

## Christmas Message from Westerham Town Council

**A Merry Christmas**

and a

**Victorious New Year.**

2nd West Lincs.  
Brigade.

R.F.A. (T.)



2nd West Lincs.  
Field Ambulance

R.A.M.C. (T.)

FROM THE PEOPLE OF WESTERHAM.

**XMAS, 1914.**

*For many of us in Westerham and indeed in the whole of the UK, 2014 has been a year of reflection and remembrance, as we have thought back to the happenings of 100 years ago. The events we have celebrated together have reminded us of the great strengths we have as a community.*

*As we await Christmas and the arrival of the coming year, we hope that the spirit which once welcomed the regiments who passed through Westerham on their way to the Great War will enable us to continue to work together to make a difference to our town.*

*On behalf of the Councillors and staff of Westerham Town Council, may I wish all who live or work in Westerham and Crockham Hill a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year*

*Alan Wesley, Chairman, Westerham Town Council*

## **Westerham Town Council has a new Website and email address!**

**westerhamtowncouncil.gov.uk**

**office@westerhamtowncouncil.gov.uk**

Our website aims to give all the information you need about the Town Council, its Councillors and how it carries out its responsibilities. We are keen to have your views on what information you would like us to include, so have a look and tell us what you think.

## **King George V Field Memorial Pavilion: Summary of Results of public consultation 2014**

Westerham Town Council joined forces with Westerham Town Partnership to undertake a public consultation on the future of the pavilion sited on King George's Field. Over the past few months we have canvassed public opinion and collected a wealth of ideas from organisations, children and parents and residents of all ages, on how the pavilion could be given a new lease of life.

Many thanks to Lesley Moore of Westerham Town Partnership, who collated all of the innovative ideas and suggestions received from members of the public during the consultation process. The full report can be accessed on the Visit Westerham website: [www.visitwesterham.org](http://www.visitwesterham.org)

The following areas have been identified as some of the most popular and achievable ideas, that both improve and complement the existing facilities at King George's Field. These ideas will be considered in detail, after investigating feasibility and preliminary costings:

1. **Pavilion refurbishment** to provide:
  - outside/inside toilets
  - café
  - changing rooms/lockers
  - one large (adaptable) space
  - outside space/patio

- verandah
- viewing window
- more appealing building (in & out)

2. **Multi-purpose space** to provide:

- 2 x tennis courts
- netball court
- basketball court
- training area for football/hockey/rugby
- street snooker
- football cage/cricket nets

3. **Riverside cycling/running path** along the Darent River from the Darent Car Park bridge to Charmans Farm. **Redevelop the southwest corner**, including:

- refurbishment of the playground, including additional equipment and hopscotch/chess board playground markings
- review the skatepark
- outside gym
- nature/trim trail
- outside table tennis
- landscaping
- addition of benches around the field

4. **Costells Meadow Car Park** extension and resurfacing.

### **King George's Field Memorial Benches**

Westerham Town Council has previously placed memorial benches for members of the public around The Green and the town centre. We have exhausted suitable sites in these locations. However, if anyone would like to place a bench in memory of a loved one we are now offering the opportunity to site a bench at King George's Field, as part of our redevelopment, outlined above. If this would interest you, please contact Westerham Town Council for more details.

## **Burglars mess with your head not just your home**

Kent Police is asking residents to take simple measures to protect themselves from becoming a victim of burglary.

Overall the force has seen a positive decrease in this type of crime, but statistics show that the number of reports can increase during the autumn months.

Most burglaries happen during daylight hours, with offences often peaking at about 11am, so while you're hard at work, burglars are too. Most burglars are opportunists, which means it is important to ensure the security measures taken at night are also taken before you leave home in the morning.

From experience, the police know burglary can leave victims feeling scared and anxious long after the crime has been committed.

To help reduce the risk of becoming a burglary victim officers are asking residents to work with them by following these key principles:

### **Light it**

- Light dark or hidden entrances with low wattage security lighting
- Use timer switches to turn on lights/radio – invest in a 24-hour segment timer for under £5. Remember to use an energy efficient light bulb

### **Lock it**

- Keep your front and back windows and doors locked (double lock uPVC)
- Keep side gates locked – burglars often break into homes from the garden where they have less chance of being seen
- If bins are emptied before you leave for work return them to your garden – they can be used as climbing aids if left on display
- Instead use bins as obstructions in side entrances
- Trim high hedging/plant growth – they could provide cover for a burglar
- Secure your garage and shed – items inside can be just as tempting and can even be used to break in
- If you get the train ensure your car is locked, windows are closed and keys are not left on display through windows
- Don't keep large amounts of money or jewellery at home. If you have to, use a safe that is stored out of sight and fixed to a solid floor

### List it

All valuable items should be registered for free on **www.immobilise.com** – logging details helps police to return them to you if they are found or seized. These include:

- Expensive jewellery and antiques
- Bicycles
- Laptops, desktop computers and tablets
- Mobile phones and MP3 players
- Home entertainment systems including TVs and games consoles

If you would like to find out more about protecting your property, visit [www.kent.police.uk/burglary](http://www.kent.police.uk/burglary)

## FORTHCOMING TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Planning & Development
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Council
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Planning & Development
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Finance and General Purposes
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Planning & Development
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Allotments Playing Fields & Open Spaces

Members of the public are very welcome to attend these meetings. The first ten minutes of every meeting are available for members of the public to raise any issues with Councillors. All meetings start at 7.30 p.m. - except Planning which is held at 9.30 am - in the Town Council Chamber in Russell House.

**Visit our website [westerhamtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://westerhamtowncouncil.gov.uk) for more information.**