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Friends of St Mary's

Autumn Music and Supper Evening

Village Hall - 14th November 2014 - 7pm for 7.30pm

Tickets are now on sale for this event, which is being held to support our fund raising drive to complete the redecoration of the interior of the Church. We are well on the way to meeting our target so please come along to enjoy yourselves and help us reach our goal. We hope that the redecoration work will commence during late spring 2015. The cost of the redecoration work is estimated to be £24,000 plus recoverable VAT. We are now about halfway towards this figure so we are all focused on getting the job done on time.

The live music will be provided by a local band, 2bc, lead by Brian Mortimer, who many of you will know. They will play popular 60s and 70s music so we need to leave room for those who might want to get up and dance. It will be difficult not to! Included in the ticket price is a hot two-course supper and we will of course have a licensed bar which will open at 7pm and close at 11pm. Tickets cost £10 per adult, £5 for teenagers 13 to 18 years, children 12 or under are free. Sue Pinks has kindly volunteered to co-ordinate the ticket sales and she can be reached on 01622 820709. All the trustees of our charity will be selling the tickets themselves and will be approaching those of you who live in their vicinity soon. We are limiting the sales to 80 tickets. Already a number of people have reserved tickets, so to avoid disappointment please contact Sue if you have not already been approached by one of the Friends team.

Ron Porter

Harvest Supper

Nearly 80 people sat down to the village Harvest Supper at the beginning of October. Thanks to a large number of cooks around the village there were generous helpings of shepherd's pie and a selection of delicious puddings. Tables were decorated with rosehips, old man's beard, flowers and foliage from the hedgerows, and orange nasturtiums. A busy bar was run by the Friends of St Mary's. Judging by the noise level, everyone had a good time and thanks must go, in addition to the cooks, to all the people who helped with table setting and clearing, in the kitchen, with the setting up and putting away of tables and chairs and in many other ways that made the evening such a successful community event.



Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell

School: Secretary/Head Teacher

Under 5's Pre-School:

Pre-School Supervisor:

Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill

Rector: Peter Callway

Non-Stipendiary Minister Revd David Jones

Village Club: Philip Nichols

820731

820360

820309

07972067110

820429

747570**

741474*

820804

Clerk to Parish Council: Sharon Goodwin

Village Hall Booking: Kathy Reid

Maidstone Police

Neighbourhood Watch: huntonwatch@gmail.com

'Potholes' Hotline (KCC)

Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown

PCSO Alan Hunter

Helen Grant MP helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk

Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb

*not available on Fridays; **not available on Mondays

681238

820092

690690 or 101

820403, 820429, 820731

03000 418181

820288

07772 226151

0207 219 7107

745716

Diary Dates

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sunday 2nd Nov | East Farleigh Farmers' Market 9am-12pm |
| Tuesday 4th Nov | Hunton WI Village Club 7.30pm |
| Thursday 6th Nov | Autumn Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm |
| Monday 10th Nov | Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 8pm |
| Thursday 13th Nov | Autumn Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm |
| Friday 14th Nov | Friends of St Mary's Music & Supper Village Hall 7pm |
| Thursday 20th Nov | Autumn Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm |
| Thursday 27th Nov | Autumn Lunches Village Club 12.30-2pm |
| Friday 28th Nov | Gardeners' Question Time Village Club 8.15pm |

Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available on the website

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 December edition to the Editor as soon as possible, and by 15th November, please

Dear Friends

I write this as I sit in a very crowded Madeira airport waiting area, having just heard that our flight home is cancelled due to bad weather! Not the best end to an otherwise enjoyable holiday. One of the most interesting and fascinating things about this beautiful, verdant place is the network of levadas, or water channels, that criss-cross the island. The word 'levada' means 'carry' in Portuguese and they allow the water that springs up naturally to be distributed across the island for the purposes of irrigation. They reach from the north and west to the south and east through some 1,350 miles (2,170 km) of channels that were started in the sixteenth century and which continued to be built right up until the 1940s. Madeira is very mountainous and building them was a dangerous business in which several people lost their lives. They required about 25 miles (40 km) of tunnels to be dug through the mountains as well as needing channels cut into the vertiginous faces of the mountains. The system today operates on a shared usage basis and each person who needs the water to irrigate their crops buys a timeshare – literally a number of hours in a given period when the water flow is directed to their land. As we walked along the paths that are there for maintaining the channels and now used by tourists to get an entirely different perspective on the landscape of the island of Madeira, it reminded me that when the early church formed they were all together and had all things in common. They sold their possessions and belongings and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need (Acts 2:44). The principle of creating and building something for the common good, accessible to all and beneficial to all who wish to access it, is one that we must continue to strive for in an era of self interest and focus on the individual, both in the church and in society. I pray that we will all have the opportunity to do our part.

Peter Callway, Rector

Autumn Lunches

In the Village Club, every Thursday for 5 weeks starting on 6th November, simple lunches will be available for a £5 donation. Come along between 12.30 and 2pm and bring your friends and relations for soup, bread and cheese followed by homemade cake with tea or coffee. You will also be able to buy drinks from the bar to enjoy with your lunch. As you do not have to order in advance food will be on a 'first come, first served' basis! Although the aim of the lunches is to give people the chance to catch up with old friends and to meet new ones, any funds raised will be split between the Village Club and St Mary's Church so please support these events. If you can help by making soup or picking up people without cars or you would like more information please email me lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com or phone 01622 820210.

Hunton Gardeners' Question Time

There is no charge to join the Gardening Club, which welcomes anyone interested in gardens and gardening and meets twice during the winter. I maintain a members list that is used to circulate details of possible visits to gardens or activities such as courses or to share excess seeds, plants or produce. The next meeting is on Friday 28th November in the Village Club starting at 8.15pm for drinks followed by a 'Question Time' led by a panel of knowledgeable local gardeners and with the opportunity for open discussion. Please email or phone me on 01622 820210 or lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com if you would like further information about the group and let me have your technical or light hearted questions at least a week before the meeting.

Thanks, Lesley



Amsbury Farm Visit

Members of the Gardening Club will be visiting Amsbury Farm for a tour of the packhouse on Tuesday 4th November at 10am. If you would like to come along, please contact Lesley on 01622 820210 or lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com.

Community Orchard Bat Watch

Around 20 people joined in to spot bats around the church and playing fields on Thursday Sept 4th. With advice from a bat expert and the aid of digital bat detectors we were able to detect the unique signals emitted by different bat species: on this occasion by the larger noctule bats and the much smaller pipistrelle bats. There are 17 species of bat to be found in the United Kingdom and over 1000 worldwide. All British bats and their roosts are protected by law and it is illegal to deliberately alter their roost sites without first seeking advice from the Bat Conservation Trust. You can contact them for advice on the Bat Helpline 0845 1300 228 or check out their website www.bats.org.uk. Conducting wildlife surveys such as these is an ongoing part of the development of the Hunton Community Orchard. The information gathered is used to create a picture of what is happening to our native wildlife across Kent and contributes to local strategies aimed to help protect our wildlife and countryside environment.

Community Orchard Group

Village Hall Refurbishment News

Hopefully those residents who attended the Harvest Supper will have noticed the newly painted and cobweb-free Hall, along with its freshly renovated floor, and thought how lovely it looks. At half term, the final stage of the refurbishment (flooring in the kitchen and toilet areas) will have been completed, and the new fire door and locks in place. We are fortunate to have such a lovely facility, run by volunteers for the community as a charity, along with Parish Council overview/trusteeship.

Between the Parish Council, KCC (through the Playgroup) and the Hall Committee over £12,000 will have been spent this summer renovating the building and there is more to be completed on the entrance areas and internal safety measures in the next year. The Hall costs a minimum of £6000 a year (£120/week) solely for the power, water, drainage plant, insurances, licencing and regular maintenance activities, let alone paying for cleaning after every hire event and funding any new equipment. In the winter, with our 'antique' electrical heating, those weekly costs can double – in summer of course, the Parish's solar panels help to defray our mains power usage (in daylight).

We are lucky that the previous Committee had built up some funds over the years, which allowed us to pay for some of the recent work, but that has now been all spent. Fortunately, we have become a sought-after venue for weddings (with Kathy's astute marketing of the website) and we have 11 booked for 2015 (and one for 2016!), and that income will help us keep on an even keel in 2015. Along with the irregular musical events which Alan ran for a decade (and Mike will continue next year), and the regular Playgroup & evening classes bringing in regular income, the books just about balance each year. We seem to be busier than many other village halls, and long may that continue.

WI Italian Night

Hunton WI was relaunched in September and now has about twenty members. We meet at the Village Club on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. Last month Louise Ferns spoke to the group about fundraising for Great Ormond Street Hospital. She told us about the importance of fundraising to provide specialist equipment and to support the families of children being treated there. We held a raffle to raise funds for this worthy cause. During the evening we also enjoyed chatting to new and old friends whilst partaking of delicious homemade cake and coffee or something stronger from the bar. This month there will be a demonstration of Italian cookery. So ladies of Hunton (or further afield) please do join us on 4th November for fun, fellowship and food (d'Italia).

Chris Summersgill

East Farleigh Gardening Club Autumn Meeting

The Old School Hall, Lower Road
Thursday 13th November
7.45pm

The Good Garden Guide – a bird's-eye view

Birds see things differently!

What are they looking for, how can we provide it,
and ...*what's going on behind the bike shed?*

An illustrated talk by Ray Morris
Entry £1 members, £3 non-members
Refreshments and question time

Maidstone Wind Symphony Concerts – All Saints Church, Maidstone

In Memoriam – Sat 8th Nov 7.30pm

Commemorating the beginning of World War I, this special concert features music by Goodwin and Tchaikovsky, as well as a special performance of Johan de Meij's Sinfonie der Lieder (Symphony of Songs) featuring acclaimed countertenor Andrew Watts, Faversham Youth Choir & Kent Schools Choir.

Kent Festival of Wind and Brass – Sat 22nd Nov 7.30pm

The Kent Festival of Wind and Brass showcases the very best music for brass and wind. The concert features performances by the BAE Systems Brass Band, Medway Band and special guest soloist Owen Farr (tenor horn).

Tickets £9, Concessions £7, U12s free. Available from 01732 366500 or www.maidstonewindsymphony.org.

Coffee & Cakes for Macmillan - A Huge Thank You

Hunton played its part on Friday September 26th by holding a coffee morning at the Village Club. We had lots of yummy cakes and plenty of tea and coffee as well as lots of opportunity to chat and catch up with friends and neighbours. We raised an amazing £295. A further £70 was donated at the Pop-Up Shop the following morning, making a total of £365 in all. Kate Walsh made the most accurate guess as to how many hundreds and thousands were on the cake by guessing 4351. There were actually 4856! So thank you to Kate and to everyone who took part - making cakes, helping out and coming along to support us - we really appreciate it and so do the thousands of people facing life with cancer right now. Thank you.

Annette

For those who bought raffle tickets for the Macmillan Autumn Draw, please note that the draw date is on 5th December 2014

Community Orchard Tree Planting Event Sunday 7th December 1-3pm

To coincide with National Tree Week, 29th November – 7th December, we will be planting the first tranche of fruit trees for our Community Orchard.

Volunteers welcome - come dressed for digging. Winter picnic provided.

GamBLE BBQ

The sun shone on this year's BBQ in aid of GamBLE (Gambia: Building Links in Education). With a record attendance it was a successful day, raising over £1000 for the charity, and many people remarking on the lovely atmosphere. Certainly the food, bar and raffle were popular, as were Childe Rolande, Village Voices and Relative Minors, who kept us entertained.

GamBLE would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who works so hard to put this annual event together.

At St Mary's Church in November

Flowers

| | |
|------|---|
| 2nd | Susie St. John |
| 9th | Remembrance Sunday – Wendy Simmons and helper |
| 16th | Wendy Simmons |
| 23rd | tba |
| 30th | West Farleigh Benefice Service |

Chat-A-While Coffee Morning

Yalding Baptist Church, Vicarage Road

10.30am to 12pm

Thursday November 6th

All Welcome

Services

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Sunday 2nd November – | All Saints 11.00am Family Service – Miss Chris Bostock Readings: Preacher's choice |
| Sunday 9th November – | Remembrance Sunday 10.50am Remembrance Service – Rev. David Jones Readings: Amos 5:18-24 and Matthew 25:1-13 |
| Sunday 16th November – | 2 Before Advent 11.00am Morning Prayer – Rev. Peter Callway Readings: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Matthew 25:14-30 |
| Sunday 23rd November – | Christ the King 11.00am Holy Communion – Rev. David Jones Readings: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Matthew 25:31-46 |
| Sunday 30th November – | Advent Sunday. 10.30am Benefice Service at West Farleigh – Rev. Matthew Buchan (Rural Dean) Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9 and Mark 13:24-37 |

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra – Saturday 29th November – 7.30pm

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra, with Conductor Brian Wright, will perform at Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre. The programme consists of three works: Copland - Appalachian Spring, Brahms - Violin Concerto with Soloist Giovanni Guzzo, Vaughan Williams - Symphony No.4. 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 using the booking form. Tickets for all children up to and including 18 years of age are FREE. MSO Registered Charity No. 287986.

Mission to Mars

Children from Hunton CEP School have had an exciting time this term learning about Space. In September Borton Class visited Sky Skills Studios as part of their Mission to Mars project. The class was divided into 4 teams and collaboratively they wrote a script for a news report. Then the fun began! Each member of each team undertook the role of either producer, director, camera operator, editor or onscreen talent. The filming began in a state of the art studio with lights and £2,000 cameras. After the film was produced the class was taken on a tour around the studios and even visited the set of 'Tight Lines', a fishing programme on Sky Sports. They were shocked how small the set was – amazing what cameras can do!

This was followed at the beginning of October by a visit to the school from The Astrodome Experience, a full size theatre and planetarium that was set up in the school hall. Rowan, from Borton Class said, "The Astrodome was an amazing experience full of history and excitement. Peter who brought the Astrodome experience showed how an eclipse works and all the different types of eclipses. He did it with a model of the sun, the Earth and the moon. He shined a bright torch on the moon. Peter told us lots of facts about the planets like Jupiter. Peter showed a video of Neil Armstrong landing on the moon. This was an amazing experience and it was worth paying for it!"

East Farleigh Farmers' Market

Another beautiful Sunday morning cheered our spirits at the October Farmers' Market. Lots of you ventured out to browse and buy, with the Kenward Trust selling out of cut flowers for the second month running! On display were the educational items purchased by East Farleigh Pre-School with our recent donation of £70. Ailsa McMahon, manager of Maidstone charity M4S was very grateful for the opportunity to publicise their work to a wider audience. With this in mind we have decided to make a donation of £80 to M4S – the profits of the August Farmers' Market.

The November Farmers' Market will be held on Sunday 2nd when we hope to have extra stalls in the run up to the festive season. Linton Chocolates will offer an expanded range of products suitable for Christmas, as will Gloria and Mabel Needlecraft, Carol May Cards and Cat's Conserves and Fudge. BK Shamwari will be attending for the first time with bold and colourful ethnic jewellery and accessories, whilst florist Catherine Finch will have a selection of Christmas wreaths and decorations. This is an opportunity to find special presents that are completely unique for your friends and family. In some cases stallholders are even able to personalise items for you if given sufficient notice. Remember you can also order joints of pork, ham, beef and lamb, bacon and sausage-meat from Sutton Park and special cheeses, pates and cold meats from the French Delicatessen for collection in December.

Sue

| November | 2 nd | 9 th | 16 th | 23 rd | 30 th |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Coxheath | 11.00 HC | 10.30 RS | 11.00 HC | 11.00 FS | |
| E. Farleigh | 09.30 MP | 11.00 (tbc) RS | 09.30 HC | 08.00 HC | |
| Linton | 09.30 HC | 10.00 RS | 08.00 HC | 09.30 HC | |
| W. Farleigh | 08.00 HC 1662 | 10.45 RS | 09.30 MP Trad | 09.30 HC Mod | 10.30 Benefice Service |
| HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service, RS Remembrance Service | | | | | |