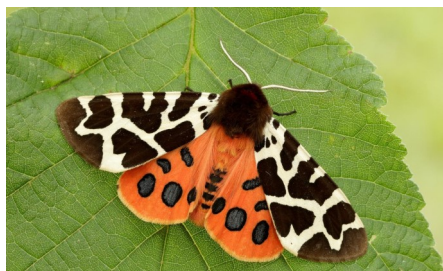


I have sent off my Butterfly and moth records for last year. I found 23 species of Butterflies and 275 species of Moth, bringing my garden total for all years to 399 different moths give or take a couple. Looking forward to finding some new ones this year. Here are a few interesting facts about moths.

A number of the small moths look like bird poo. Other moths mimic Hornets, Wasps, bumblebees, dead leaves, and Birch twigs all to keep safe from predators.

Some moths enjoy a bit of cannibalism. Like most moth caterpillars the Dum-bar feeds on salad, however given the opportunity they will eat other moth caterpillars including their own kind. Moths also play a key role in pollinating plants and flowers by night. In fact recent research shows that they are better at it than Bees are during the day. A few moths like the China-mark and the Water Veneer have their caterpillars feed on water plants and pupate just beneath the surface of the water, or in the case of the Water Veneer up to 1m below the surface. Some Tiger moths are capable of producing ultrasonic pulses which we think help to confuse bats and let them escape being eaten.

The Peppered moth's usual form is pale with black speckles. It also has a genetic mutation which has black wings and this form dominated in the industrial cities where pollution killed off all the lichens on the tree bark so the black wing peppered moth blended in on the sooty tree trunks while the pale one stood out and was eaten by the birds. As a result of successive generations the black moths outnumbered the pale forms in towns. While in the country the pale forms remain dominant.



Moths can be found all the year round, while Butterflies only fly in the day light, Moths can be found both in daylight and in greater numbers at night.

Alan Ford

# **VEGETABLE OF THE MONTH: BEETROOT**

Beetroot is an incredibly versatile, beautiful and nutritious vegetable. It can come as the traditional purple but also yellow, striped and white. It has many recognised health benefits as it is full of antioxidants like betalains that fight cell damage and inflammation.

As a food, beetroot is extremely versatile; it can be eaten raw; it can be cooked and it can be pickled; it can, also, be eaten in both sweet and savoury dishes.

Here is one of my favourites: from the Riverford Companion Book:

**Beetroot, potato and horseradish rostis**

## **Ingredients**

2 large potatoes, 1 large beetroot, 1 small red onion, 1 tsp grated horseradish from a jar, 1 large garlic clove,, roughly chopped bunches of dill, tarragon and parsley, 1 tbsp. plain flour, sunflower oil for frying, salt and pepper for seasoning.

## **Method**

Put the potatoes in a pan of cold salted water and slowly bring to the boil, then reduce the heat and simmer for 5 minutes. Turn off the heat and leave the potatoes in the hot water for 15 minutes so they are half cooked. Drain and peel.

Coarsely grate the potatoes, beetroot and onion into a large bowl. Finely grate the horseradish into the same bowl. Crush the garlic and add to the bowl with the herbs. Season with salt and pepper, sprinkle the flour and mix well.

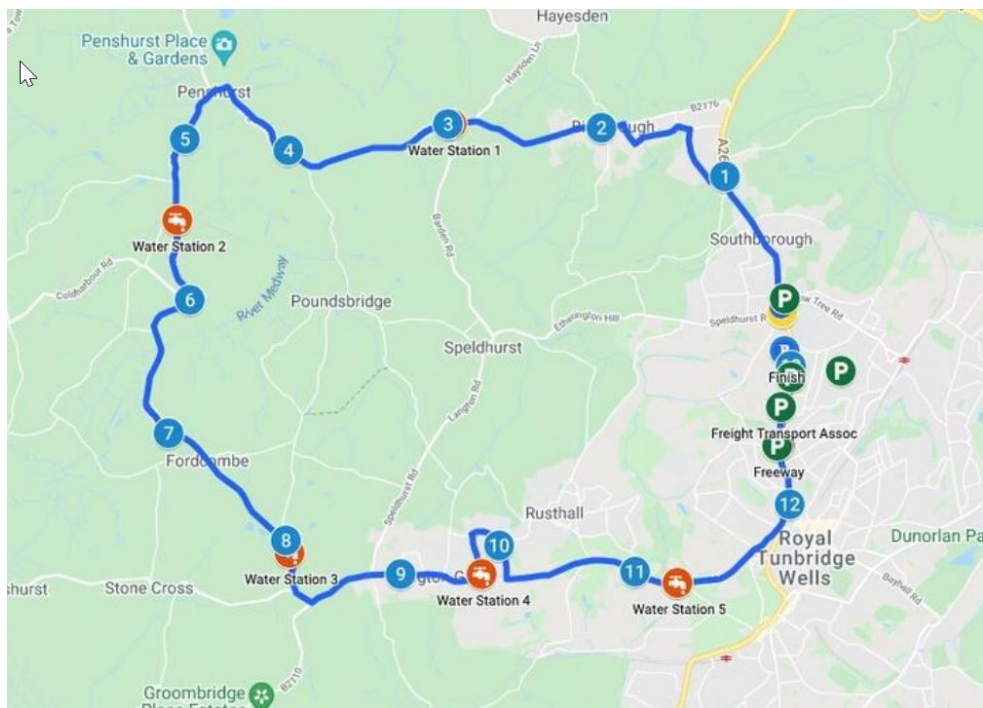
Heat the oven to 190 C/Gas 5. Shape the mix into burger style shapes. Add the oil to a no-stick frying pan and fry the rostis until golden brown on both sides. Transfer to a baking tray and cook in the oven for 15 minutes.

You can serve instead of potatoes, or add a range of ingredients such as: smoked salmon and crème fraiche; grilled portobello mushrooms; watercress, blue cheese and a drizzle of honey; or, spinach and poached eggs.

Enjoy, Maria Turner

# Hendy Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon 2024

Famed for its scenic route around our beautiful villages, this challenging route, including the 300 foot ascent of Spring Hill at Fordcombe, is one of the biggest running events in the UK.



Tunbridge Wells Harriers have hosted the event for over 30 years. Over the last ten years, the race has also donated around £200,000 to charity; this year, the charity is West Kent Mind.

Local residents across our villages took up the challenge, so congratulations to all who took part!







## SPELDHURST VILLAGE CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

Age UK Lunch	Jan Mann	863931
Allotments	Mark Oddy	862746
Beavers	Jo Smith	518706
Bowls Club	Debbie Moon	861317
Bridge Club	Heather Hughes	863367
Brownies	Louise Scott	862972
Bumps and Babes	Jenny Fitzsimmons	541200
Cricket Club	Nick Coffin	07867 803121
Junior Cricket section	Francis Booth	07738474144
Cubs	Karol Leeves	531104
Flower Show	Alan Ford	863276
Football: Speldhurst Rangers	Ollie Crees	07919467576
GP Surgery		863040
Guides	Sybil Oddy	862746
Library	Olive West	863234
Men on Wednesday	John Perkins	863239
Mothers' Union	Christine Baker	540793
Mothers & Toddlers	Jenny Fitzsimmons	541200
Nursery School		860557
Parish Council: Chair	Paul Curry	07515 938765
Vice Chair	Katrina Lyle	862070
Parish Clerk	Katie Neve	862927
Parish Councillors	Richard Ellery	864077
	Alan Rowe	863404
Police Community Support Officer	Gemma.Gilbert@kent.police.uk	
Primary School	Stephanie Hayward	863044
Rainbows	Alex Brown	
	speldhurstainbows@gmail.com	
Recreation Ground	Ed Wesson	07799 731247
Running Group	Paul Eames	07975 577630
Speldhurst Association of Men	Brian Tasker	862301
Snooker Club	Nick Fenton	864144
Speldhurst Art Exhibition	Maria Turner	863394
Speldhurst News Editors	Maria Turner	863394
	Sara Turner	863226
	Judith Malim	864268
Speldhurst News Advertising	Eric Roughley	863222



St Mary's Church Rector Administrator	Andrea Burgess	861187
Stoolball	Donna Burden	524793 07810 048599
Scouts	Nick Burgess	863362
Shop & Post Office	Jo-Anne Dekker	863158
Village Fete: Chair	Mike Harrowing	0772 5561154
Village Hall	Rachel Bourdin	07766 830303
Village Website	Miranda Hawkins	863601
Walking Football	Brian Shilling	07940 013135
Walking Group	Brian Tasker	862301

## Opening Hours & Local Information

Buses	Timetables for bus 285 Speldhurst to Tun Wells - Hams Travel 01580 879629 For info: <a href="https://hamstravel.com/services">https://hamstravel.com/services</a>
George & Dragon PH:	Mon-Thurs & Sun midday to 10-00pm. Fri & Sat midday to 11-00pm. 01892 338549
GP:	Mon - Fri 8am-6pm Tel: 01892 863040
Dispensary:	Mon - Fri 8.30am-1pm; 2.30-6pm (dispensary calls 8.30-11.30 only)
Library (village hall):	Monday 2-4.30pm.
Shop:	Mon-Fri 7.30am-5pm; Sat 8-1pm; Sun 8-11
Post Office:	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; Sat 9-1pm; Sun Closed

To advertise please contact Eric Roughley  
Email: [e.roughley222@btinternet.com](mailto:e.roughley222@btinternet.com)  
Telephone: 01892 863222

~~~~~

**ANTIQUE CLOCK REPAIRS AND RESTORATION:**

John Mathieson MBHI, West Dean/BADA Diplomas - 01732 359006  
[www.clockcare.co.uk](http://www.clockcare.co.uk).

**GREAT GARDENS:** Tim Welch HND MCI Hort.

Professional Gardening with 33 years in the industry. All types of pruning & training, border planting schemes and garden tidy ups undertaken. Based in Tunbridge Wells. Call Tim on 0759 777 6104 or email: [tim@twgardening.com](mailto:tim@twgardening.com).

**GUITAR TUITION:** All ages welcome. Are you starting from scratch or stuck in a rut? Jonathon's Guitar Studio can help. For further details, ring Jonathon - 07900 825495.

**SCIENCE MADE EASY: GCSE CHEMISTRY, BIOLOGY & PHYSICS.**

Science teacher, MSc PGCE & DBS checked, offers tuition in your own home covering all exam boards plus intensive pre-exam tuition. Call 01892 512704 after 7.00pm. or m. 07745 249361 after 3.30pm.

**SP ENGLISH LEADWORKS:** All aspects of roofing undertaken. New roofs, lead, slate and tiled, also repairs and restoration work. Very reliable. Call Steve 07881 641244 or email [englishleadworks@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:englishleadworks@hotmail.co.uk).

**PRIMARY TUTOR**

*Building confidence and skills  
for those struggling at school  
or needing more challenge.  
11+ tutoring also available.*

**01892 863102**

Email: [jpkent@emailprice.net](mailto:jpkent@emailprice.net)  
[www.jpkenttutoring.com](http://www.jpkenttutoring.com)

**GARDENING SERVICES**

Mowing, Weeding, Hoeing  
and Pruning, etc.

Call **Gardenproud** on

07725 173820  
[www.reallygardenproud.com](http://www.reallygardenproud.com)

# Louise Renton

MICT MHFST IIIHT VTCT

Pilates teacher

## PILATES



**CLASSES**  
**ON LINE & LANGTON GREEN**

01892 863075 Mob 07788663107  
[lou.renton@btinternet.com](mailto:lou.renton@btinternet.com)  
[www.louiserenton.vpweb.co.uk](http://www.louiserenton.vpweb.co.uk)

## THE RETREAT AT BRAMERTON BEAUTY SALON SPELDHURST

**DERMALOGICA SKIN EXPERT**

**OPI NAIL TECHNICIAN**

Dermalogica Facials,  
OPI Manicures & Pedicures

Waxing, Eye Treatments  
& St Tropez Tanning

**SANA SMITH-TILLEY**  
**BABTAC, City and Guilds**

Phone 07732 632944

Email [sana.st@btinternet.com](mailto:sana.st@btinternet.com)

Facebook The Retreat at Bramerton

Instagram @sanaretreat

Book a Free  
Assessment  
Today:



01892  
336842

## PREMIUM HOME CARE *with love*

We provide peace of mind to families by  
empowering older adults to live  
independently at home.

- Personal Care
- Companionship
- Dementia Care
- Post-Hospital Care

[amoracare.co.uk](http://amoracare.co.uk)



AMORA CARE

## Speldhurst Pre-School 2 - 5 years



**Claim your 2, 3 & 4 year old funding now!**

**Fantastic outdoor space, experienced qualified teachers, free parking,  
and a fun and structured curriculum.**

[speldhurst@kinderscity.co.uk](mailto:speldhurst@kinderscity.co.uk)  
[www.kinderscity.co.uk](http://www.kinderscity.co.uk)  
07787483520





Institute of  
Professional  
Willwriters

## Local Will Writing Service

We provide a Professional Will Writing Service in the comfort of your own home at a time convenient to you.

For a **FREE** Will Review & help with all types of Wills, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney and Probate.

CALL OUR LOCAL SPECIALIST **Tony Nunn**  
**01732 369294 or 0800 1698038**

**EKW LEGACY PLANNING**  
[www.ekwlegacyplanning.co.uk](http://www.ekwlegacyplanning.co.uk)

Is your  
**Will**  
up to date?

## Rusthall Dental Practice



Maintain your  
teeth for life...

- Teeth whitening
- Clear braces
- Nervous patients welcome
- Pain free dentistry
- Mercury free fillings
- Emergency appointments available
- Smile makeovers



39 Meadow Road, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 8UN

**Tel: 01892 536 598**

**Web: [www.rusthalldental.co.uk](http://www.rusthalldental.co.uk)**



**Sarah  
Clifford**  
complementary  
therapist

Treating the Person  
to treat the People  
Mental & Physical Wellbeing  
Be the best that you can be!

Microsystems Acupuncture with Healing  
Facial Acupuncture | NADA GB Trainer  
Eco Shamanic Practitioner  
Meditation Teacher  
Ayurvedic Dosha Diagnosis  
Ayurvedic Marma Massage  
Ayurvedic Head & Face Massage

Speldhurst: 07941 267 819  
[sarah@sarahclifford.co.uk](mailto:sarah@sarahclifford.co.uk)  
[www.sarahclifford.co.uk](http://www.sarahclifford.co.uk)



**James T. Moon**  
**Painting and Decorating**  
Interior and Exterior Projects  
Free Estimates  
Fully Insured  
Tel. 01892 861317  
Mob. 07766238012  
[james@jtmoon.co.uk](mailto:james@jtmoon.co.uk)



**ALL ASPECTS OF TREE SURGERY  
AND HEDGE CUTTING**

**01892 769 975 07757 601 170**  
**williamgordoncs.co.uk**

## SPELDHURST CARS

### MERCEDES S CLASS CHAUFFEUR SERVICE

AIRPORTS SEAPORTS LONDON etc.  
BUSINESS OR PLEASURE

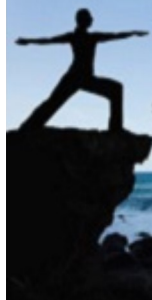
**01892 862961 07837 529885**

## Iyengar Yoga with Sam Davies at Speldhurst Village Hall

**BEGINNERS CLASS**  
MONDAYS 6.15PM - 7.15PM

**MIXED ABILITY CLASS**  
MONDAYS 7.30PM - 9.00PM

**INTERMEDIATE CLASS**  
WEDNESDAYS 6.30PM - 8.30PM



Please call to discuss/book  
**07769 975132**  
**samdaviesiyengaryoga.com**



## M E R E W O R T H M O T O R S



**Great Customer Service**  
Established 45 years



**Car and Light Van**  
Service and Repair



**FREE Local Collection &  
Delivery**



**MOT Repairs,  
Hybrid Servicing**

**Unit 2B, North Farm Road Tun Wells TN2 3DR**

**01892 532276**

**www.mereworthmotors.co.uk**

## SEVENOAKS WINDOW CLEANING SERVICES

Domestic and Commercial Window Cleaning  
Interior and Exterior Window Cleaning  
Cleaning Conservatories, Fascia & Soffits

USING THE LATEST PRESSURE CLEANING TECHNOLOGY WE ALSO CLEAN:

- ☐ Patios, Paths and Tarmac
- ☐ Block Paved Drives
- ☐ Stone and Brickwork
- ☐ Drain and Gutter Clearance
- ☐ Tennis Courts
- ☐ Full Insurance Cover

Please call for a free quote, no job too big or small!  
**01892 870656 07742 327026**  
**pat@sevenoaks-cleaning.co.uk www.sevenoaks-cleaning.co.uk**

## THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR ADVERTISING

**Contact: Eric Roughley**  
**Email: e.roughley222@btinternet.com**  
**Phone: 01892 863222**



## ANDY SAYERS ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Domestic & Commercial

**Installations-Rewires-Board Upgrades  
Fault Finding-Maintenance & Repairs  
Inspection & Testing Reports - Portable**

**App. Testing**

**Qualified to BS7671 2008 17<sup>th</sup>. Edition-  
Building Regs. part P**

Prompt, Reliable & Competitive Rates

**T. 01892 740631 M 07836 256146**

E.info@andysayerselectrical.co.uk

## Lower Green Caring Dentistry Rusthall

High quality treatments, in a safe and caring environment at affordable prices

Call us today on **01892 616142**

We offer same day emergency appointments and cosmetic treatments

[www.lowergreencaringdentistry.co.uk](http://www.lowergreencaringdentistry.co.uk)



Delicious cakes for all occasions,  
home-baked to order by Karen

**07989 092284**

[www.baketastic.co.uk](http://www.baketastic.co.uk)

Find us on Facebook: Baketastic cakes  
"Fantastic cakes, would thoroughly recommend!"

## Seasonal Cut Flowers

For gifts, celebrations & functions

From Ruth & Graham Garrod's  
nursery in Speldhurst

Beautiful blooms at excellent prices

**07754 126677 & 07448 113983**

[ruth\\_garrod@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ruth_garrod@hotmail.co.uk)



[www.richards-fencing.co.uk](http://www.richards-fencing.co.uk)

**01892 770186**

## Unfold

**Holistic Upper Body Massage**

Treat yourself to an hour of Pure Relaxation...

Treatments given seated in a chair, either  
through clothing or applying organic oil.

To book contact Rachael:

[unfoldrelaxation@gmail.com](mailto:unfoldrelaxation@gmail.com)

**07769 647495**

Gift Vouchers Available

## EMMA THE FOOT LADY

~ Foot Care in Your Home ~

Corns & Calluses

Ingrowing Nails

Diabetic Foot

Thickened Nail

Fungal Infection

Nail Trimming

Reflexology

Athlete's Foot

**Emma Tamkin MAR MAFHP MCFHP**

**07759 476912**

[emmathefootlady@gmail.com](mailto:emmathefootlady@gmail.com)



**LANGTON GREEN VILLAGE HALL**

**Movement to Music**

(seated or standing)

**Tuesdays at 2pm**

**Contact Dianne: 07900 423676**

**Email: [dianne@seated-exercise.co.uk](mailto:dianne@seated-exercise.co.uk)**

## Traditional

**Mole, Rabbit, Mouse, Mink &  
Squirrel Catcher**  
(no poisons used)

**PETER KING**

**07432 813614**

**01892 520287**

**pkingmoles@outlook.com**

## RMW SERVICES

**Rebecca Woodmansee**

~~~~~  
LADY DECORATOR SPECIALISING IN  
CUSTOM PAINTED FURNITURE AND  
KITCHENS

T: 07761 530679

On Facebook, Instagram or email  
rebecca.woodmansee1@gmail.com

**Tilly Bee Flowers**



Your local florist providing flowers for  
all occasions - weddings, funerals,  
bouquets & gifts.

Call Samantha on 07429198366 /  
01892 319677 or find us on Facebook

**GROOMBRIDGE**  
**FARM**  
**SHOP**

• WINNER •  
"Best Farm Shop in Kent, 2017" 

Open every day

**01892 861753**

## 'A DOG'S BEST FRIEND'

Services which go the extra mile  
for your special friend

**Home Boarding    Dog Walking**  
**Dog washing**

Fully Licensed and Insured

**Call Adam Gurr on**

Home: 01892 534790

Mobile: 07983 458706



**MATHS**  
**TUTOR**

**Kelvin Paterson BA (Mathematics)**

Fully qualified and experienced teacher offering local  
private tutoring to KS3, GCSE and A Level



Telephone: 01892 231974

kelvinmpaterson@gmail.com

Erindale, High Street, Bidborough

$$A = \pi r^2$$



**OVEN LEGENDS**  
PROFESSIONAL OVEN CLEANING

[www.ovenlegends.co.uk](http://www.ovenlegends.co.uk) / [Fi.info@ovenlegends.co.uk](mailto:Fi.info@ovenlegends.co.uk)

Our family run, fully insured oven cleaning  
technician will clean your oven to the highest  
standard. We use an exclusive range of products  
that are safe for use around children and pets.

**M: 07775 501 797**

**T: 01732 387 007**

**A1**

## GARDEN SERVICES

*For all your Gardening and  
Landscaping*

Turfing, seeding, paths & patios, shed  
bases, garden clearance, hedge cutting & all  
tree work.

**Reasonable rates**

Contact Martyn on 01892 544556 or  
07787 156513 or

[martyn.lawrence@virginmedia.com](mailto:martyn.lawrence@virginmedia.com)



## **THE AERIAL MAN**

Family Run Business-Welcome to the Digital Age

**HD READY AERIAL INSTALLATION  
CCTV & SECURITY LIGHTING**

**NO CALL OUT CHARGE**

**Special rates for senior citizens**

**07436564897 or 07399064695**

## ***Trevor Hinton Restorations***

**Over 30 years' experience in  
Conservation and Restoration**

Waxing, French Polishing, Gilding  
Antique Painted Furniture etc.

**Careful and Concise**

**Tel: 07751 364343**

**2 Peters Bank Cottages, Penshurst Road,  
Bidborough**

## **TIRED OF CLEANING?**

Let Houseproud come to your rescue,  
with quality home cleaning and  
ironing for just  
£13.50 per hour.

Call *Sarah Sykes* on

**07831 394422**

**[www.reallyhouseproud.com](http://www.reallyhouseproud.com)**

## **Groombridge Osteopathy**

**BEN PARKER BSc (HONS) OST MED  
AND ASSOCIATES**

**REGISTERED OSTEOPATHS**

The Old Bank . Station Road  
Groombridge . Nr Tunbridge Wells . TN3 9QY  
tel: **01892 864000**

[www.groombridgeosteopathy.co.uk](http://www.groombridgeosteopathy.co.uk)

*Evening & Saturday appointments available  
Accepted by Health Insurance Companies*

  
**AIRPORT CAR SERVICES**  
**(01892) 731 221**



Book online

[www.airport-car-services.co.uk](http://www.airport-car-services.co.uk)

[bookings@twacs.co.uk](mailto:bookings@twacs.co.uk)

*"Arrive in style with  
ACS Chauffeurs"*



**Matt Raybone**  
Painter & Decorator

07852 442337

[mattraybone@icloud.com](mailto:mattraybone@icloud.com)

**CHARLOTTE WILLIAMS  
~ DESIGN ~**

07970 898441

[charlotte@c-w-design.co.uk](mailto:charlotte@c-w-design.co.uk)

[www.c-w-design.co.uk](http://www.c-w-design.co.uk)

**BEAUTIFUL BESPOKE KITCHENS**

**Volkswagen Audi Specialist Ltd**



Volkswagen, Audi, Seat & Skoda Specialist  
All Makes Welcome  
Service and Repairs  
Local Vehicle Collection  
**8a, Chapman Way, High Brooms, TN2 3EF**  
**01892 530840**

## WELD DONE

Welding, Metalwork and  
Ornamental Ironwork  
For quotations and advice contact

Neil Davies on:  
Tel: 01892 740432 / 07962 502914  
Email: [neilwelddone@hotmail.com](mailto:neilwelddone@hotmail.com)  
April Cottage, The Lane,  
Fordcombe, Kent, TN3 0RP

## K Jarrett [Est 1981]

FMB Member & Trust Mark Reg.  
Carpentry Joinery General Building  
From door hanging to extensions  
Tel: 01892 861799  
m. 07814298069  
email: [Leeds59@aol.com](mailto:Leeds59@aol.com)  
or visit  
[www.kjarrettcarpentrykent.co.uk](http://www.kjarrettcarpentrykent.co.uk)



**Yoga for Everyone**  
Small group classes  
In my Speldhurst garden studio  
[www.kirstysyoga.co.uk](http://www.kirstysyoga.co.uk)  
**07748 644689**

## FOR HEDGE CUTTING and **MOWING**

and all house and garden  
maintenance

**IAN STUART-BLACK**  
**01580 200010**  
**07743 472055**



## MAKING TAX DIGITAL

Accountants and Bookkeepers  
**Mike Stoner FIFA, FTA FIPA FAIA**  
Contact: **ASTON STEELE**  
**07753 132898**  
Email: [aastonsteele@gmail.com](mailto:aastonsteele@gmail.com)  
Website: [astonsteele.business.site](http://astonsteele.business.site)



**LOCAL HANDYMAN**

By SEB.ELLIS.FENTON

TEL / TEXT / WHATSAPP / EMAIL  
**07704 122070**  
[SEFHOMIMPROVEMENTS@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:SEFHOMIMPROVEMENTS@OUTLOOK.COM)

**FULLY INSURED - NO JOB TOO SMALL**



**PHOENICA**

DREAM \* DESIGN \* REVIVE

INTERIOR DESIGN  
COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN  
DESIGN APPRAISAL  
PRODUCT SOURCING

Email: [info@phoenica.co.uk](mailto:info@phoenica.co.uk)  
Tel: 01892 862248  
[www.phoenica.co.uk](http://www.phoenica.co.uk)



ASSOCIATE



**Plumbing & heating  
Boiler installations  
Servicing  
Bathroom installations**

01892 489028

[www.bennix.co.uk](http://www.bennix.co.uk)



## *P M Braim Wood Finishers*

Traditional restoration of fine antique and modern furniture. Commercial and domestic work undertaken. Staircases, doors and panelling. Floors sanded, sealed and lacquered. 20 years experience.

7 St Margaret's Road,

East Grinstead, RH19 3JH

<http://www.pmbraim.co.uk>

**Tel : 01342 322559**

**"IT'S AS EASY AS ABC"**

**PRIVATE TUITION BY  
QUALIFIED TEACHER**

**ALL PRIMARY ENGLISH, MATHS AND  
SCIENCE**

**11+ TUITION**



**BIOLOGY GCSE**

**CHEMISTRY GCSE**



**MRS CORNELIA COLMAN**

**LRSC, BSC, PGCE**

**01892 862846**



Pilates Studio in Speldhurst

Offering private sessions promoting strength, mobility and movement rehabilitation using pilates equipment.

Email: [hfpilates@gmail.com](mailto:hfpilates@gmail.com)

Telephone/Text: 07813774496

## **Top Mark Traders**

**Mark Pring**

Painter, Decorator and Multi-Trade

**NO JOB TOO SMALL**

Always At Your Service

07935100922

[markpring@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:markpring@hotmail.co.uk)

## **GROOMBRIDGE MOTORING CENTRE**

MOT Servicing Repairs

Air-con Diagnostics

A local friendly garage offering a traditional service

**01892 861500**

[stewart-vfmautosales@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stewart-vfmautosales@tiscali.co.uk)

For wherever you wish you were...

*Plum*

TRAVEL BEYOND BESPOKE

...tailor-made holidays with inspiration included.

Call Claire: 01892 710810 or 07899 065321

email: [claire@plumtravel.co.uk](mailto:claire@plumtravel.co.uk)

[www.plumtravel.co.uk](http://www.plumtravel.co.uk)

## **TELEVID**

4K Ultra HD/LED TVs, Digital TV

Home Cinema Systems

Tune Ups/After Sales Support

**FREE DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION**

**Steve Turner**

40, High Street, Rusthall

**01892 521295**

# LET US HELP FIND YOUR NEXT MORTGAGE

MORTGAGES & LIFE ASSURANCE  
CRITICAL ILLNESS COVER  
BUILDING & CONTENTS INSURANCE



MORTGAGE BROKERS

NICHOLAS COFFIN CEMAP

MOTHER GOOSE MORTGAGES LTD

UNIT B9, SPELDHURST BUSINESS PARK, LANGTON ROAD, SPELDHURST, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT TN3 0AQ

TEL 01892 862534 - MOBILE 07867 803121 - FAX 08452 805995

EMAIL [nick.coffin@mother-goose.co.uk](mailto:nick.coffin@mother-goose.co.uk) - [www.mother-goose.co.uk](http://www.mother-goose.co.uk)

\* Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.

\* Mother Goose Mortgages Ltd is an appointed representative of First Complete Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.  
\* We charge a fee for mortgage advice of between 0% and 2% of the mortgage amount - payable at application. The exact amount we will charge is dependent on the amount of research and administration that is required.



SPELDHURST'S  
EST. SHOP 2019

FRESH BREAD, FRUIT, VEGETABLES & MEAT, ALL AVAILABLE TO ORDER  
NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES • PROVISIONS, CARDS & GIFTS  
WINES, BEERS & SPIRITS • DRY CLEANING & LAUNDRY  
FRESH COFFEE & CAKES



## OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday 7.30AM - 5PM  
(Post Office 9AM - 5PM)

Saturday 8AM - 1PM  
(Post Office 9AM - 1PM)

Sunday 8AM - 11AM  
(Post Office CLOSED)

CALL US ON 01892 863158 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PLACE AN ORDER

Front cover image - Maria Turner



# GEORGE & DRAGON

*Speldhurst*



**UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT**

**Now Fully Open**

**Telephone: 01892 338549**

**email: [bookings @ganddspeldhurst.com](mailto:bookings@ganddspeldhurst.com)**

**Speldhurst Hill, Speldhurst, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN3 0NN**