Welcome to West Peckham

You will always find a welcome in West Peckham – Here are a few ideas and contacts







Cricket







The Green at West Peckham is one of the most picturesque village cricket grounds you will ever see. It is overlooked by the ancient church at long on and the Kentish oast at third man. The community owned Swan-on-the-Green, just over the boundary, has been serving a cool pint or two to the players after the game for many years. Cricket at West Peckham is recorded as long ago 1790 so we are keen to keep it going.

The team, which plays friendly games on some Sundays during the summer against other local sides, aims to be as welcoming as its surroundings. It comprises a wide range of ages, experience, shapes and sizes and is keen to involve anyone from the village and the surrounding area who would like to participate.

There is also youth cricket coaching for boys and girls aged 5 to 15 on the Green during summer holidays on Thursdays from 6pm to 7pm.

If you are interested in playing cricket, please contact Jonathan Pearce at jppearce57@gmail.com

Fete



The annual West Peckham Fete takes place on the first Saturday of July and is one of the main village events of the year.

A much-loved tradition, the fete brings together residents and visitors for an afternoon of family-friendly entertainment on the Village Green. Supported by a dedicated team of volunteers, the event plays an important role in the local community.

Visitors can enjoy a variety of attractions and activities, including a Classic Car Show, children's entertainment and activities, live performances, food stalls and refreshments. With something for all ages, the fete offers the perfect opportunity to come together and enjoy the unique charm of village life. As the fete draws to a close, the celebrations continue into the evening with a community gathering for village residents and their guests.

Proceeds from the West Peckham Fete support the Village Hall, St Dunstan's Church and The Swan on the Green, ensuring they remain at the heart of village life for years to come.

Helpers are always needed. If you would like to volunteer please contact wpfete@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch



West Peckham Neighbourhood Watch is an email-based service run by and for the benefit of our community.

The intention of Neighbourhood Watch is crime prevention. By circulating information that makes everyone aware of specific crimes or suspicious behaviour, villagers can be alert and take care to protect themselves and their property. The service is also linked to our local Neighbourhood Policing team and a Kent Neighbourhood Watch organiser. Each member is encouraged to report any crime or suspicious activity to police through normal channels but also inform our Neighbourhood Watch immediately so that details can be circulated to the village.

The contact for West Peckham Neighbourhood Watch is:

- Andrew Pembroke, Contact on: wpneighbourhoodwatch@gmail.com
- Telephone 07538827933

Registered Scheme No 00186077. For details of how to join please visit ourwatch.org

We endeavour to have monthly get togethers at either the Village Hall daytime or the Swan on the Green evenings. Update on meeting and further bulletins in The Record pamphlet and westpeckhamonline on Facebook.

WI

West Peckham WI has been part of the West Peckham community since 1920. We meet on the second Monday of each month from February to December at 7.30pm at West Peckham Village Hall.

Our ethos is ‘Women building community through connection, kindness, support and friendship’. We have a thriving membership, some of whom live in and around the surrounding area, and there is always lots going on both at our meetings and during the month through the many different sub-groups that are on offer. These include a book club, craft group, play reading, a gardening group and a photography group, so plenty to choose from. In addition, we have a fantastic events team who organise regular lunches, outings, theatre trips and of course our regular attendance at The Swan on the Green pub monthly coffee mornings.

So, if you just want to come along to see what we do or are interested in joining us please come along to one of our meetings, you will always receive a warm welcome.

Or alternatively visit our Facebook page (westpeckhamwi) or see us on Instagram (@westpeckham_wi)

Contact details:
Email: westpeckhamwi@wkfwi.org.uk
Viv Bennet President 07484 808 115
Emma Johnson Secretary 07456 408 404

Parish Council

West Peckham parish council is a civil local authority and is the first tier of local government.

Council members are all volunteers who have been elected to serve the local community. The council has a number of responsibilities from looking after locally owned assets, like the village Green, through to projects like the taxi voucher scheme that helps those in need to get to from hospital appointments etc. It is the umbrella organisation that enables a number of other events to happen, the annual Fireworks display, for example. It also works with other agencies at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council (TMBC) and Kent County Council (KCC) in a consultancy or advisory capacity. As such the council represents the views and needs of residents on planning matters with TMBC and on the maintenance of roads and footpaths with KCC.

The Council is funded through the local precept (collected by TMBC on our behalf). Meetings of the Parish Council take place in the Village Hall on the first Monday of every second month at 19:30. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Minutes of our meetings are published on the website westpeckham-PC.gov.uk and a report of the meeting in the West Peckham and Mereworth Record monthly magazine.

If you would like to know more or would like to become a councillor, please contact marion.may@westpeckham-pc.gov.uk

Pilates



Pilates classes have taken place in West Peckham Village Hall for a number of years under the leadership of Felicity. Felicity is a certified Body Control Pilates instructor since 2004, having completed extensive training and continuing ongoing development.

Pilates will help to strengthen, realign, tone and mobilise your whole body. It will also improve your posture and is a great way to release tension and unwind. Pilates exercises are controlled movements which focus on your core strength, spinal and pelvic alignment, breathing and improving coordination and balance. Pilates is great for all fitness levels and abilities.

Felicity holds a group mat class from 08:45-09:45 every Monday morning, perfect for getting your week off to a great start! She also offers small group or 1-1 lessons if you prefer.

For details please contact Felicity on felicitymiligan@hotmail.com

Yoga



Yoga classes have been running in West Peckham Village Hall for 15 years.

The hall is an excellent yoga studio: light in the summer and cosy in the winter and with plenty of parking.

Sam is a qualified adult yoga teacher who also runs children's yoga, Tatty Bumpkin. She aims to teach 'village' yoga, that is to a wide age range (sometimes 15 – 70 years old), by making the class inclusive and of a level suitable for everyone. Often there are experienced yogis next to those who are just starting out but all can take something from the class.

The class is Hatha yoga with breath and relaxation. The whole body is stretched, helping to attain an inner calm. Sometime yoga can come across as intimidating, but this class is friendly, sometimes challenging but always achievable and with a large helping of relaxation and fun!

Classes are held at 7.45pm on Thursday evenings in 6-week blocks. £7 per 75-minute class. Mats and blocks are available. Booking is essential

Contact sam@tattybumpkin.com or 07956 686808

St Dunstan's Church





The pretty Saxon church of St Dunstan's, West Peckham, offers a warm welcome and a place for prayerful peace.

Regular Sunday worship is at either 8am (1st and 3rd Sundays) or 11.15am (2nd and 4th Sundays). Special services during the year may also take place, for example, a comfort service for the bereaved of this parish and of neighbouring Mereworth parish at the end of October. The Priest in Charge is available to talk about weddings, baptisms and funerals or any other occasion that might be celebrated in church. Contact Paul Spensley [churchwarden] paul.spensley@me.com

Choir

At Easter, Christmas and Harvest Festival an occasional choir joins the congregation of St Dunstan's. Since 2008 it has swelled both in number and repertoire, becoming almost proficient along the way! New members are always welcome. Practices are on a Wednesday evening in the weeks leading up to the event and are followed by a debrief in the pub. Contact Paul Spensley on paul.spensley@me.com

Flower Arranging

The church lends itself to simple garden flower and foliage arrangements. Most decorations are sourced from the gardens and hedgerows of the village. If weddings and funerals or other occasions need more professional work the flower team endeavour to provide what is required. There is a regular rota which is always open to new volunteers. Everyone joins in and helps at festivals! Contact Liz Corfe on 01622 812529

General and Brass Cleaning

Hardly a glamorous job but surprisingly rewarding! There is a team of people who work in pairs to clean the church and polish the brass throughout the year. If you would like to join the team contact Sue Simpson on js51sas@btinternet.com

Flower and Produce Show



Revived in 2013 the Flower and Produce Show is held on the first Saturday of September.

Nearly 100 entries in 25 odd categories display the considerable talent of West Peckham villagers. Flowers, vegetables, cakes, preserves and bread go head to head in friendly competition. Light hearted categories exist for comedy vegetables, a man bake and children's entries. Judging takes place in secret, the results eagerly awaited by competitors and spectators alike. Some of the entries may be sampled with a cup of tea in the afternoon. Prizes are awarded to the winners of each category, with a luxury produce-themed hamper for the best in show. The overall winner takes home a silver trophy, a tradition restored from shows of the past.

Results and photos of the event are posted on the West Peckham Online Facebook page. Everyone is welcome to participate; look out for the announcements in the Record and via the Neighbourhood Watch emails in July and August.

Village Hall



The present village hall was built in 1994 after a successful fundraising campaign by local people.

It is managed as a charity and the donations it receives help fund refurbishment and improvements to facilities provided. For example, in autumn 2015 a new and much improved kitchen was installed.

The main hall can accommodate 100 people. There is also a separate committee room available for smaller gatherings. The kitchen is equipped with a four-ring electric hob and oven as well as a second oven/microwave unit. There is a storeroom for tables and chairs and these are also available for hire by residents for home events for a small charge.

Many local groups use the Hall on a regular basis. These include the Women's Institute, Pilates and yoga classes, an art group, a dog training class and a fitness exercise class. Modest charges make it a great venue for family celebrations and children's parties, and the hall acts as the village's polling station on election days.

The Village Hall committee is always pleased to welcome new users, so if you are interested in more information please visit the website on www.westpeckhamvillagehall.co.uk or contact Ron Wright on 07761 005995.

Swan-on-the-Green



The Swan on the Green was purchased by the community and with help from the Government's Community Ownership Fund (COF) in March 2025 and is proudly owned by 463 shareholders who invested in its future.

Their support has safeguarded this historic 16th-century pub and ensured it will continue thriving for generations to come. Our shareholders come not only from the village, but from the wider community and even from around the world.

The Swan offers an extensive range of food and drink, featuring dishes inspired by global flavours, Kentish real ales and ciders, some of the produce is grown just metres from our doorstep. Local strawberries, soft fruits and fresh salads supplied from nearby farms reflect our commitment to quality and provenance.

We are proud to work with exceptional local suppliers who provide the freshest ingredients, showcased in every plate served at The Swan. Combined with our team's experience and passion, we aim to make every visit a memorable one.

For bookings contact 01622 812000 or Bookings@swan-on-the-green.co.uk

Oil & Acrylic Course

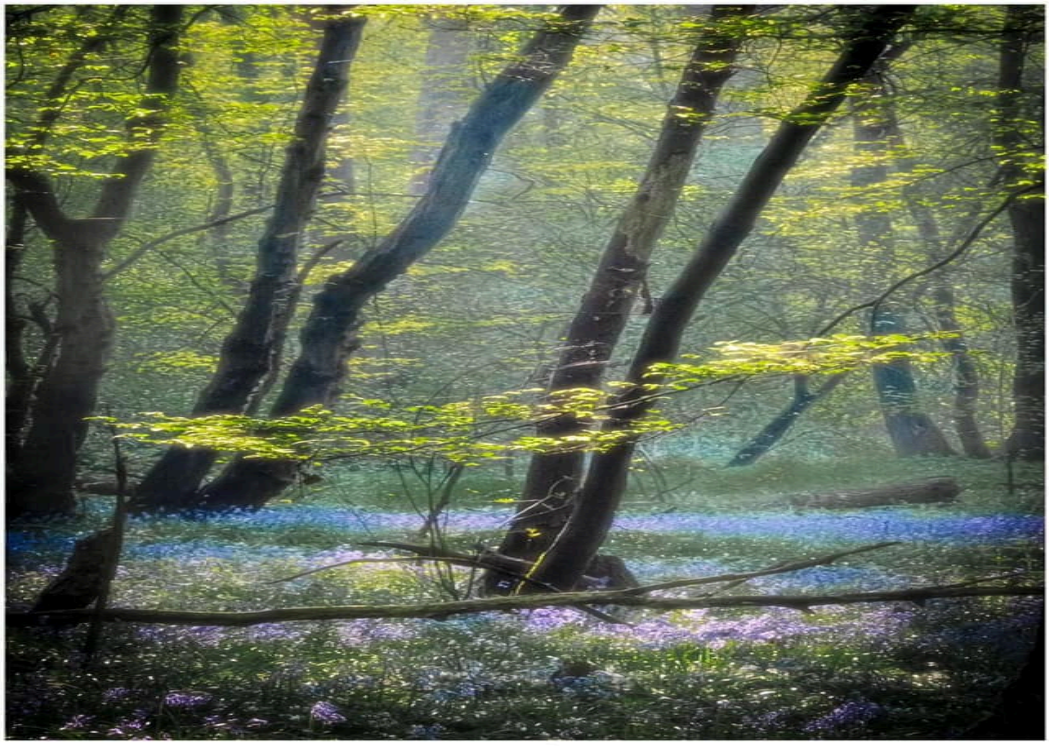


Artist Victoria Wainwright runs a relaxed and friendly intermediate Oil and Acrylic course which runs for 11 weeks in term times in the Hall on Wednesday evenings 7 until 9pm. Easels are provided but you do need to have your own materials and some previous experience in painting techniques, even if you
are a little rusty.

For further information then please contact Victoria at:

mail@victoriawainwright.com or on 07947 841223.

Top Tips



1. Subscribe to the Neighbourhood Watch distribution email. It's an informal news and events channel

2. Get involved with the fete. It's the best way to meet people

3. Pay your subscription to the Mereworth and West Peckham Record. Let's not lose it!

4. Clear up after your dog mess!

5. If you're on Facebook, "like" West Peckham online for local news

6. Try the walks around the village; the views from the top of the hill are stunning.

Diary

January	
February	
March	(or April) Easter day service
April	
May	
June	Hartley Morris Men
July	Village Fete and Classic Car Show Boughton Monchelsea Morris annual picnic
August	
September	Flower and Produce Show Stride and Ride sponsored cycle and walk in aid of Friends of Kent Churches
October	Harvest Festival in church and village harvest lunch in village hall Comfort Service Swan Quiz Night Green Hop Beer Festival
November	Fireworks Remembrance Sunday at Mereworth (includes laying of wreaths for the lost of West Peckham)
December	Christmas tree on the Green Carol Service and fundraising drinks in the village hall