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# Tenterden & District Guide

2012-2013



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 \*Source: British Medical Journal, 1993, 307, 1123-1126.**



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# CONTENTS

◇ Introduction .....	5	◇
◇ Local History .....	6	◇
◇ Location & Transport .....	9	◇
◇ Education .....	10	◇
◇ Health .....	10	◇
◇ Sport & Leisure .....	11	◇
◇ Local Attractions .....	14	◇
◇ Tenterden Map .....	16/17	◇
◇ Prominent People .....	18	◇
◇ Six Things to Know .....	18	◇
◇ Listings .....	19	◇

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# INTRODUCTION

This guide is designed for those who live in Tenterden or who are planning to move to the area or visiting the area. It will acquaint people with what the town has to offer.

This guide has been published since 1998 and is now in its 14th year of publication. Plus Publishing have been producing local guides for over 20 years.

In it you will find a wealth of local references, neatly gathered together in easy to find sections. It has a street map on the centre pages and a listings section at the back of the guide to help you find the telephone number of local schools etc.



View of Tenterden

It has been well supported by advertisers, who have recognised its value in reaching its customers and we would like to thank those who have advertised within the guide.

This guide is now produced annually and now distributed door to door to residents' within Tenterden by Royal Mail and bulk copies delivered to libraries, tourist information offices and estate agents where it is free to pick up.



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# LOCAL HISTORY

**Prosperity from the wool trade and shipbuilding has gone, but Tenterden remains...**

## *The Jewel of the Weald*

HAD Ellen Terry occupied her home near Tenterden earlier than she did, she would probably have had seagulls for company as she tended the roses she nurtured so lovingly in the garden of Smallhythe Place.

It is hard to imagine the creamy surf of the English Channel brushing gently against the outdoor footwear the nationally acclaimed actress wore for time spent in the rose garden she adored, but before the sea receded some 10 miles to a new coastline in East Kent, this hamlet on the edge of Tenterden was as famous for its harbour and ship-building industry as it later became for Ms Terry's occupation.



**Smallhythe Place**

These days Smallhythe Place is run by the National Trust, and an exhibition on show at the 16<sup>th</sup> century half-timbered property celebrates the ship-building heritage that once brought prosperity to the Tenterden area.

The wool trade was the first big earner for the town. Ironically, that industry, too, relied on access to the sea in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Edward III prohibited the export of raw wool in 1331 and encouraged weavers and dyers to come from Flanders to teach the manufacture of cloth to the English over several decades.

Several businessmen in the Tenterden area would have qualified for inclusion in an early version of the *Rich List*. But that wealth was enjoyed by the privileged few. The less affluent living in Tenterden were so discouraged by their way of life and lack of earning power in the 14<sup>th</sup> century that some of them supported the Peasant's Revolt and joined Wat Tyler's march on Canterbury and London in 1381.

The inability of Rye to fulfil its ship-building commitments led to an invitation from the neighbouring town for Tenterden to help out. Wood from the Weald was transported to Smallhythe where ships lay at anchor and the male population of the hamlet worked with the imported timber to build ships as large as 400 tons for crews of 250-strong.

In 1449, Tenterden became a fully-fledged Cinque Port, an acknowledgement of the support given to Rye and the contribution it was making to the Crown's quota of ships. In return, the Crown acknowledged the commitment by making Tenterden tax exempt. The town still elects a Mayor but, unfortunately, the local population 7,600 (2001 census) no longer qualify tax free status. The 550<sup>th</sup> anniversary of King Henry VI's charter gift was celebrated in 1999.

Just about the time Ellen Terry's future home was in the course of construction, the sea was retreating from its former high tidal levels near Tenterden towards the familiar East Kent coastline we now know from modern maps. The silting-up of the Rother and the draining of the Romney Marsh led to Smallhythe's decline as a shipbuilding hamlet. In 1514 a great fire destroyed the hamlet's quays and warehouses. They were never re-built.

Around this time, a youngster by the name of Edward Caxton was growing-up in Tenterden. Forty years after Tenterden's elevation to Cinque Port status, the first English printer published a book, which remains available for inspection in the town's archives.

Caxton spent much of his life trading as a merchant in Europe, chiefly in Bruges, where he set-up a press in 1474. He returned to England to establish his print industry in Westminster. He died in 1491 but retained a love of Tenterden all his life. He is reputed have been born in the town. A pub in the High Street still carries his name.

Tenterden's reputation for becoming 'The Jewel of the Weald' for much of what it achieved between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries is enhanced by St Mildred's Church, an imposing building that has been enlarged extensively since its construction in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and can be seen dominating the town centre through trees and hedgerows on the Wealden town's approach roads.



St Mildred's Church

The wool-growers of those far off days; the shipwrights of Smallhythe; and Lord Nelson's daughter all walked in the shadow of the lovely old church, from which a beacon was once shone to warn of the approach of the Spanish Armada. Lord Nelson's daughter occupied the pews of St Mildred's when her husband was in charge of the parish as vicar.

Neighbouring St Michael's was known as Boresisle before Victorian times. It is now an influential suburb of Tenterden. The Unitarian Chapel, originally known as the Old Meeting House, was built here in 1695. St Michael's is one of four wards belonging to Tenterden Town Council.

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As the William Caxton pub celebrated the inspirational first man of print, so the Woolpack Inn next to the Town Hall served as a reminder of the importance of the cloth trade. The Town Hall was built in 1792 to replace the original Cloth Hall destroyed by fire in 1661.

The Town Hall, one of a number of High Street buildings to reflect Tenterden's golden heritage, includes an Assembly Room in which a roll of honour, listing all the Mayors and Bailiffs to have served the town since the 15th century, is kept.

The town has had a school since 1521. More than 100 years later it was known as a grammar school. More than 1,000 years of local history is stored in the Tenterden Museum, Station Road.



**The Town Hall**

Many properties seen today along the length of the tree-lined High Street – some white weather boarded, some with tile-hung fascia – were built in the 17th and 18th centuries. They were a credit to the old town and remain a delight for Tenterden's many shoppers and tourists. Tenterden station opened in 1903. It ran regular passenger services until 1954. Twenty years later it reopened under the name of the Tenterden Railway Company, which purchased the line between Tenterden and Bodiam. Today, the Kent and East Sussex Steam Railway runs a scheduled 10-mile service to Bodiam Castle.

Tenterden remains a prosperous country town with a fine range of shops, cafes, restaurants, pubs, light industrial concerns and small businesses. If it lacks the pulsating throb of its industrial heyday in wood and ship building, it still thrives as a commuter town, a far cry from its original Old English name *Tenet Waraden*, meaning a den or forest clearing and no inhabitants.

### KEY DATES

- 1477** William Caxton, a Tenterden resident for part of his life, printed the first English book.
- 1461** The tower was added to St Mildred's parish church.
- 1449** Tenterden became a Cinque Port town.
- 1695** The Unitarian Chapel was built. First known as the Old Meeting House.
- 1766** Mansion built that would become Homewood School.
- 1792** The Town Hall was built.
- 1842** The arrival of the railway at Headcorn and Ashford, bringing goods for retail sale, encouraged the growth of Tenterden's shop centre.
- 1851** Tenterden Cricket Club founded.
- 1871** The avenue of trees was planted in the High Street.
- 1872** Tenterden launched Britain's first light railway service.
- 1889** Tenterden Football Club founded.
- 1928** Dame Ellen Terry, who lived at Smallhythe in the last decades of her life, died.
- 1974** Group of local children charted the town's history in 14 panels of tapestry, which is now kept in the Museum.
- 1990** Diana, Princess of Wales, opened the Leisure Centre in October.
- 1993** The first Tenterden Folk Festival – now an annual event – was held.
- 2007** Tour de France cyclists swept through the town on the first leg of the epic race.
- 2011** Town council announces a new pavilion to be built on the Recreation Ground.

# LOCATION AND TRANSPORT

**TENTERDEN** is geographically located as the perfect vantage point from which to travel by air, sea or road to a host of close or distant destinations.

The M20 is within close striking distance by car for entry to Britain's motorway system or to the ports and Channel Tunnel for exit from East Kent to Europe. Ashford International train terminal is a stopping-off point for Eurostar trains heading for Lille and Paris.

The main international airports at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted can be reached in two hours or less. Ferries to European ports are frequent and inexpensive from the Port of Dover. P & O Ferries make up to 25 sailings a day from Dover-Calais. Sea France travel the same route.

TransEurope Ferries run regular services between Ramsgate and Ostende; and Norfolk Line ferries go cross from Dover to Dunkerque.

Commuter travel has been made easier by the arrival of the high speed services between Ashford International and St Pancras. The journey time is just 40 minutes, an attractive proposition for those travelling to the capital from Tenterden and its surrounding villages. Ashford remains the terminal for regular train services to Waterloo, Charing Cross, London Bridge, Cannon Street and London Victoria. Services also travel from there to Maidstone, Tonbridge, Dover, Folkestone, Canterbury, Ramsgate, Hastings, Eastbourne and Brighton.

Roads radiate from Tenterden to Rolvenden and Hastings on the A28; Wittersham and Rye; Appledore and New Romney; Woodchurch and Hamstreet to Hythe and Folkestone; and Headcorn to Maidstone; and Bethersden to Ashford.

Bus and coach travel to the major towns run from Tenterden, and many enjoy an opportunity to step back in time to the age of steam trains for travel from Tenterden station to Bodiam Castle by Kent and East Sussex Railway locos.



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# EDUCATION

**HOMEWOOD SCHOOL** and Sixth Form Centre aims to provide the best education for all students. Its prospectus is the source of study for many visiting educationists, some from all over the world. The school has had comprehensive status for almost 40 years. The first Learning Resource Centre in Kent was built at Homewood. Later, the Governors decided to take the opportunity provided by grant maintained status to further improve school facilities and to take greater control over the school's direction. Major redevelopment, reorganisation and improvement of facilities followed. The work included a new science facility.



**Homewood School**

Progress has been maintained down the years. Homewood became a Foundation School committed to high expectations and high achievements for all students. In 2007 the school became the first to be awarded Advanced Extended School Status. In 2008 the school celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The new principal is determined to not only maintain the high standards established over the past decade but improve the school's reputation for excellence in all forms of school life. Students sit examinations when they are ready to take them rather than by date of birth. Adult Education is offered at Homewood.

An impressive range of primary and nursery education is available in Tenterden, St Michael's and surrounding areas.



# HEALTH

A full range of medical services are available at William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, including a busy accident and emergency unit open 24 hours a day. Run by the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, the hospital is highly regarded in its catchment area.

The hospital in Kennington Road, Willesborough offers services for the treatment of cancer; cardiology; diabetes; ear, nose and throat; maternity; minor injuries; orthopaedic injuries; renal; respiratory; x-ray and many other diseases and physical problems.

West View Hospital in Plummer Lane, Tenterden provides a range of medical support and medical services. The hospital does cover emergencies but it is best to contact them.

The Tenterden and District Day care centre in Church Road is open daily from 7am-3.30pm. It provides for the elderly and disabled. Facilities for bathing and hairdressing. A hearing loss clinic is held here every Wednesday 10-11am. A trained adviser is available to offer advice and pass on information. Minor repairs to hearing equipment is carried out but not hearing tests. Services for the disabled are available at the

Day Centre also. Varied facilities available for the disadvantaged.



# SPORT & LEISURE

**TENTERDEN** is to have a new sports pavilion for use by the whole community. The town council plans to pull down and replace the existing pavilion on the Recreation Ground.

The new building will cater for sport and provide facilities for use by non-sport related clubs and societies. The intention is to produce a pavilion of contemporary design in keeping with the character of the Wealden town.

The scale of the project was under discussion as 2012 began, but local people are being given every opportunity to have a say in this exciting new project. Once design options have been drawn-up, they will feature in an exhibition and consultation day at the Town Hall.



**London Beach Golf Club**

No sports organisation in the town will benefit more from a new headquarters than **Tenterden Football Club**, founded in 1889, which for many years has been an enthusiastically run member of the Kent County FA. More than a 100 years the club's teams have played in the Weald of Kent League, Ashford and District League, East Sussex League and the Kent Amateur League, now the Kent County League.

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The club promises all visitors an 'enjoyable' experience whether they are golfers hoping to play 18-holes of golf on a superb course or taking advantage of hotel accommodation with facilities as good as anything in the south-east. The club offers golf breaks that include an overnight golf package or an overnight golf and spa package. The London Beach Restaurant is open for lunch and evening meals, and the London Beach bar open daily for bar meals, tea and coffee. So much available it is best to consult the website [www.londonbeach.com](http://www.londonbeach.com)



**Tenterden Cricket Ground**

**Tenterden Bowls Club**

The club is a mixed six-rink green in the town centre. Members, both men and women, compete in the Weald and Mermaid Leagues. The club runs a busy playing schedule of club competitions and mixed friendly matches. New recruits welcome, including beginners 'wishing to give it a try'. Best time to visit is club night on Thursdays.

**Tenterden Cricket Club**

The town club has existed for more than 150 years. A member of the Kent League, the club plays in attractive surroundings at Morghew Park, Smallhythe Road. The club runs senior and junior sides. New players are given a warm welcome at the beginning of every season by this friendly club. Prospective recruits are invited to visit the club at weekends or on Wednesdays throughout the season. Tenterden cricket supporters were mourning the death of club president David Linton in 2011. A magnificent servant of the club for many years, he served as chairman and in other capacities.

**Tenterden Tigers Junior Football Club**

The club is run by a large group of volunteers for the benefit of youngsters of school age in the Tenterden area. They draw players from the town and surrounding villages. The club has used the Recreation Ground as its main playing area since its formation. For many years the club has hosted the Weald of Kent Charity Cup Final. The first team competes in the Kent County League, and the Reserve side in the Ashford and District League.

Sports enthusiasts from the Tenterden area are expected to turn out in their thousands to watch the Olympic torch carried through Kent in July 2012. The official route comes close to Tenterden but does not run through the town. Nearest vantage points for spectators on July 17 will be Rye, Hamstreet, Ashford, Hythe, Sandgate and Folkestone.

**Tenterden Golf Club**

TOP British amateur golfer Peter McEvoy would be pleased with the new 18-hole golf course he opened here 20 years ago. Until 1991, when the club purchased additional land for course extension, Tenterden had been a nine-hole course since its inception in 1905, first at Leigh Green, and then the current site it has occupied since 1920. A friendly club with a competitive edge, members compete in Kent and National league and knockout competitions on its 6,071 yard parkland course off the Woodchurch Road.

**Tenterden Karate Club**

The club is open to adults and youngsters of all abilities. Members meet on Thursdays at St Michael's Junior School, Ashford Road.

**Tenterden Kickboxing**

Adults, teenagers and juniors welcome at kickboxing classes held by chief instructor David Holland (5th Dan) at Homewood School on Mondays. Juniors aged 6-12 from 6-6.45pm; adults and teenagers

from 6.45-7.45pm. Junior kickboxing is a non-contact pad based sport designed specifically to enhance fitness and keep children free of injury. Aims to build concentration and self-confidence. Adults develop fitness and shed weight when participating in this popular sport.

### Tenterden Leisure Centre

The late Diana, Princess of Wales, opened this centre in October 1990. Since then it has become one of the most popular sporting environments in the area, noted especially for its excellent and safe swimming facilities. The leisure pool has a flume, wave machine and bubble pool, twin pirate slide, tipping buckets, spray rails and treasure chest. The centre has a fully equipped fitness suite, sports hall, and workout studio offering 27 classes a week for fitness enthusiasts. A crèche and café are popular. Teams of qualified lifeguards are on duty to keep visitors safe. Gym and swim instructors are available for specialist coaching. The centre is in Recreation Ground Road.



**Tenterden Leisure Centre**

and workout studio offering 27 classes a week for fitness enthusiasts. Teams of qualified lifeguards are on duty to keep visitors safe. Gym and swim instructors are available for specialist coaching. The centre is in Recreation Ground Road.

### Tenterden and District Motorcycle Club

A small sociable trials club. The club participates in events in the area. Membership ranges from 6-80!

### Tenterden Tai Chi

The sessions help improve physical and mental health with specialist instruction in the ancient art. Classes are held on Saturday and Monday at Tenterden Leisure Centre.

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**Tenterden Trout Waters**

Barry and Audrey Evans opened this fishery in 1975. Fly fishermen and women come from all over the world to enjoy this picturesque and peaceful location a short distance from the town. The fishery consists of one main lake of some 3.4 acres and two smaller lakes. All the lakes are well stocked with a decent head of fish. The lakes are stocked with Rainbow and Brown trout, some as heavy as 12lbs or more. Many fish weight between 3lbs-5lbs. Day and half-day permits available from February-December. Rest area and toilets available. Tea and coffee given free. Rods and tackle available for hire.

**Tenterden Yoga**

Stretch, tone, enjoy say the organisers of weekly yoga sessions held at Tenterden Town Hall. The group meeting on Tuesdays from 12.30-2pm.



## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

**Biddenden Vineyards**

Located at Gribble Bridge Lane, Biddenden, the vineyards are open all year with free admission and tastings. Wine, cider and juices are produced here. Free guided tours available on Saturdays but visitors entitled to take their own journeys on mapped out routes. Refreshments available.

**Chapel Down Winery**

Located at Smallhythe, the winery is set in vineyards covering 22 acres. The Food Store features a full range of Chapel Down wines, many of them award winning vintages. Voted Best Vineyard in Kent 2010 and Winemaker of the Year four times. Guided tours culminating in a tasting ceremony are available. Large or small groups welcome. A fine restaurant is available.

**C.M. Booth Collection of Historic Vehicles**

Locate in High Street, Rolvenden, the museum contains a collection of historic vehicles. A spectacular feature is the collection of Morgan cars dating from 1909-35. Other vehicles include a 1929 Morris van; 1929 Ford; 1904 Humber; and many other vehicles, including motorbikes and model cars. Open Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm.

**Hole Park Gardens**

Located in Rolvenden, this private garden of fine statues, topiary, water and woodland has been in the ownership of the Barham family for 100 years. A bluebell wood is a major feature.

**Kent and East Sussex Railway**

Located in Station Road, Tenterden, the station is an invitation to step back in time to the age of steam. The trains puff along a 10 mile track through lovely countryside to Bodiam Castle. Lovingly restored coaches and locomotives dating back to the Victorian age. The Colonel Stephen's Museum is a must for visitors to the station. Open weekends May-Oct and daily in peak season.

**Sissinghurst Castle**

One of the best Gardens in the country, created by writer Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson. There is a shop and restaurant, sourced by fresh organic vegetables and produce grown in the castle grounds. Visitors are encouraged to take advantage of the many walks available on site. The Garden is open from March-November. The lakeside and woodland walks are open all year.

**South of England Rare Breeds Centre**

Located in Woodchurch, the centre offers a mix of fun, excitement and adventure set in 100 acres of unspoiled countryside. Highlights of a visit include a chance to visit a Mysterious Marsh Venture Trail; Discovery Gardens; Creepy Crawly World; Outdoor Adventure Play Parks; Granary Restaurant; and Rainbow Nursery. Actress Denise Van Outen is a recent visitor. Schools and group parties welcome.

**Smallhythe Place**

Located at Smallhythe, the 16<sup>th</sup> century half-timbered house run by the National Trust was the home of Victorian actress Ellen Terry. She lived here from 1899-1928. The house is famous for Ms Terry’s costume exhibition; the open air and Barn Theatre; and exhibition, which covers a period when the hamlet was home to the shipbuilding industry. House open Feb-Oct and for a time in December.



**Tenterden Museum**

**Tenterden Museum**

Located in Station Road, Tenterden, is a two-storey building run entirely by volunteers. It contains the full story of when Tenterden became a Cinque Port town and was home of booming cloth and shipbuilding industries. It has a ‘Tapestry Room’ which depict the growth of Tenterden from Roman times. There is a Victorian Room, and on the upper floor is a 19th century hop press. The museum was opened in 1976.






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# TEN

Please note: The map shown is a guideline only and will not  
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E: [office@tenterden-junior.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@tenterden-junior.kent.sch.uk)

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# PROMINENT PEOPLE

**William Caxton**, the nationally acclaimed first printer, was reputed to have been born in the town.

**Sir David Frost**, the television journalist famous for hosting *That Was The Week That Was* and conducting the forensic examination of the disgraced Richard Nixon, was born in Tenterden on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1939, the son of a Methodist Minister.

**Horatia Nelson**, daughter of Admiral Nelson and Lady Emma Hamilton, moved to Tenterden with her husband, Rev Philip Ward, when he was appointed vicar at St Mildred's in 1930.

**Peter Richardson**, the former England, Kent and Worcestershire batsman, lives in the town.

**Sir Donald Sinden**, the acclaimed British actor, lives in Kent and is a regular visitor to the town. The local theatre is named after him.

**Dame Ellen Terry**, the Victorian actress, lived for many years at the National Trust run Smallhythe Place.

**Samuel J. Tilden**, beaten to the US presidency by one vote in 1876, is a descendant of the Tilden family of Tenterden.

**Robbie Williams**, famous singer-songwriter and member of the group *Take That* was spotted watching a junior football match on Tenterden recreation ground.



# SIX THINGS TO KNOW

- 1 Tenterden is twinned with Avallon, a town of cobbled streets in central France, which is famous for biscuit and gingerbread making, and manufacture of farm implements.
- 2 Tenterden Museum used to be a coachhouse and stables.
- 3 The town is famous for its annual Folk Festival, a four-day celebration of dance and music in October.
- 4 Tenterden Town Hall is licensed for weddings and marriage ceremonies.
- 5 Free Wifi is available from the following High Street locations – White Lion; Savannah café; Number 75 wine bar; William Caxton pub.
- 6 CAMRA holds an annual real ale and cider festival every year at Tenterden Station.



# LISTINGS

## PLACES OF WORSHIP

### St. Andrews Church

Monsignor Edward Hill  
The Presbytery  
47 Ashford Road, Tenterden TN30 6LL  
Tel: 01580 762785  
www.standrewstenterden.org

### St. John's Church

Rev. Canon Lindsay Hammond  
The Vicarage  
Church Road  
Tenterden TN30 6AT  
Tel: 01580 761591  
Email: lindsay57@uwclub.net

### St. John the Baptist Church Wittersham

Rev. Stella Halmshaw  
The Rectory, The Street  
Wittersham TN30 7EA  
Tel: 01797 270227

### St. Mary's Church Ebony

Rev. Stella Halmshaw  
The Rectory, The Street  
Wittersham  
TN30 7EA  
Tel: 01797 270227

### St. Mildred's Church

Rev. Canon Lindsay Hammond  
The Vicarage, Church Road  
Tenterden  
TN30 6AT  
Tel: 01580 761591  
Email: lindsay57@uwclub.net

### St. Michael's Church

Rev. Canon Lindsay Hammon  
The Vicarage,  
Church Road  
Tenterden TN30 6AT  
Tel: 01580 761591  
Email: lindsay57@uwclub.net



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## Tenterden Methodist Church

Rev. Peter Hills  
The Manse, Windover, Beacon Oak Road  
Tenterden TN30 6RX  
Tel: 01580 762315

## Trinity Baptist Church

Ashford Road, Tenterden TN30 6LR  
Tel: 01580 764992 Mob: 07776328347  
Email: pastor@whatslifeabout.com  
www.whatslifeabout.com

## Unitarian Church

Dr Roy Smith  
37 Caesar Avenue, Kingsnorth, Ashford  
TN23 3PZ Tel: 01233 611452

## HEALTH

### NHS Direct

Tel: 0845 46 47  
Provides advice and information  
about health and the NHS.  
Available 24 hours a day,  
seven days a week.  
www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

## Hospitals

### William Harvey Hospital

Kennington Road, Willesborough  
Ashford TN24 0LZ  
Tel: 01233 633331

### West View Integrated Care Centre

Plummer Lane, Tenterden TN30 6TX  
Tel: 01580 261500

## Doctors

### Ivy Court Surgery

Recreation Ground Road, Tenterden TN30 6RB  
Tel: 01580 763666

## Clinics

### East Cross Health Clinic

Recreation Ground Road,  
Tenterden TN30 6RA  
Tel: 01580 262000

## Dentists

### Easy Smile Dental Surgery

6 East Cross, Tenterden TN30 6AD  
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- Estate Agency Offices at Cranbrook & Paddock Wood
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**Woodbury Dental Practice**

149 High Street, Tenterden TN30 6JS  
Tel: 01580 762323

**The Dental Centre**

138 High Street, Tenterden TN30 6HT  
Tel: 01580 763333

*Helplines*

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

National Helpline Tel: 0845 769 7555  
www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

**ChildLine**

Tel: 0800 1111  
Free and confidential helpline for children & young adults in the UK  
www.childline.org.uk

**Drinkline**

Tel: 0800 917 82 82  
Drinkline is a confidential national alcohol helpline providing counselling, support, advice and information. Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**FRANK Helpline**

Tel: 0800 776600  
Helpline provides information and advice about drugs and local services. Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.  
www.talktofrank.com

**GamCare**

Tel: 0845 6000 133  
A helpline for gamblers and those affected by problem gambling.

**Gingerbread Single Parent Helpline**

Tel: 0808 802 0925  
Advice and emotional support to all lone parent families by telephone.  
www.gingerbread.org.uk

**Message Home**

Tel: 0800 700 740  
A confidential helpline for people who have run away or left home giving them the ability to send a message home.  
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Tel: 0500 700 700

A freephone national helpline.

**Parentline Plus**

Tel: 0808 800 2222

Provides a confidential helpline for anyone in a parenting role.

**Samaritans**Tel: 08457 90 90 90 Providing confidential support for all. [www.samaritans.org.uk](http://www.samaritans.org.uk)**EDUCATION***Nurseries & Pre-Schools***Busy Bees Pre School**Methodist Church Hall, High Street  
West Cross, Tenterden  
TN30 6JS

Contact: Mrs J Weeks

Tel: 01580 765231

Email: [joweeks21@hotmail.com](mailto:joweeks21@hotmail.com)**Highbury Hall Pre School**Highbury Hall, Highbury Lane  
Tenterden TN30 6LE  
Tel: 01580 766663**Home Farm Children's Nursery Ltd**

Homewood School

Ashford Road

Tenterden TN30 6LT

Contact: Sarah Jackson

Tel: 01580 764222 ext. 226

Email: [nursery@homewood.kent.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@homewood.kent.sch.uk)**St Michael's Pre School**

Contact: Mrs B Watkins

Village Hall, Grange Road

St Michael's,

Tenterden

Tel: 01580 765085

Mob: 07713064605

**Stepping Stones Nursery**

The Old Village Hall

Smallhythe Road, Tenterden

TN30 7NB

Tel: 01580 765054

**The Old School House (Montessori)**

Contact: Mrs F Brissenden

Ashburnam House, Ashford Road

St Michael's, Tenterden

Tel: 01233 850239

*Parent & Toddler Groups***Mr Noah Toddlers –**

The Parent &amp; Toddler Group

Meet at: Iden Green Congregational Church

Thursday afternoons 1:30pm–3:30pm

For more details please contact: Marian

Tel: 01580 240642

*Primary Schools***St Michael's CE Primary School**

Ashford Road, St Michael's

Tenterden TN30 6PU

Tel: 01580 763210

**Rolvenden Primary School**

Rolvenden, Cranbrook TN17 4LS

Tel: 01580 241444

Email: [headteacher@rolvenden.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@rolvenden.kent.sch.uk)**Tenterden Infants School**

Recreation Ground Road

Tenterden TN30 6RA

Tel: 01580 762086

Email: [headteacher@](mailto:headteacher@tenterden-infant.kent.sch.uk)[tenterden-infant.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@tenterden-infant.kent.sch.uk)**Tenterden C of E Junior School**

Recreation Ground Road

Tenterden TN30 6RA

Tel: 01580 763717

Email: [office@tenterden-junior.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@tenterden-junior.kent.sch.uk)*Secondary Schools & Colleges***Homewood School & Sixth Form Centre**

Ashford Road, Tenterden

TN30 6LT

Headteacher: Mrs S Lees

Tel: 01580 764222

Email: [info@homewood.kent.sch.uk](mailto:info@homewood.kent.sch.uk)[www.homewood-school.co.uk](http://www.homewood-school.co.uk)

*Education Centres*

**Kent Adult Education**

Homewood School  
Ashford Road  
Tenterden  
TN30 6LT  
Tel: 0845 606 5606  
www.kentadulteducation.co.uk

**ANIMAL WELFARE**

**RSPCA Cruelty Line**

24 Hours a day, 7 days a week  
Tel: 0300 1234 999

**Ashford, Tenterden & District RSPCA**

Tel: 01233 646855  
www.rspca-ashforddistrict.org.uk

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**Tenterden Town Council**

Town Hall  
24 High Street  
Tenterden TN30 6AN  
Tel: 01580 762271  
www.tenterdentown.co.uk/town-council

*Town Councillors*

*North Ward*

**Cllr P Carley**

Tel: 01580 764367  
Email: bcarley001@btinternet.com

**Cllr H Edwards**

Tel: 01580 763428  
Email: townhall@tenterden.gov.uk

**Cllr J Nelson**

Tel: 01580 765313  
Email: justinnelson@nelsonslegal.co.uk

**Cllr R Wade**

Tel: 01580 762169  
Email: rw@rwla.com

*South Ward*

**Cllr M Carter**

Tel: 01580 761920  
Email: carter@onetel.com

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Email: nanchrisuk@aol.com

## **Cllr M Pearson**

Tel: 01580 764413

Email: mikepearson03@yahoo.com

## *St Michael's Ward*

### **Cllr Mrs E Hannett**

Tel: 01580 764843

Email: ehannett@hotmail.co.uk

### **Cllr M.J Hickmott**

Tel: 01580 766496

Email: michaelhickmott@o2.co.uk

### **Cllr Mrs B Misselbrook**

Tel: 01580 766606

Email: townhall@tenterden.gov.uk

### **Cllr Mrs P Smith**

Tel: 01580 765081

Email: cllr.smith.tenterden@hotmail.co.uk

### **Cllr A Sugden**

Tel: 01580 765581

Email: alan@aejf-sugden.co.uk

## *West Ward*

### **Cllr M French**

Tel: 01580 765103

Email: matt\_cricketlbw@btinternet.com

### **Cllr Mrs J Wilson**

Tel: 01580 241170

## **CHARITABLE & VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS**

### **Abbeyfield Tenterden Society**

Beacon Oak House, 78 Ashford Road,

Tenterden TN30 6LR

Tel: 01580 762329

### **Age Concern**

Chief Officer: Jennie Double

The Day Centre

Church Road, Tenterden TN30 6AT

Tel: 01580 762882

www.tenterdendaycentre.co.uk

## **Barnardo Helpers Group**

Contact: Rachel Hay

Tel: 01580 762920

Email: rachel.hay@btinternet.com

## **Helping Hands**

Co-ordinator: Mrs Claydon

Age Concern Helping Hands

The Day Centre

Church Road, Tenterden TN30 6AT

Tel: 01580 766394

## **NSPCC – Tenterden & District**

Contact: Mrs Jackie Coombs

Tel: 01580 763733

## **Pilgrims Hospice in East Kent – Tenterden Branch**

Chairperson: Carol Stevens

Kent House, Ashford Road

St Michael's, Tenterden TN30 6PY

Tel: 01580 762703

## **RNLI**

Chairman: Mr C Marsh

Tel: 01580 762725

## **Tenterden Charities**

Contact: Michael Wells

Tel: 01580 762353

## **Tenterden & District Day Centre**

Church Road

Tenterden TN30 6AT

Tel: 01580 762882

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### **Chapel Down Winery**

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Smallhythe, Tenterden TN30 7NG

Tel: 01580 763033

www.englishwinesgroup.com

**Colonel Stephens Railway Museum**

Tenterden Town Station  
 Station Road, Tenterden TN30 6HE  
 Tel: 01580 765155  
[www.hfstephens-museum.org.uk](http://www.hfstephens-museum.org.uk)

**Smallhythe Place**

Smallhythe TN30 7NG  
 Tel: 01580 762334  
 Email: [smallhytheplace@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:smallhytheplace@nationaltrust.org.uk)  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/smallhytheplace](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/smallhytheplace)

**Kent & East Sussex Railway**

Tenterden Town Station  
 Station Road, Tenterden TN30 6HE  
 Tel: 01580 765155  
 Email: [enquiries@kesr.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@kesr.org.uk)  
[www.kesr.org.uk](http://www.kesr.org.uk)

**Tenterden & District Museum**

Station Road, Tenterden TN30 6HN  
 Tel: 01580 764310  
 Email: [enquiries@tenterdenmuseum.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tenterdenmuseum.co.uk)  
[www.tenterdenmuseum.co.uk](http://www.tenterdenmuseum.co.uk)

**Sinden Theatre**

Homewood School,  
 Ashford Road, Tenterden  
 TN30 6LT Box Office  
 Tel: 01580 763826  
 Admin Tel: 01580 764222 ext. 223  
[www.sindentheatre.com](http://www.sindentheatre.com)

**CLUBS & SOCIETIES**

**Catholic Womens League**

Secretary: Ms B Nix  
 Tel: 01580 762696  
 Chairman: Mrs N Williams  
 Tel: 01580 763471

**Horticultural Society**

Secretary: Lindy Bates  
 Tel: 01580 764505  
 Email: [alanandlindybates@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alanandlindybates@yahoo.co.uk)  
<http://tdhs.blogspot.com>

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**Tenterden Lions Club**

Secretary: John Mills  
9 Hurst Close, Tenterden  
TN30 6UG  
Tel: 01580 761962  
www.tenterdenlions.org.uk

**Local History Society –  
Tenterden & District**

Secretary: Mrs Eleanor Bliss  
Tel: 01233 770082

**The Marsh Warblers –  
A West Gallery Quire**

Contact: Mr Tony Singleton  
Tel: 01580 753431  
Email: tonysing@unionmill.org.uk  
www.thewarblers.org.uk

**Men of Kent & Kentish Men**

Chairman: Mr G Horton  
25 Knockwood Road,  
Tenterden TN30 7AP  
Tel: 01580 763226  
www.kentcountrysociety.co.uk

**Mothers Union**

Secretary: Mrs Ann Smart  
Tel: 01580 763496

**National Farmers Union**

Kent & East Sussex Branch  
Contact: Mr P I Cornish  
Pittlesden Barn, High Street  
Tenterden TN30 6HT  
Tel: 01580 766174

**Probus**

Secretary: Mr D Walker  
26 Mansion House Close, Biddenden  
TN27 8DE Tel: 01580 292361  
www.tenterdenprobus.co.uk

**Rotary Club of Tenterden**

Secretary: Mr Chris Northen  
Email: chris@northen.net

**Royal Artillery Association**

Secretary: Roger Champion  
8 Elmfield, Tenterden  
TN30 6RE  
Tel: 01580 762892

**Royal British Legion Womens' Section**

Chairman: Mrs F Holdstock  
12 St Mildreds Close  
Tenterden TN30 6AZ  
Tel: 01580 763165  
Secretary: Mrs N Holman  
12 Castweazle, Rolvenden Road  
Tenterden TN30 6UA  
Tel: 01580 762302

**The National Trust Tenterden  
& District Association**

Contact: Mrs Springett  
Tel: 01580 763406  
Email: enquiries@tenterden-nt.org.uk  
www.tenterden-nt.org.uk

**Tenterden Active Retirement Association  
– TENERA**

Chairman: Mrs Teri Witcher  
Tel: 01580 763892  
Email: teriwtent@btinternet.com  
Secretary: Mrs Maggie Rennie  
Tel: 01580 766276

**Tenterden Club**

Church Road  
Tenterden TN306AT  
Tel: 01580 762888  
www.thetenterdenclub.co.uk

**Tenterden Decorative  
& Fine Arts Society**

Contact: Wendy McCartney  
Tel: 01580 292035  
Email: tenterden@nadfaskentarea.org.uk  
www.nadfaskentarea.org.uk  
Meet at: Tenterden Leisure Centre  
Recreation Ground Road  
Tenterden TN30 6RA  
on 1st Tuesday of the Month at 10:15am.

**Tenterden Folk Day Trust  
& Tenterden Folk Festival**

Contact: Mr Alan Castle  
Trustee & Festival Director  
C/o Folk Spots  
15 Repton Manor Road  
Ashford TN23 3HA  
Tel: 01233 626805  
Email: info@tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk  
www.tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk

## Tenterden Operatic & Dramatic Society

Hon. Secretary: Mrs A Patrick  
 Holly Cottage, Orchard Court  
 The Street, Benenden TN17 4DE  
 Tel: 01580 241966  
 www.tods.me.uk

## Tenterden & District Residents Association

Secretary: Mr N Webb  
 C/o 51 High Street  
 Tenterden TN30 6BH  
 Tel: 01580 762132

## University of the Third Age, Tenterden

(Tenterden U3A)  
 Contact: Pat Haw  
 Tel: 01580 761508  
 Membership Sec: Caroline Wycherley  
 Tel: 01580 766878

## Wives Group

Contact: Mrs J Coombs  
 The Mallards, Shoreham Lane  
 St Michael's TN30 6EG  
 Tel: 01580 763733

## WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS

### West Kent WI

Ethel Hunt Lodge, 4 Hawkwell Business Centre  
 Maidstone Road, Pembury  
 Tunbridge Wells TN20 4AG  
 Call for more details on local W.I groups.  
 Tel: 01892 823813

## YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

### Explorer Scout Unit

Contact: Peter Finch  
 Email: explorersleader@  
 tenterdenscouts.co.uk  
 www.tenterdenscouts.co.uk

### Guides & Brownies

Division Commissioner: Mrs M Ball  
 Wynmore, London Beach  
 High Halden TN26 3BY  
 Tel: 01233 850229  
 Assistant Division Commissioner:  
 Mrs S Docker  
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Tenterden: Town Hall,  
 High Street  
 Tenterden TN30 6AN  
 Ashford: Seabrooke House  
 Church Road, Ashford TN23 1RD  
 Tel: 01233 626185  
 Email: cab@ashford1085.freeserve.co.uk  
 www.adviceguide.org.uk

**Fire Station**

Ashford Road  
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 Non-Emergency Tel: 01580 762647  
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**Registrar of Births, Death & Marriages**

Elwick House, Elwick Road  
 Ashford TN23 1NR  
 Tel: 01233 624666  
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To find out more about osteopathy or to book a session please contact Deborah on:

t: 07590 520 060 | 01622 820 128  
[www.deborahdooleosteopath.com](http://www.deborahdooleosteopath.com)

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