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- Jewellery • Cheesemaker • Glassmaker • Honey • Candles & Soap • Childrens books • Wooden boxes •



Hunton Christmas Market

8th December 2012
4 till 7
in Hunton Churchyard & Church

Tea, coffee and cake served in the Church where there will be Singing by Hunton School.
Christmas Music from buskers.
Huntones bring market to a close with Christmas Songs.

- Sweet Sensations • Yalding Forge • Olive Oils • Spot on Produce • Dine Thyme • Venison • BBQ • Mulled Cider • Bottle Stall •



- Art • Christmas cards etc • Cobnuts •

- Dried flowers & bulbs • Festive Fare •

Hunton Village Club will open early at 7pm on Saturday 8th December

So, when the Christmas Fair ends at 7pm and you have enjoyed the BBQ and everything else on offer why not come straight along to a warm welcome at the club and settle in for the Quiz Night.

The quizzes held at the club are extremely popular and lots of fun, so why not make a night of it and enjoy all Hunton has to offer.

Hunton Christmas Market Bottle Stall

If anyone wants to drop any bottles off for the bottle stall and have missed out on a collection please ring 820709/820678.

All proceeds from the bottle stall will be going equally to the Friends of St Mary's and Hunton Church.

New Memorial in Memory of Michael Devas

St Mary's has a new memorial erected on the south wall of the church in memory of Michael Devas, MC and late of Hunton Court. The memorial plaque will be dedicated at the morning service on Sunday 16th December at 11.00am and a warm invitation is extended to anyone to attend the service as we remember with thanksgiving the service that Mr Devas gave to his country, community and church.

Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell	820731	Clerk to Parish Council: Sharon Goodwin	681238
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:	747570**	Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
Non Stipendiary Minister: Revd David Jones	741474*	PCSO Jo Watts	604392
Village Club: Doug Redfarn	820495	Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb	745716

*not available on Fridays **not available on Mondays

Diary Dates

Saturday 8th December **Hunton's First Christmas Market** St Mary's Church 4pm-7pm
Saturday 8th December **Quiz Night** Hunton Club 8pm
Monday 31st December **New Year's Eve Chinese Supper Night** Hunton Club 8.00pm

Parish Councillors Contact Details

Parish Council Chairman – Roger Sawtell 820731
Clerk to the Parish Council – Sharon Goodwin 681238
Cllr Les Leonard 820858 Cllr Ron Porter 820220
Cllr David Heaton 820678 Cllr Tony Stanbridge 820761
Cllr Gary Thomas 820691 Cllr Steve Wyles 820403

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.

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

We often hear life described as a journey. I guess that is true, since we take many different paths from infant-hood to adulthood. As we journey through December leading up to the Christmas celebrations we may find ourselves on many different paths. With the recession hitting so many people our Christmas celebrations may not be what we would have hoped for making those pennies stretch can sometimes seem an impossibility. For others the Christmas journey will be one of yet another cold night sleeping in a cardboard box, alone and hungry. Those more fortunate will perhaps tread the streets in search of the perfect gift for a loved one no matter what the cost.

This year friends of mine have opted for a most unusual celebration. They do not intend to journey anywhere. Their day is mapped out with a Marks and Spencer's take away, plenty of bubbly and hours of watching films in their pyjamas. I wonder what your plans are for this Christmas?

All of this reminds me of a journey that took place just over 2000 years ago. Joseph and Mary journeyed from Nazareth to Bethlehem (some 70 miles as the crow flies). There was no jet plane or bus ride to speed them on their way. It was a long hard road for the heavily pregnant Mary as she rode on the back of a donkey. Coming from a poor humble background I guess they would have identified with those struggling in the recession. As they were turned away from the Inn with nowhere to place their heads they may have related to those who will spend Christmas on the streets. But how can they possibly relate to those who journey a more privileged path. Well I think they would relate to giving that most valuable precious gift, maybe not to a loved one, but certainly to the world. Christ the Saviour.

This Christmas time, wherever our journeys takes us, whatever our plans maybe, spare a thought for the reason for our celebrations. The birth of the Christ child. A gift from God to all the world. He came not wrapped in glittery paper but wrapped in a swaddling cloth. He was found not under a Christmas tree but in a manger, but He is the perfect gift for all of us whatever our journey maybe.

Eileen Doyle

This Christmas time the ministry team send their warmest wishes for a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

Eileen, David J, Cilla, Chris, Hugh, David B, Judith, Kay and Sue

Candy Canes for Christmas

Candy Canes for Christmas is an outreach event on the 8th December in Coxheath at the parade of shops, expressing the love of Christ in the act of giving.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! I have 288 candy canes that are need labels attached to them, so I am asking for volunteers to help attach the labels on the 4th December at 10am till 2pm and in the evening between 7pm and 9pm, at my home: 23 Benstead Close, Hunton, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 0SD. Tel: 820488.

All are welcome to pop in and out during these times to be part of this giving event, to enjoy fellowship together with coffee, tea and biscuits. Be great to see you!

Your Benefice Evangelist Kay Mason

Christmas Farmers' Market Sunday 2nd December

East Farleigh Christmas Farmers' Market will take place on Sunday 2nd December from 9am to 12 noon in The Bull car park.

Stock up your fridge and freezer with seasonal produce including Christmas joints of meat, hams, stuffing, sausages, hand-made chocolates, chutneys and pickles, jams and jellies, French and English cheeses, Kentish cobnut delicacies, breads, cakes and biscuits!! You will be able to take home Kentish ales and local fruit juices – apple and pear – as well as a number of beautiful craft items, which will solve many of your gift dilemmas. Wooden crates to fill with potted herbs or wine, personalised cushions or fabric doorstops, notice boards and peg bags. We hope to have hot drinks on sale and maybe even some Christmas Carols to lift your spirits.

Farewell to Ash?

The very best wood for warming the heart of the home is Ash, it burns long and strong giving good heat, it will even burn reasonably when freshly cut. Ash wood is durable and flexible, ideal for tool handles, sports equipment and furniture. Anglo Saxons used Ash to make spears and shield handles and the aircraft wings on the De Havilland Mosquito, which flew in the Second World War, were crafted from Ash. More than 100 species of insect are known to live on ash trees, with 27 of those being utterly dependent upon the tree.

This is the tree, so deeply, yet quietly, woven through our lives whose very existence is being threatened by a fungal pathogen, Chalarafraxinea or Ash die back disease. Kent is one of the regions where many trees in the wild have been found to be infected, so far no outbreaks have been found in Hunton but maps show infections to be within ten miles of here.

The Forestry Commission website has good information on identifying this disease and this is probably the most useful thing we can do at the moment, look in our gardens and at trees growing nearby for signs of the disease. Any sightings should be reported to the Forestry Commission who are building a picture of this disease and considering how best to tackle it.

The good news is that healthy trees have been found alongside diseased trees indicating there may be resistant strains out there. At the moment there is no directive to cut down infected mature trees. This disease appears to be here to stay but the more information and understanding there is on its spread and life cycle the better chance we will have of keeping this most necessary tree as part of our landscape.

Christine McSweeney

A Word from Peter and Diana

'Thank you all so much for your words and generosity as we left the parishes after seven years – we were touched by your kindness and the many cards and gifts. If you are passing this way on your West Country holidays do call in'.

The Rectory, Offwell, Honiton, Devon, EX14 9SB. We are 3 miles from Honiton and off the A35.

PS: our cat has settled very well!

With our love and prayers,

Peter and Diana

Look after the pennies.....

If, like me, you are alarmed at the rising cost of gardening essentials why not try the following.

Instead of buying endless pots and seed trays for starting off plants and vegetables from seed, use the cardboard centres of toilet rolls and kitchen towels (the latter cut in half). If the tubes are flattened, then again at 90 degrees to the original direction, you end up with a square container which when filled with seed compost is ideal for starting anything from marigolds to runner beans. To prevent excess moisture loss from these containers, stand 12 in an empty 2-litre ice cream tub. Plants can be started in a heated greenhouse or on the windowsill and planted out when they are growing strongly.

I used this process on my beans in early spring and the harvest was the best I have ever had with fresh beans being picked well into late October.

Steve Wyles

Hunton Club Book Group B Review Brooklyn by Colm Tóibín

Eilis Lacey lives in the provincial Ireland of the early 1950s. Her father is dead; her older brothers are working in England; there are few prospects of marriage and few jobs. A visiting priest offers to arrange lodgings and a job in a department store in Brooklyn, New York and her elder sister supports the move. Eilis experiences homesickness but her brushes with enforced American good cheer, relations with her fellow inmates at an all-Irish boarding house, her work at a moderately enlightened department store, her night classes, and her pleased discovery of all-night heating and affordable women's fashions soon endear her to the American way of life. In time she meets a handsome Italian-American man who speaks seriously and tactfully of marriage. Then a death summons her back to Ireland, where she finds that America has made her glamorous and desirable, and faces a choice between the old life and the new.

The group enjoyed this book finding it easy to read and a good reflection on how Irish immigration to the States was organised, endorsed by some family experience from one member of the group. The book was also interesting in that the story was told from a female perspective on Irish life by a male author.

We have space for new members in our reading group so if you would like to come and enjoy some lively discussion about a wide variety of books do get in touch. Our members have found themselves enjoying books outside their usual preferences. We usually meet at the Village Club the second Thursday of each month (except December when we are meeting on the 6th). For more information contact Chris Summersgill – 820429.

Hunton Club Book Group A October Review Tiny Sunbirds Far Away by Christie Watson

The location for *Tiny Sunbirds Far Away* begins in Lagos but soon moves to the Niger Delta where the young narrator, 12 year old Blessing tells us of her life. She introduces us to a child's perspective of tribal conflict, of the politics of an oil company and the resulting race issues versus modern ways.

Of the ten of us in the group only half finished the book and their opinions suggested they found it mediocre, average and not in-depth enough. The fact that it was written from a child's point of view allowed difficult issues to be dealt with at a most basic level. Of the remainder of the group, some began the book but gave up quite soon after losing interest.

Surprisingly those who did finish the book awarded it an average score of 6/10.

Our book for February is *The Bell* by Iris Murdoch

School News

Football Match Success

The School football team who won a clear 4-1 in their football match against St Margaret's School, Collier Street this term.

Magistrate comes to Borton Class

On Wednesday a magistrate came to talk to Borton class about the procedures and processes of a magistrate court which opened their eyes to how unpleasant life in prison can be.

Bridge Building

This term a man called Sam came in from STEM, (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and brought some K'nex and set the task for the children to build a bridge and to test the strength of what they had built by placing bags of sugar on it. The bridge was balanced across 2 tables and there were 8 winners though everyone's bridge held at least one bag of sugar!

At St Mary's Church in December

Notices

Flowers - December

2nd Liz Oliver/Sue Lawrence
 9th Tba
 16th All for Carol service
 23rd All for Christmas

Christingle: Hunton School - Thursday 13th December 6.00pm
 – Chris Bostock

Carol Service White House– Sunday 16th December 7.30pm –
 Rev David Jones

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra

Saturday 2nd February 2013

Conductor Brian Wright

7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park, Maidstone.

The programme consists of three works:

Sibelius : Karelia Suite

Rachmaninov : Piano Concerto No.2.

Nielsen : Symphony No. 4. "Inextinguishable"

A great success two seasons ago, we welcome the return of the young Taiwanese-American pianist Ching-yun Hu to play Rachmaninov's best-known concerto. Written during the 1st World War, Nielsen's 4th Symphony commemorates the elemental forces of human survival.

Concert tickets £10, £20 and £25, full time students with a student card £5, available from Membership Secretaries on 01622 735830, with cheque payment, collected on the concert evening at Mote Hall or from Maidstone Leisure Centre Mote Hall Box office on 0845 1552277 when payment can be made by credit card, a booking fee applies.

Bookings can be taken on www.mso.org.uk using the booking form.

Tickets for all Children up to and including 18 years of age are FREE.

Sponsored by the Friends of Maidstone Orchestral Society.

The Ministry Team

The Ministry Team is a team of people with **Authorised Ministries** who support the paid incumbent in his or her work. We are all volunteers, some of us 'ordained' and others 'lay' and we operate through our different ministries or 'callings'. All our Ministry Team members are either in secular employment or retired.

We have three ordained members called **Self Supporting Ministers** (SSM), Rev'd Cilla McKenzie, Rev'd Eileen Doyle and Rev'd David Jones. The three of us minister in these parishes and can take services, celebrate Holy Communion, preach, baptise, marry and take funeral services as well as undertake pastoral work. We undertake our roles according to the time we can give.

Then we have three **Readers**. Readers are a lay order and can undertake a wide range of tasks from leading worship, preaching, some taking funerals, teaching and pastoral work. Our readers are Chris Bostock, David Barnes and Hugh Grainger

The next lay order is **Pastoral Assistant** and again we have two, Judith Barnes and Sue Elliott. As the name implies their main focus is on pastoral work but other 'gifts' are recognised and exercised by this order.

Finally, an **Evangelist**, Kay Mason. This order is fairly new and members work in 'outreach' work, promoting the Gospel both within a parish or benefice and also to the wider community.

So now you have some idea of who may be writing the letter in the monthly newsletter. There are many other people in our benefice, who are not members of the Ministry Team, who are equally responding to God's callings and do valuable jobs.

Rev'd David Jones SSM

December	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	30th	Jan 7th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	11.00 MP	4.30pm Carol Service	11.00 FS HC	5.00pm Childrens Service 11.15pm HC	10.45 FS	10.30 Benefice Hunton	11.00 HC
E. Farleigh	09.30 MP	08.00 HC 11.00 FS	09.30 HC 6.00pm Carol Service	08.00 HC	4.30pm Christingle 8.00pm HC		10.30 Benefice Hunton	09.30 MP
Linton	09.30 HC	9.30 FS	4.00pm Carol Service	09.30 HC	11.30pm HC	9.30 FS HC	10.30 Benefice Hunton	09.30 HC
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC	11.00 MP	4.00pm Carol Service	09.30 HC	09.30 HC	10.00 FS	10.30 Benefice Hunton	08.00 HC

HC: Holy Communion, MP: Morning Prayer, (bcp) Book of Common Prayer, FS: Family Service, SW: Service of Word

Services

Sunday 2nd December – 1st in Advent

11.00am Family Service–Chris Bostock

Readings: Preacher's choice

Sunday 9th December – 2nd in Advent

09.30am Holy Communion –Canon Dr Brian Stevenson

Readings: Malachi 3 v 1-4 and Luke 3 v 1-6

Sunday 16th December – 3rd in Advent

11.00am **Morning Prayer**–Rev David Jones

Readings: Zephaniah 3 v 14 – end and Luke 3 v 7-18

Sunday 23rd December - 4th in Advent

6.30pm Carol Service – Rev David Jones

Readings: tba

Monday 24th December- Christmas Eve

9.30 pm Holy Communion – Rev Eileen Doyle

Readings: Isaiah 52 v 7-10 and John 1 v 1-14

Tuesday 25th December – Christmas Day

09.30am Family Service and Holy Communion – Rev David Jones

Readings: Luke 2 v 1-14

Sunday 30th December - Sunday after Christmas

10.30am Benefice Service – Bishop James

Readings: 1 Samuel 2 v 18 – 20, 26 and Colossians 3 v 12-17

and Luke 2 v 41-52