



Hello - Is There Anybody There?

No, strange as it may seem, it's not a part-time medium or ghost hunter but a community appeal on behalf of the Village Hall Charity Committee. The Village Hall is going from strength to strength with more bookings and events being held than ever before. The Committee have ambitious plans to present more local and village entertainment, as well as building a tasteful extension to improve and increase the hall's capacity for the storage of equipment and other operating features that will dramatically improve the hall's facilities. This expansion has created an opportunity for a "caring volunteer" who will be keen to help in the planning, presentation and production of future events as well as being willing and able to help as a "minute taker" and occasional "letter writer" as a member of the Charity Committee. The Committee meets on the third Tuesday of every month in the Village Hall and is waiting to hear from you!

Please give either Alan Bishop or Jackie Crooks a call on 820683 or 820226 if you have just a little time and feel you could meet the challenge.

Hunton Honey Gets Gold

Amsbury Apiary took a **GOLD** at the Stokesley North Yorkshire Agricultural Show. The Bee Man who judged the competition (and also judges nationally) described the honey as "by far the best in show and the nicest that he had tasted in a long time". The "MissBeehiving" honey was entered in the Light Honey Class. This was Bee Keeper Jane Harnett's first honey harvest and it certainly gave her a buzz!

David Froud

Good News for Hunton School

Our first term back after the Summer break began with some good news for Hunton School. The proposal for amalgamation with Laddingford School was declined. This means Hunton School can continue to build on its successes as Chris Jones, the Local Authority Area Officer, said 'Hunton is a school that is doing well and I would like to see them have the opportunity to take these improvements further.' This is exactly what we are doing.

Mobile Home - Stop Notice Served

A mobile home continues to be sited off Lughorse Lane but, possibly to the relief of Jennings residents who expressed alarm at the last Parish Council meeting, no others had moved onto the site by the middle of October. Maidstone Borough Councillor Brian Mortimer, who promised the residents that he would keep a close check on the situation, has received confirmation from the council's enforcement team leader Hilary Orr that a planning application was submitted on 15th September but she added that it is "still invalid."

She continued: "The temporary stop notices regarding the home or further ones moving onto the site have been served and are effective for 28 days. We will be serving further enforcement notices before the temporary ones expire and the occupants are then liable to prosecution if they breach the enforcement and/or stop notices."

"I am sure that it is appreciated that if the planning application is validated then this may affect matters and the timescales within which we can act."

In the meantime the local residents, and others in the Village, are watching the developments with interest, hoping that council action will allay their worst fears that the field at the foot of Hunton Hill could become an illegal site for travellers descending on the village from around the district.

Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell	820731	Village Club: Doug Redfarn	820495
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Clerk to Parish Council: David Swan	814445
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Village Hall Booking: Jackie Crooks	820226
Pre-School Supervisor: Pippa Fordham	746829	Maidstone Police:	608186
Pond and Tree Warden: Anne Bishop	820683	Neighbourhood Watch:	608173
Rector: Revd Peter Walker	747570**	'Potholes' concern (KCC): Kim Hills	0845 824 7800
Associate Rector: Revd Ruth Bierbaum	743866*	Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
also: Revd David Jones	741474*	Organist: Philip Moore	749356

*not available on Fridays **not available on Mondays

Dates for Diaries:

Saturday 11th November Bulky refuse freighter, Village Hall car park 7.45-8.45am

Saturday 11th November Quiz Night at Hunton School 7.30pm

Saturday 2nd December, 8pm Village Hall - ZubopGambia an 8 piece tour de force band.

All items for the December issue to the Editors as soon as possible, and by 15th November, please

Dear Friends,

Although Advent begins on December 3rd I am writing about it in October for the November newsletters!

You may be surprised to know that Advent marks the start of the Christian Year. Many may think that Christmas Day should be the start of a new year in the Christian calendar, and in a sense it is with the coming of the Saviour, but like Lent which prepares us for Holy Week and Easter, the Christian church way back in the fourth century thought it good and helpful to have a similar season of preparation for Christmas and so was born the period we call Advent.

Advent comes at a time when most people are very busy and preoccupied with all the preparations for the Christmas season. The shops are already starting to fill up with Christmas gifts even as I write this in mid-October.

Whether we observe Advent or not, it may be well for us to remember the spiritual preparation which alone makes Christmas an enduring influence in our lives rather than an ephemeral glow of well-being and transient benevolence; a spiritual preparation which involves a sense of dedication, a willingness to give up a little of our time and thought and energy for the needs of others, and that sense of caring which is involved in obeying the words of Scripture: 'bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ'.

Advent is a season of preparation for the remembrance of One who loved us and gave Himself for us, and who was sent into the world not to condemn it, but that it might be saved through Him.

Advent has many observances and customs that serve to remind us of the coming of the true Light into the world. Thus in church, the lighting of candles on the Advent wreath - one light progressing to four lights as each Sunday draws closer to Christmas. The four weeks of Advent can remind us of the four comings of Jesus; the first in the flesh, the second in the hearts of men and women, the third at our death, and the fourth on the Judgement Day. This links up with the scriptural teaching that Jesus will come again, and so we call that the 'second' Advent.

To help us observe the season of Advent we are starting a lunchtime Bible study in Linton church for all parishioners. This will commence on Tuesday November 28th starting at 12.15pm until 1.45pm, and will continue for the following three Tuesdays. Please bring your own food and drinks will be provided.

Have a meaningful Advent in preparation for the coming of the Saviour!

With my prayers,

PETER

Garden Party Success

Many thanks to Sue and Lawrence Martin for their superb hospitality during the 'All Aboard' train event, earlier in September. It was a great success, raising £1960 for church funds. How wonderful to see so many familiar and new faces enjoying the afternoon together. A great team of train staff made sure that the trains just kept on running, so that old and young could enjoy the delightful grounds at Wayside and experience the thrill of steam travel. Thanks also to all those who helped with teas and to Lesley and Pippa for running such a successful cake stall.

Wendy Simmons

Quiz Night

Here's your chance to support both Hunton School and Pre-School - we are holding a joint quiz night on Saturday 11th November at 7.30pm in the School Hall, tickets are £5 per person which includes a sausage and chip supper, there will also be a bar available. If you would like to come along please phone Dawn on 820598.

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra

Saturday 2nd December 2006 commencing at 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park.

The programme consists of three works.

Conductor: Brian Wright

- Sibelius - Symphony No.7
- Britten - Serenade for tenor, horn and strings, Soloist Neil Jenkins Tenor, Peter Hatfield Horn
- Dvorak - Symphony No. 7.

A concert that contrasts the magnificent 7th Symphonies of Sibelius and Dvorak - the one broodingly Baltic, the other passionately bohemian. They frame one of Britten's greatest works, his Serenade, with Neil Jenkins, one of our finest tenors, joining old-Maidstonian, Peter Hatfield, currently playing in Norway.

Concert tickets £10, £15 and £20, seats for children or students with a Student Card £5, available from Membership Secretaries on 01622 736392, paid for and collected on the concert evening at Mote Hall, or from Mote Hall Box Office 01622 761111 where payment can be made by credit card. This concert is sponsored by Annabel Luzzatto.

David Bramley.

Maidstone Orchestral Society

Message in a Bottle - Company Gavin Robertson

That rare opportunity to see a professional theatre group at work with the talent to keep a full house absorbed was the reward for the youngsters and their parents who came to see 'Message in a Bottle' at the Village Hall on 7th October.

Focussed on a beautifully worked central character, a puppet brought to life called Lizzie, the lighthouse keeper's daughter, the play drew us into the remote seascape on Merrow Point where Lizzie lives in a lighthouse with her Father, Uncle and Grandpa. When she finds a bottle washed up on the beach, she takes it home as a present for Grandpa's birthday. Little did she know it contained the heart of the Daemon of Merrow Deep - and he wanted it back.



After the opening scene where the Daemon appeared to the surprise and slight shock of the audience we were treated to an absorbing 45 minutes of great storytelling, clever stagework, beautiful lighting and soundtrack.

It really did make the imagination work and sincere thanks are due to the Company, who travelled from far and wide, and to those organising the event for an excellent evening.

A sum of about £265 was raised for the Hall funds.

This is the fifth year of 'Applause' productions that your Village Hall has been delighted to present. None have failed to deliver and we look forward with anticipation to the next show.

ZubopGambia - Saturday 2 December at 8pm

ZubopGambia, an eight piece worldbeat music group brings together the musical influences of traditional West African, jazz, township, reggae, blues and many other styles (new release ZubopGambia - The Observer CD of the week). This promises to be an exuberant night of music.

Tickets £9 (£6 schoolchildren) available from Jackie on 820226 or Alan 820683/820775 - please order your tickets early.

Out and Out

Planting Time

Now is an excellent time to get more hardy plants into your garden. Recent rains have softened the ground and it is still warm enough to encourage roots to get going and be well established in time for next Summer, especially with the risk of a repeat of this year's drought.

As well as potted plants, bare rooted trees, hedges and roses will soon be available. Planting can continue through out the Winter but only when there is no frost as frost turned into the ground will remain cold and frozen.

Remember to dig some compost into the soil from the planting hole then firm it well around the roots of your plant and give it a good watering. Follow this with a thick mulch around the plant and more watering during dry spells then you'll know that you have given your new plant the best chance of survival should next Summer be as dry as the last.

Christine McSweeney

Autumn Competitions at the White House Pub

Conker Competition and Pumpkin weigh-in at the White House Pub.

All entries must be in by 2pm on Sunday 19th November.

HUNTON CLUB BOOK GROUP

SEPTEMBER BOOK REVIEW

THE STAND BY STEPHEN KING

The year is 1990 and when a lethal virus, developed in a secret military laboratory installation, accidentally filters into the general population a devastating plague ravishes the globe, leaving bands of roving survivors. A new world order emerges from the chaos, leading to an immense winner-takes-all battle between good and evil.

At the present time the Members were unable to review this book in full detail. The version being read is the complete and uncut edition and not the version which was first published in 1978 where a considerable amount of the original work had been cut. There are 1421 pages to be read and not enough of the group have read sufficient to be able to give it the review it deserves.

Watch this space in November's Herald where you will be able to read reviews of *The Stand* and October's book *The No. 1 Lady's Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith too.

At St Mary's Church in November

Notices	Services
Brass Cleaning: Trish Archer and June Tritton Flowers: 5th November Mrs Bullivant 12th November Remembrance Mrs Bullivant 19th November Mrs Porter 29th November Mrs Porter Church Family Service Coffee Rota: 5th November Jane Cadel and Jackie Crooks Hunton Sunday Club: 19th November is at Freelands, West Street 5.15-6.45pm The Club is open to all primary school age children and normally meets on the third Sunday evening of each month. Contact David Jones 741474 for details.	Sunday 5th November - 4th Sunday before Advent 11.00am Gift Service Revd David Jones Reading: John 11 v 32 - 44 Sunday 12th November - 3rd Sunday before Advent 10.50 Remembrance Service. Mrs E Doyle Readings: Isaiah 10 v 33 - 11 v 9 Sunday 19th November - 2nd Sunday before Advent 11.00am Morning Prayer Revd Peter Walker Readings: Daniel 12 v 1-3 and Mark 13 v 1-8 Sunday 12th November - Christ the King 9.15am Holy Communion Revd David Jones Readings: Daniel 7 v 9-10 & 13-14 and John 18 v 33-37

Living Word

A bible study series

November 28th - Unity of the Church. At the Coxheath Centre, 7.30 for 7.45 pm prompt start. Finishing 9.00pm

Mothers' Union

This year Mothers' Union will once again be hosting an '**ALTERNativity** Advent Meal', This will be a simple, but symbolic meal - a time for reflection and celebration.

The event is on Tuesday 5th December at 7.30pm in The Coxheath Centre. There will be limited seating availability. If you missed this meal last year but would like to join us this time please contact Lesley on 01622 745702 for tickets and further information.

Meetings:

Wednesday November 15th, at 2pm in Holy Trinity Church. Members own discussion on 'Present day Grandparenting'

Wednesday December 13th. Christmas get together with quizzes and food!

Our meetings are open to all: contact Lesley Marsh 01622 745702 for more information or just turn up. You will be made welcome.

Confirmation by the Bishop of Tonbridge

On Sunday October 15th at 6.30pm in St. Mary's Church, Greenhithe, Frank May was Confirmed by the Bishop of Tonbridge. There were a number of Greenhithe candidates confirmed and also a baptism of a lovely West Indian baby by the Bishop. Frank and Vera are regular attendees at Hunton church. Frank was unable to be confirmed when we had the service at Linton earlier this year, so it was a happy occasion when a number of us from Hunton were at Greenhithe to wish Frank well and see him confirm his faith in God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit!

November	5th	12th	19th	26th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	10.30 Remembrance Service	11.00 HC	11.00 CFS
E. Farleigh	9.15 HC 3.00pm Bereavement Service	8.00 HC 10.30 Remembrance Service	11.00 PW	8.00 HC 10.30 MP (1662)
Linton	9.15 HC	8.00 HC 10.00 Remembrance Service	9.15 HC	9.15 HC
W. Farleigh	Church Closed	10.45 Remembrance Service at the White House Pub	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)