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Get into Community Spirit

Villagers are being encouraged to “get into the community spirit” and attend next month’s annual parish meeting at the Village Hall on Monday, 19th May when sports clubs, parish organisations and club delegates will be giving activity reports.

In a bid to make the meeting “a little more informal and involving all the community”, the Parish Council is making an earlier start at 7pm with tea, coffee and biscuits served before the business gets underway half an hour later.

The March council meeting was well attended, boosted by residents concerned about an appeal by the applicants from Little Clock House against Maidstone Borough Council’s refusal of expansion plans for the site.

Parish councillors are to oppose the appeal expressing concern about bias by the case officer during the application, when he stressed that MBC had to find sites for travellers in the area. It was felt that the site is too restricted for siting further caravans and a business using heavy lorries.

A bid by the Gypsy and Traveller Association for a site in Lughorse Lane off Hunton Hill to be considered as appropriate for the allocation of four permanent pitches, is also being opposed by the Parish Council.

Chairman Roger Sawtell stressed that the Planning Inspector for a previous application on the site had stated that, “no amount of landscaping would screen the site”. The caravan now there had been allowed to temporarily remain rather than “throwing the family out onto the road”.

PCSO Alan Hunter reported no criminal activities over the past month, stressing that this encouraging situation may have been boosted since Hunton Neighbourhood Watch group was formed, now boasting 106 members, a third of home owners in the parish.

Owners of outlying properties were warned to ensure their premises were made secure with warmer weather leading to an increase in outdoor activities. There were two cases of fly tipping of fridge/freezers in the parish, possibly unwanted after the floods.

After a request to Cllr Ron Porter by people wanting to sit down while children use the play equipment, the Parish Council is to look into supplying benches, one as a memorial to the past Council Clerk, Vikki Stancombe.

It’s Chocolate Time!

Come along to your Club and, whilst you enjoy a drink, buy a raffle ticket or two. It’s your chance to win a fabulous Easter egg. The draw will take place at lunchtime on Easter Sunday. Proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the club.



Hunton Village Fete 21st June 2014 - Can you help out?

We are well underway with planning the village fete for this year – please make a note of the date. As ever the success of our village fete is dependent upon volunteers. We need people to help with a variety of tasks and activities. If you are able to help out please let me know. Annette 820448; annette@trought.com

Beating the Bounds This popular village event is being reinstated this May, starting and finishing in Hunton Club. Look for details in the May edition of your Hunton Herald.

Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell	820731	Clerk to Parish Council: Sharon Goodwin	681238
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Village Hall Booking: Kathy Reid	820092
Under 5’s Pre-School:	820309	Maidstone Police:	608186
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110	Neighbourhood Watch: huntonwatch@gmail.com	820403,820429, 820731
Pond and Tree Warden: Anne Bishop	820683	‘Potholes’ concern (KCC): Kim Hills	0845 824 7800
Rector: Peter Callway	747570**	Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
Non Stipendiary Minister Revd David Jones	741474*	PCSO Richard Chainey	07989 992424
Village Club: Doug Redfarn	820495	Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb	745716

*not available on Fridays **not available on Mondays

Diary Dates

Thursday 3rd April **Lent Lunch** Village Club 12.30-2pm
 Sunday 6th April **East Farleigh Farmers’ Market** 9am-12pm
 Thursday 10th April **Lent Lunch** Village Club 12.30-2pm
 Thursday 10th April **Jack & The Beanstalk** Village Hall 7.30pm
 Friday 11th April **Jack & The Beanstalk** Village Hall 7.30pm
 Saturday 12th April **Jack & The Beanstalk** Village Hall 2pm & 7.30pm
 Thursday 17th April **Lent Lunch** Village Club 12.30-2pm
 Saturday 19th April **Pop-up Shop** Village Club 10am-12pm
 Bowls Club Coffee Morning Playing Field 10am-12pm
 Ploughmans’ Lunch Village Club 12-2pm
 Saturday 26th April **Will Pound Band** Village Hall 7.30pm

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 May edition to the Editor as soon as possible, and by 15th April, please

As I write this we are preparing for Easter. The shops are full of Easter eggs, fluffy Easter bunnies, and of course hot cross buns. We look forward to a long weekend off, a chance to get out in the garden, take the family out, watch the boat race. And as I think of this I am reminded of a poem by Steve Turner:

'Easter is not really for the children, unless accompanied by a cream filled egg.
It has whips, blood, nails, a spear and allegations of body snatching.
It involves politics, God and the sins of the world.
It is not suitable for people of a nervous disposition.
They would do better to think on rabbits, chickens and the first snowdrops of spring.
Or they'd do better to wait for a re-run of Christmas without asking
Too many questions about what Jesus did when he grew up,
Or whether there's any connection.'¹

The message of Easter is simple, that God, in Jesus, loved each one of us so much, that His body was broken on the cross to pay the penalty of our sins, that He defeated death and rose again and offers to all, new life, healing and wholeness. Many of us go to Church once in a while to pay our respects to God, we try to do our best to live good lives. But we find it difficult to believe that God is interested in us, that God would offer us unconditional love. The Good News of Easter is that God comes to us in Jesus, through His Holy Spirit, and offers us new life. He says to us 'What do you want ME to do for YOU?'

He offers us healing and wholeness. Spiritual healing, dealing with our sin and brokenness; physical healing for broken bodies; emotional healing of broken lives and broken relationships.

This Easter, it may be time to start asking ourselves some questions about what Jesus did when he grew up and if there is anything in it for us. Perhaps it is time for us to begin that dialogue with God, starting as Jesus taught us with 'Father...' And maybe, just maybe, God will answer.

Wishing you every blessing,

Judith, Pastoral Assistant

¹ 'Christmas is really for the children' Steve Turner

from *The Lion Book of Christian Poetry*, Lion Publishing 1981

Hunton Hall Music News

March 2014

We had another wonderful concert and a very attentive audience on 1st March, for DLM - Davis Lindley Mullan; very soulful and plaintive acoustic-pop (even with ukuleles!). Our Parish Chairman pronounced it the best concert he'd seen here, and certainly we were lucky to get DLM to come over from Bristol/Bath for only their second concert in the Southeast; fans came from Herts, West Sussex and Essex, as well as other parts of Kent. Despite that, the paying audience of 52 meant we actually made a small deficit on the door (as we had to hire a PA as well), but of course the bar takings easily changed that. Grateful thanks again to David, Sue, Steve, Faye and Chris for helping out on the day.



Our next concert is the last Saturday in April (26th) and is an Applause-sponsored one, so tickets are back to £10 (including food at the break); you will also physically get a ticket too! The **Will Pound Band** is a young four-piece unit, harmonica-led with guitar/vocal, fiddle and double bass. They play a mix of English, Irish & Northumbrian folk tunes (what happened to Yorkshire?), with jazz, bluegrass, funk, blues and rock rhythms – surely a range that will fit most audiences. Will Pound himself was one of the four nominees for BBC's Folk Musician of the Year last month, and the band appeared on BBC Breakfast TV the day of the awards (but didn't actually win!). Will had a debut solo album out in 2013, which hit many of the 'Best' lists for last year and garnered great reviews. You can catch a couple of album tracks on www.willpound.com to hear his virtuosity on the harmonica.

As usual, please pre-book so that we can gauge the catering, or turn up on the night (assuming we have tickets left). Contact Mike/Christine on 820429 or Steve/Sue on 820403 to reserve a ticket.

Just a note that the final spring gig is on Saturday May 31st, with Fake Thackray – maybe with picnic!

WI coming to Hunton

Plans are being made for The Hunton WI to be launched in August. Meetings will be held monthly in Hunton Club on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. We can't promise jam making but will be arranging for interesting speakers and of course a rendition of Jerusalem to start each meeting. Please call or email Ann Sawtell if you are interested in joining on 01622 820731 or ann.sawtell@btinternet.com.

Closure of Redwall Lane

Redwall Lane will be closed from 1st April for up to 5 months. The closure will be from Laceys Lane to George Street and is to enable the replacement of 1400m of drinking water main by South East Water. The diversion will be via A229 Linton Hill, B2163 Heath Road, Upper Hunton Hill, Hunton Hill and East Street.



10th – 12th APRIL 2014
HUNTON VILLAGE HALL

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

Adults £8.50 Children U14 £5.00
Licensed Bar

Box Office:
Joy McLoughlin 01622 820551

The Pop Up Shop @ Easter - Saturday 19th April -

Popping up at The Village Club

The next Pop Up Shop, with Pop Up Café, will be on Saturday 19th April from 10am–12pm at The Village Club, followed by ploughmans' lunches from 12–2pm. You will be able to get the usual Hunton pork, bacon and sausage; eggs; bread and handmade croissants from Hunton Bakery; local cheeses; Kent cold pressed rapeseed oil; as well as items for Easter: Simnel cake, fruited spiced buns, soft bread roll Easter chicks, whole cakes perfect for Easter tea. Hope to see you there. For more info contact Annette 820448; annette@trought.com

Roll Up for the New Season at Hunton Bowls Club

Our pre-season coffee morning will be held in our Pavilion at the Playing Field on 19th April 2014 10am-12pm. Entrance will be £1 to include a cup of tea or coffee and a cake. We are planning to have our usual stalls: homemade cakes, bring & buy, tombola and plants, etc.

The 2014 Season for the Bowling Club starts with our Opening Fling for members on Sunday 20th April, the match starting at 2.30pm, and finishes on Saturday 20th September with our Final Fling. The Club has a full fixture card and as well as Club games we play in the Weald, Maidstone & District (Ladies) and Friday Night Triple Leagues. We are open to new members, be it seasoned bowlers or beginners. Please contact our Secretary, Diane Cheeseman on 01622 745642 or our Chairman, Margaret Carpenter on 01622 744262 if you are interested, or come along to our Thursday practice evenings which start around 6.30pm.

News from Hunton Wanderers CC

Hunton Wanderers Cricket Club has a membership of 35 – 40 players and fields 3 league sides, two in the Kent Regional Cricket League on Saturday and one in the Kent Village League on Sunday. We play at a variety of standards and also have a number of friendly fixtures, which means that everyone from the occasional cricketer to the seasoned campaigner will find a standard to suit.

We are an unusually social club and whilst we like to play competitively, the accent is on inclusion, participation and enjoyment. We hold winter net sessions on Sundays at Maidstone Grammar School and summer evening net sessions on Wednesdays at the ground.

We have regular social events including presentation evenings, barbeques and fund raising ventures.

We held a successful 5 day tour in 2013 and played at a number of well know Hampshire clubs including the “cradle of cricket”, Broadhalfpenny Down. We are hoping to do the same in 2014.

The cricket pitch is at King George V Playing Field, by the Village Hall, and is one of the most picturesque locations in the county. When we play away from home we also visit some charming and historic grounds; from village greens in the Weald of Kent to some of the oldest playing fields in the country, such as Meopham, Bearsted, The Mote and Linton Park.

The Parish Council, supported by the club, has made a funding application to Sport England for a £50,000 grant under their Inspired Facilities Scheme. It is hoped that this will provide funds to enable a replacement cricket pavilion to be built in 2015 – we expect to hear whether or not we have been successful in the next few weeks.

Our new season starts in the last week of April and we welcome new players and especially those from the parish of Hunton and surrounding areas. If you are interested and regardless of standard, please contact Steve Jones on 01622 726151 or Simon Taylor on 01622 674193.

Simon Taylor,
Chairman

Hunton School

The school is proud to have been awarded the Green Flag Eco Schools' award for another three years.

Borton Class were welcomed by the Sikh community to the Gurdwara at Gravesend. They were taken on a tour of this stunning temple and were able to try some food in the 'langar' hall.

Congratulations to the football team who won two matches at a tournament in Laddingford. They are top of the league and, with two matches still to play, stand a very good chance of winning the football trophy. Goals came from Harry Gray and Jack Anscombe, and Jack Cooper in goal made some excellent saves.

To celebrate World Book Day the children came to school dressed as their favourite book characters. The costumes looked fabulous and £71 was raised towards buying new books for the classrooms. On the same day Devas class had a trip to Brookside Garden Centre, resplendent in their costumes, where they took part in a treasure hunt, learned about the animals and undertook some extreme reading (the guinea pigs loved the Where's Wally book).

At St Mary's Church in April

Flowers – April

No flowers in Lent 20th Easter – All 27th Sandra Bullivant

Yalding Post Office (as seen on TV)

Royal Mail prices are changing from 1st April. Most mail services are rising in price except Small Parcels between 1kg - 2kg where the prices have been slashed...good news indeed. The cost of Signed For service remains at £1.10. Special Delivery items will cost a few pence more. Parcelforce items will also cost more. International letters and parcel rates have also risen in price.

First Class up from 60p to 62p, First Class Large up from 90p to 93p

Second Class up from 50p to 53p, Second Class Large up from 69p to 73p

European letter stamps 0-20gm up from 88p to 97p.

Worldwide letter stamps 0-20gm all £1.28.

First Class Small Parcel 0-1kg up from £3.00 to £3.20, 1.01kg-2kg **reduced** from £6.85 to £5.45.

Second Class Small Parcel 0-1kg up from £2.60 to £2.80, 1.01kg-2kg **reduced** from £5.60 to £3.80.

Please ask for the New Prices guide and services booklets.

Our opening hours are 09.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 17.30. Early closing on Wednesdays and Saturdays (12.30pm Saturdays)

Many thanks for your wonderful support for your Post Office.

Telephone 01622 814327 or look us up on our web site www.yaldingpostoffice.weebly.co.uk. We can also be found on Facebook.

Tim Chapman

Dementia Awareness Session

All are welcome to a one-hour session providing information about dementia, what it is like to live with it, and how you can take action to help. You don't need to know anybody with dementia to benefit from this introductory session, which will be given by Christine Bostock who is a Dementia Friend's Champion. Dementia Friends is an initiative of the Alzheimer's Society.

The session will take place on **Wednesday 7th May at 7.30 pm** at **All Saints Church, West Farleigh**.

East Farleigh Farmers' Market

Sunday 6th April 9am – 12pm

In March we welcomed a new stall selling stained glass and craftsman made wooden boards and boxes. A newly established local equine charity, Pukka Ponies based in Dean Street came along to publicise their work. They really appreciated the interest shown by customers and the generous donations given. The publicity has already encouraged a volunteer to offer regular help. The market gave a small contribution to them, the rest of our March stall fees will be donated to The V-Team. They are part of Voluntary Action Maidstone and provide practical help around the home for the elderly and disabled on low incomes.

On **Sunday 6th April** East Farleigh Farmers' Market will be welcoming a number of stalls which offer both Mothers' Day and Easter gift solutions. Grenville Allen, who came to our Christmas market, will be back with a wide selection of his delightful watercolours and prints for sale and Linton Chocolates return with delicious treats for all the family. Choose your Mothers' Day and Easter greetings cards from Carol May Cards, plants from Low Wood Nursery and The Kenward Trust or handmade wooden boxes from Creative Crates. All our regular food suppliers will be there, plus a brand new cake stall run by Elle Skinner, who is a Princes Trust Young Ambassador.

Services

Sunday 6th April – Lent 5

11.00am Family Service – Rev. Peter Callway

Readings: Preacher's choice

Sunday 13th April – Palm Sunday

09.30am Holy Communion 1662 – Rev. David Jones

Readings: Isaiah 50.4-9a and Matthew 21.1-11

Sunday 20th April – Easter Sunday


11.00am Holy Communion – Rev. David Jones

Readings: Jeremiah 31.1-6 and Matthew 28.1-10

Sunday 27th April – Easter 2

11.00am Holy Communion – Rev. David Jones

Readings: Acts 2.14a,22-32 and John 20.19-31



You are invited to attend

The Tea Dance



*at the Camden Centre, Market Square,
Royal Tunbridge Wells*

with the musical talents of Chris Mannion on the organ

Entry is just £2.50 and includes refreshments

Thursday: 24th April, 22nd May, 26th June, 24th July


2.00pm-4.30pm

No need to book for the Tea Dance, there is plenty of space, so bring your friends and remember, keep dancing

If you have problems getting out and about then contact Dial 2 Drive on 01892 553123 to become a member and access the volunteer driver scheme

Run by VAWK in partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

For more information please contact VAWK: 01892 530330

Advance Notice - West Farleigh Concert Season

6th June "Dr. Jazz"

28th June "Dawn Chorus"

Each event is at All Saints Church. Reserve these dates for an eclectic mix of music!

April	6th	13th	18th Good Friday	20th	27th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	11.00 MP	14.00 Hour at the cross	11.00 HC	11.00 FS
E. Farleigh	09.30 MP	8.00 HC 18.30 Palm Sunday praise		09.30 HC	08.00 HC
Linton	09.30 HC	9.30 FS	11.00 Hour at the cross	09.30 HC	09.30 HC
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC 1662	11.00 MP Mod	10.00 Hour at the cross	09.30 HC	09.30 HC Mod

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