



The Hunton Herald

Issue 59
November
2007

Editors: Sue & David Heaton, 3 New Cottages, Barn Hill, Hunton, ME15 0QT 01622 820678 herald@hunton.org.uk

David Swan Stands Down as Parish Clerk for Hunton

David Swan is standing down as Parish Clerk for Hunton and West Farleigh Parishes at the end of October. His successor from 1st November will be:- Mrs Vikki B Stancombe of The Firs, Chartway Street, Sutton Valence, Maidstone ME17 3JA. Tel: 01622 842782.

From the same date the phone/fax number 01622 817812 will be withdrawn and the e-mail addresses for Hunton will be Huntonpc@googlemail.com and Westfarleighpc@googlemail.com respectively.

The next meeting will be on 15th November at the Village Hall at 8pm.

Hunton Village Hall

Cat Weatherill presents Mermaid

Shimmering Tales from Beneath the Waves

Mermaid is a promise of pleasure: sea kissed stories, enticingly told with music and song.

So what are you waiting for? Come on in the water's lovely....

'She is beautiful: shining and bursting with life' The Times

The show is intended for adults, but older children 12+ are welcome

Saturday November 10th 8pm

Tickets Adults £7.00 Children £4.00

For Tickets phone 820683 or 820127

Licensed bar

Police Surgery Hunton

Neighbourhood Officer, PCSO Hannah Percival is holding a Police Surgery at Hunton Village Hall on Saturday 10th November 2007 from 10 -11.30am.

The surgery gives you a chance to raise any concerns you have about local policing issues. PCSO Hannah Percival will see people individually on a first come first serve basis.

PCSO PERCIVAL is based at **MAIDSTONE** police station and can be contacted on **07772226032**.

Please see notice boards for future dates and changes.

"Flower Arranging-"Christmas Wreath" Session

The revised date for this session is Saturday the 8th December in the Village Hall from 10.00am to 12.00pm. There will be a demonstration by Jackie Brooks and the rings and moss will be provided. Bring your own decorations: - Baubles, Ribbons, Fir Cones etc.

To book telephone Jackie on 01622 753053. Cost for the session will be £8.00.

Sandra Bullivant

'Bin your Bottles'

Councillor Brian Mortimer mentioned at the last Parish Council meeting that recycling glass can now all go into the wheelie bins. Household waste from the 'wheelie' bins is now being incinerated locally rather than sent for land fill and the glass gets broken down into small particles during incineration that can be used for road making etc.

Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell	820731	Village Club: Doug Redfarn	820495
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Clerk to Parish Council: Vikki Stancombe	842782
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Village Hall Booking: Jane Crane	820127
Pre-School Supervisor: Nicola Julier	07972067110	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
		PCSO Hannah Percival	07772226032

*not available on Fridays **not available on Mondays

Dates for Diaries:

Saturday 10th November, 10-11.30am Police Surgery, Hunton Village Hall
Saturday 10th November, 8pm Mermaid, Hunton Village Hall, 820683/820127
Saturday 24th November 7.45 - 8.45am bulky refuse freighter, Hunton Village Hall carpark.
Saturday 8th December 10am-12pm, Christmas Wreath Session, Hunton Village Hall, 753053.

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

Dear Fellow Readers

This letter is being written a month before you read it so it can be difficult to be topical in this fast changing world we live in today. But I can at least try to be relevant!

Last month was the traditional time when churches celebrated harvest. No longer the crops 'being safely gathered in ere the winters storms begin' for so many of our crops now come from all round the world and harvest is global. Yet the idea of thanking God for all the 'good gifts around us' and recognising that they do come from God, is a wonderful truth that poly tunnels, controlled growing and improved fertilizers, ought not to destroy. We need to give thanks for the world that God has created for us, for all that He provides so freely.

November, on the other hand, has become the time for remembrance: a time to look at the ways that the perfect order that God created has been marred by hatred, injustice, greed and envy. November is the time we recall the lives of those men and women lost or injured in war. Wars are still sadly part of our lives. Maybe not in the way our parents and grandparents were involved, but today, in the modern multi-media reported wars that are on our televisions screens every day, 24 hrs a day, week in and week out. In war we see the perfection that God created being destroyed, in human lives seemingly valueless, being cast aside in the greed of those who would seek to gain power, territory and wealth. Sadly, so many of the conflicts are fought in the name of justice and freedom for the oppressed.

But it's so easy to move on from these events, to think in both the harvest and war situations, to the next step. To move on to think of people who are the innocent victims of famine, earthquake, greed, war and other disasters. To move on to think of poverty without spending time giving thanks to God for the world he has created and for the good things that we enjoy. In thinking of war we move on to think of peace because perhaps it makes it so much better. Yet there is a time to remember and recall the awfulness of war, it's far from pretty sights, it ugliness, and its injustice. The individual suffering together with the vast number of dead and injured is a horrendous picture. The thought of peace is a much better.

The writer of the book in the Bible called Ecclesiastes, (Ecclesiastes chapter 3 verses 1 - 8) says that there is a time for everything. We ought not always to be rushing on to the next phase of our lives without 'working through' the present. For it is this present experience that forms our future thoughts and actions. In giving thanks to God for the riches of his harvest and his goodness to us so we can indeed move on to our concerns for those who do not experience the same richness. To reflect on the awfulness and horror of war and its effect on individuals makes our efforts for peace even stronger.

I hope and pray that you all have a wonderful month.

David Jones

Out and Out - Do You Dig?

Digging is a great form of exercise for garden minded people, not only does it improve your physique but it also improves the physique of the soil. It gets air into the soil to encourage beneficial bacterial activity. Heavy soils are exposed to the elements to help break them down allowing better root penetration and any seeds or insects turned up will fall prey to hungry birds. Of course if you add organic matter as you dig this will improve drainage and fertility as well.

Digging should be taken gently, tackle a small section to start with and take small slices of soil to reduce the weight of the spade. For those people who find traditional spades tiring (and painful) for their backs it may be worth trying one of the long handled spades. I have one (bought in Scots) which has a long straight handle and a pointed blade. It took a while to get used to using this but once mastered it is much easier on my back as the weight is taken by your shoulders. In fact my family, who laughed at my spade at first, now make a beeline for it if any digging is needed; I now own 3 of them!

I love the rhythm of digging, the feeling of doing something beneficial and, with the sun on your back and the anticipation of a steaming bath to rest those limbs, how better to enjoy the autumn colours outside?

Chistine McSweeney

School News

The Success of the Autumn Ball

A great big 'thank you' to everybody involved in organising the Autumn Ball on Saturday 13th October. The hall was transformed with an Art Deco theme, the food was lovely, the band terrific with many of us dancing all evening, and everybody had a fantastic time! The PTA have raised £595.95 with this event which will complete the refurbishment of the library. Our thanks go to the PTA for their continued support.

A Date for Next Month

The Gift Service this year will be held on Sunday 2nd December in the church family service. Starfish Malawi will once again be the charity supported, so please bring along your unwrapped gifts of pens, pencils, rubbers, pencil sharpeners, paper, colouring books, rulers etc for the school children in Malawi.

Hunton Club Book Group - September Book Review

The Sixth Lamentation by William Broderick

What should you do when the world has turned against you? When Father Anselm is asked this question by an old man in the nave at Larkwood Priory, his response is simple: claim sanctuary. Then the old man demands just that: his name is Eduard Schwermann and he is wanted by the police as a suspected war criminal.

With her life running out, Agnes Aubret feels it is time to unburden her secrets to her granddaughter Lucy. Fifty years earlier, Agnes had been living in Occupied Paris, a member of a small group smuggling Jewish children to safety - until they were exposed by a young SS Officer, Eduard Schwermann.....

As Anselm uncovers Schwermann's past and, as Lucy's search into her grandmother's history continues, their investigations dovetail to reveal a remarkable story.

This book held such promise for many of us, what a good beginning, drawing us into the wonderful story, then disappointment set in. We become lost among the pages, having to "look back" to keep the flow, to stay with the characters. We felt we'd missed out on something vital, yet didn't. Most of us continued to finish the book, although some members didn't. Others thought it wonderful, so our opinions are of a very mixed nature.

The story was neatly rounded off at the end, with characters being appropriately placed in their boxes. A quote from the book "only in books do loose ends get tied up" applies perfectly.

We had a score of 9 and one of 3 but overall our average worked out to 6 out of 10.

Our book for September is Snow Flower & the Secret Fan by Lisa See.

Tricia

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra

Conductor, Brian Wright, will perform on **Saturday 1st December 2007**, 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park, Maidstone.

The programme consists of two works:

Brahms Piano Concerto No.2 - Soloist Freddy Kempf, now acclaimed as one of the finest young pianists on the world stage, returns to MSO to play Brahms' great 2nd concerto and Bruckner's Powerful Symphony No.6.

Concert tickets £10, £16 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 Maidstone Leisure Centre on 0845 1552277 when payment can be made by credit card. This concert is sponsored by Annabel Luzzatto.

David Bramley, Maidstone Orchestral Society.

Community Policing

We currently have 13 Police community support officers working in the Rural area of Maidstone. There are 7 KCC Rural wardens working in specific villages. There are 6 police officers who work with all the above personnel and we have one vacancy for the Maidstone Rural Team which will be filled as soon as possible.

By having all these staff in place the police officers are now able to start on their enforcement duties.

We have other operations arranged to target Rural crime.

Gary Shaw

Smoke Alarms

Kent Fire and Rescue Service will fit for FREE smoke alarms to your house and assess if you need any other form of fire prevention advice. There is no catch. It is FREE and the smoke alarms have a ten year battery life. They will remove your old ones if necessary.

I have had two fitted at my house. The devices have pause buttons as well should you burn your toast!

If you wish to use this service call 0800 923 7000 and they will arrange an appointment.

Gary Shaw

Who's looking after your home or business when you are away at work or on holiday?

Kent KeyLink will ensure that Kent Police are aware of who to contact should anything untoward happen to your property, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This new service is not focused on house alarm holders; it is more about a total property management service that is live and accurate as you want to make it.

Tell us so we can make sure you get a customised response according to your personal situation. This allows Kent Police to work more effectively alongside other emergency services and to make better use of time and resources. Who does your neighbour tell if they are away? How do any of the emergency services know which neighbour is holding your personal information? **Kent KeyLink** are fully insured and policy compliant.

Kent KeyLink is a not-for-profit organisation working in partnership with Kent Police to provide a secure on-line database for key holder and property information. All profits will be made available for rural, business and residential communities to bid for crime prevention initiatives.

You should still register with **Kent KeyLink** if you would like Kent Police to have access to your key holder details.

How do I register?

Just log onto www.kentkeylink.co.uk or call Tiffany or Nina on 01622 636326 to find out more.

At St Mary's Church in November

Notices	Services
Brass Cleaning: Christine McSweeney Family Service Coffee Rota: Sara Anscombe and Anke Way Flowers: 4th November Mrs Leonard 11th November Mrs Leonard (Remembrance) 18th November Mrs Porter 25th November Mrs Porter Hunton Sunday Club We meet on November 18th at Freeland's, West Street from 5.15pm until 6.45pm. This club is open to all children of primary school age either living in the village or attending school in the village and has a Christian focus through fun activities and meets once a month on the 3rd Sunday of the month. If you are interested in coming please contact David Jones 741474.	Sunday 4th November - 4 Before Advent 11.00am Family Service Revd David Jones Readings: Isaiah 1 v10-18, Thessalonians 1 v1-12 and Luke 19 v1-10 Sunday 11th November - 3 Before Advent 10.50am Revd Peter Walker Readings: Genesis 22 v1-18 and John 15 v9-17 Sunday 18th November - 2 Before Advent 11.00am Morning Prayer Revd CB Readings: Malachi 4 v1-2(a), 2 Thessalonians 3 v6-13 and Luke 21 v5-19 Sunday 25th November - Next Before Advent (Christ the King) 9.15am Holy Communion Revd David Jones Readings: Jeremiah 23 v1-6, Colossians 1 v11-20 and Luke 23 v33-43

Please note that the *Psst!* have started meeting at 10-11.30am on a Wednesday morning.

Lighting Up Christmas

Are you someone who believes that the central message of Christmas is getting lost? Do you think we are throwing the baby out with the bath water of political correctness?

This Christmas in Coxheath Benefice the Church is encouraging people of faith to put a lighted star on the exterior of their house, or inside at a window, as a sign of our faith in Jesus.

The stars, which measure 63cm in height and 44.5 cm in width are produced by a Maidstone company called Silent Lights. This single rope light costs £14.99 and if you would like to place an order, please contact one of the clergy. To see the star and other examples of Silent Light's products you can go to www.silentlights.co.uk

Christian Books Wanted

I am collecting Christian books on behalf of a Christian Charity based in Spain. As part of their fund raising they sell books to the public, however due to a lack of funds they are not able to purchase any from their suppliers. So if you have any new or second hand books that are in pretty good condition that I can send to the charity please call me and I will be happy to collect them from you.

Many thanks

Vicki Jayes
01622 749762
07887 623099

November	4th	11th	18th	25th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	10.30 Remembrance	11.00 HC	11.00 FS
E. Farleigh	9.15 HC 1.00pm Baptism 3.00pm Bereavement	8.00 HC 10.30 Remembrance	11.00 FS	8.00 HC (bcp) 10.30 MP
Linton	9.15 HC	8.00 HC 10.00 Remembrance	9.15 HC	9.15 HC
W. Farleigh	8.00 HC 11.00 White House	10.45 Remembrance	11.00 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