

THE TWITCH

Newsletter of The Malling Society

Spring 2024

Dear Members,

Welcome to the Spring Newsletter,

Local residents have been concerned to hear that Nat West Bank are to close their Larkfield branch in July. This follows on from previous branch closures at West Malling and Snodland.

East Malling and Larkfield Parish Council have written to the Bank expressing concern especially for those who wish to have face to face interactions with their bank.

Sadly, as so few Members attended our meetings last year, the Committee has decided to reduce the number of meetings to four per year (including the AGM) and two outings. Speaker's fees have increased, as has printing etc., etc., and we were no longer covering our costs at the meetings.

The Committee would very much like to hear from you, the Members, with any ideas or suggestions about Speakers and outings, or indeed any comments, thoughts you have to help us increase the attendance and interest in The Malling Society!

Our talks for this year will be:

All General meetings are held at 19.00 (7 pm) in the Main Hall of the West Malling C.E. Primary School, Norman Road, West Malling ME19 6RL unless otherwise stated.

TALKS ARE AVAILABLE TO BOTH MEMBERS at £3.00 AND NON-MEMBERS AT £3.50 PER PERSON PAYABLE ON ENTRY

- **Tuesday, April 16th 'Gift of Dogs' Talk by Sharon Lynn.**



Includes Medical Detection Dogs. Our Diabetic Alert Dogs and information and insight as to just how incredible our four-pawed friends are.

- **Tuesday, May 21st**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



GET INVOLVED!

followed by a talk by members from the National Trust, highlighting the history of Ightham Mote.



National Trust

- **Tuesday, June 11th Ditton Heritage Centre Talk by Maralyn Mulcuck.**

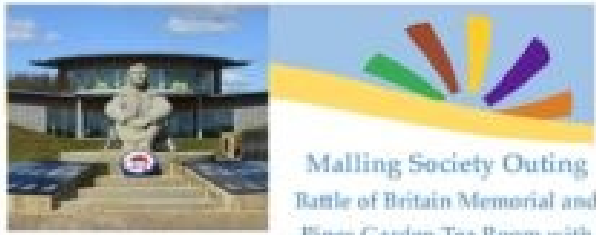


A lovely Victorian building formally the Ditton School room.

- **Tuesday, July 9th 'Spirit of Invicta' A talk by Bob Ogley,**

The highlights of the 20th century. Two world wars, sporting victories, archaeological discoveries, chilling disasters and artistic triumphs. The changing social and cultural life of a county rich in folklore and legend





**Malling Society Outing
Battle of Britain Memorial and
Pines Garden Tea Room with
Museum**

Wednesday 31st July 2024

Leaving West Malling at 10am to arrive at the memorial for 11am

Use your own cars and car share if possible. There is a cost to park.

After approximately a 2-hour visit, drive to the Pines Gardens tea room for lunch or tea refreshments and to visit their museum.

The Memorial and Museum is free. There is a must-see interactive Scramble Experience at £6.00 which appeals to all ages. This is not to be missed.

The Post Code of the Battle of Britain at Capel Le Ferne is CT18 7JJ
The Pine Tea Rooms is Beach Rd. St Margarets Bay CT15 6DZ
Return to West Malling approximately 4.30 to 5.00pm



Wednesday 31st July 2024

An outing has been planned for 31st July 2024 to the Battle of Britain Memorial at Capel Le Ferne and a visit to the Pines Garden Tea Room with Museum.

Leaving West Malling at 10am to arrive at the memorial for 11am, use your own cars and car share if possible. There is a cost to park.

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The Pine Tea Rooms is Beach Rd. St Margarets Bay CT15 6DZ, Return to West Malling approximately 4.30 to 5.00pm. **Contact** Eileen Vago 01732 841297

Future Events:

- Visit to the **Ditton Heritage Centre** with Cream Tea Details TBC

If you have any ideas for speakers for next year 2025 please let us know at the usual address themallingsociety@gmail.com



The Twitch Heritage Centre

Douces Manor, St Leonard's Street will be open from 12 - 4 pm (Last entry 3.30 pm)

The Twitch Heritage Centre, Douce's Manor, St. Leonard's Street, will be open from **Noon to 4 pm** (last admission 3.30 pm) **Free entry, and there is no need to book**

2024 OPENING TIMES

Sunday April 28th * Sunday May 26th * Sunday June 23rd * Sunday July 28th

* Saturday September 7th



Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th September

Remembrance Sunday

10th November



The Mall



Please note opening hours and help the volunteers by vacating the centre by 4pm otherwise terms of our lease maybe compromised.

Visitors, please note! Douce's Manor is a private residence; the house and grounds are **NOT** open to the public. Parking is on St. Leonard's Street or in the town.

New Photographic Exhibition - "History of West Malling from its earliest buildings"

Please note opening hours and help the volunteers by vacating the centre by 4 pm otherwise terms of our lease may be compromised.

Douce's Manor is a private residence; the house and grounds are **NOT** open to the public. Parking is on St. Leonard's Street or in the town.

- **Subs due from 25th October 2024**

If you have setup a standing order for payment of your subscriptions (£7.00 p.a.) this will continue as normal. Those of you that normally pay by cheque at the AGM, can send your cheques made payable to **The Malling Society**, to Mrs E. Vago, 116 St Leonards St, West Malling, ME19 6PD.

Alternatively, why not set up a standing order with your bank, details can be found on our website, this is a very safe and simple system. www.themallingsociety.org.uk/

The Malling Society, **Account No 64676218** at National Westminster Bank, Larkfield Branch (**sort code 55-81-07**) Ref: **Membership Subs.**

- **Orders for our CDs or Publications** Will continue to be available via the website.

<https://www.themallingsociety.org.uk/malling-society-publications/>
<https://www.themallingsociety.org.uk/malling-society-cds/>

We will keep you informed of the various events via the website at <http://www.themallingsociety.org.uk/events/>

And our Facebook Group Page
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/574446186223021>

Any correspondence can still be sent to themallingsociety@gmail.com where Kris will pick it up and pass it to the respective person to deal.

Hope to see you soon!! Stay Safe!!

Kind Regards

David Thornewell
Chair