



WELCOME TO MARDEN

AN INTRODUCTORY GUIDE TO THE VILLAGE

FEBRUARY 2024



THIS GUIDE PROVIDES A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO MARDEN

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WELCOME

If you have recently moved to the area, welcome to our village in the lovely Weald of Kent.

We hope you will enjoy living here. This pamphlet contains some facts which we think you would like to know.

SITUATION

Marden is situated approximately 8 miles south of the County Town of Maidstone with its excellent shopping, educational and recreational facilities.

The Parish of Marden, which includes Chainhurst, consists of mainly mixed farming and has a population of just over 5000. It is in an area renowned for the growing of apples and hops.

The village benefits from local shops including a Post Office, three Convenience Stores, Butchers and Bakers. The village boasts three Public Houses, all of which serve good food and the Village Club. There is also a Chinese take-away, fish and chip/kebab shop, a cafe and two Indian restaurants. The village is well served by its successful Medical Centre, Dentist, Hairdressers, Beauty Salon as well as two Garages and Veterinary Surgery. Marden also has a very large business community – the majority of which is in Pattenden Lane. Marden Station offers a regular main line service to London and the South East.

The first settlement in Marden or Meredenne is thought to have been before the 9th Century. The densely forested Weald was very wet and swampy but became used for pig grazing and the clearings providing temporary settlement for herdsmen which were called 'dens' - Marden. The availability of timber as a building material encouraged permanent settlement and Marden had a church by 1085. This church is mentioned in the Domesday Monachorum.

Marden has always been closely linked to the land and it has been from agriculture that the village has derived its prosperity. The Wealden forest provided timber for construction and fuel. This, in addition to water for power and sheep for wool, made Marden an ideal area for cloth production. Migrant Flemish in the 16th Century provided the expertise and mills were sited in Pattenden and Sheephurst Lanes.

A SHORT SUMMARY OF MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Local affairs in the Parish are governed by the PARISH COUNCIL of eleven Councillors, elected every four years; the next election being May 2024.

The office of Marden Parish Council is situated to the front of Marden Memorial Hall, Goudhurst Road, Marden and is open to the public on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am to 12noon – appointments outside of these times are welcome but please ring beforehand to ensure someone is in the office to assist you. However, you can always contact the Parish Clerk, Alison Hooker, by telephone on 01622 832305 (mobile 07376 287981) or email clerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk or the Deputy Clerk, Rachel Gillis-Coates (mobile 07940 241333) or email deputyclerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk. (Please note the Parish Office is closed on Wednesdays and any phone or email messages left on this day will be answered the following morning).

The Parish Council has its own website www.mardenkent-pc.gov.uk – this is updated on a regular basis and contain information regarding the Parish Council including agendas, copies of previous minutes, meeting dates, Council policies and procedures, quarterly newsletters, village welcome pack, contact details along with a lot of other useful information. There is also a Parish Events section which allows organisations from the village to advertise their upcoming events together with a section for organisations/ groups to have their own site page. Just contact Alison or Rachel for further details. We are also on social media on the following platforms:

Facebook: [@mardenparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/mardenparishcouncil)

Twitter: [@mardenkentpc](https://twitter.com/mardenkentpc)

Instagram: [@mardenparishcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/mardenparishcouncil)

These gives details of the Parish Council meetings and events plus any useful information about Marden.

The Parish Council Newsletter is produced three times a year and is delivered to all households in Marden. It can also be downloaded from the website. The newsletter provides the village with details of what the Parish Council has been doing and what is happening in the future along with other relevant information. Residents can also sign up to a weekly e-newsletter which provides details of road closures, meetings and important details to note – please contact Rachel if you wish to discuss further.

This Welcome Pack is available to all new residents to give them a brief introduction to Marden. If you know of anyone new to the village contact Alison or Rachel.

The Parish Council meets on the second Tuesday of every month for a Full Council meeting, first and third Tuesday for Planning and fourth Tuesday for Amenities. Please contact the Parish Office or view the agenda in regards to the meeting venues. All meetings commence at 7.30pm and agendas can be viewed prior to the meeting via the website or notice boards at the Parish Office, Library, Old Post Office Café, Campion Way, Highwood Green and Chainhurst. They are also available to be downloaded from the Parish Council website.

Members of the public are welcome to attend any of the Parish Council meetings and there is an opportunity to speak at the beginning of the Full Council meeting.

If you wish to raise an issue at these meetings you should contact the Chairman, Clerk, Deputy Clerk or approach one of the Councillors at least a week prior to the meeting. At the beginning of our monthly meetings we have an Open Session for members of the Public to express their views.

The ANNUAL PARISH MEETING is normally held in April or May each year in Marden Memorial Hall and for this year it will be 2nd April 2024 in the Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm. Speakers are usually arranged in February and if you have a subject you would be interested in hearing more on, please let Alison or Rachel know. Historic Village Societies and Organisations reports can be viewed on the Parish Council website.

The main event in the Marden Parish Council diary is the "Marden at Christmas" celebrations and this will be held on Saturday 7th December 2024 - this involves Morris Dancing and carol singing at The Allens (opposite Stanley's Garage) with a visit to Father Christmas in his Grotto and a Christmas Fair at the Marden Memorial Hall. Many other village organisations take part and run events also on the day. Thanks are expressed to all who helped in previous years celebrations. Hopefully we can continue with the event for many years to come.

MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL AND USEFUL CONTACTS

Chairman: Cllr Kate Tippen 01622 832305 / kate.tippen1@gmail.com
 Vice-Chairman: Cllr Andy Turner 07803 598813

Councillors: Cllr Richard Adam 01622 831673 / mpc@tn12.uk
 Cllr Matt Besant 01622 832305
 Cllr Anne Boswell 07828 868703
 Cllr Theresa Gibson 01622 832305
 Cllr Ian Newton 01622 831832
 Cllr Adrian Rabot 01622 832305
 Cllr Jean Robertson 01622 831331 / 07950 816370
 Cllr Tom Stevens 01622 832305
 Cllr Mike Summersgill 01622 832305

Parish Clerk: Alison Hooker 01622 832305 / 07376 287981
 Deputy Parish Clerk: Rachel Gillis-Coates 01622 832305 / 07940 241333
 Admin Asst: Lisa Stevens 01622 832305

Address: Parish Office, Marden Memorial Hall, Goudhurst Road, Marden TN12 9JX

Parish Office Number: 01622 832305

Parish Clerk Email: clerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk

Deputy Parish Clerk Email: deputyclerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk

Admin Asst Email: adminassistant@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk

Marden Parish Council Website: www.mardenkent-pc.gov.uk

Office Opening Times: Monday, Tuesday and Friday - 10.00am to 12.00pm

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Annabelle Blackmore 01622 833299 / annabelleblackmore@maidstone.gov.uk

David Burton 07590 229910 / david.burton@burtons.uk.com

Claudine Russell claudinerussell@maidstone.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Lottie Parfitt-Reid: 07919 360000 / Lottie.parfitt-reid@kent.gov.uk

POLICE

Non-emergency: 101 or via [Report a crime | Kent Police](#)

Emergency: 999

COMMUNITY WARDEN

Mira Martin 07969 584179 (mobile)
 Email: mira.martin@kent.gov.uk

CONTACTS ORGANISATIONS & SOCIETIES

ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
AA	c/o Marden Memorial Hall 07975 220097 Mon 8.00pm-9.30pm
Allotment Society	Currently being set up
Art Classes	Vera Kelly VK555@btinternet.com
Badminton (Adult)	Mark Cooper 01622 831833 Weds 7.30pm-9.30pm Memorial Hall (Sept to May)
Bell Ringing	Jane Higgs bellringers@mardenchurch.org.uk
Bowls Club	Brian Cooper briancoopermbc@gmail.com 07801 594147
Children's Centre	The School House, Goudhurst Road (next to Primary School) 01622 831503 bridget.manser@kent.gov.uk Mardenchildrenscentre@kent.gov.uk
Community Lunch	Janet McIntosh 01622 831256 Monday 12.30pm, once a month
Cricket & Hockey Club	membership@mardenchc.co.uk admin@mardenchc.co.uk Russell Wheldon marketing@mardenchc.co.uk Hockey – Matt Mitchell mattmitchellxv@gmail.com 01622 822656
Crochet & Knitting Group	Crichards02@outlook.com Every Tuesday 7pm to 9pm West End Tavern, Marden
Friends of Marden Medical Centre	01622 831257
Heritage Centre (at Marden Library)	history@mardenhistory.org.uk

ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Horticultural Society	Sue Pennicott, Chairman pennicottlane@btinternet.com Jane Stevens (Communication) Janestevens2409@gmail.com www.Mardengardeners.uk
INVOLVE- provides a range of Social Prescribing Services via referral from MMC	03000 810005 www.involvekent.org.uk www.westkentprimarycare.co.uk/primary-care-networks/weald-pcn/ SOCIAL PRESCRIBING – WEALD PCN: stephanie.guthridge@involvekent.co.uk janine.mclellan@involvekent.org.uk jade.smith@involvekent.org.uk They all work with the surgery HEALTH INEQUALITIES – INTEGRATED CARE BOARD (covers West Kent): sarah.smith@involvekent.co.uk Sarah deals with referrals and attends Marden Foodbank fortnightly natalie.markins@involvekent.org.uk Deals with activities and contact for Community Transport CHILDREN’S HEALTH & WELLBEING: lesley.campbell@involvekent.org.uk katie.filmer@involvekent.org.uk
K20 Cycling Club	www.k20cyclingclub.org
Library	Mardenlibrary@kent.gov.uk 01622 831619 Tues- Fri 10.00 to 13.00 and 14.00 to 17.00 Sat 9.00 to 13.00 Rhyme time, Friday 10-10.20am
Little Fishes Playgroup for Babies and Toddlers	Kathy Young 01622 831890 office@mardenchurch.org.uk rev.nickyharvey@gmail.com Vestry Hall Every Wednesday (term time only) 9.30am – 11.00am

ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Living Memories & Marden Dementia Friendly Group	Rachel Chacon mardendfcinfo@gmail.com 2 nd and 4 th Tuesday of each month 10.30am to 12.30pm Vestry Hall
Marden Business Forum	committee@mardenbusinessforum.com
Marden Community Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO)	Mardencommunitycio@gmail.com Kate Tippen A charity for the relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, of people living in Marden Parish by making grants of money available for providing or paying for items, services, or facilities.
Marden Community Eco Hub	fiskanna@talktalk.net
Marden Community Engagement Forum	John Haddow Johnehaddow@yahoo.co.uk Collaborative group – Parish Council, Medical Centre, Children’s Centre, Dementia Group, Marden Church, Marden, Involve, Youth etc
Marden Food Bank	Kathy Young 07834 760787 office@mardenchurch.org.uk
Marden In Bloom	Anne Boswell (Chairman) anne.boswell@ymail.com
Marden Memorial Hall	(Bookings) 07925 220097 mardenmemorialhall@yahoo.co.uk
Marden Motor Club	Nick Ferguson-Gow nickfgow@googlemail.com
Marden Oddfellows	Rose 01643 868308 Rosaline.mills@oddfellows.co.uk 2 nd Monday in the month 11am-1pm Memorial Hall
Marden Patient Participation Group (PPG)	johnehaddow@yahoo.co.uk (Chairman)
Marden Pre-School Playgroup	Hayley Schlosser (Manager) 01622 832857 mardenpreschool@yahoo.co.uk Marden Memorial Hall - term time only Mon, Tues, Weds & Thurs 8.45am – 2.45am Fri 8.45am – 11.45pm

ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Marden Primary Academy PTA	c/o Marden Primary School mardenpta@outlook.com
Marden Scout Group	Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers Contact@mardenscouts.org.uk
Marden Society	Steve McArragher (Chairman) Steve.mcarragher@btinternet.com 01622 831007
Marden Sporting Memories	Sue Eltringham or Caroline 01622 833053 MardenSportingMemories@gmail.com Tuesdays 2.30pm-4pm, Marden Cricket & Hockey Club
Marden Tennis Club	c/o Marden Cricket & Hockey Club
Marden Theatre Group	Claire Milner (Chairman) info@mardentheatregroup.co.uk
Marden Village Club	01622 831427 office@mardenvillageclub.co.uk membership.mardenvc@gmail.com www.mardenvillageclub.co.uk
Marden Walking Group	sianburr@hotmail.co.uk steve.mcarragher@btinternet.com
Marden Wildlife Group	Ray Morris lepiat@hotmail.co.uk Lou Carpenter Richard.lou.carpenter@gmail.com
Men's Breakfast	Geoff Burr 01622 831106 / 07973 118241 geoffreyburr@btinternet.com
Mothers Union	mu@mardenchurch.org.uk
Parish Church Office	Kathy Young 01622 831890 office@mardenchurch.org.uk
Parish Magazine	01622 831890 (parish church office) advert@magazine.mardenchurch.org.uk 01622 831890 (parish church office) editor@magazine.mardenchurch.org.uk
Parochial Church Council	Ali Bonney (Secretary) 01580 891787 pccsecretary@mardenchurch.org.uk

ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Safe Anaesthesia	Roger Eltringham info@safe4all.org.uk
San Fairy Ann Cycling Club	www.sanfairyancc.co.uk
Short Mat Bowls	Shirley Collinson (Bookings) 01622 831755 Mon & Fri 7.30pm-9.30pm Memorial Hall
Group singing – Come and Sing	Julie Morgan Juliemorgan2601@gmail.com Alternate Thursday 2pm Vestry Hall
Sunday Club Children aged 3-11	Kathy Young Youthandchildren@mardenchurch.org.uk Sundays 10.30am – 11.45am Vestry Hall
Village Cafe	Friday 10am Vestry Hall
WET Golfers Society	wetgolfers@gmail.com
WI	Jean Robertson Jmr28@btinternet.com Moirra Ensoll moiraensoll@hotmail.com 1 st Thurs in Month – 7.15 pm – Vestry Hall 01622 831569
Youth club	Robert.yorke@kent.gov.uk Ellen.shaw@kent.gov.uk 07825 633793 Thursday 6-8pm John Banks Hall

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

COMPANY DESCRIPTION	CONTACT DETAILS
Chemist	High Street Marden 01622 831495 contact@mardenpharmacy.co.uk
Churches	St Michael & All Angels (CofE) Church Office: 01622 831890 office@mardenchurch.org.uk Revd Nicky Harvey rev.nickyharvey@gmail.com Kathy Young: Children & Youth Minister Kathy.young@btinternet.com Sarah Emanuel: Come & Sing emanuelfamily@btinternet.com
	Congregation Chapel West End, Marden Jean Robertson: jmr28@btinternet.com
Dentist	BUPA Church Green Marden 01622 831556
	Forge House Dental Practice High Street Staplehurst TN12 0AH 01580 892509
Doctors	Marden Medical Centre Church Green Marden 01622 831257 www.mardenmedicalcentre.nhs.uk
Funeral Directors	Doves High Street Staplehurst 01580 892125
	J Perigoe & Sons Bardens Bank Street Cranbrook 01580 713636

COMPANY DESCRIPTION	CONTACT DETAILS
Funeral Directors (contd)	K B Sills Kenwood High Street Cranbrook 01580 712284
	Sears 22 Church Road Paddock Wood 01892 836663
	Viners & Sons 54 High Street West Malling 01732 842485
	Henry Paul 50-52 Commercial Road Paddock Wood 01892 835955
Garage - petrol	Stanleys Albion Road Marden 01622 831278 / 831420
Gyms	Brigade Fitness www.Brigadefitness.co.uk Unit 8 The Cedars, The Willows Business Park Pattenden Lane, Marden, Kent, TN12 9QS
	CrossFit Hunta www.crossfit-hunta.co.uk Mill Farm, Hunton Road, Marden, Kent, TN12 9QX
Halls (to hire)	Marden Memorial Hall 07925 220097 mardenmemorialhall@yahoo.co.uk
	Vestry Hall Barbara Judd 01622 831609 vestryhall@mardenchurch.org.uk
	Marden Village Club 01622 831427 www.mardenvillageclub.co.uk
	Cricket & Hockey Club admin@mardenhc.co.uk

COMPANY DESCRIPTION	CONTACT DETAILS
Hospitals	Maidstone Hospital Hermitage Lane Maidstone 01622 729000
	Pembury Hospital Pembury 01892 823535
	Preston Hall London Road Aylesford 01622 710161
Karate	Chris Simpson 07801 639052 kentkarate@gmail.com www.shukokaikarateacademy.com Fri (Term time only) 6.00pm-7.00pm Memorial Hall
Library	Opening hours: Tues 10.00 to 13.00 and 14.00 to 17.00 Wed 10.00 to 13.00 and 14.00 to 17.00 Thurs 10.00 to 13.00 and 14.00 to 17.00 Fri 10.00 to 13.00 and 14.00 to 17.00 Sat 9.00 to 13.00 www.kent.gov.uk/libraries
Local Authority	Maidstone Borough Council Maidstone House King Street Maidstone 01622 602000
Local Newspapers	Downs Mail
	Kent Messenger
	Kent & Sussex Courier
	Wealden Advertiser
Golding Homes	County Gate One Staceys Street Maidstone ME14 1ST 0300 777 2600 www.goldinghomes.org.uk

COMPANY DESCRIPTION	CONTACT DETAILS
Maidstone Registry Office	Archbishops Palace Maidstone 08458 247 400 Registering of Births and Deaths Maidstone Library James Whatman Way Maidstone ME14 1LQ 03000 413131 Historyandlibrarycentre@kent.gov.uk Births, ceremonies and deaths - Kent County Council
Nurseries/Playgroups	Marden Pre-School Playgroup Marden Memorial Hall Goudhurst Road Marden 01622 832857 mardenpreschool@yahoo.co.uk
	Harpers Day Nursery Harpers Farm Summerhill Goudhurst TN17 1JU 01580 211236
	Poppy's Day Nursery Headcorn Road Staplehurst 01580 892600
Opticians	Elaine Yorwath 70 Commercial Road Paddock Wood 01892 833017
	Peter Jones Church Hill Staplehurst 01580 892269
Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre	94 Commercial Road Paddock Wood 01892 838619 info@pwadvice.org Open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 1.30pm
Pilates – Kent Pilates	enquiries@kentpilates.co.uk Jane Tugwell 07944075674 Tuesday 9-10am Thursday 9-10am John Banks Hall
Post Office	Crowhurst & Tompsetts/One Stop High Street Marden 01622 831212

COMPANY DESCRIPTION	CONTACT DETAILS
Primary School	Marden Primary Academy Goudhurst Road Marden 01622 831393 office@mardenprimaryacademy.org.uk
Public Houses (food)	West End Tavern West End Marden 01622 831956
	The Stilebridge Maidstone Road Marden 01622 831236
	The Unicorn High Street Marden 01622 831426
Public Transport	Bus Services 01622 69700 - www.Arrivabus.co.uk 01622 882288 – www.nu-venture.co.uk
	Train Services 03457 494950 - www.nationalrail.co.uk
Rugby Taggers	Rugbytaggers@gmail.com Darren Reeves 07834 225584 Saturday mornings, Marden Primary academy
Secondary Schools	New Line Learning (Cornwallis) Hubbards Lane Linton 01622 743152
	Mascalls Maidstone Road Paddock Wood TN12 6LT 01892 835366
	Maidstone Grammar School for Girls 01622 752103
	Maidstone Grammar School for Boys 01622 752101
	Invicta Girls School 01622 755856
	Oakwood Park Grammar School for Boys 01622 726683

COMPANY DESCRIPTION	CONTACT DETAILS
Shops	Ballards Butchers Church Green Marden 01622 831285
	Crowhurst & Tompsett (One Stop) High Street Marden 01622 831212
	The Green Door (Beauticians) High Street Marden 01622 832413
	Kent Mart Church Green Marden 01622 831083
	Little Marden Farm shop and country store Old Market Buildings, High St, Marden, Tonbridge TN12 9DR 01622 436889
	No 47 (Gift Shop) The Old Post Office High Street Marden 01622 832783
	West End Stores West End Marden 01622 831570
Take Aways / Restaurants / coffee shops	Kebab Fish Knight Church Green 01622 832831 (fish & chips / kebabs / burgers takeaway)
	Marden Tandoori Albion Road Marden 01622 832184 (Indian sit down and takeaway)
	Chinese Takeaway Maidstone Road 01622 832030 (Chinese takeaway)
	Marden Bakery High Street Marden 07837 819212 (bakery/sandwiches/jacket potatoes)

COMPANY DESCRIPTION	CONTACT DETAILS
Take Aways / Restaurants / coffee shops (contd.)	The Old Post Office Café High Street Marden 01622 833374 coffeehousemarden@gmail.com www.facebook.com/coffeehousemarden (coffee, cakes and light lunches)
	Taj of Kent Church Green Marden 01622 833339 / 833393 (Indian sit down and takeaway)
Taxi Services	MTC Headcorn 01622 890003
	Streamline West Station Approach Maidstone 01622 752978
Utilities	Electricity Emergency - 0800 783 8866
	Gas Emergency Services - 0800 111 999
	South East Water - 0444 000 0002
	Southern Water 0330 303 0368 / 0800 820 999
	Environmental Agency Floodline 0345 988 1188
Yoga – Balance and Blossom	Stephanie Felsted balanceandblossomyoga@gmail.com 07970577841 Monday 7.30-8.30PM Wednesday 9.15-10.15AM Saturday 8.45-9.45am, John Banks Hall
Yoga – Fox and Flow	Emily Fox - foxflowmarden@gmail.com 07787371064 Tuesday: 8-9PM, John Banks Hall
Yoga – Pregnancy Yoga	www.moveintoyogawithhannah.com/classes Thursdays 6.15 - 7.15pm Old School Room, Marden Memorial Hall
Zumba	Amanda Hindley 07792 785311 Tues 7.30pm-8.30pm Thurs 7.30pm-8.30pm Memorial Hall