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Villagers Say Farewell to the Ways

Friends of David and Anke Way gathered in the Village Hall in mid-May to say farewell to the couple who were leaving 'Southover', in Grove Lane to live in Hertfordshire, near their children and grandchildren.

David, 83, came to the village in 1980 with his first wife, and as a keen gardener spent hours converting the surrounding one and a half acres of rough grass and weeds into a beautiful garden, visited by hundreds over the years from across Europe and the UK.

Trained at Cambridge University's botanic garden and at Wisley, the Royal Horticultural Society garden in Surrey, David served a scholarship specialising in fruit at East Malling Research Station. He later met Anke, a retired lecturer in horticulture born in Holland, and they were married 17 years ago.

Developing an interest in snowdrops in 2002 through gardening friends in Warwickshire who said that the south east was "a bit of a snowdrop desert", the Ways started out with three bulbs and ended up with more than 200 types at Southover open to visitors in February for the past four years.

The Rector Rev Peter Walker thanked David and Anke for their "unstinting work" saying that they will be sadly missed. "Their architectural and horticultural knowledge has been especially valuable to the church."

Churchwarden, Alison Ellman-Brown praising the Ways said they have obtained grants totalling many thousands of pounds for restoration work, including the cleaning and preservation of the Canterbury stained glass window and the ancient church doors, which date back to the 14th century and are possibly the oldest in Kent.

"They have spent endless time and energy not only for the fabric of the church but also in the churchyard, leaving an award-winning wild life garden and a splendid display of snowdrops including The Hunton Giant, found and restored by David and the newly-named Hunton Herald."



Hunton Village Club Big Jubilee Lunch

Sunday 3rd June. From 12 noon until late. Jubilee alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails. Pimms cask beers, BBQ, children's royal quiz and treasure hunt. Club members and non-members welcome!



NGS Open Gardens Sunday 17 June at 11.30-5pm

Hillside and 3, New Cottages on Barn Hill will be opening their gardens. Tea and cakes will be available at 3, New Cottages. Offers for cake making please contact Sue Heaton 01622 820678.

Proceeds of the teas will go equally towards The Friends of St Mary's and St Mary's Church Hunton.

Gamble

24th June 2012 from 12 noon, Downs Farm House Yalding
live music, Gambian craft stall, games for all the family

Tickets £7.00 in advance or £20 for a family (2 adults & 2+ children) or £8 on the door and £25 for family.

T: 01622 814267 E: gambleproject@aol.com www.gam-ble.co.uk

Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell

School: Secretary/Head Teacher

Under 5's Pre-School:

Pre-School Supervisor:

Pond and Tree Warden: Anne Bishop

Rector: Revd Peter Walker

Non Stipendiary Minister: Revd David Jones

Village Club: Doug Redfarn

820731

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07972067110

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747570**

741474*

820495

Clerk to Parish Council: Sharon Goodwin

Village Hall Booking: Jane Crane

Maidstone Police:

Neighbourhood Watch:

'Poetholes' concern (KCC): Kim Hills

Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown

PCSO Tom Mepstead/Richard Chainey

Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb

*not available on Fridays **not available on Mondays

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0845 824 7800

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Diary Dates

Sunday 3rd June **Queens Jubilee Lunch** Hunton Village Club, 12am

Saturday 16th June **Litter Picking** Village Hall

Sunday 17th June **Hunton Gardens Open with the NGS** from 11.30am-5pm

Saturday 23rd June **Hunton Village Fete** Village Hall and the playing field

Saturday 22nd September **Litter Picking** Village Hall

Thursday 29th November **Gardening Club Meeting** - Village Club 8.30 pm

Check out www.hunton.org.uk for changes and see the latest up- dated version. If you would like to add an event to the village diary email huntondiary@btinternet.com- new events are being added all the time.

Parish Councillors contact details

Parish Council Chairman – Roger Sawtell 820731

Clerk to the Parish Council – Sharon Goodwin 681238

Cllr Les Leonard 820858 Cllr David Heaton 820678

Cllr Moira Walter 745765 Cllr Gary Thomas 820691

Cllr Ron Porter 820220

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

Dear Friends

What a privilege it is to be living in the UK in 2012. We are lucky enough, if we choose to, to be eyewitnesses to our Queen's 60th celebrations and to the Olympics being held in London. Never before has the Olympic torch passed so close by. As a nation we are rather spectacular when it comes to pageantry, pomp and ceremony. We know how to celebrate with style. I wonder how many of you reading this will be experiencing first hand these special events?

Being an eyewitness not only gives us first-hand memories but they also come with individual experiences and emotions. There is something very special about being at an event, which cannot be transferred by explanation. I am not a football fan, but I have found myself being caught up in the thrill of the moment when many years ago, I did indeed attend a match with West Ham United. I'm not sure how I came to be there or who West Ham, the Hammers, were playing, but sure enough I too was cheering my team on and showing disappointment when things were not going the way I wanted. I still hold some hazy memories but cannot say with all honesty that the event changed my life.

On May 27th the Church was celebrating the anniversary of a very special event, and those who were there on that actual day around 2,000 years ago were amazed by the affect it had on their lives. It was more than the thrill of the moment, because what happened would remain within them. It was more than just memories of an incredible event, because the experience was renewed and could be experienced daily. It started with a ripple and more and more people began to experience it. Today millions of people are having the same experience, which in all honesty is changing lives. What is the event? We were celebrating the first Pentecost when God sent His Holy Spirit to dwell within men and women.

In this short letter, I cannot begin to tell you what it was like to be part of the Pentecost experience that changed my life, but what I can say is that having the assurance of knowing that God is real, present and active in his creation outshines the very best of human pageantry, pomp and ceremony. If you want to know more of this great event, speak to any of the Ministry team.

Eileen

Quiz Success - Hunton Club

Hunton Club held yet another successful Quiz Night in May. Your club was full to capacity with standing room only. Eleven teams took part representing all parts of the village not just from West and East Streets but from Bishops Lane to George Street and to Barnhill with The Barnhill Billies taking the Cadbury Trophies!

With normal takings in the club at an all time low events like these are vital to keep your club open. So, thank you to all who attended, we know you enjoyed it, the next quiz is on 8 December.

Your Club is managed purely by volunteers and 80% of bar duties are also undertaken by these same volunteers. This has been the case for nearly six years so when support is given as with the quiz it is greatly appreciated. If there is anyone who would like to volunteer in any way please call 820804.

Out and Out Frond Sentiments

A plant obsession has slowly crept up on me and I have to confess to becoming a fernaholic, or perhaps that should be fernophile. In June ferns have just reached their zenith, the crosiers have unrolled and stretched out unmistakable fronds. If this has been achieved against a backdrop of English bluebells, so much the better for colour, contrast and scent.

In the churchyard in Hunton there are a couple of types of fern, one, probably *Dryopteris filix-mas*, prefers to grow in between the stones of the table top tombs, the stones probably funnel rain towards the gaps making ideal cool, moist conditions for this fern. The other is Harts Tongue fern, which unlike many ferns has an unbroken frond. This fern also appreciates the shade and cool moisture of the stones, and no doubt it can escape the mower blades here.

Seeing ferns in their natural habitat is a good way to get to know these plants but a visit to a fern nursery or website will start to open your eyes to a vast range of subtle differences in cultivated varieties. Shades of green branch out into red, silver and gold and sizes vary from tree ferns to the flimsiest filmy ferns. Textures abound as well from leathery to lacy.

For this year you couldn't do better than growing a Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*), it is big, it is British, it loves a bit of rain and is long standing, perfect for a Royal Jubilee.

Christine McSweeney

School News Term Topics and Topical Trips

This term Devas class are learning all about dinosaurs and went to Maidstone Museum to learn more about their topic. They had a lovely informative day in the new education department and made clay fossils, which have been brought back to school.

Bannerman class are learning about Oceans and Seas this term. They will be investigating where they are in relation to countries and continents and about the creatures that live in the sea. In art and design the children will be creating sea-scapes with a variety of resources.

This term Porteous will be studying Ancient Egypt. They have already learnt about mummification and have started to look at the geographical aspects of Egypt including the River Nile. Porteous class enjoyed a fantastic day at Bedgebury Pinetum and went on a habitat trail and carried out a minibeast hunt. They collected various insects and spent time identifying each species. One boy found a very rare female glow-worm and the Bedgebury staff were delighted!

Borton class will begin their Olympic topic. They will be learning about the history of the Olympics, symbols, traditions, host cities and sports as well as looking in depth at London and Great Britain's preparations for the 2012 games.

Farleighs Farmers Market

Despite a damp, grey morning we had a good number of customers visiting East Farleigh Farmers' Market on 6th May. Make a note in your diaries of our next market on June 3rd when you will be able to stock up on treats for the Spring Bank Holiday and Jubilee Celebrations.

Profits from the March and April markets were donated to Loose Valley Conservation Society, Kent Association for the Blind talking newspapers and Dandelion Time in West Farleigh. We have received letters of thanks from all three charities.

Sue Morris

Zumba Classes

Zumba classes are running in Hunton Village Hall, Thursdays 8-9pm. Zumba is Latin dance inspired exercise class with lots of different rhythms from salsa to merengue, Bollywood to reggaeton. It's great fun always involving lots of laughs and an excellent all over workout. **Anybody** can do it and no experience is necessary, all you need is comfortable clothing, trainers and lots of water. No booking is necessary, just come along and give it a try. Classes are £5 each. For more details contact Becci on 07798 948289 or becci.zumba@live.co.uk

East Farleigh Gardening Club

East Farleigh Gardening Club's Spring Meeting held on the 25th of April was a great success, with around 30 people enjoying a talk by Laurie Manser of Staplehurst. Laurie kept the audience spellbound with tales of his early life as a Garden Boy, which began in Tunbridge Wells in 1948. His delightful sense of humour added to our enjoyment and many memories of our own childhoods were stirred by his acute observations.

After the talk everyone enjoyed tea and delicious homemade cakes and took part in a themed raffle, which included plants and garden equipment. Thank you to all who supported the event and in particular those members who made cakes, provided raffle prizes, sold tickets and served the teas. After expenses, a profit of £46 was raised for club funds.

Sue Morris

Hunton Club Book Group A

Review of 'Dear Fatty' by Dawn French

'Dear Fatty' is Dawn French's autobiography, written in the form of letters to the various people in her life. It starts with her early childhood, describes her family life, how she came to be a stand-up comedienne, and ends before the breakup of her marriage to Lenny Henry.

Without exception, everybody in the group disliked this book. It was generally thought to be superficial and shallow and the humour (although most agreed there wasn't any!) was considered juvenile and silly. We came to the conclusion that Dawn French is a visual comedienne and that her humour didn't translate well into the written word; even those who have admired her television appearances thought the book was disappointing. It seemed a shame that she missed the opportunity to discuss issues such as her IVF treatment, the adoption of her daughter or the racial issues she must have encountered, preferring to devote several pages to a list of who she thought was the best kisser! The only part of the book thought worthy of note by two of the group was the moving letter to her father following his suicide. Our score ranged from 1 to 5, giving a total of 3 out 10.

The book for next month is another autobiography, 'The Two of Us' by Sheila Hancock

Lorraine Redfarn

Gardening Club on Birds

On 20th April Wendy Simmons kindly organised and hosted a Gardening Club 'Birds in Hunton at Springtime' event with a talk by Ray Morris. It was attended and much appreciated by about 30 people. The illustrated, light-hearted talk covered birds most likely to be encountered in and around members' gardens, including migrants returning from Africa and our local owls, with hints on identifying them by their songs and calls.

Members learnt some surprising (even shocking!!) facts about the secret lives of birds – based on what we have learnt from modern scientific methods such as DNA fingerprinting.

This was followed by a summary of how information from ringing, nest recording and simply counting the birds in your garden, is used by professional ornithologists to gain more detailed knowledge of birds' lives and the state of the environment – and how this might even lead to new treatments for human ailments such as obesity and dementia.

Of particular interest was a description of the work being carried out by scientists at the British Trust for Ornithology using satellite tracking to follow five cuckoos on their migration to Africa and back. Donations of £55 will be used to sponsor the surviving four (Martin, Kasper, Chris and Lyster) who should, by now, be back in the UK. Details of their progress can be seen at <http://www.bto.org/cuckoos>. Thanks to Wendy and Iain Simmons for hosting this event.

Cuckoo up date

Two of the Cuckoos have returned to the UK. Lyster was the first to complete the epic 10,000 mile round trip, returning to within 5 miles of his tagging site. As a Broads Cuckoo, we assume that Lyster is a 'Reed Warbler' Cuckoo and that he is looking for females that target Reed Warblers.

10,000 miles that have passed since Chris was last in Norfolk, he has seen two continents, numerous countries, crossed the Sahara and the Mediterranean twice, and inspired thousands of followers. Chris is a very different Cuckoo to Lyster. Since arriving back he has spent most of his time focusing on small pockets of woodland in Suffolk. It seems that he is very much a forest Cuckoo, presumably looking for females that target birds like Pipits and Dunnocks.

At St Mary's Church in June

Notices	Services
Coffee Rota Sunday 3 rd June - Nicky Granger	Sunday 3rd June – Trinity Sunday 11.00am Family Service- Rev Peter Walker Readings: Preacher's choice
Flowers 3 rd Di Martin 10 th Allison Ellman Brown 17 th Allison Ellman Brown 24 th Ruth Porter	Sunday 10th June – 1st After Trinity 09.30am Holy Communion -Rev Peter Walker Readings: Genesis 3: 8-15 and Mark 3: 20 - end
Sunday Club Hunton Sunday Club, a Christian Club organised by St Mary's church, for primary school aged children either living in the village or attending Hunton School meets on the 3 rd Sunday of each month from 5.15pm until 6.45pm. Please contact David Jones for detail 01622 741474.	Sunday 17th June 2nd After Trinity 11.00am Family Service- Rev Peter Walker Readings: Ezekiel 17: 22 – end and Mark 4: 26-34
	Sunday 24th June – Birth of John the Baptist 11.00am Holy Communion – Rev David Jones Readings: Galatians 3: 23 – end and Luke 1: 57 – 66, 80

Rector's Rounds

Revd. Peter Walker will be spending each Tuesday in East Farleigh and each Thursday in Hunton. On each of these days he will be in the church from 12.30pm to 1pm to pray for the needs of these parishes. You are most welcome to attend. Concern has been expressed by the churchwardens and treasurers in the United Benefice that these two parishes in particular are finding it difficult to keep going with the fall in congregation numbers and the ever increasing financial burdens which this situation has presented. Please pray for renewal in these parishes and throughout our United Benefice. *'Renew your Church Lord and begin with me'*

A Sunday Afternoon Treat! The Maidstone Wind Symphony

On Sunday 1st July 2012 at 3pm at the Bandstand in Brenchly Gardens - Admission Free

Enjoy the high quality performance of this Wind Symphony with a traditional concert band repertoire.

See if you can spot Hunton residents in the band!

Maidstone Wind Symphony aims to be one of the United Kingdom's leading concert bands, their mission is to present the best quality performances exploring innovative repertoire and collaborating with and nurturing outstanding musical talent. They commission new and exciting works demonstrating commitment to the future development of concert bands and the concert band repertory. The programme on Sunday includes some well-known pieces including:

Ron Goodwin: 633 Squadron	Stephen Schwartz: Wicked Highlights	John Philip Sousa: The Liberty Bell
Karl Jenkins: Adiemus	Jay Unggar: Ashokan Farewell	Kenneth Alford: Colonel Bogey
John Miles: Music	Ennio Morricone: La Califfa	Gioachino Rossini: William Tell Overture
Eric Coates: The Dambusters	Eric Coates: By the Sleepy Lagon	Glenn Miller: Selections
Arr. Naohiro Iwai: When the Saints	Elmer Bernstein: The Great Escape	Gustav Holst: I Vow to Thee my Country
Percy Granger Irish Tune from County Derry	Arthur Sullivan: The Lost Chord	Edward Elgar: Pomp and Circumstance

Concerts with Maidstone Wind Symphony are fun; friendly and exciting they hope you will join them in this 14th season. Find out more about Maidstone Wind Symphony at future events at www.maidstonewindsymphony.org

Volunteer to be Part of the Action as Maidstone Celebrates the Olympic Torch Relay!

It is the final countdown...on your marks, get set and let's celebrate! London will welcome thousands of athletes from all over the world and Maidstone, as one of the 60 host communities, is cranking up the county's celebrations too. We want you to be a part of the action and so Maidstone Borough Council, in conjunction with the Hazlitt Arts Centre, is asking for 250 volunteers from the community to roll up their sleeves and get in involved in some of the exciting events that they have planned for the Borough to enjoy!

Volunteers need to be aged 16 or over and be free to work on the 19th and 20th July at a number of the designated events including:

Leeds Castle Schools' Event: 12pm- 4pm (Thursday 19th July)

Mote Park Community Concert: 4pm- 11pm (Thursday 19th July)

Olympic Torch Relay (Maidstone Town Centre): 5.30am-8am (Friday 20th July)

To find out how you can get involved email Natalie Price at natalieprice@maidstone.gov.uk or call the Hazlitt Arts Centre Box Office on: 01622 758611. For further information relating to events to celebrate the arrival and departure of the Olympic Torch Relay to Maidstone visit: www.visitmaidstone.com/whats-on/london-2012

June	3 rd	10 th	17 th	24 th	July 1 st
Coxheath	11.00 HC	11.00 MP	11.00 HC	11.00 FS	11.00 HC
E. Farleigh	09.30 Matins	08.00 HC 11.00 HC	09.30 HC	08.00 HC 10.00 MP	09.30 Matins
Linton	09.30 HC	9.30 FS	08.00 HC	09.30 HC	09.30 HC
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC	11.00 MP	09.30 MP (Mod)	09.30 HC (Mod)	08.00 HC
HC: Holy Communion, MP: Morning Prayer, (bcp) Book of Common Prayer, FS: Family Service, SW: Service of Word					