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## Gigs at the Village Hall

If you receive this before 1<sup>st</sup> March, then there's a wonderful trio on at the Village Hall – **DLM** (Davis Lindley Mullan) – performing mellow acoustic-pop and their own brand of carefully crafted songs from the pen of guitarist Andy Davis, with the violin and ukulele of Clare Lindley and cello of Brian Mullan. The trio have performed around the UK over the past few years, in many intimate venues, when Andy & Clare are not on tour with their main band, Stackridge ([www.stackridge.net](http://www.stackridge.net)). As well as playing the 1<sup>st</sup> Glastonbury festival and again in 2008, Andy guested on John Lennon's Imagine and then in the 1980's wrote hits for the Korgis (If I had You) – we are really lucky to have DLM visit our Hall; check them out on YouTube – Pre-Book with Mike on 820429 or Steve on 820403, or turn up on the night - £12 entry (£6 under 18s), includes food at interval. The usual bar with Goachers and fine wines also.

Those that made it through the floods to see The Runaways on 1<sup>st</sup> February weren't disappointed. Much merriment and fine 'Shadows' guitar work, and the cleared area at the front of the stage was occupied by dancing grannies (and youngsters) in the second half. Much singing along to hits by some old bloke called Cliff and many other memory-jerkers; many recognised by 3 twenty-somethings at our table. The dancing space was possible as we had less than 50 bookings for the night; all who phoned turned up, but we didn't get the 'usual' walk-ins. As the numbers were also low for November's gig, we are ramping up the publicity as much as we can for DLM. However, there won't now be a gig at the end of March, and the next one will be an Applause event, the **Will Pound Band** on April 26<sup>th</sup>; Will's a virtuoso harmonica player and was a nominee (one of four) for 'Musician of the Year' in the BBC Folk Awards in February, so we may be seeing/hearing much more on him on TV and radio.

## Village Venue for Private Functions

Hunton Village Club is proving to be a super venue for private functions. In January the Club was used by a member on a Saturday lunchtime to celebrate a golden wedding anniversary. Approximately 30 people attended, the Club being the perfect size for a group of 30-40. Caterers were hired to provide a hot meal and the event was enjoyed to such an extent that although the party started at 12.30pm it went on until 8pm until normal club opening!

In March another event, a christening celebration, will be held there on a Sunday afternoon. The parents are members and are making the most of using this wonderful facility that Hunton has to offer.

Should you wish to use the Club for a private function please contact Ann Sawtell on 820731. A TENS licence would need to be obtained and there is a small fee for the hire of the club. However, all these minor details will be discussed at the time of enquiry so don't let this stop you from booking and enjoying this super facility.

The Committee is hoping to hold at least one entertainment event each month; further details will be announced shortly.

## Litter Pick – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2014

The first litter pick for 2014 will be on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March. We will meet at the village hall, as usual, at 10am for the volunteers to collect their gear. If you would like to join the litter pick team could you please ring Di Martin on 01622 820115 before 19<sup>th</sup> March. We normally get back to the hall around 11:30am - 12 noon and have a quick cup of coffee and a chat. Let us hope for some good weather!

### 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: [huntonwatch@gmail.com](mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com) 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 1<sup>st</sup> March "Davis Lindley Mullan" Village Hall 7.30pm  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March East Farleigh Farmers' Market 9am-12pm  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March Lent Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March Lent Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March Lent Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Pop-Up Shop Village Club 9am-11am  
Ploughman's Lunch Village Club 12pm-2pm  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March Lent Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March Gardening Club Village Club 8.30pm  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March Litter Pick Meet at Village Hall 10am  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Lent Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm

### 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 up- dated 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 April edition to the Editor as soon as possible, and by 15th March, please**

This time of year sees a number of British traditions and customs get played out or enjoyed. These include the Imbolc Fire Festival in Yorkshire, celebrating the coming of spring, which has a procession through the streets of Marsden near Huddersfield, fire sculptures and juggling and a battle between the Green Man of Spring and Jack Frost of Winter. The outcome is, I believe, pre-determined!

Then there is the Slaithwaite (pronounced Slawit) Moonraking Festival based on a story that once upon a time a smuggler tricked an excise duty man into believing he was "raking canal for t'moon" because it had fallen in the water when he was really retrieving his moonshine hidden there earlier in the day. The excise man thought he was just a Slawit idiot and left him to it. Nowadays, a giant paper illuminated moon is floated down the canal and retrieved by the Moon Maidens, and there is a fancy dress parade with hundreds of lanterns.

Then there is my favourite: Hurling the Silver Ball, in St. Ives, Cornwall. Here, the Mayor takes a silver covered apple wood ball about the size of a cricket ball and hurls it from the balcony of the Town Hall. Accounts vary about what happens next but the ball is passed around from person to person and towards noon the action really hots up as a rugby style scrum and battle for possession of the ball takes place. A swim in the freezing cold sea is often undertaken to retain possession of the prized ball. The person who presents the ball to the Mayor on the stroke of noon wins a silver coin.

These customs date back hundreds, if not thousands, of years and have their roots in pagan customs and ancient religions which mark the seasons or a particular festival.

Christianity has its share of customs and rituals too! Shrove Tuesday has a number all of its own. One such is the ringing of the Shriveling Bell to summon worshippers to church to confess their sins and a reminder to start making the pancakes. These were then used not only for eating and using up all the fats in the house but as the basis for a race – flipping them as you go.

Now the reason for using up the fat is probably well known. Shrove Tuesday is the day before the beginning of Lent. This is forty days before Easter (quadragesima in Latin – Lent is called cuaresma in Spanish and quaresma in Portuguese). Lent is the name taken from the Old English and simply means spring. These forty days are set aside in the Christian tradition to prepare for Easter through prayer, repentance, penance and self-denial. The commonest form of self-denial is to fast – or "give something up for Lent". This is inspired by the story of Jesus in the wilderness who prepared for his ministry by fasting for forty days and nights. The purpose of the fast is to take one's mind off of earthly things and help focus on the more spiritual aspects of life.

It doesn't have to be food that is given up (and indeed for those with diabetes or other related conditions this is to be avoided at all costs) but can be a denial of such things as watching a favourite soap or other TV programme. And you might even take something up instead of giving something up. Reading the Bible regularly or attending a course at your local church. Or making a commitment to do an act of kindness every day for neighbours, friends or family.

However you mark the season of Lent or enjoy other customs, we hope you will take time to ponder the rich heritage we are able to enjoy, and the reason for the season.

Many blessings,

Peter

## St John's Ambulance First Aid Courses

Hunton Village Club was full of avid first aiders on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, when the St John's Ambulance gave us tuition on CPR, bandaging and treating shock, all very interesting and worthwhile; certificates will be received for those who attended. One question that has arisen, is there a need for a defibrillator for Hunton and is there anyone who would like to have the training as a first responder?

Louise mlferns@yahoo.co.uk

## Yalding Post Office

Is this rotten weather ever going to end? As I write this we are expecting more flooding of the same proportions as Christmas Eve. I hope it didn't happen...

At Christmas we were closed for 14 days; it took that long for all the equipment to be replaced. We are better prepared this time. We hope that the "powers that be" will actually do what they promised in 2000 and make Yalding safer from such catastrophes. David Cameron visited us and we told him what was occurring; time will tell if he actually listened.

You will be pleased to know that your Post Office is now back to normal. All the usual Post Office services are available as well as a range of produce from small, local producers and also stationery and greetings cards, many by local artists. Our opening hours are 0900 - 1300 and 1400 - 1730. Early closing on Wednesdays and Saturdays (12.30pm Saturdays). Many thanks for your wonderful support for your Post Office.

Look us up on our web site. [www.yaldingpostoffice.weebly.co.uk](http://www.yaldingpostoffice.weebly.co.uk)

*Tim Chapman*

## Hunton Oil Syndicate

I am proposing to do a village order in the first week of March. Please could I have orders emailed to me by 3rd March. PLEASE can I ask for the email to be headed OIL, and in the body of the email, your name, contact details and also quantity required (in metric litres). I know this is really repetitive but it is helpful for me as we now have several surnames within the syndicate that are the same, some similar addresses etc etc.

Louise mlferns@yahoo.co.uk



10th – 12th APRIL 2014  
HUNTON VILLAGE HALL

THURSDAY 10th  
FRIDAY 11th  
SATURDAY 12th  
7.30p.m.  
SATURDAY MATINEE  
2p.m.

Adults £8.50 Children U12 £5.00  
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM 1st March  
Licensed Bar

Box Office:  
Joy McLoughlin 01622 820551

## Interesting, Rewarding, Challenging

### **Red Cross Fire Emergency Support Service (FESS)**

You may not have heard of FESS, the British Red Cross volunteer fire emergency support service which operates in conjunction with Kent Fire & Rescue Service to support those affected by fire both during and in the immediate aftermath. Working with a specially adapted vehicle, volunteers respond much the same as a fire crew (without blue lights and sirens) to provide immediate refuge and assistance to those displaced by a fire incident; the assistance can vary from a cup of tea, emergency clothing, liaising with other agencies for on-going help, even taking initial care of pets.

Would you be interested in becoming part of a FESS team based at Gravesend, Maidstone or Thanet? What's needed? Good interpersonal skills, diplomacy, communication and teamwork skills, a willingness to work voluntary 'on call' shifts and able to get to the respective base within 25 minutes and undertake necessary training.

Further information on FESS and many other volunteering opportunities with British Red Cross please go to the web site: [www.redcross.org.uk](http://www.redcross.org.uk) or contact [hbright@redcross.org.uk](mailto:hbright@redcross.org.uk) or call 01622 625111

### **Hunton Gardening Club**

The next meeting will be on Friday 28th March in the Village Club starting at 8.30pm for drinks followed by a discussion on the effects of the recent bad weather on our gardens. All welcome. Further information:

Lesley - 01622 820210 or [lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com).

## **Hunton Book Club A Reviews**

### **Citadel by Kate Mosse**

Two stories, set hundreds of years apart, weave their way around to create Citadel, the final of three adventure novels by Kate Mosse. The link between the crusades and the Second World War is the codex - a secret Cathar treasure. Much of the book takes place against the backdrop of occupied France between 1942 and 1944 and focuses on Sandrine, the 18 year old heroine of the book, who is an orphan living with her older sister, Marianne, in Carcassonne. Sandrine accidentally intervenes in a failed prison escape by Antoine, a member of the French resistance and the man in possession of a map revealing the whereabouts of an ancient codex containing a secret so powerful it could change the course of the war. Pursued by both the Nazis and Leo Authié, an officer working for the French military intelligence agency, out to destroy the codex to ensure the purity of the Catholic faith, Sandrine and her friends battle constant danger, finding love, adventure and treachery along the way.

Despite magical figures, historical action and the stunning backdrop of the Languedoc, most members of the book club felt that the book failed to live up to it's promise. For some, the style of writing was very simple but predictable. For others, the exhaustive level of detail regarding the streets of Carcassonne was a little, well, exhausting; and what started as an adventure novel ends very much in the realms of fantasy. However, for an easy read, it isn't bad, providing the book with an overall score of 5/10.

### **All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Marie Remarque**

This book was written in 1929 by Remarque, himself a war veteran. The story is told by Paul Baumer as he and his school friends are encouraged to join the German army in the early days of WW1 and are sent to the Western Front. If it were not for the names of the soldiers, one would be unaware that the book was written by a German. Remarque does not name the enemy or any of the battles that are fought. Instead the book focuses on, and graphically describes, the comradeship between the group of friends, their dire conditions and struggles in times of both fierce battles and times of boredom. The book has become known as an anti war novel and the group felt the futility of war was well conveyed. One member of the group felt strongly the emotional poignancy of the book but overall the group felt it to be fairly average and despite it being a very topical read for 2014, the overall score was 6.5.

### **Lent Lunch**

After the enormous success of the Village Club lunches, we are going to be providing homemade soups on Thursdays during Lent. There is a choice of two soups, always at least one vegetarian, followed by homemade cake. The cost is just £5. Come along to meet new faces in the village and chat to your neighbours! 12.30pm-2pm. March 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and lastly 17<sup>th</sup>. If you could let me know if you are coming it is helpful for the catering. Many thanks and see you there. Louise [mlferns@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mlferns@yahoo.co.uk)

## At St Mary's Church in March

**Flowers – March**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sue Scott  
No flowers in Lent

### Women's World Day of Prayer Service at Holy Trinity Church, Coxheath

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm**

Our Benefice Churches join together with the Congregational Church for this annual service. Both **men** and **women** are warmly invited. This year's service is entitled 'Streams in the Desert' and has been prepared by Christian women of Egypt. Our guest speaker for the evening is Alison Callway.

### East Farleigh Farmers' Market

The next East Farleigh Farmers' Market will be held on Sunday 2nd March. We are urgently seeking a keen baker to take the place of Ellie Douglas who has been a regular contributor since April 2013, running her cake stall Something Sweet. If anyone is interested, please contact Sue Morris on 01622 726164.

This month we will be welcoming 'Pukka Ponies Equine Rescue' a newly established local charity based in Dean Street. They aim to rehabilitate unwanted/abandoned horses and re-home them and also offer a safe, happy home for a limited number of cases where horses cannot be re-homed for either medical or behavioural reasons.

Do try and support your local market, which needs loyal customers in order to thrive.

### Services

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Sunday before Lent

11.00am Family Service – Rev. Peter Callway

Readings: Preacher's choice

#### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Lent 1

09.30am Holy Communion 1662 – Rev. Eileen Doyle

Readings: Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7 and Matthew 4.1-11

#### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Lent 2

11.00am Morning Prayer – Rev. David Jones

Readings: Genesis 12.1-4a and John 3.1-17

#### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Lent 3

10.30am Benefice Service at East Farleigh – Rev. Peter Callway

Readings: Exodus 17.1-7 and John 4.5-42

#### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Mothering Sunday

11.00am Family Service – Miss Chris Bostock

Readings: Exodus 2.1-10 and Luke 2.33-35

### East Farleigh Gardening Club Winter Meeting 2014

An illustrated talk on "The Work of the Loose Valley Conservation Society" will be given by Bryn Cornwell, the Chairman of the society, on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 7.45pm for 8pm**, in the Old School Hall, East Farleigh. (The talk will be followed later in the year by a guided walk in the valley.) All Welcome. Admission £1 members, £3 non-members. There will also be tea and cakes, a raffle and question time.

### Maidstone Symphony Orchestra

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra with Conductor, Brian Wright, will perform on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014 7.30pm** at Mote Hall, Mote Park, Maidstone. The programme consists of three works: Schumann – Overture "Manfred", Beethoven – Violin Concerto, Sibelius – Symphony No.5.

There's more Beethoven in this concert, with a prize winning young Polish violinist, Bartosz Woroch, in his Violin Concerto. Either side are the glorious early-romantic Manfred Overture by Schumann and Sibelius' magnificent 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony, which imaginatively evokes the nature and rugged beauty of the Finnish landscape.

Tickets £10, £20 and £25, full time students with a student card £5, available from Membership Secretary Alan Veal on 01622 735830, cash or cheque payment only. These can be collected on the concert evening at Mote Hall. Bookings can also be taken on [www.mso.org.uk](http://www.mso.org.uk) using the booking form.

Tickets for all children up to and including 18 years of age are FREE. MSO Registered Charity No. 287986.



*"Stunning sound...delicate, intricate, beautiful"*

Alumni of Harry Christophers' training programme, Genesis Sixteen, Fieri presents a programme of sacred polyphony, contemporary works and British folk song to include works by Byrd, Josquin, Purcell, Clemens and Grainger. The Fieri Consort visit Yalding as part of their busy 2014 schedule which includes appearances at Lincoln Cathedral, Spitalfields Music Festival, Ryedale festival, and on BBC Radio 3.

[www.fiericonsort.co.uk](http://www.fiericonsort.co.uk)

**7.30pm**

**Saturday 22nd March**

**St Peter and St Paul Church, Yalding High Street**

**Tickets £15 (children £5)**

**Interval bar; proceeds to local charity**

To reserve tickets please email Rose Martin at

[info@fiericonsort.co.uk](mailto:info@fiericonsort.co.uk)

Or phone Karen or Kevin Martin on 01622 814444

March	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
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	10.30 Benefice Service	08.00 HC 11.00 FS
Linton	09.30 HC	9.30 FS + baptism	08.00 HC		09.30 FS
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC 1662	11.00 MP Mod	09.30 MP Trad		09.30 FS

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