



## Parish Plan First Big Step

At our meeting in April, Councillor Glyn Charlton from East Farleigh Parish shared the highs and lows of the experience of getting Tovil and East Farleigh Parish Plans to fruition. The development of each of the plans was quite different, one taking two years and the other completed in about 12 months. Glyn agreed that the process needed to be short to keep people focused and on board. Glyn thought that Hunton was extremely lucky to have so many people attending the meetings and that Hunton, being a small village, should do well with the engagement through the process of the questionnaire. We would like to break the record on the percentage of returns we get of the questionnaire!

We learnt that it was important at the stage of developing the plan, following on from the analysis of the questionnaire results, that the priority areas within the plan are what the village wanted. You may be aware in the local press the interest that the 'village green' in East Farleigh has raised (or not!), both in terms of those that want it, and those that are opposed to it. It has created some animated debate within East Farleigh Village.

Carl Adams (Rural Officer, Action with Communities in Rural Kent) also added, referring to Postling's plan, that the Parish Plan could be just as much about what it was that we did not want to change in the village, and that Hunton particularly is such a lovely place to live that there are many things we would not want to change. We are really keen that our plan is a true consensus of what we all want for our village and the only way we can know that is to ensure that as many people as possible are engaged in completing the questionnaire that we aim to launch in September.

On Thursday 20th May at 7.30pm at Hunton Village Hall, we have our ideas night to give the village an opportunity to raise the issues that they wish considered in the questionnaire. Please come along. Cheese and wine will be provided. It would be helpful if you could indicate if you are coming so that we know how many we are catering for. Please contact Di 01622 820115, Sue 01622 820678, Barbara 01622 820218 or email: [huntonparishplan@btinternet.com](mailto:huntonparishplan@btinternet.com)

The next Parish Plan meeting is 12th May at 8pm in the Village Club. Click on [www.hunton.org.uk](http://www.hunton.org.uk) to view the Parish Plan section of the website with details of the last meeting.

*Sue Heaton*

## Garden Opening with NGS

On Sunday 6th June four Hunton gardens will be open from 11am to 5pm.

Enjoy four very different gardens in Hunton; 2 Bishops Oast, Ken and Christine McSweeney; Hillside, Sylvia and Gary Thomas; Southover, David and Anke Way and David and Sue Heaton at 3 New Cottages, Barn Hill where teas will be served in aid of St Mary's. There will be a combined admission fee of £4.00. Children are free.

**Applause** Date for diary: Next Applause - Saturday 1 May 2010 Carmen Souza, a fine Cape Verde singer with her band. This will be exciting and a likely sell out. Tickets are on sale now. Alan Bishop 820683

### Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell	820731	Clerk to Parish Council: Vikki Stancombe	842782
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Village Hall Booking: Jane Crane	820127
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Maidstone Police:	608186
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110	Neighbourhood Watch:	608173
Pond and Tree Warden: Anne Bishop	820683	'Potholes' concern (KCC): Kim Hills	0845 824 7800
Rector: Revd Peter Walker	747570**	Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
Associate Rector: Revd David Jones	741474*	PCSO Jo Watts/Gary Shaw	604392
Village Club: Doug Redfarn	820495		

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

### Dates for Diaries:

Saturday 1st May - Applause 'Carmen Souza' Village Hall 8pm  
 Wednesday 12th May - Parish Plan Committee meeting 8pm Hunton Village Club  
 Thursday 13th May - Parish Council AGM 7pm followed by Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm Hunton Village Hall  
 Thursday 20th May - 'Ideas Night for the Hunton Plan' - All Welcome  
 Sunday 23rd May, Hunton School May Fayre  
 Sunday 6th June - open Gardens with NGS  
 Saturday 26th June - Barn Dance Village Hall

### Parish Councillors contact details

**Parish Council Chairman**  
 - Roger Sawtell 820731

**Clerk to the Parish Council**  
 - Vikki Stancombe 842782

Cllr Les Leonard 820858 Cllr David Heaton 820678  
 Cllr Moira Walter 745765 Cllr Keith Eatwell 745569  
 Cllr Gary Thomas 820691 Cllr Ron Porter 820220

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

Hi Fellow Voters

By the time you read this letter it will be all over or at least we'll all be fed up with elections and be glad to know the World Cup is only weeks away. With a projection that so many people are disillusioned with Government and politics I wonder how many of us will vote and if we do why? All my life I have lived in areas which are considered 'safe seats' that I feel like moving to a place where my vote may actually change the status quo in returning its member. I think it is sad that we have come to this point. My grandparents had three front windows and in each one they placed the sticker for each of the main parties. Staunch Socialists they became disenchanted with voting as they also lived in a town which always returned the same MP, year after year. At election times I sometimes wonder what is actually important in life. Is it worth it? Ought we to take a stand and simply refuse to vote until politics cleans itself up or the way we vote changes? Is opting out a responsible stance?

I think not, as to opt out of anything gives others the chance and the excuse to feel that their way is the correct way. We are called as Christians to be salt and light in the world. To speak out against those who would run rough shod over the weak, disadvantaged and those without a voice. To be light, to shine in the darkness and to demonstrate that there are other ways than those who respond to the loudest and powerful. We may be a lone voice as was the speaker at a recent Parish Council meeting who spoke up in favour of the traffic calming scheme in Coxheath against, what some see as, the democratic voice of the majority. Sometimes the lone voice gathers momentum as those who are afraid to stand up to the perceived wisdom of the mass, join in and a new movement grows to challenge accepted views. The history of the world is full of the lone voice! Their view may not be right but at least it can be heard and not drowned out. So if you didn't vote then you had your chance and can't moan when decisions are made. To those who did, well done, and I can only hope your voice will be heard but at least you spoke up and made your point. The events of Easter show that Jesus did just that. The crowds welcomed him, then in a week called for his death. He triumphed over the power of evil - one lone person made all the difference! Are you another lone voice?

*David*

**Philip Moore** Sadly Philip Moore died on Sunday April 18th in St Thomas' after a short illness. His funeral will take place on Wednesday 5th May. Philip Moore's coffin will be in St Mary's from 10am - 11.00am for those who wish to come to pay their respects. There will however be a private burial service later in the morning before a service of 'Thanks Giving' for all those who wish to attend, at 1pm at the Church.

## Out and Out Succession Planning

It must be the aim of all keen gardeners to develop a garden which is attractive for a long season. Choosing plants which flower at different times through the season is a good starting point. Spring bulbs will flower before perennials have started, plant them together for a succession of flowering. Some perennials will flower later than others, the red unfurling stems of peony work well with primulas, then the open leaves give shade and the sumptuous flowers follow. Once the peony flower is over perhaps a hardy fuchsia nearby will take up the baton or a clematis could be encouraged to wend its way over the flowerless peony.

It is not just flowers which can be made to work like this; hosta and fern foliage will both put on a show following on from miniature narcissi, unwinding themselves from their winter rest and spreading their leaves over the dying foliage of the bulbs.

This challenge is certainly easier if you can find enjoyment in the unfurling of leaves, in shoots bursting through the ground and in the huge variety of leaf colours and shapes as well as the anticipation of a flower about to open. But with a little planning and a few nursery visits any garden can be encouraged to extend its season of interest.

Christine McSweeney

## Springtime Wildlife

Join the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership for events at Country Parks this spring where you can learn about springtime wildlife including bird, newts and woodland flowers and much more.

- Monday 17th May 5.30 am. Dawn Chorus Walk Cobtree Manor Park. An early start to catch the sound of the dawn chorus in the park. Please phone 01622 683695 to book.
- Monday 24th May 2pm Wildlife Photography workshop Teston Country Park. Bring a camera, suitable for all skill levels, minimum age 18. Please phone 01622 683695 to book.
- Sunday 30th May 10am Bird Activity Day, Ditton Quarry. Suitable for accompanied children aged 5-10. Please phone 01622 683695 to book.

Notes:

- Booking is essential for all events
- These events are part of a wider programme of events available from MVCP
- All events are free, donations are appreciated.
- Children must be accompanied by adults at all events

## School News

Upper School are keeping with their topic on Ancient Greece and focusing on Greek art, myths and legends. They will be learning about the Battle of Troy and designing and making Greek pots. They have been on a residential trip to Swattenden, The children have participated in a range of outward bound activities including mountain biking, wall climbing, high ropes, zip lines and abseiling.

Middle School went on a trip to Canterbury to visit the Roman Museum where they descended the steps to the museum - each one represented 100 years of history! Travelling back nearly 2000 years they saw what Roman Canterbury would have looked like, including evidence from the baths and market place. They had fun trying on Roman sandals and robes and making a magnetic mosaic design. They saw original mosaic floors which were found after bombing in World War II and found out how their under-floor heating worked - the stacks of tiles were still standing! They were able to handle some replica Roman artefacts and sort them according to what they were made from, how they were made and who might have owned them.

Lower School are covering the topic 'Talking Time' where they will be learning about how people have told the time through history. The children will be making sundials and sand timers in design technology.

Reception Class have begun their topic 'New life and growing'. The children have a wonderful garden centre as their role play area in their classroom and Reception children visited Brookside Garden Centre and took part in a treasure hunt and really enjoyed recording their answers on clipboards. They held stick insects and stroked gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs and rabbits. They looked at the fish and explored the plants outside. It was a lovely morning. The children will continue to learn Jolly Phonics to support their reading and writing skills and they will be very busy in the garden planting a variety of seeds and plants.

## Hunton School - May Fayre

Hunton School's annual May Fayre will this year be on Sunday 23rd May from 11.30am until 3.30pm. Attractions will include dance displays from local dance schools, a licensed bar and BBQ, bouncy castle, tombola, raffle, cake stall, lucky dip, teas, face painting and lots more. The money raised from last year's Fayre was used to buy tables and chairs for the new classroom and all proceeds from this year will be used to create an outside area which the children can use for lessons during the Summer. So put the date in your diaries and please come along and support your local Village School.

### Friends of St Mary's Barn Dance

Hunton Village Hall, 7.00pm 26<sup>th</sup> June

Tickets £10.00 including supper

Children under 12 free

Bar

Entrance by ticket only available from the trustees

Ron Porter (820220) and David Heaton (820678)

### Hunton Parish Council

Annual meeting of the Council on Thursday 13th May 2010 commencing at 7.00pm, Hunton Village Hall. This will be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm. Parishioners are cordially invited to be present.

*You are invited to come and enjoy a unique experience of food and teaching!*

## The Seven Feasts of the Lord!

Wed. May 19th Feast of Weeks: Shavuot

Thurs. Sept. 9th Feast of Trumpets

Sat. Sept. 18th Day of Atonement: Yom Kippur

Thurs. Sept. 23rd Feast of Tabernacles: Sukkot

All to be held at Tonbridge Evangelical Free Church, Douglas Road except Sept. 23rd which is at Tonbridge Baptist Church. All evenings begin at 7:30 p.m.

A wonderful meal and inspiring Bible teaching about these prophetic feasts.

Restoring Biblical feasts that have been lost to the church!

Tickets £6 per evening ONLY available from Tonbridge Christian Resource Centre

Further info [www.tcags.com](http://www.tcags.com) Phone: 01732 364517

## Tesco and Sainsbury Vouchers

Our Pre-School in Hunton are collecting Sainsbury and Tesco vouchers for more equipment and other necessities. Please drop them into to the Village Hall any school morning

## Songs of Praise

Everyone enjoyed the Songs of Praise in October, therefore, and to help alleviate the pressure on the clergy we are going to hold another on May 16th at 6pm. So get thinking, it is your choice of hymns! *Alison Ellman-Brown*

## At St Mary's Church in May

Notices	Services
<b>Flower Rota</b> May 2nd Mrs. Forster May 9th Mrs. Mason May 16th Mrs. Mason May 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mrs. Porter & helpers May 30 <sup>th</sup> Benefice	<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 11.00 am Family Service Rev David Jones Readings: Preachers Choice <b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May - 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 09.30am Holy Communion Rev David Jones Readings: Acts 16 v 9-15 and John 5 v 1-9 <b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May - 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> NO MORNING SERVICE 6pm SONGS OF PRAISE Rev Peter Walker Readings: Preachers Choice <b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Pentecost</b> 09.30am Holy Communion Rev Peter Walker Readings: Acts 2 v 1-21 and John 14 v 8-17 <b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Trinity Sunday</b> <b>AT LINTON</b> 10.30 am Holy Communion Rev Ross Garner Readings: Proverbs 8 v 1-4, 22-31 and John 16 12-15
<b>Hunton Sunday Club</b> Hunton Sunday Club will be meeting on May 16th at Scott's House, West Street/Grove Lane at 5.15pm until 6.45pm. Open to all children living in the village or who attend Hunton School. Contact David Jones for details 01622 741474	

### Maidstone Bible Week

Monday May 10th to Thursday May 13th, at The Life Church, Brewer Street, 7.45pm for 8.00pm each night  
Theme: 'Salt & Light'

Speaker: Rev Godfrey Nicholson, a Methodist Superintendent Minister in Leeds

Monday 10th 'Christians as they are before God' Ephesians 1 v 3 - 14

Tuesday 11th 'Christians as they are before the World' Ephesians 5 v 1 - 16

Speaker: Rev Lyndon Bowring, Executive Chairman of Care

Wednesday 12th 'Our Driving Responsibility' Psalm 8

Thursday 13th 'The Sacred Secular Divide' Romans 11 v 33 - 12 v 2

### Advanced notice

Mission Shaped Introduction Course

5 Thursday Evenings starting on September 16th - October 14th, at Ditton Church Centre, Ditton.

This is a course being provided by the Diocese and operating at a Deanery level. The time for each evening will be announced nearer the time but book your date in the dairy now!

### Get Filled

**If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat**

By John Ortberg

**Revised sessions dates:**

12<sup>th</sup> May, Wed - Facing Our Challenges, Conquering Our Fears.

26<sup>th</sup> May, Wed - Good News for Cave Dwellers!

9<sup>th</sup> Jun, Wed - Learning to Wait on Our Big God!

If you would like to know more contact: Kay & Tony Mason

via: email: [getfilled@live.co.uk](mailto:getfilled@live.co.uk) tel: 01622 820488 **Warm Welcome to All.**

*You are invited to Peter Bonnert's*

### EVENING OF MUSIC FOR ALL

East Farleigh Parish Church

Saturday 15th May at 7pm for 7.30pm

Tickets are available from any East Farleigh Choir members or on the door £5.00 each

Refreshments will be available

Proceeds towards the restoration of the clock face and hands.

## Dawn Chorus

Holy Trinity Church, Coxheath, Saturday 8th May at 7.30pm

The Dawn Chorus, a local group of enthusiastic singers, invites you to share a light-hearted evening of sacred and secular music (including popular sing-along items...!)

Refreshments will be served and all ages are welcome, including children. Entry is free, with a collection in aid of The Family Trust

May	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	09.30 MP	11.00 HC	11.00 FS	10.30 at Linton
E. Farleigh	09.30 HC	08.00 HC 11.00 FS	09.30 HC	08.00 HC 9.30 Matins	10.30 at Linton
Linton	09.30 HC	09.30 HC	08.00 HC 11.00 FS	09.30 HC	10.30 at Linton
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC	11.00 MP	9.30 HC	11.00 MP (mod)	10.30 at Linton

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