

# Kennington News



DECEMBER 2013 Published by Kennington Community Forum

**DELIVERED TO 5,000 HOMES**

## CALLING ALL SCALLYWAGS!

A Facebook group set up to share childhood memories has more than 500 members. *Nine Acres Scallywags and Bybrook Urchins* invites former and present residents to reminisce and post photographs and videos. It was set up by Steve Smith, formerly of Nine Acres. Steve and another

former Nine Acres resident, Joe Ellis, organised a special re-union at Bockhanger Community Centre. Some of those who attended moved out of the area more than 40 years ago. Joe said: "Reuniting people from the 1960s to the present day is exciting and, at times, tearful."

# Seven sites put up for housing

**LANDOWNERS and developers have submitted seven sites in Kennington for housing.**

The largest is land bordered by Canterbury Road and Willesborough Road on which a developer wants to build 2,000 homes.

The Hockey Club in Ball Lane, subject of a controversial building proposal three years ago, is not included.

Other sites offered to Ashford borough council as available for development are:

- Land at Ulley Farm (100 homes)
- Orchard Farm (100 homes)
- Ashford Golf Club (100 homes)
- Land at Eureka Park (100 homes)
- Land at Ashford Rugby Club (50 homes)
- Land at The Croft Hotel, Canterbury Road
- The Bamboos and Longwood, Bockhanger

The council is working on a new Local Plan and needs to identify sufficient sites that will provide homes and jobs to 2030 as well as other

**SITE MAPS: PAGE 2**

uses including gipsy and traveller sites, retail, leisure, visitor and tourism facilities.

It wrote to landowners and developers in June and received 168 sites, 30 in Ashford town centre and urban area, and 138 in and around Tenterden. It will now assess all of them for suitability.

ABC Planning Policy Manager Simon Cole said: "In order to facilitate a transparent and open process all information received is being put in the public domain.

"We want communities to be fully engaged in the process and we will be contacting councillors at an appropriate stage to discuss how they wish to consult with their communities." Kennington ward councillor Phil Sims said: "I welcome any and all comments residents may have on the land offered up."

**New threat to Little Acree: Page 4**

**SING UP:** There will be carol singing at The Rose, Faversham Road, on Thursday 19 December at 7pm



Hayden Cox had a special role to play as he approached the end of his days in Canterbury Cathedral choir. See Page 3

## SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN NEED THIS CHRISTMAS

**C**HRISTMAS for many can be a difficult and less happy time of year. Sure Start Children's Centre provides support to families most in need in the community. It is a registered supplier of Ashford Foodbank vouchers, supporting those in need of emergency food boxes.

Sure Steps has its own benefits advisor, Julie Waissen, who attends the Belmont Road parent and toddler group on Wednesday mornings from 9.30am-10.30am. She is able to support with housing and can connect parents with a careers or volunteering advisor.

Do not hesitate to contact your Children's Centre 01233 624857 if you or your family have any concerns. Sure Steps Children's Centre's last working day will be Christmas Eve. It will re-open on 2 January.

## TOWERS HEAD SAYS FAREWELL

Towers school will have a new head teacher from January. Richard Billings, deputy head at St George's school, Broadstairs, succeeds Graham Ralph who is retiring at Christmas.

## Beware of the festive burglars

There has been a spate of robberies in Kennington. Homes in Broadhurst Drive, Upper Vicarage Road, The Pasture and Towers View have been burgled. In Park

Road a thief removed a window at the back of a property during the daytime and stole jewellery. Cars have been targeted with items stolen from at least 12

vehicles that were unlocked. "Don't leave any items in a car," said Community Police Support Officer Nikki Relf. "Opportunist thieves will take anything they can see. Make sure all doors and windows are secured in the home. With Christmas approaching there are lots of rich pickings for these thieves."

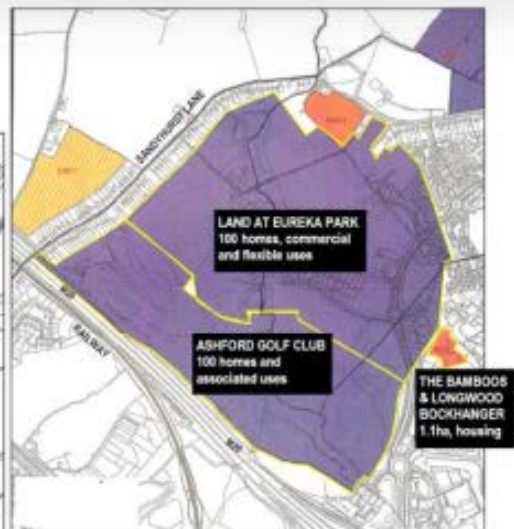
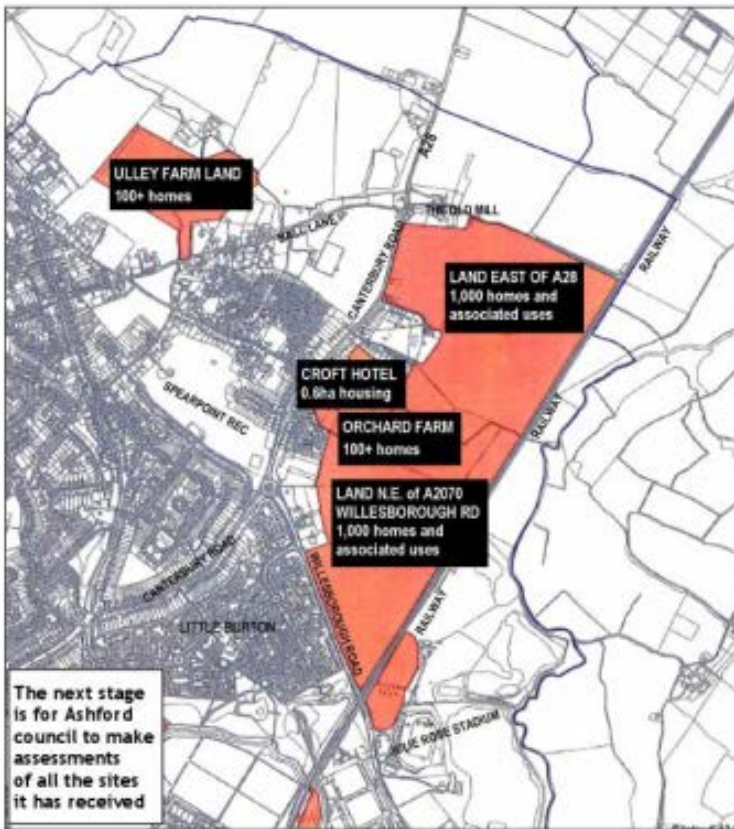
**BLOOMING CHEEK!** Hydrangea blooms have been stolen from three front gardens in Nettlefields. "Someone came along in the night and cut off all the heads and stems," said Community Police Officer Nikki Relf. Hydrangea blooms are often dyed or sprayed for use as Christmas decorations.



**We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**



<sup>2</sup> Sites submitted by landowners as available for development



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