



## Hunton Wanderers CC End of Season Report

The 2015 season has generally been a success for the cricket club; both the Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> team and the Sunday XI competed well in their respective leagues and both finished 3<sup>rd</sup>, narrowly missing promotion. The Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> XI were desperately unlucky, missing out on promotion by just four points on the last day of the season and despite winning their final game. For the Sunday XI it was a clearer picture; they had lost their chance of promotion some two games earlier, but nonetheless defeated Higham & Mockbeggar, placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, on the last day of the season, again falling short by that tantalising four points. Had it not been for rain-affected fixtures earlier in the season, against theoretically weaker opposition, the side would have almost certainly gone up to Kent Village League division 4. As for the Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> XI, they finished a creditable mid table against some difficult opposition.



*Hunton Saturday 1st XI Team*



*Hunton Sunday XI Team*

Playing numbers were generally good; we did not concede a single game through lack of numbers and generally played with 11 men in all three sides (although some of us played more than we should have done!). Our Saturday sides seemed to get their pictures into the KM more often than most – about six times this year; we reckon the ground must be on the photographer's route home after his pub lunch!

The new pavilion is almost complete; the carpets are in, decoration has been finished and the electricity is due to be connected soon. We hope to hold a proper grand opening at the beginning of the 2016 season. More news to follow!

You may remember how sad the outfield looked at the beginning of the season, after the diggers and dumpers had churned it up laying the pavilion foundation last winter. I am pleased to report that it has made almost a full recovery, and with a bit of seeding and rolling this winter, will be back to its full green glory next year. Our thanks go to the parish council for their continuing support with the pavilion project and we hope that the whole village will be proud of its new asset.

*Simon Taylor, Chairman, HWCC*

### Your Local Contacts:

School: Secretary/Head Teacher 820360  
Under 5's Pre-School: 820309  
Pre-School Supervisor: 07972067110  
Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill 820429  
Rector: Revd. Peter Callway 747570\*  
Hon Associate Rector: Revd. David Jones 741474\*  
Associate Rector: Revd Eileen Doyle 204241\*\*  
Village Club: Philip Nichols 820804

### Village Hall Booking:

Maidstone Police 690690 or 101  
Neighbourhood Watch: [huntonwatch@gmail.com](mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com) 820403, 820429, 820731  
'Potholes' Hotline (KCC) 03000 418181  
Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown 820288  
PCSO - Matthew Judges 101 (or via Huntonwatch)  
Helen Grant MP [helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk) 0207 219 7107  
Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb 745716

\*not available on Fridays; \*\*not available on Mondays or Tuesdays

Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at [www.hunton.org.uk/contacts](http://www.hunton.org.uk/contacts)

### Diary Dates

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov

**Hunton WI Village Club** 7.30pm  
**Autumn Lunches** Village Club 12.30pm  
**Churchyard Clean Up** 9am-12pm  
**Hannah Scott** Village Hall Doors 7.30pm  
**Remembrance Service** St Mary's Church 10.50am  
**Autumn Lunches** Village Club 12.30pm  
**Panto Read Through** Village Club 7pm  
**Autumn Lunches** Village Club 12.30pm  
**Gardening Club Supper** Village Club 7.15pm  
**Autumn Lunches** Village Club 12.30pm  
**Rita Hosking** Village Hall Doors 7.30pm  
**Xmas Market** St Mary's Church 4-7pm

Check out [www.hunton.org.uk/diary](http://www.hunton.org.uk/diary) for the latest events.

If you would like to add an event, email [huntondiary@btinternet.com](mailto:huntondiary@btinternet.com).

### Parish Council Contacts

Parish Council Chairman – Gary Thomas 820691  
Clerk to the Parish Council – Sharon Goodwin 681238  
Cllr Roger Sawtell 820731  
Cllr Ron Porter 820220  
Cllr David Heaton 820678  
Cllr Tony Stanbridge 820761  
Cllr Steve Wyles 820403  
Cllr Annette Trought 820448

Dear Friends

As a child I remember vividly the rhyme, *Remember Remember the 5th of November*. As a family we all gathered together to go to an organised firework display, which we rounded off by having a special feast at my mother's house. The menu usually consisted of baked potatoes with many different toppings along with mother's special stew. Wrapped in our winter clothes for warmth, Bonfire Night was one of happy memories. Sometimes we can lose sight of the real meaning and the cost of such occasions when we are celebrating!

The month of November is without doubt a time of remembrance. Firstly is All Saints day, where we remember and celebrate the lives of all Christians who have died in a state of grace. It is also the day when we as a benefice hold our annual memorial service where we remember with the families, the loved ones that have recently gone to join the saints (1<sup>st</sup> November). Let us not forget the pain of those recently bereaved.

Then there is Remembrance Sunday itself (8<sup>th</sup> November) when we remember those who sacrificed their lives so that we might live in peace and freedom. Our freedom came at the great sacrifice of so many. November is a month that can stir up both sad and yet beautiful memories for so many of us.

An image that I find helpful when trying to make some sense of loss in the season of remembering is the autumn leaves. They are so beautiful and colourful as they gently fall to the ground, which reminds me of our beautiful memories of loved ones. The landscape alters, just as our lives are altered. The fallen autumn leaves make a luxurious rich carpet of colour, just as our lives have been enriched with colour by those we have loved. The changing season, like life itself, reminds me of the many changes we face in our daily lives, some good and some painful.

The leaves don't fall from the trees for nothing; each year there is regeneration as the trees burst into new life. Christ our Lord burst into new life at the resurrection, and each of us in our remembering can be certain that whatever we face, whether it is in looking back (remembering), or the present, or what we have to face in the future, I know with certainty that the peace of God that passes all our understanding upholds us and that God himself walks with us.

May the season of remembering bring you both comfort and hopefulness.

*Rev. Eileen Doyle*

## **Remembrance Sunday - November 8<sup>th</sup> 10.50am**

The Service of Remembrance is a time when we reflect on the most supreme sacrifice made by those who have served our country so courageously in times of war, both in times gone past and within our current and daily lives.

At St Mary's the war memorial in memory of those who gave their lives in the two world wars is inside the church and each year, as a church, we have marked Remembrance Sunday with the two minutes silence and the laying of two wreaths. We feel that it would be fitting to widen the presentation of wreaths and would welcome any village organisation to play an active part in the service by laying a wreath in remembrance of those who have given so much. Wendy Simmons is organising the laying of wreaths and if any organisation has been omitted from the invitation by mistake and would like to lay a wreath would they please contact her on 01622 820875.

## **Supper Dance Postponed**

It is with regret that the Friends of St Mary's have postponed the Autumn Supper Dance scheduled for the 14th November. Many of you who attended last year and have already asked for tickets will be disappointed for which we are truly sorry.

However, one of the major contributors to last year's success was the live local band of 2bc lead by Brian Mortimer. Everybody enjoyed the music so much that we asked the band to perform for us again this year. You may recall that in addition to great music, they made no charge at all which meant a significant boost to our funds.

Many of you will know that Brian was taken seriously ill rather suddenly in the summer. Happily he is on the mend but the treatment he continues to receive will prevent him from playing in November. We did consider alternative bands but have decided to stick with the winning and generous formula and have pencilled in November 2016 with 2bc.

So sorry to have to do this but in the circumstances it is the right decision and we all wish Brian a return to full health as soon as possible.

## **Rugby Fun at the Pre-School**

The children at Hunton and Linton Pre-School, situated at the village hall, had some rather relevant guests come to visit in light of the recent Rugby World Cup. The lovely people at Maidstone Youth Rugby Club kindly came down to talk to them about rugby, teaching them some basic skills and showing them how to play tag rugby. This was very much enjoyed by all and the children loved the experience of having special guests to come in and teach them something new.

The children and staff have lots of exciting activities to look forward to in the coming term, including our Christmas performance at St Mary's Church, our Christmas Bazaar with a visit from the lovely ponies from nearby Pukka Ponies, as well as a Christmas party with special guest Father Christmas.

The pre-school are always keen to have people from the local community in to talk to the children. A particular interest at the moment is farms and farmers as well as any musical performers, so if any of our lovely villagers would like to come down to the pre-school with a tractor or animals, or to play an instrument or sing, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the pre-school on 01622 820309 during our opening hours of Monday and Thursday 8am-2.45pm and Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8.30am-12.15pm.

We are of course always open for enquiries for pre-school places for children from age two to school age - feel free to pop down and visit our lovely village pre-school.

# Hunton Neighbourhood Plan Autumn Update 2015



## Why are we doing this?

Neighbourhood Planning provides the opportunity for communities to set out a positive vision of how they wish their community to develop over the next ten, fifteen or even twenty years and to play a much stronger role in shaping and influencing the way in which that vision is achieved. Our starting point was the Parish Plan drawn up five years ago but as we go forward it is critical that we have a clear understanding of what YOU want for Hunton now and in the future. Hunton's Neighbourhood Plan will sit alongside Maidstone Borough Council's Local Plan and both will be taken into account when assessing, for example, planning applications and improvements to infrastructure.

This interim report has been prepared using the numerous contributions made by so many of you. The questions we posed and the opportunities we gave you to answer them have yielded sufficient and sound material for us to issue this update now. We are extremely grateful for your input.

## Village Input

For the first phase of our engagement strategy our approach was to try to establish what was important to Hunton residents by asking five simple questions:

1. What do you like about Hunton?
2. What do you dislike about Hunton?
3. What would you change in Hunton?
4. What would you not change in Hunton?
5. What must we protect in Hunton?

We were delighted with the results. We received 1,295 comments through the Consultation Café, the various Graffiti Wall opportunities or via e-mail to the dedicated [huntonnp@gmail.com](mailto:huntonnp@gmail.com) address. We also had the Graffiti Wall available outside the school on two occasions to allow parents to have their say.

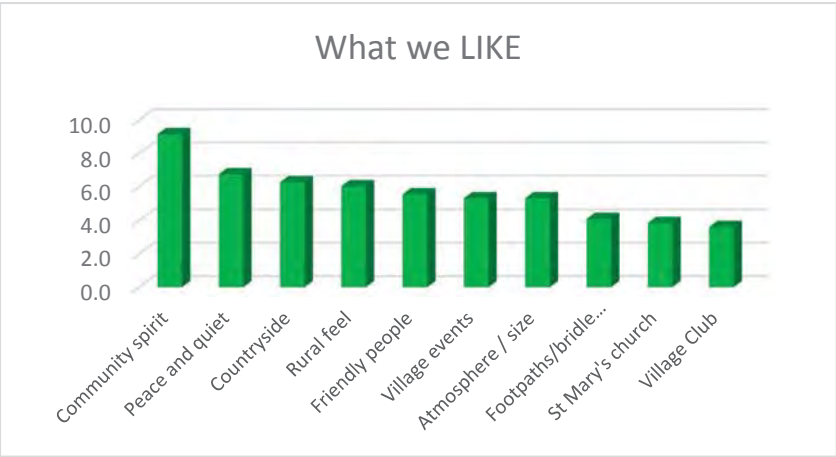
We received input from over 65 households - which equates to around 20% of the village. This compares very favourably with other villages nearby, where response levels were struggling to reach 10% of households.

More work will be carried out over the coming months to drill down into key areas and to allow us to produce the first draft of our Neighbourhood Plan, but an initial analysis of the massive amount of input received gives us a good feel for what is important to the village.

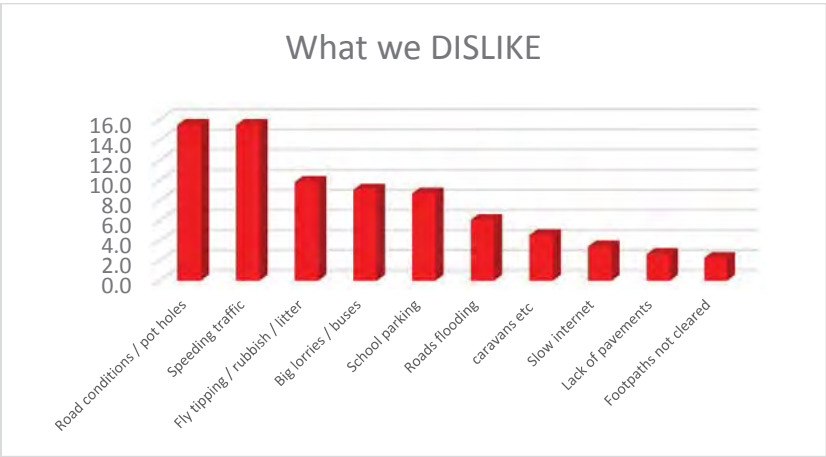
## Initial Findings

Analysis of the input received has thrown up some interesting insights into what Hunton residents feel. Answers to some questions showed a spread of opinion which covered many topics whilst other questions evoked much more focussed responses. For each category we have shown the ten most frequently mentioned topics in graphical form overleaf.

**What do you like about Hunton?** - 415 responses covered 57 topics. The most frequently mentioned was 'Community Spirit' (9.2% of the responses). 'Peace and quiet' (6.7%) and 'the countryside' (6.3%) were next. The top 5 items accounted for 33.7% of responses.



**What do you dislike about Hunton?** - 265 responses covered 50 topics. The most frequently mentioned were 'road conditions/potholes' and 'speeding traffic' - each 15.5% of the responses. 'Fly tipping and rubbish' (9.8%), big lorries/buses' (9.1%) and 'school parking' (8.7%) were also mentioned frequently. The top 5 accounted for 58.5% of responses.



**What would you change in Hunton?** - 221 responses covered 61 topics. 'Speed control/traffic calming' (12.7%) and 'school parking' (11.8%) were top of the list. The top five topics accounted for 38.9% of the responses.



**What would you not change in Hunton?** - 173 responses to this question covered 35 topics. The top five accounted for 49.7% of the responses with 'countryside/landscape' (13.3%) and 'rural feel/nature of the village' (12.7%) the top two.



**What must we protect in Hunton?** - 221 responses covered 36 topics and the top five accounted for 43% of the responses. The most frequently mentioned was protection 'against inappropriate development' (12.2%) with 'St Mary's Church' (10.0%) a close second. The top five topics accounted for 43% of responses.



Analysis of findings

The findings given in this report are based upon the things you told us and, wherever possible, using your own words. That in itself makes the information extremely valuable. However, in order to use this to formulate our Neighbourhood Plan, more analysis is required and we will need to start looking at how topics you have mentioned might be connected.

For example, when you told us what you liked about Hunton phrases such as 'community spirit', 'friendly people', 'village events' were used and specific examples such as 'the pop up shop', 'the music events', 'the Christmas fayre' and 'the fete' were also mentioned. These might all be considered to be part of a wider 'sense of community' topic. Similarly, 'speeding traffic', 'road conditions/potholes', 'school parking' and 'big lorries/buses' could all fall into a wider 'Roads and Transport' topic to be addressed.

What is clear is that there is still much to be done.

## What Next?

We will need to consult with the village and its stakeholders again. This time to find out what the village wants to identify as its priorities, to consider what we must strive to preserve and protect and envision how the village should look in 20 years time. For example there will be important and detailed questions to consider around what if any development should be carried out within Hunton. Is there a need for a small amount of additional affordable housing; and if so where should it be located? Does the village want to preserve the Village Hall and the Village Club? Does the community want to encourage more visitors from elsewhere to use these facilities? What else could they be used for? We will also be contacting specific groups who have not had the chance to contribute yet. Early next spring we will organise a series of workshops and open events. There will be more information in the Hunton Herald in the New Year about these.

October saw the consultation period for the Maidstone Local Plan. The information yielded from the village so far has proven very useful to the Parish Council in terms of formulating Hunton's input. Not only that, but the concerns raised about traffic and the school helped to support efforts to make the advisory 20mph speed limit outside Hunton and all other local primary schools a permanent one during relevant school hours and the hope now is that this might become a mandatory speed limit in the not too distant future.

## Bringing our Neighbourhood Plan into force

There is a well-defined and formal approach that must be followed.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to Maidstone Borough Council, which will check that proper procedures have been followed in its preparation. This includes, for example, the documentation of all the processes and checks used when gathering information and ensuring that Hunton residents are kept informed of progress.

Following a period of wider publicity, Maidstone Borough Council will arrange for an independent examination of the plan to ensure that it has met specific legal requirements. Once it has passed this scrutiny there will be a public referendum in the village. If at least 50% of those attending the referendum vote yes, the plan will be accepted.

The Neighbourhood Plan is being created on behalf of Hunton Parish Council with a sub-committee of councillors taking responsibility for the work. If you have any comments on the above, or require any further information about why a Neighbourhood Plan is important to the village, please do not hesitate to contact us via e-mail ([huntonnp@gmail.com](mailto:huntonnp@gmail.com)) or by contacting the Clerk to the Parish Council (details on front page of the Hunton Herald) and the team will get back to you.



## Dog Holidays in Hunton

A new individual dog boarding service, providing holiday care for your dog(s) within our own home. We are experienced dog owners who care for dogs from one family at a time to ensure individual attention, lots of play and exercise, and a true home from home experience. We welcome pre-holiday visits to allow you and your dogs to sniff us out before their stay and can sometimes help with longer term, emergency or day care. We want your dog's holiday to be as good as yours is! Prices from £20 per day.

Judi holds a diploma in dog walking pet home sitting and is trained as a canine first responder.

Find out more **online** [www.dogholidaysinhunton.co.uk](http://www.dogholidaysinhunton.co.uk) **Telephone** Judi 07789 002329 **Email** [dogholidaysinhunton@btinternet.com](mailto:dogholidaysinhunton@btinternet.com)



## Village Pantomime – Aladdin – 31<sup>st</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2016

We will be having a casting/first read evening on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November in the village club from 7-8pm. We will be emailing all those who have already contacted us, but if there is still someone out there who would like to be involved and who has not already contacted us, please phone Sue Pinks on 820709. Look forward to seeing you all in November.

*Sharon & Sue*

## Village Hall Drainage Issues

Thank you to the hirers and playing field users for their patience and stoicism whilst we have been having drainage/odour issues at the hall over the summer. As many have noticed, the sewage treatment system has malfunctioned often during 2014/15, sometimes due to hirers flushing things down the system that it can't cope with, sometimes from vandalism, but chiefly because the treatment plant fitted in 1999 hadn't had any parts replaced nor been cleaned out for many years. Eventually the whole innards collapsed onto themselves in July, and it all had to be rebuilt and re-commissioned over six weeks, once we got a mini-digger round the back to excavate around the unit and jetted the drains. Thanks to the various volunteers who helped with the operations, and cleared up when requested.

Fingers crossed, it is all now operating happily again, and we have a service contract and schedule for de-sludging to follow, plus some new fencing to come, which might stop school kids exploring where there is live equipment (even with CCTV observing them!). Inevitably, all this work has cost us a fair bit, over a thousand pounds to date with more bills to come, but the Hall should smell a bit more sweetly again.

*Mike Summersgill*

## Gardening Club Supper - 24<sup>th</sup> November

Andrea Griffiths, Partnership Officer for Medway Valley Countryside Partnerships, Public Protection - Environment, Planning & Enforcement will give a presentation on invasive plants to the Gardening Club meeting in the village club at 8pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November. From 7.15pm a light supper of soup, bread and cheese followed by cake with tea or coffee will be available for a £5 donation. Funds raised are for the club and St Mary's Church. New members welcome. Further information or to book your supper, contact Lesley on 01622 820210 or [lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com).

## Churchyard Clean Up

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November

The final churchyard working party for 2015 will be held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November from 9am-12pm (if wet Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>). Please come along even if you can only spare the odd hour as every extra pair of hands makes a huge difference. If you think you might be able to join us do let me know so I can make enough buns or biscuits to enjoy in our tea and coffee break.

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

## Hunton WI

Christine Etheridge gave a fascinating and lively account of her career in pearls to the ladies of the WI. She began as a 16 year old apprentice in Garrard's Pearl Room where it was quickly recognised that she had the right attributes to become a pearl stringer. She explained the intricacies of cleaning, drying, stringing and conserving pearls, with the importance of the knotting between individual pearls. She showed many example of her work as well as some disastrous treatment of pearls – including using superglue to stick the finished silk. She explained the differences between seawater, freshwater, cultivated, cultured, coin and synthetic pearls. During her talk she deftly restrung a necklace of pearls.

Some members of Hunton WI went on a coach outing to Bletchley Park, which was organised by the District WI. It was a very interesting day, exploring this historic place, which finished with a tea hosted by Stoney Stratford WI.

Our November meeting, which will be held as usual on the first Tuesday of the month at the Hunton Club, is Christmas crafts. New members and guests are welcome to come along and try out their crafting skills led by the committee.



## Hunton Christmas Market



**St Mary's Church  
Hunton**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015  
4 till 7pm**

**Craft Stalls, Food and Drink Stalls,  
Homemade Cakes  
Bottle Stall, Mulled Cider, BBQ**

## At St Mary's Church in November

### Flowers

1 <sup>st</sup>	Wendy Simmons
8 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance - Wendy Simmons
15 <sup>th</sup>	Ruth Porter
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ruth Porter
29 <sup>th</sup>	Benefice at Linton

### Services

<b>Sunday 1st November – All Saints</b> 11.00am Family Service – Rev Eileen Doyle
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday</b> 10.50am Remembrance Service – Rev David Jones
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November – 2 Before Advent</b> 11.00am Morning Prayer – Rev Peter Callway
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Christ the King</b> 11.00am Holy Communion – Rev David Jones
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November – Advent Sunday</b> 10.30am Benefice Service at Linton – Rev Peter Callway

## Autumn Lunches

The new season of Autumn Lunches will continue each Thursday throughout November, with a final one on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. They are held in the club from 12.30pm when soup, bread and cheese, followed by tea or coffee with cake is available for a £5 donation. All proceeds are shared between the club and the church, so do come along and enjoy a locally prepared meal in a friendly atmosphere. All are welcome.

## Litter Pick 10th October 2015

This was the last litter pick for the current year. Although only seven volunteers were able to attend we still managed to have a good clean up and the following was collected: 23 sacks of general rubbish, a large inflatable paddling pool, a child's slide, various children's toys, a rear exhaust box and one tyre.

It is now five years since we started having regular clean ups and it has definitely made a difference to the quantity of rubbish being picked up now compared to 2011. Thank you to everyone who has given up their time this year to help keep Hunton litter free. If you would be interested in joining our dedicated litter picking team please ring Di Martin on 01622 820115.

## A Novel Idea

Congratulations to Jennifer Wyles, daughter of Hunton resident Steve, who has recently published her first book. Jennifer, who suffers from the chronic condition of fibromyalgia and is unable to work as a result of her ill health, has found that she has a talent for writing. In her debut novel Jennifer draws on her own feelings and experiences as she tells the story of Rose, a girl who suffers from the same debilitating condition as herself. It has received a number of 5 star reviews with one reader describing it as, "A beautifully touching story - that describes Rose's illness and how she copes with it".

For anyone who would like to see what Jennifer has been up to, or is interested in learning more about this little-known condition, "A Novel Idea" is available as an e-book from Amazon. If you don't have a kindle don't worry, as it can also be read on a tablet, pc, smart phone or laptop by simply downloading the free kindle app.

## Autumn Sessions at the Hall

### Hannah Scott – 7<sup>th</sup> November, Rita Hosking – 28<sup>th</sup> November

Our Autumn Sessions at the village hall are going to be quite varied musically, hoping to cater for all tastes. It's the usual doors open 7.30 with music from 8pm. Let Mike know if you want a table reserved for 6-8 persons. Tickets for both gigs are £10, with interval food included, and a licensed bar available.

After our solo classical guitarist in October, we have the welcome return of **Hannah Scott** on Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup>, with Stefano della Casa on cello to accompany Hannah's guitar and keyboard work. She has a new single out, Hurricanes, and also has been 'Artist of the Month' for Caffé Nero, and appeared on Radio 2 since her visit two years ago. We are going to have a support slot for this one from **Kirsty Macleod**, a singer/songwriter from Bearsted area, who has released two CDs herself in 2012/13. Details of both artists are on [www.hannahscott.co.uk](http://www.hannahscott.co.uk) and [www.kirstymacleod.co.uk](http://www.kirstymacleod.co.uk).

Then we are really lucky to host the final date of the short UK tour of **Rita Hosking & Sean Feder** from California on Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup>. The couple last played Maidstone in 2010, but have toured their brand of Americana on guitar and banjo here and in Holland most years since, and Rita is now on her sixth album ([www.ritahosking.com](http://www.ritahosking.com)) which has received rave reviews in the specialist music press and has just been named one of the 10 best country albums of 2015 by the Daily Telegraph. Rita sings of her rural roots and home life in the Northern California forests, of mystical creatures, and of hard life in the Virginia coalfields. All delivered in a haunting voice, and with background tales. Dates in West London and Whitstable before ours are selling fast already. And just to whet your Christmas appetites – on Wednesday **December 30<sup>th</sup>**, we are planning an Applause theatre event for all the family (ages 8+), with Farnham Players presenting 'It's a Wonderful Life', the classic Frank Capra movie about Xmas in small town America on our own stage! Diaries please.

November	1 <sup>st</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Coxheath</b>	11.00 HC; 15.00 RT	10.30 Remembrance	11.00 HC	11.00 FS	10.30 Benefice Service at Linton
<b>E. Farleigh</b>	09.30 MP	10.15 Remembrance	09.30 HC	08.00 HC	
<b>Linton</b>	09.30 HC	10.00 Remembrance	08.00 HC	09.30 HC	
<b>W. Farleigh</b>	08.00 HC 1662	10.45 Remembrance	09.30 MP Trad	09.30 HC Mod	
HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service, RT Remembrance & Thanksgiving					

**All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editor by 15th November, please**