



# The Hunton Herald

Issue 44  
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2006

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## The Village Hall Continues its Popular "Applause" Season

Here's a date for your diaries! An event especially for children (the 5-9's will love it) and the whole family on Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup> 2006. The production lasts about 1 hour so it won't be too late a night for the "adults." Light drinks will be available.

Company "Gavin Robertson" has created an original theatre production - "MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE". Inspired by an Irish folktale and featuring a full musical soundtrack. It seems that the legend of the sea might be true after all... as 10 year old Lizzie finds a bottle washed up on the beach and takes it home as a present for Grandpa's birthday - but when it's opened, that's when the fun begins...

6.45pm for a 7pm start at the Village Hall in West Street Hunton.

Ticket Bookings: Jackie 01622 820226 and Alan 01622 820683.

£5 Adults /£4 Children - School bookings will be welcomed but please book early.

## Press for Better Recycling

Brian Mortimer and John Williams are highlighting the fact that many residents have raised the issue of the lack of recycling facilities in Hunton and West Farleigh. They have been asking Maidstone Borough Council for both door step collections and for sites where paper, cardboard, tins and glass etc. can be taken and have been told that these will be provided eventually.

Brian Mortimer and John Williams suggest that a petition presented to the cabinet Member for Environment and Transportation, would encourage the council to bring this provision forward.

Please contact them if you have any comments and if you wish to sign the petition. If you can help by collecting signatures in your road, they will supply the petition form and collect it.

Brian Mortimer e-mail [brianmortimer@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:brianmortimer@maidstone.gov.uk) - phone 01622 746046

John Williams e-mail [johnatwilliams@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:johnatwilliams@maidstone.gov.uk) - phone 01622 745765

## SEPTEMBER GARDEN PARTY

This event is by kind permission of Sue and Lawrence Martin Wayside. Amsbury Road Hunton

**Sunday 24th September 2pm-5pm**

Have as many rides as you like and enjoy a delicious cream tea

Tickets from Wendy Simmons 01622 820875

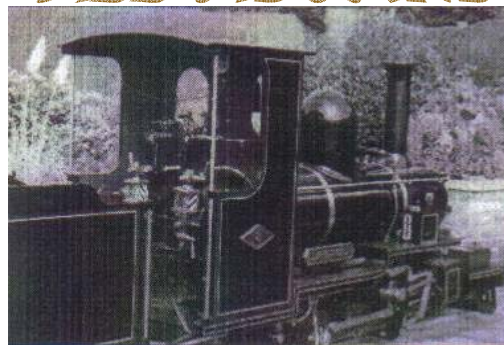
Adults £7.50

Children over 2 year £5

Senior Citizens £5

Proceeds to St Mary's Church, Hunton

# ALL ABOARD



### Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell

School: Secretary/Head Teacher

Under 5's Pre-School:

Pre-School Supervisor: Pippa Fordham

Pond and Tree Warden: Anne Bishop

Rector: Revd Peter Walker

Associate Rector: Revd Ruth Bierbaum

also: Revd David Jones

820731

820360

820309

746829

820683

747570\*\*

743866\*

741474\*

Village Club: Doug Redfarn

Clerk to Parish Council: David Swan

Village Hall Booking: Jackie Crooks

Maidstone Police:

Neighbourhood Watch:

'Potholes' concern (KCC): Kim Hills

Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown

Organist: Philip Moore

820495

814445

820226

608186

608173

0845 824 7800

820288

749356

\*not available on Fridays \*\*not available on Mondays

### Dates for Diaries:

Saturday 5th August Bulky Refuse Collection, Village Hall car park 7.45-8.45am

Sunday 13th August Croquet Fun Day, Hunton Pavilion

Saturday 23rd September Bulky Refuse Collection, Village Hall car park 7.45-8.45am

Sunday 24th September Summer Garden Party and Train rides 2pm-5pm (820875)

Saturday 7th October "Message in a Bottle"— Applause Event 6.45pm Village Hall (820226/820683)

*All items for the September issue to the Editors as soon as possible, and by 15th August, please*

**Dear Friends,**

The month of August is traditionally the 'holiday month'. I found it quite odd when living in Australia that the 'holiday month' was January. Christmas is celebrated in summer and Easter time was drawing close to winter. There are many folk who travel to the continent for holidays. What about church for them? Perhaps it's a time to give church a miss for a couple of weeks!

Whilst working in Spain I was an honorary full-time chaplain with the '*Intercontinental Church Society*' (ICS).

There are many chaplaincies in the continental countries looking after the spiritual needs of those English speaking people who have moved from the UK, or have holiday homes.

There are also seasonal chaplaincies sponsored by ICS - and these offer real opportunities to bring the gospel to many who perhaps give little thought to God in their daily lives but may be open to Him whilst on holiday. Seasonal chaplains also encourage the faith of Christian people from many denominations, nationalities and backgrounds who attend Sunday services.

I will be going as a seasonal chaplain to France for a couple of weeks in August. We have been before to the Loire Valley where there are 5 campsites which we will be visiting and speaking to folk on holiday and encouraging them to attend a simple Anglican service in a nearby Roman Catholic church which I will conduct.

It is also an opportunity for us to have a holiday too! There are seasonal chaplaincies in many parts of France and Switzerland. Our colleague, Lee and his wife who is in the parish of Loose is going to be the chaplain in the two weeks prior to our term of duty.

If you are on holiday this month may you have a happy, refreshing and safe time. If you are in France or Switzerland keep a look out for an ICS chaplain near you!

Peter.

## **HUNTON CLUB BOOK GROUP**

### **June Book Review - The Robber Bride by Margaret Atwood**

This is a story of three women whose lives have been affected by contact with a fourth woman, Zenia. Their experiences in life resulted in them all reacting differently to Zenia's cruel manipulations.

Margaret Atwood deals with very challenging material which some of us found intriguing whilst others did not.

This book provoked an interesting conversation. Our views overall were very mixed, mainly on the style of the author's writing although most of us agreed that it was very well written. Some were of the opinion that it was too "wordy" whilst others found that the attraction.

To simply announce our score as 5/10 does not accurately reflect the views of club members but by advising that some members appointed 9/10 whilst others only 1/10 would proclaim a clearer picture.

The book for July is *The Labyrinth* by Kate Mosse.

### **King George V Field Committee**

The King George V Committee minutes are now held with the Parish Council minutes. They are available on request from David Swan, the Parish Clerk, or through any member of the parish council, the field committee itself, or online at [www.hunton.org.uk](http://www.hunton.org.uk)

## **HUNTON LANDSCAPES - Natural and Man Made.**

For those residents who were born here, Hunton's landscapes have always been home.

Today, most residents were born and have lived elsewhere, choosing to come and live in this particular village. In many cases it is likely that you came to Hunton partly, even largely, because of its landscapes. After all, a number of years ago a national newspaper described Hunton as one of the three "best" villages in England to live in for landscapes and atmosphere. From wooded hillside to former water meadow there is great diversity within our parish.

Two man-made landscapes lie adjacent to each other, the sports field next to the village hall, and the parish church encompassed by its ancient churchyard, with the "new" (in 1898) churchyard beyond. These twin features, so characteristic of Hunton lie at its heart, its open heart.

But will our village heart be able to maintain its present timeless appearance?

The sports field is maintained with professional help paid for through local taxation and sports club fees.

In contrast the churchyards are maintained largely by volunteers, with paid help from one of Hunton's long-term residents, Eddie Chambers. In retirement Eddie needs to reduce his workload, and will be giving up this major commitment. Unlike the sports field, the churchyards receive a minute amount of public funding and "user" fees for their maintenance, yet just like the sports field, they are open to all.

Eddie Chambers' services have been vital - can you help replace them in full or in part? Either personally by taking on his role, or by providing the name of someone who could be approached, or by becoming a benefactor, providing the funding needed to ward off drastic change?

Please respond by phoning David Way on 01622 820876

## Five Hunton Gardens open for Charity

Five gardens in Hunton opened last month with the National Garden Scheme. It was a hugely successful day with nearly 300 people visiting the gardens. Including the sale of teas, £1208 was raised for the National Garden Scheme charities.

## Go Wild in Kent with KMBRC!

The Kent & Medway Biological Records Centre (KMBRC) in partnership with Kent County Council is pleased to announce the second annual Big Recording Weekend on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> August 2006 at Shorne Wood Country Park, just off the A2 near Gravesend.

'Kent goes Wild!' is a free event aiming to engage and inspire adults and children to take pride and *take part* in their local environment.

Over the weekend, the public will have the chance to see, participate in and learn about surveying for a wide range of wildlife species including small mammals, reptiles, moths, dragonflies and bats. Kent county species experts will be present to identify specimens, photos and wildlife artefacts and to chat with the general public.

Kent Goes Wild" aims to:

- § Increase the public's awareness of wildlife and wildlife recording;
- § Promote Kent's biological and geological recording groups;
- § Promote Natural Heritage and increase the list of species recorded at Shorne Wood Country Park.

'Kent Goes Wild!' is an eclectic celebration of biological recording at all levels, which helps to protect the county's wildlife and safeguard the countryside in the Garden of England.

For further information go to [www.kmbrc.org.uk/kentgoeswild](http://www.kmbrc.org.uk/kentgoeswild) or call KMBRC on 01622 685646/780.

## Be on your Guard warns PC Gary Shaw

PC Gary Shaw reports that a group of illegal caravans have made an encampment in Park Wood in Maidstone. This may well lead to an increase in cold calling at houses for tarmacing, tree work, block paving and driveways etc.

Please do not accept work from people cold calling.

Please be on your guard. A large isolated manor house at Hunton had several visits during the daytime hours early last month, by a Mercedes model E270 car, colour metallic blue/grey. The occupants implied they had travelled 150 miles to see the house because they had heard it was for sale. A white van has also been driving around the village saying they have spare carpet for sale.

At the end of last month there was a burglary at a house in Vicarage lane, East Farleigh. A lawn mower was stolen.

## Hunton School Looks Back Over the Last Year

As we complete another school year I would like to take the time to reflect on our successes this year.

Hunton School's standards are rising and our added contextual value, which is how schools are now judged on pupils' progress, has increased which shows Hunton is an inclusive school ensuring that all pupils reach their full potential. This year we have a higher than national average number of pupils who have passed the selection test for Grammar school. We teach a broad, balanced curriculum including French and Spanish lessons and our small classes ensure that we meet the needs of all pupils.

A recent pupil survey showed that 100% of pupils felt safe and could name someone to speak to if they were worried. 93% of our pupils know what their learning targets for the term are and are aware of how they will achieve them, and more importantly, when they have (the 7% is a 4 year old!).

We have four classes which is recognised by the Kent Primary Strategy as good practice and we have an increasing roll. In September 2006 we have a full compliment of children starting in our Reception class. We have a maximum of two year groups per class and have no split classes. We do not bridge key stages.

Under our restructuring last September our Reception children gained their own classroom which proved very successful and has given the nine pupils in the class an excellent start to their school life with us. As we begin in September we will aim to build on this even more with further resources for our Foundation Stage children.

Once again I am very proud to be the Headteacher of Hunton School where we offer a personal approach to help prepare our children for secondary school and beyond. It is all too easy to treat children as a product with the school as a factory churning out clones. We pride ourselves at Hunton School that this is definitely not our approach.

Find out what the Children have been up to over the last year in next months edition...

**Croquet Fun Day** 13th August at Hunton Pavilion (next to the Village Hall) All are welcome even if they did not make the last one.

**Freighter Service** The Maidstone Borough Council freighter will be at the hall car park from 07.45 to 08.45 on Saturdays 5th August, 23rd September and 11th November. MBC do check how much it is used and will reduce or stop this service if it is not used.



## At St Mary's Church in August

### Notices

**Brass Cleaning:** Vera and Frank May  
**Flowers:** 6th August Mrs Scott  
 13th August Mrs Scott  
 20th August Mrs Johns Gurr  
 27th August Mrs Johns Gurr  
**Church Family Service Coffee Rota:**  
 6th August McSweeney Family

### Hunton Sunday Club:

The Club is open to all primary school age children and normally meets on the third Sunday evening of each month (except for August). Contact David Jones 741474 for details

### Services

**Sunday 6th August 3rd Transfiguration of our Lord**  
 11.00am Church Family Service Mrs E Doyle  
 Reading: Luke 9 v 28b - 36

**Sunday 13th August - 9th Sunday after Trinity**  
 9.15am Holy Communion (1662) Revd David Jones  
 Readings: 1 Kings 19 v 4-8 and John 6 v 35, 41 - 51

**Sunday 20th August - 10th Sunday after Trinity**  
 11.00am Morning Prayer Mr D Barnes  
 Readings: Proverbs 9 v 1-6 and John 6 v 51 - 58

**Sunday 27th August - 11th Sunday after Trinity**  
 9.15am Holy Communion Revd Peter Walker  
 Readings: Joshua 24 v 1 - 2a & 14 - and John 6 v 56 - 69

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Living World

A bible study series on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month; 7.45pm prompt start, finishing at 9.00pm.  
 No August meeting

September 26<sup>th</sup>: Gifts of the Spirit

October 24<sup>th</sup> Ministry of Encouragement

November 28<sup>th</sup> Unity of the Church

### Turkey and Tinsel trip to Eastbourne

1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006. Organised by Phoebe Mann of Coxheath. Telephone 741947 for details.

### Mothers' Union

Family Festival in Rochester Cathedral Celebrating 130 years of Mothers' Union! Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2006 10 for 10.30am until 2.45pm. Activities for all ages include: puppets, singing, handbells, clown, brass rubbing, story telling and face painting. Worship to be led by our MU chaplain Revd Michael Skinner. Please bring a packed lunch - drinks available on the day. £5 for a family payable in advance. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

### Is There More to Life than this?

**The rise and fall of Zinedine Zidane has been described as a tragedy of Shakespearian proportions..** At half time, before the now infamous incident, FIFA officials had judged him the best footballer in the World Cup tournament, but around half an hour later he was being condemned by commentators, around the world. Is it a comforting thought though - that at the end of the day - it's not how the world judges you, but how God judges you, that really matters.

*In the 4th century AD in Korea a man had 2 sons. The elder rose to become Chief Justice in the land and the younger became an infamous bandit. The elder brother loved his younger brother but was unable to persuade him to change his ways. Eventually the younger son was caught and brought before his brother, the Chief Justice. Everyone in the courtroom thought the younger brother would get off because it was well known that the Chief Justice loved his brother. But at the end of the trial the chief justice sentenced his brother to death.*

*On the day of the execution, the elder brother came to the prison and said to his brother "Lets swap places". The younger brother agreed, thinking that once they realised that it was the elder brother, the execution would not go ahead. On he went up the hill to watch the proceedings. His brother was brought out at dawn, and, to his horror, executed. Filled with remorse, he ran down the hill and told the guard his name and that he was the criminal who should be executed. The guard said to him: "There is no sentence outstanding on anyone of that name".*

You know we in the Church believe that the Christian message is the most important one you will ever hear, and we want you not just to be able to hear it, but to ask questions and weigh up its value for yourself so I invite you to come on our Alpha Course starting on 6th September 7.15 pm, with a meal, in the Coxheath Centre (behind Holy Trinity Church on Heath Road). Phone the Rectory on 747570 or fill in the Registration Form to register interest.

August	6th	13th	20th	27th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	9.30MP	11.00 HC	11.00 CFS
E. Farleigh	9.15 HC	8.00 HC 10.30 MP 15.00 Baptism	11.00 PW 15.00 Baptism	8.00 HC 10.30 MP
Linton	9.15 HC	8.00 HC (1662) 11.00 CFS & Baptism	9.15 HC	9.15 HC
W. Farleigh	8.00 HC	11.00 CFS	Church Closed	Church Closed
10am every Thursday—Holy Communion (1662) at Coxheath HC: Holy Communion MP: Morning Prayer CFS: Church Family Service EA: Evening Alternative				

For Weddings, Thanksgivings, and Baptisms, please contact Revd David Jones (741474)