



Parish Council News

Village Fete to be Cancelled Disappointing news came at the Hunton Parish Council annual meeting when Keith Eatwell chairman of the King George V Playing Fields Committee said that the Village Fete has had to be cancelled. It had been planned for June 27th, but it was discovered that this date clashed with a number of other local events while a number of people who had offered support had pulled out.

"Next year we must start making arrangements much earlier and get volunteers in place," he said, reporting that the committee, backed by the three sports clubs and village hall, had carried out improvements to the play equipment bringing the swings and climbing frame up to RoSPA safety standards. Car park potholes had been repaired. Council chairman Roger Sawtell told the 24 villagers attending the meeting in mid-May that the gathering presented an ideal opportunity for all clubs and organisations within the community to come together.

The Bowls Club Brian Geddes of the 50-member Bowls Club reported a successful season in which the ladies team had competed for the first time in the Maidstone League and finished mid-table.

Fund-raising had taken place to extend the pavilion and improve the surrounding fencing. The next project is to upgrade the changing areas. During the season from April to September 135 fixtures had been played.

The Football Club Keith Eatwell said the Football Club's first team had been promoted and finished sixth in the Premier Division of the Maidstone League in which the club has been playing for 112 years.

The Reserves started well and ended fourth in their league and were beaten in the Tunbridge Wells Charity Cup Final. Sixty playing members meant that there was more choice for team selectors.

The Village Hall Alan Bishop said that the Village Hall bookings were down, perhaps because of the recession but there were "green shoots showing" with a surge in reservations. The hall was in good shape and on a financially sound footing with plans to improve the frontage.

School News Headmistress Sue Wood said that last year the Village School had scored above the national average in the SATS exams, while Ofsted and Church of England inspections produced outstanding reports.

The school is looking forward to the opening of the fourth classroom on June 8th which will make a big difference with 12 reception pupils having a class of their own. She thanked the Parish Council for its efforts in getting a footpath constructed between the Village Hall and Bensted Close, enabling parents to park and bring pupils to school, improving the safety conditions and reducing the number of cars in the village centre.

The Village Club Allan Peckham said that the Village Club has been enhanced and improved and the committee is always looking for support from villagers. Improvements had been made to the electrical circuits and flat roof while new carpets and toilets had been installed after flooding. A variety of events are regularly arranged from bingo to race nights. Membership is down, but thanks to members' voluntary efforts, finances are in good health.

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 David Jones	741474*	Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
		Organist: Philip Moore	749356
		PCSO Jo Watts	07772 225983

*not available on Fridays **not available on Mondays

Dates for Diaries:

Sunday 7th June 2009, 2-6pm, Linton Garden Gala, Linton Village
 Sunday 14th June 11-5pm NGS Garden openings: The Old Stables, Queen Anne House, Southover
 Sunday 5th July, Rubbish Freighter, Village Hall car park 2.15pm-3.00pm
 Sunday 19th July, BBQ Friends of St Mary's, Hunton Court, 2.30pm
 Sunday 9th August Train Event in Hunton
 Sunday 30th August, Rubbish Freighter, Village Hall car park 2.15pm-3.00pm
 3rd October, The John Briggs Memorial Lecture, the Village Hall
 2,3, and 4th October, Flower Festival, Hunton Church

Parish Councillors contact details

Parish Council Chairman	
- Roger Sawtell	820731
Clerk to the Parish Council	
- Vikki Stancombe	842782
Cllr Les Leonard	820858
Cllr Moira Walter	745765
Cllr Gary Thomas	820691
Cllr David Heaton	820678
Cllr Keith Eatwell	745569
Cllr Ron Porter	820220

All items for the July edition to the Editors as soon as possible, and by 15th June, please

Dear Friends,

Trinity and Pentecost

June 9th is Trinity Sunday. It was once described to me as 'The Preacher's nightmare'.

In other words how does one speak in a way which makes sense of our God who is three persons and One God?

The festival is late in origin; it began to be observed early in the tenth century and was not made obligatory until early in the fourteenth century.

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The Alms Houses

Ruth Porter reported that the electrical system had been improved at the Peace Cottages almshouses and that central heating was to be installed as part of a five year plan.

The occupants have remained the same and when asked what improvements they would like, some called for shower installations; lowering windows to let in more light and kitchen improvements. Beryl Wenham was thanked for keeping the gardens in good shape.

St Mary's Church

Alison Ellman-Brown said the St Mary's Church congregation was steady at an average 18, while the festive services had been well attended. The strong and enthusiastic fabrics committee led by David Way was working well, while his wife Anke was proving successful in sourcing grants. Bell ringers were playing regularly while a team of volunteers keep the churchyard tidy. Ron Porter said that the Friends of St Mary's, aiming to maximise the benefits of the church and preserve its beauty, is now an officially established charity and had received donations topping £2000. Members are being sought for a £10 annual subscription.

Concerned about Speeding Traffic and HGV Lorries in Hunton?

After a brief lapse, I am back in **hot pursuit of speeding traffic and HGV lorries** in West Street and the whole of Hunton Village! The speed and volume of traffic seems to be increasing and this problem is not going to go away unless we all join forces and take action! I am hoping to join forces with Yalding, which will strengthen our campaign. We have the support of Paulina Stockwell, County Councillor for KCC, our three Borough Councillors and, of course, the Parish Council. My plan is to form a Residents' Association for the whole of Hunton and also to take part in a Speed Watch Survey for West Street (see below); which could then be extended to East Street. It would be really helpful if someone could take on the role of Secretary for the Association. I am planning to hold a meeting shortly in order to try to form the association. Please contact me if you would like to join the association, attend the meeting (details to follow) and/or can help/support in any way.

URGENT! SPEED WATCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We are in urgent need of 4 more volunteers to take part in a Speed Watch Survey of West Street. Our Parish Councillor, Ron Porter has agreed to take part, but we need 4 more volunteers before the Parish Council can go ahead and apply for this scheme. This scheme could also be used in East Street; but we would need 6 volunteers willing to take part in the scheme for this road. Please contact me for further information: Jacqui Frances: Telephone: 01622 820781 email: jayseafran@yahoo.co.uk

BBQ at Hunton Court There will be a BBQ in the grounds of Hunton Court, in aid of 'Friends of St Mary's', on the 19th July, starting at 2.30pm. There will be a Bar and a Band. Tickets £10 adult, £6 child up to 16.

A Plea to Please Drive Slowly in Grove Lane

Recently we have noticed an increase in the frequency and speed of vehicles using Grove Lane. The sound of vehicle brakes hastily applied is becoming a more regular occurrence amidst the summer song of the cuckoo and the blackbird. Likewise we have seen an increase in the number of injuries sustained by our pets, so that Grove Lane now appears more dangerous than the roads of central London.

Grove Lane is more than a car park, a turning space and thoroughfare. It is the picturesque back bone of a small community. It is where children play and their pets roam. Pets teach our children compassion and respect for life in all its forms. We ask all those who drive in or along Grove Lane to please do the same.

Julian, Annette & Darcie, Charlie & Vanessa (the cats) and Hayley (the dog)

Out and Out - Don't Try This at Home

There are some unwelcome guests in our gardens which seem to be able to defy eradication. I am talking about the larger weeds, such things as tree seedlings and brambles which grow undetected amongst shrubs and the first you know of them is when they wave mature branches at you triumphantly above your carefully nurtured and loved shrubs. A new method which I may be trying in my garden is to cut off these stems, somewhere near the ground if possible, and then carefully paint the cut end with a concentrated solution of glyphosate. If I was to try this I would buy a bottle of the liquid which is designed to be diluted for spraying and use it neat painting it on with a small brush. This means the chemical goes exactly where it is needed and reduces the possibility of spray drift.

EU regulations probably outlaw this unproven method (always read instructions and take the necessary precautions when using any chemicals around the garden) so don't say you saw it here but suffice it to say that over the winter there are several dead looking stumps of elderberry and ash around my garden and a few sick but still living specimens of bramble and wild rose, if at first you don't succeed try, try again.

Christine McSweeney

Walking the Greensand Way's 108 miles

Two of the stalwart regulars of The White House Public House in West Farleigh, Paul Parnell and Miles Jerrum have bravely taken up the challenge to walk the entire length of The Greensand Way, an incredible 108 miles to raise money for the pub's pet charity The Old Folk Four and Help the Aged.

The Old Folk Four is a local charity that has been providing Christmas hampers for the old folk of Hunton and the Farleighs for more than 40 years and Help the Aged is the well known National Charity.

Miles and Paul intend to set off from Haslemere in Surrey on Monday 22nd June and finish at Ham Street in Kent about a week later. This courageous pair are hoping to raise a significant amount and would be thrilled if as many people as possible came forward to sponsor them. A Sponsorship form is available at The White House or from Paul or Miles. For more details please contact Janet Morris at The White House on 01622 820520 *Janet Morris*

Hunton School— A big thank you to every one who supported Hunton School's May Fayre, despite the weather we raised a massive £1,700, which will be going towards our new classroom.

New Gardens Open for Charity

On Sunday 14th June two Hunton gardens will be open for the first time.

'The Old Stables ' (Tim and Jenny Backshall) and ' The Queen Anne House' (John and Sue Scott) are two adjacent gardens at Cheveney Farm; both have been newly created over the last four years. Access is via Salters Lane or the lane opposite Hunton Mill. In addition, the long established garden in Grove Lane, 'Southover' (David and Anke Way) will also be open. These three gardens provide great contrasts in garden design and atmosphere.

Parking will be available at both sites or you can walk from one to the other across the fields (15 minutes) and enjoy the countryside. All gardens will be open from 11.00 am to 5.00 pm. Refreshments including home-made cream teas will be available at Queen Anne House.

Proceeds are in aid of the National Gardens Scheme charities and Leukaemia Research.

Combined entry is £3.50 for adults, children free.

Anke Way

Hunton Club Book Group April 2009 Book Review

Savage Garden by Mark Mills

Adam Strickland, a Cambridge student in 1958 is in search of a subject for his thesis. His mentor presents him with one which gives Adam the opportunity to spend the summer in Tuscany to study a 16th Century memorial garden belonging to the wealthy Docci family. Adam jumps at the opportunity but isn't quite prepared for what he finds when he arrives at the mysterious Docci Villa situated high in the bucolic hills of Tuscany.

The garden surrounding the villa is a complex warren of groves and grottos which has been laid out by a grieving husband to the memory of his dead wife Flora who died at the age of 25 in 1548. Immediately Adam falls under the spell of the garden and of Villa Docci and is struck that there is something discordant in the garden including a rather provocative marble statue of the banker's wife which crowns the nine-tiered amphitheatre.

Adam is warned by some people of the dangers of getting too close to the Villa and that 'people have a tendency to die there'. Meanwhile, the aging Signora Docci who lies alone in her bedroom at the Villa offers Adam the free run of the house except the top floor, the door to which, Adam is told must remain locked. Intrigued by this Adam finds himself compelled to investigate and discovers that the Docci family have some dark skeletons hidden away.

By the end of the summer Adam uncovers two stories of love, revenge and murder separated by 400 years.

This book triggered a mixed response from the Group. Some members were disappointed and found it slow, boring and badly written and did not finish it. Others could not engage with the characters and felt that the parallel stories were unnecessary. It was generally agreed that the language was not appropriate for the 1950s. However, a small minority enjoyed the intrigue of the story, felt the beautiful descriptions of the Tuscan landscape captured the atmosphere of an Italian summer, the elegance of the garden and they also empathised with some of the main characters.

Scores for this book ranged from 4 to 8 giving an average of 5 1/2 out of 10. There is no set book for May so members will read a book of their choice and report back to the Group next month.

Pre-School News

Another term has flown by, we have been looking at Mini Beasts. The children have been carrying out various arts and crafts and cooking activities. We also held a sponsored activity week to raise funds for new soft play equipment, outdoor waterproof suits and puzzles. The children had to walk a course on the large playing field undertaking many obstacles on their route,. The children had a great time and so did all the staff. We would like to say a big thank you to Jane Crane for offering her help to maintain our outside garden space and help the children to grow their own produce.

Lastly, if you live in the local area and are looking for a pre-school, we have a few vacancies for September, so give us a call on 01622 820309 or 07972 067110 and make an appointment to come down and view our setting.

At St Mary's Church in June

Notices	Services
Coffee Rota 7 th June -The Taylor Family Brass Cleaning June- Andrea Forster Flower Rota June 7 th Mrs Leonard / Scott (Wedding) June 14 th Mrs Leonard June 21 st Mrs St John June 28 th Mrs St John July 5 th Mrs Oliver/Mrs Lawrence Hunton Sunday Club Our meeting in June is on Sunday June 21 st at Freelands, West Street, the home of Dawn and David Dixon. We start at 5.15pm and finish after our tea at 6.45pm. Our July meeting is planned for July 19 th and depending upon the weather we will be having our annual swim. If you have a child who either lives in Hunton or attends school in Hunton primary school then there is a welcome for that child to join us each month. For further details contact David 741474	Sunday 7th June - Trinity Sunday 11.00am Family Service - Revd David Jones Readings: Preachers Choice Sunday 14th June - 1st Sunday after Trinity 9.30 Holy Communion - Revd Peter Walker Readings: Ezekiel 17 v 22-24 and Mark 4 v 26-34 Sunday 21st June - 2nd Sunday after Trinity 11.00am Morning Prayer - Mr D Barnes Readings: Job 38 v 1-11 and Mark 4 v 35-41 Sunday 28th June - 3rd Sunday after Trinity 09.30 Holy Communion - Revd Peter Walker Readings: Wisdom 1 v 13-15 & 2 v 23-24 and Mark 5 v 21 -43 Sunday 5th July - 4th Sunday after Trinity 11.00am Family Service - Revd David Jones Readings: Preachers Choice

I always tend to talk about the qualities of our God. The Father who created, the Son who redeemed us by the cross, and the Holy Spirit who makes God real to us today and empowers us to do His work. Simple examples are often used - Water, steam and ice, as all school boys and girls in the chemistry lab will know, is H₂O. Saint Patrick used the example of the shamrock leaf.

Trinity Sunday falls on the Sunday after Pentecost. That festival of the church recalls how the disciples, having returned to Jerusalem awaited the coming of the 'power from on high'.

That was the promise of Jesus to his disciples as he left them at the Ascension. Their commission was to 'make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit'. This work on which they were about to embark could not be done without supernatural strength. This 'power from on high' was unknown to them until that first day of Pentecost when as the Scriptures report they were all 'filled' with Holy Spirit. It is in this empowering that we too are given the strength to be faithful, and to do the Lord's work.

Those who have done the 'Alpha' course will know that three sessions are used to teach about the Holy Spirit. Usually it is taught over a whole day. But it is more than just Teaching, it is experiencing.

As we remember this month the Holy Trinity (Coxheath Church has this as its dedication) and also that first day of Pentecost, we recall that great commission of Jesus given to the disciples which has been passed down to us today, and in the power of the same Holy Spirit in the Name of the Holy Trinity we seek to be the people God created us to be.

Peter

Bishop's Visit to Holy Trinity, Coxheath

On Sunday June 14th at 6.00pm the Bishop of Rochester, Rt Rev Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, will be presiding and preaching at one of his last services in the Diocese when we comes to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Dedication of Holy Trinity Church on 14th June 1884 by the then Archbishop of Canterbury. A welcome is extended to all parishes in the benefice to this service which will be followed by a reception for all attending.

June	7 th	14 th	21 st	28 th	5 th July
Coxheath	11.00 HC	No Service Bishops Visit 6.00pm or 6.30pm	11.00 HC	11.00 FS	11.00 HC
E. Farleigh	9.30 HC	08.00 HC 11.00 FS	9.30 HC	08.00 HC 09.30 Matins	9.30 HC
Linton	9.30 HC	09.30 HC	08.00 HC 11.00 FS	09.30 MS	9.30 HC
W. Farleigh	8.00 HC	11.00 MP	9.30 HC	11.00 MP and Baptism	08.00 HC
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