



The Role of the PCSO

Hannah Percival our new PCSO has forwarded a brief outline of the role and the powers of her post.

With regard to enforcement powers, these are generally limited powers and are mainly related to what might be termed antisocial behaviour.

Fixed penalty notices can be issued for dog fouling, littering and cycling on a footpath.

PCSOs can request the name of a person acting in an antisocial manner and request a person to stop drinking in a public area. They have the power to confiscate alcohol and tobacco products from young persons. They may enter premises to save life or limb or to prevent serious damage to the property. With regard to vehicles, PCSOs can in certain circumstances seize vehicles and require the removal of abandoned vehicles.

Although they cannot arrest people other than as a citizen's arrest, their powers can be enhanced when they are required to stop vehicles for a road check, if authorised by a police superintendent. Significantly under the Terrorism Act 2000 their powers can be increased. A PCSO can maintain and enforce a cordoned area and have the right to stop and search vehicles, passengers and persons within the authorised area.

Perhaps more importantly in a rural area like Hunton the PCSO is seen to be a conduit for effective community information and intelligence gathering to support activities like Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Reduction initiatives. To aid these activities, surgeries will be held where information and problems can be brought to PCSO Hannah Percival. Details of these will be published in future issues of the Herald.

The Sponsored Bike Ride and Walk 2006

raised a magnificent sum of £132,282.00

Congratulations to all who took part.

Do join us for the 2007 Bike Ride and Walk

Saturday 8th September 2007

By Cycling or Walking around Kent Churches you can raise money to be divided equally between Friends of Kent Churches and the church or chapel of your choice

Details from your local organiser Alison Ellman-Brown 820288

Vacancy on the Parish Council

Lorraine Redfern formally resigned at the last Parish Council meeting in August as she has too many pressing commitments. There is now a vacancy on the Council. Lorraine will be much missed and the Council wished her all the best for the future.

If you or any one you know might be interested please contact the Clerk, David Swan, on 01622 814445.

VACANCY FOR PARISH CLERK

HUNTON AND WEST FARLEIGH PARISHES are seeking a joint home-based Clerk for 10 hours a week. The successful applicant need not be experienced as a Clerk but should have IT skills and be willing to train. The salary is based on the national NALC/SLCC scale. For further details please contact the present Clerk, David Swan, on 01622 814445.

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: Jane Crane	820127
Pre-School Supervisor: Nicola Julier	820309	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 8th September, Sponsored Bike Ride and Walk, 820288

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

Dear Friends,

It was late at night as the plane flew into Adelaide Airport. Having disembarked and retrieved my suitcase I scanned the arrivals area for a man I had never met. He was easily recognisable, for he was clothed in a monk's habit. A portly man - not unlike the picture we have of Mr. Pickwick.

We wound our way up to the top of Mount Lofty and to St. Michael's House. As I looked down from where we had come from I saw in the distance the twinkling lights of the city of Adelaide, and also the huge television towers which dominated Mount Lofty bearing down on the now seemingly diminutive St. Michael's House.

This was the home of the 'Society of the Sacred Mission' an Anglican religious order whose mission was to train men for the ordained ministry. I had arrived in order to see if this was where God wanted me to commence my training for the ministry.

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Plus Ça Change

The role of the new PCSO outlined in this issue reminds us that community policing and antisocial behaviour is nothing new. Before the creation of county constabularies, the role of policing was undertaken by the Parish Constable appointed or elected and paid for by the rate payers of the Parish.

In 1843-44 the Parish Constable was one John Collings. His account settled on Lady Day 1844 details his call outs, each charged at 1s 3d.

Among these were May 22nd 1843 'attending at the Bull to prevent a breach of the peace'. Later in the same month on the 31st he removes '...tramps from Back Lane and out of the parish'. However the Bull must have been a somewhat lively venue for on June 10th he attends '...to clear the house' and is back again on the 15th to '...prevent a repetition of the Rough Music'.

His traffic duties involved removing a '...horse cart from Back Lane to Marden' and removing '...a Tent from Lughorse Lane to Yalding'.

It even appears that he was not above touting for business, for on the 21st he charges 1s 3d for '...going down the Mill in search of tramps'. All seems very familiar!

David Heaton

Out and Out - How old are Yew?

What do you do when you loose your heart after 500 Years?

Hope your skin is thick enough to keep you going for the next 1500 (or so).

Well that is how it is for ancient yew trees, after 400 -500 years their heart wood begins to die and the trunk starts to hollow but the still living outer ring of the tree continues to support the tree.

St Mary's Churchyard in Hunton has its own venerable yew tree to the north east of the churchyard, which is definitely worth a visit. You'll recognise this tree as, at first sight, it is a rather sad looking specimen having lost its top at some time in the past. But take a moment to enjoy the extraordinary textures of the lustrous satiny dead wood then consider the possible age of this tree. As it is hollowed we can guess that it is over 500 years old, but its girth of nearly 20 feet hints at much older. Without that heart wood we can only guess but it is not impossible that this now ancient yew was already in place when our Norman Church was being built.

If you would be interested in helping to preserve this wonderful tree and encouraging wildlife into the churchyard then please give David Way a call on 01622 820876, he will be glad to keep you informed about regular working parties.

Flower Arranging

If you are interested in learning something about Flower Arranging, and having some fun, come along and join a very friendly group.

Following on from the successful series of lessons last year there will be a new course starting in September.

The course will run on Tuesdays, in term time, at Hunton Village Hall from 1.00pm to 3.00pm.

Start date Tuesday 18th September. The course runs for 5 weeks and costs £30.00.

The Winter Term will start on the 13th November and again will run for 5 weeks.

Following on from the successful day last year, there will be a "Christmas Wreath" making session on Saturday the 15th December between 10.00am and 12.00pm

For more details, contact Jackie on 01622 753053.

Coxheath Twinning Association Quiz Night

Saturday October 13 2007, Coxheath Primary School

Teams 6-8, £7 per head INCLUDING Ploughman's Supper

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start.

To book a table contact

Jane—746198, Cathy—741243

Lorraine - lorraine@coxheath.fslife.co.uk

Village Hall Bookings

Jackie Crooks is handing over the responsibility for managing bookings for the Hunton Village Hall to Mrs Jane Crane on the 30th August. Jane can be contacted on 01622 820127. Many thanks to Jackie for all her hard work.

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra, Conductor Brian Wright, will perform on Saturday 13th October 2007 commencing at 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park, Maidstone.

The programme consists of three works

Elgar/Payne - Pomp & Circumstance March No.6

Sibelius - Violin Concerto, Soloist Jennifer Pike.

Elgar - Symphony No.2.

The season opens when two anniversaries will be celebrated - Elgar's 150th birthday with the high emotion of his 2nd symphony, plus the splendid new 6th Pomp and Circumstance March completed by Anthony Payne. Also, in this 50th year after Sibelius' death, favourite former BBC Young Musician, Jennifer Pike, plays his passionate Violin concerto.

Season tickets are available from the Membership Secretary on 01622 736392 for five concerts at £40, £64, and £80. Single tickets are £10, £16 and £20, seats for children or students with a student card £5, available from the Membership Secretaries paid for and collected on the concert evening at Mote Hall, or from Maidstone Leisure Centre on 0845 1552277 when payment can be made by credit card.

This concert is sponsored by The Friends of Maidstone Orchestral Society."

HUNTON CLUB BOOK GROUP

JULY BOOK REVIEW

THE BATTLE FOR CHRISTOBEL BY MARGARET FORSTER

Rowena wants a baby. What she doesn't want is the baby's father. Yet five years after the birth of Christobel, Rowena is dead, tragically killed in a climbing accident. The battle for Christobel has begun.

Forster has the essential capacity to see everyone's point of view, whether it is the social workers who resent the upper-middle class assumptions of Christobel's grandmother, Isobel's lover who believes she should adopt the child or Christobel's foster mother Betty - in that territory of dread and reconciliation which is the family.

Members of the club found the dilemma within this story interesting. With the different characters all living their own busy lives who would be willing to put aside their own ambitions and take on someone else's child? We felt the author showed clever use of these characterisations yet remained non-judgemental. Some felt that the story took too long to become interesting and yet that it summed up the current day's pressures that our social services have to face. We also felt it strange that the child was never consulted as to where she would like to be. Overall, it was considered an easy read yet not a very exciting one. This was reflected in the score of 6½ out of 10.

Our book for August is *The Glass Palace* by Amitav Ghosh

Are you throwing money away?

Make sure you don't pay too much Council Tax or rent.

Around 30,000 people in Kent are paying too much Council Tax, are you one of them?

The Kent Benefits Partnership was set up by all the councils in Kent and Medway. Our role is to help people claim the money they were missing out on in Council Tax Benefit and Housing Benefit.

Entitlement to Council Tax Benefit and Housing Benefit is based on your income, your savings and your circumstances. You have to have less than £16,000 in savings (unless you receive Guarantee Pension Credit). The amount of income you can have will vary depending on your circumstances and the amount of Council Tax or rent you pay. However, occupational pensions or low earnings do not necessarily mean you wouldn't get any help.

The Kent Benefits Partnership has an office in Maidstone with trained officers able to work out whether you might be able to get some help with either your Council Tax or rent. We have links to the majority of benefit systems in Kent and Medway and normally process your claim in our office. There is also a Visiting Officer available to come to your home and help fill in the forms. We need to see a number of documents to support your application and the Visiting Officer is able to photograph these in your home so you do not have to worry about your documents leaving your sight. For more information call The Kent Benefits Partnership on **0845 345 0310**.

At St Mary's Church in September

Notices	Services
Brass Cleaning: Anke Way	Sunday 2nd September - Trinity 13 11.00am Family Service Revd David Jones Reading: At the preacher's discretion
Flowers: 2nd September Mrs Porter 9th September Mrs Porter 16th September Mrs Simmons 23rd September Mrs Simmons 30th September Benefice Service	Sunday 9th September - Trinity 14 6.00pm Patronal Evensong Revd Peter Walker Readings: Jeremiah 32 v26-end and Mark 15 v1-41
Church Family Service Coffee Rota: 2nd September Mary Johns and Sylvia Gurr	Sunday 16th September - Trinity 15 11.00am Morning Prayer Mrs E Doyle Readings: Jeremiah 4 v11-12 & 22-28, 1 Timothy 1 v12-17 and Luke 15 v1 to 10
Hunton Sunday Club Meets again after the summer break on Sunday September 16th at South Lodge, Gennings, Lughorse Lane from 5.15pm until 6.45pm. All children of primary school age living or attending school in Hunton are welcome. For further information contact David Jones 741474.	Sunday 23rd September - Trinity 16 9.15am Holy Communion Revd Ruth Bierbaum Readings: Jeremiah 8 v18-9 v1, 1 Timothy 2 v1-7 and Luke 16 v1-13
	Sunday 30th September - Trinity 17 10.30am United Benefice Service at Coxheath Revd Peter Walker Readings: Amos 6 v1(a) & 4-7, 1 Timothy 6 v6-19 and Luke 16 19-31

Harvest Festival is the first weekend in October - more details next month

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'Everyone has gone to bed' said Brother Gilbert - 'we have spent all day celebrating Michaelmas'.

Yes, it was September 29th when the church recalls St. Michael and All Angels.

He led me to the kitchen and said: 'make yourself a drink; I am sure there is some food you can find'.

I was then led to a room. 'There is a bed in here - but there is another student sleeping at the other end of the room - try to be quiet'. I fell asleep very quickly only to be shaken to the core when a huge bell tolled outside the dormitory. It was 6.30am and time to get washed and dressed for chapel at 7am.

It was an awakening I shall not forget and one which in time would be the call to worship every day for four years, for six months later I was back there having given up work in England and starting my training for the ordained ministry. That is now thirty one years ago. As I look back on that memorable Michaelmas Day it is as if it was yesterday, so vivid is it in my memory.

'Then there was war in heaven. Michael and the angels under his command fought the dragon and his angels. And the dragon lost the battle and was forced out of heaven. This great dragon....the Devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world - was thrown down to the earth with all his angels' (Revelation 12:7)

Much more happened at the birth of Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection than most people realise.

A war between the forces of good and evil was under way. The decisive blow was struck by the death of Jesus on the cross. Read Revelation chapter 12:7-12 and there you will see how in St. John's vision he understood and recorded for us the part played by St. Michael and his angels, but more importantly the role of Jesus as the sacrificial lamb who through his death has defeated the powers of evil for all time.

As you gather your Michaelmas daisies remember St. Michael. I always will because of that night I arrived in Adelaide and began my long pilgrimage towards ordination and all which that time with the monks taught me as I, with the other students, recalled in prayer each night at the last service of the day, 'Compline', the ministry of St. Michael and all Angels.

Peter

September	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	11.00 FS	10.30 United Benefice Service
E. Farleigh	9.15 HC	8.00 HC (bcp) 10.30 MP	11.00 FS	8.00 HC (bcp) 10.30 MP	
Linton	9.15 HC	8.00 HC (bcp) 11.00 FS	9.15 HC	9.15 HC	
W. Farleigh	8.00 HC 11.00 SW	11.00 FS	9.15 HC	11.00 MP	
HC: Holy Communion, MP: Morning Prayer, (bcp) Book of Common Prayer, FS: Family Service, SW: Service of Word APCM Annual Parish Council Meeting					

For Weddings, Thanksgivings, and Baptisms, please contact Revd Peter Walker