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## Huntonwatch Launch Meeting

Don't forget to put Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September in your diary – 8.15pm at the Village Club – the launch of **Huntonwatch**, our local neighbourhood watch scheme.

Come and meet our new PCSO Richard Chainey, find out what is involved and how the scheme has already been working - even though we are not yet officially up and running.

It is in your interest to become a member and there is nothing arduous to do, just keep your eyes and ears open and let **Huntonwatch** know if you are aware of any crime or suspicious incidents in your area. You can find us at [huntonwatch@gmail.com](mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com). Register your name and contact details with your local co-ordinator and we will send you information about any issues you need to be aware of. You will already have received with the Hunton Herald an information leaflet and other hand-outs, window stickers etc. will be available at the launch meeting.

We hope to see you there.

The **Huntonwatch** team

## Pop Up Shop 14th September at Hunton Bakery, 9.30am-12pm

The next Pop Up Shop will be located at the Hunton Bakery because there is a wedding taking place at St Mary's on that date. Please come and support us. There will be plenty of Hunton bakery loaves and much more of the soft rolls, Hunton hoglets and teacakes. We will also have Hunton pork, sausage and bacon, cheese from Staplehurst, fresh Hunton eggs as well as local tomatoes, some orchard fruits and homemade chutneys. There will also be lovely homemade cupcakes being sold in aid of the Blackthorn Trust.

Hunton Bakery is located on West Street just past the school - look out for the bakery sign. If you would like to bring something to the shop please contact Annette: 820448, [annette@trought.com](mailto:annette@trought.com). We would be particularly interested in jams, chutneys and orchard fruits. **Tea and coffee will be available**

## Flower Festival Celebrating Hunton and its History

St Mary's Church Hunton

4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> October 2013, 10am to 5pm daily

Each arrangement will represent the historical theme of the Festival from the Hunton Bells to the weaving and wool traditions, hop and fruit farming and the role of Hunton Court and the Sparrow and Rat Society....

Admission free - donations welcome.

Programmes £1. Easy parking.

## Hunton Village Club Seeks New Secretary

After many years of being the Hunton Club's secretary Alan Blackledge-Smith has decided to step down from the Committee at the AGM meeting in December. Alan has worked tirelessly for the benefit of the Club and has ironed out the many snags which, will make matters so much easier for his successor. The role is not particularly onerous and only requires a small amount of time each week. Please bear in mind that the Club cannot function without a secretary.

None of the present committee members will be taking on the role and if any Club member is interested in doing so please contact Alan (820428) or Phil (820804). Please ring to find out more about this simple but crucial role.

### Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell	820731
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110
Pond and Tree Warden: Anne Bishop	820683
Rector: Peter Callway	747570**
Non Stipendiary Minister Revd David Jones	741474*
Village Club: Doug Redfarn	820495

Clerk to Parish Council: Sharon Goodwin	681238
Village Hall Booking: Kathy Reid	820092
Maidstone Police:	608186
Neighbourhood Watch: <a href="mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com">huntonwatch@gmail.com</a>	820403,820429, 820731
'Potholes' concern (KCC): Kim Hills	0845 824 7800
Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
PCSO Richard Chainey	07989 992424
Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb	745716

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

### Diary Dates

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September **Antiques and Craft Fair** Hunton Church 10am-5pm  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September **Hunton Parish Council Meeting** Village Hall 8pm  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October **Hunton's Heritage Flower Festival**  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept **Pop Up Shop** at Hunton Bakery 9.30am – 12.00pm  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October **Harvest Supper** Hunton Village Hall, 6pm

### 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](http://www.hunton.org.uk) for changes and see the latest updated version. If you would like to add an event to the village diary email [huntondiary@btinternet.com](mailto:huntondiary@btinternet.com) - new events are being added all the time.

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

Many of the calls that come in to the rectory are from people enquiring about baptisms, funerals and weddings. Recent changes to the law mean that it is easier than ever to find a church in which to marry. As well as the parish in which you live or worship, you are able to marry in a church where you have a special connection. For example if you were baptised there, or your parents live there or they, or your grandparents, were married there. Married couples can choose any one of the churches in our benefice if they qualify to be married by virtue of a connection.

The Wedding Fair season will be starting up soon. From cakes to caterers, drinks to dresses, hen and stag dos to honeymoons, stationery to shoes, everything you could ever need or want or desire can be found at wedding shows or fairs. You can even find out about getting married in the Church of England! More of that a little later as I share a little of my experience as an exhibitor at the National Wedding Show at Earls Court.

Despite the financial climate it seems that people are still willing to spend vast amounts of money on a wedding. According to a survey carried out by hitched.co.uk the annual bill for weddings in the UK in 2011 was a staggering £10 billion. From engagement through ceremony, celebration and honeymoon the average cost of a wedding in the UK is an astonishing £36,000. Yes, £36,000. That does include the clothes and gifts purchased by the guests but the cost to the bride and groom (or their parents if they are very fortunate) still amounts to over £12,000 for the wedding day and an additional £2,700 on a honeymoon.

The average couple spend £2,500 on food, £1,500 on venue hire, over £1,000 on clothes, nearly £400 on flowers and £300 on a cake. Getting married in church cost about £350 in 2011.

The church is really enthusiastic about marriage. Many couples who have lived together see it as the 'gold standard' or the final step in securing their relationship. It is God's blueprint for a lifelong loving relationship and creates an environment in which families can flourish physically and emotionally. About 77,000 (a third of) weddings take place in churches each year and nearly every couple who do so say that it is because it makes the marriage special, it is a spiritual thing. Only 4% marry in church because of the pretty buildings.

At the national Wedding Show I spent half of one Sunday meeting and talking to couples (actually, to be honest, it was mostly to future brides – the men are not nearly as keen as the women to spend several hours at a wedding fair). The biggest surprise to most of the people that I spoke to was that they are actually allowed to be married in church at all. "I'm not christened" or "don't you have to be confirmed?" or "I haven't been to church for ages" were all common responses to the question "have you considered a church wedding?" And almost all of them were absolutely delighted at the knowledge that they are indeed allowed to get married in church. Clearly, there are a few exceptions, but the only reasons I came across was either that they lived in a country with no Anglican churches, or they belonged to the Roman Catholic Church, and so were already sorted! One couple I met were shocked to hear that her being from Croatia and him coming from a Hindu family didn't disqualify them. They went off clutching the pack I gave them with a spring in their step and the information they needed to contact their local vicar.

There is also a website ([www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org)) which allows couples to plan their ceremony, choose hymns and readings etc. It's a great resource and one couple said this about it. "Just wanted to say what a fantastic website you have. There has obviously been a lot of thought and hard work put in to make it so helpful. Particularly liked the planner and the fact that you listen to the hymns to help you decide. I was going to get married in a country hotel but I have now changed my mind so I will be getting married in a church next year. I will definitely be using the online planner. Many thanks"

Many blessings, Peter Callway, Rector.

## **Pantomime!!!!**

We are going to have another Panto in Hunton in April. This time it will be directed by Sharon Winter. Its Jack and the Beanstalk.

We will be holding auditions for anyone who would like to take part on Tuesday October 8th and Thursday October 10th in the Hunton Village Club.

Children 6.30 - 7pm, Adult Chorus 7 - 7.30pm, Spoken Parts 7.30pm onwards. Finish by 9pm.

Lots of parts for lots of people - crowds of Villagers, Fairies, Goblins, singing and dancing parts.

Spoken parts: Princess - female, King - male, Giant - male, Goose - female, Dame - male,

2 Fairies - either, pantomime double headed horse - either, Simple Simon - either, Kings flunky - either, Giants Sidekick - either, Jack - either. Narrator - either.

So plenty of parts for everyone to join in.

If you would like to come either just turn up or contact Sharon Winter on 07794457426 or Sue Pinks 820709.

## **Hunton Club Book Group A Review of 'Selected Stories' by Alice Munro**

Our group was divided in their opinion of this book, with half really enjoying the wonderfully written stories of infidelity, lost love, and chance encounters. The characters were well observed and the stories absorbing and full of emotion, even though some were a little gloomy at times. However, most did not enjoy the short story format and found some of the endings abrupt and unresolved, although others felt it was good to be left with an air of mystery; it was generally felt that a complete novel by this author would be preferable.

Unfortunately the other half of the group disliked the stories and gave up after only one or two, feeling that they were depressing. Our scores for this book ranged from 2 to 8, with a final score of 5 out of 10.

Next month's book is 'The Siege' by Helen Dunmore

**Hunton Music Shows** **Friday 6th September** at 8pm - **Niamh Parsons and Graham Dunne**. This is a rare opportunity to hear this great Irish songstress with her fine accompanist on guitar. With a voice to die for, Niamh, born in Dublin has traditional roots, singing both contemporary and traditional music. This is an evening not to miss.

**Friday 11th October** at 8pm - **Jo Harman and Company**. A burgeoning blues talent and another special Applause event secured for Hunton. This one will rock.

**Ticket orders now being taken.** Contact 820683, 820678 and info@huntonvillagehall.co.uk

Ticket prices - Niamh Parsons £10, under -21 £5 Jo Harman and Company £12, under -21 £6

## Hunton Village Fete 2013

Fete day started off windy and wild at 8.30am and it continued in that vein until lunchtime. The inflatable assault course turned up super early before our friends at Hunton Engineering, who provide the power, had arrived. But thanks to a couple of their helpful employees we were eventually able to plug it in and inflate it so that it could be pegged down like I've never seen it pegged down before!

Phil and Tricia Nichols were nearly blown from their ladders as they fought against the wind to set up the PA tent. Everyone who turned up in the morning to help set up had a real battle on their hands to stop the gazebos blowing off in the gusts and taking them with them on a sky high trip across our glorious county!

But guess what? By the time that the bells of St Mary's started to ring to signify the opening of the fete the sun was shining and the wind had subsided. Paulina Stockell, Borough Councillor, opened the fete (and the footpath) and we were off. Six months of planning roaring past in the blink of an eye, or so it seemed. The scene looked a treat. A real country fete. Sun shining (for some of the time), children laughing and playing silly games, dogs of all shapes and sizes milling about waiting for their moment at the dog show; friends old and new enjoying a chat and a cake or maybe a burger or two. The games in the arena and the dog show were a hoot.

So thank you to everyone who came along and had fun and spent their money. The fete is a fundraiser for the Village and we raised just under £2000 this year. That money will go towards paying for next years fete as well as providing more Christmas lights for the Village this year.

Thank you to all the volunteers who came along on the day to help set up or to run or assist on stalls. Thank you to the car-parking marshalls. Your names are too numerous to mention here. But I know who you all are and I am truly grateful for your support. We really couldn't do it without you. Thank you also to:

Hunton Village Club	Hunton Football Club	St Mary's Church	Hunton Cricket Club
Hunton Engineering	Hunton Bowls Club	Hunton Village Hall	The Gardening Group

And finally thank you to the team who are the Fete Committee: Steve & Sue Wyles, David Heaton, Kathy Reid, Guy Oliver, Fay Joyce, Lisa Halliday.

Finally I must apologise that we have no pictures of the fete this year – somehow we were all too busy to take any, but the Kent Messenger did and we did appear in the KM newspaper.

Annette Trought, Chair, Hunton Village Fete Committee

**Sue Wood, Head Teacher leaves Hunton School** Some of Sue's words on leaving Hunton School last term. It is with sadness and a heavy heart that I write my last newsletter as the Headteacher of Hunton CE School. We provide our children with an excellent education in the academic subjects, and also develop our children's empathy, curiosity, compassion, kindness and resilience. Your children are the future and we all want our leaders, doctors, care workers, bankers etc. to have these qualities. These qualities are much harder to judge or measure but every visitor we have to school comments on them.

When I joined 8½ years ago the governors asked that I increase the school size to its published admission number of 84, and that I developed a fourth class and subsequently a new classroom. I am delighted to say that I achieved my targets! Hunton CEP School continues to grow in its reputation and we will be taking 14 children into Reception Class in September. Hunton CEP will have 95 children in the school in September!

I will miss teaching the new additions to Devas class next year and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children in their first year with us. I have found this to be an important relationship-building exercise, which has provided me with a strong foundation to build upon as each child moved through the school.

It has been a pleasure and an honour to lead and serve your school but I am only a very small part of the team and the team has been the key. Every member of staff at Hunton always wants the best for our children and they continually go above and beyond to ensure this is consistently achieved. The partnership between governors and staff is incredibly strong and as unpaid volunteers they give 100%+, this is so admirable and I would like to thank them whole-heartedly for this. The local community and our collaboration with three other local schools provide a huge amount of support at a time when schools are continually being asked more and more of. Finally the circle is completed by yourselves and your partnership with us, this is so important and without this your children would not make the progress they do.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you within this team for all your hard work and support; I shall miss you all so much.

I know the school will go from strength to strength under the leadership of Mrs Gibbs-Naguar, with Ms Leach as the Chair of Governors and with your love and support as she takes on this task.

Thank you for all your good wishes and the kindness you have shown me. I wish everyone all the very best for the future and look forward to hearing about you and your children and thank you for having me as your Head teacher.

Sue Wood

## At St Mary's Church in September

### Notices

#### Flowers September

1<sup>st</sup> Faye Joyce  
 8<sup>th</sup> Faye Joyce  
 15<sup>th</sup> Sue Scott (Wedding)  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Sue Scott  
 29<sup>th</sup> Benefice West Farleigh

### Harvest Supper

This year, for the first time, Hunton will be having a Harvest Supper instead of a Harvest lunch. The supper on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October will be held immediately after the Harvest service which, will be at 5pm, and to coincide with the final day of the Hunton Flower Festival. The Harvest Supper will be at 6pm for 6.30pm and tickets priced £5 for adults and £3.50 for children under 14 are on sale from Liz Oliver on 01622 820200 and Alison Ellman-Brown on 01622 820288. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

## ST MARY'S CHURCH, HUNTON

# ANTIQUES & CRAFTS FAIR



## SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

## 10am - 5pm

## BBQ LUNCH, TEAS & CAKES

### Services

#### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September – 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

11.00am Family Service—Rev. Peter Callway  
 Readings: Preacher's choice

#### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

09.30am Holy Communion— Rev. David Jones  
 Readings: Deut. 30. 15-20 and Luke 14. 25-33

#### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

11.00am Morning Prayer— Miss Chris Bostock  
 Readings: Exodus 32. 7-14 and Luke 15. 1-10

#### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September— 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

11.00am Holy Communion— Rev. Eileen Doyle  
 Readings: Amos 8. 4-7 and Luke 16. 1-13

#### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September- 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

10.30 Benefice Service - West Farleigh

### West Farleigh Harvest Supper and Quiz Night

The annual Harvest Supper with its quirky quiz will be held in West Farleigh Church on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 7.15 for 7.30pm.

Tickets will cost £7.50 to include a Ploughman's supper. Bring your own drink and glasses.

For tickets ring 01622 813019 or 01622 820305

### Coxheath Village Fete

Holy Trinity Coxheath, 7<sup>th</sup> September 1.30pm - 4.30pm

BBQ ~ Bouncy Castle ~ Refreshments, Stalls ~ Games ~ Local Produce

Featuring Reel Eire. 'Free Entry'

## The Vicar's Picnic A Musical Festival in Yalding

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September

Nothing to do with the vicar but a great opportunity to see some upcoming groups perform locally in Yalding. Featuring *The Hiwatts*, *Mr Tom*, *The Novatones*, *Where's Billy* and *Hannah White* they are all performing live

**1.00pm to 10pm.**

**location along the lane to Cheveney Farm.**

**Licensed Bar/ Bouncy Stuff/ Hog Roast/ Morris Men!! and + more...**

This is a family event with tickets at only £12.00 for 16 & over/£6.00 for 7-15 years/kids under 7 just a donation to the cause from Mum and Dad. However, please note that the event and music is more of an adult nature.

**Tickets are available at Yalding Post Office and all profit will go to The Hospice in the Weald.**

For more information go to [www.vicarspicnic.co.uk](http://www.vicarspicnic.co.uk) or call Mike Davies on 07795 601718 or Dave King on 07957 443305

## Boot Fair at West Farleigh 29<sup>th</sup> September

All Saints Church and West Farleigh Sports Club are holding a Boot Fair at the Sports Field, Charlton Lane, West Farleigh, ME15 0NY, on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Boots may arrive to set up from 1.00pm. Prices are: Car boots £10.00. large vans/trailers £15.00 and public £1.00 per person.

Do clear out your cupboards, come along and make some money. If you haven't enough of your own to fill a boot why not join with a friend?

To book a pitch in advance, ring 01622 820305 or 07788433835

September	1 <sup>st</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>
Coxheath	11.00 HC	11.00 MP	11.00 HC	11.00 FS	
E. Farleigh	09.30 MP	08.00 HC 11.00 FS	09.30 HC	08.00 HC	
Linton	09.30 HC	9.30 FS	08.00 HC	09.30 HC	
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC	11.00 MP	09.30 HC	09.30 HC Harvest Festival	10.30 Benefice

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