



Hunton's Own Beer & Cider Festival

The first Hunton Beer and Cider Festival will take place on Saturday 24th September at Hunton Village Club from 12-5pm. Alongside a selection of ales and ciders from local breweries, the afternoon will include live acoustic music, delicious bites from the WI and a tasty BBQ cooking up a feast. Apple bobbing for young and old alike will be taking place as well as lots more fun activities throughout the day. There will be a demonstration in the club 'garden' on how to press your own apples using a small cider press (please feel free to bring any apples along!) and you'll be able to sample your resulting apple juice. An entry fee of £2 will be charged to all adults.

Home Brew Competition

During the Beer & Cider Festival we will be hosting a home-brew competition. Robin from Rockin Robin Brewery will be our guest judge. Each entry must be presented in three bottles. Prizes are on offer for the best brew and the best name! Please confirm your entry to the competition by Friday 16th September to Liz Ridgway (email ridgwayliz@gmail.com or call Liz on 01622 820769).



"Hangover" Cricket Match

On Sunday 25th September there will be an East Street v West Street cricket match at the playing field starting at 12.30pm. This will be a fun event with any age or ability welcome to take part – even if the last time you played was at school! Hunton Wanderers Cricket Club will be supplementing teams with players and the village club will be providing an outside bar. If you fancy joining a team, please text or ring Richard on 07766 206006. For those not playing, why not bring along a picnic, sit back and relax and cheer on your side of the village.



Karaoke Evening - Saturday 8th October

Back by popular demand, Hunton Village Club will host its 4th Karaoke event at 8pm on Saturday 8th October, the final one before New Year's Eve. These Karaoke evenings are loads of fun and a great opportunity for the local community to get together a little more often. There's no entrance fee and absolutely no pressure on anyone to sing – there are always plenty of willing friends and neighbours ready to entertain you. Everyone is welcome to come along. If you do decide to release your inner rock god or soul diva on Hunton there are over 5,500 songs covering all genres to choose from.

Councillor Steps Down

It is with much regret that we report the resignation of Steve Wyles from Hunton Parish Council due to personal circumstances. Steve has been a very valuable and hardworking member of the parish council and we thank him for his enormous contribution during his time as councillor and wish him well for the future. Steve has also stepped down as Speedwatch coordinator but will remain a member of the flood group and will continue as Huntonwatch coordinator along with his wife, Sue.

Gary Thomas, Chairman, Hunton Parish Council

Your Local Contacts:		Village Hall Booking:		www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Maidstone Police		690690 or 101
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Neighbourhood Watch: huntonwatch@gmail.com	820403,820429, 820731	
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110	'Potholes' Hotline (KCC)		03000 418181
Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill	820429	Community Warden: Adam McKinley		07811 271021
Rector: Revd. Peter Callway	747570*	PCSO - Megan Day		101 (or via Huntonwatch)
Hon Associate Rector: Revd. David Jones	741474*	Helen Grant MP helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk	0207 219 7107	
Associate Rector: Revd Eileen Doyle	204241**	Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb	745716	
Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288	*not available on Fridays; **not available on Mondays or Tuesdays		
Village Club: Philip Nichols	820804			
Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at www.hunton.org.uk/contacts				

Diary Dates		Parish Council Contacts	
Sun 4 th September	Farmers' Market East Farleigh 10am-1pm	Parish Council Chairman – Gary Thomas	820691
Tues 6 th September	WI Meeting Village Club 7.30pm	Clerk to the Parish Council – Sharon Goodwin	681238
Sat 10 th September	Church & Churchyard Working Party 9am-12pm	Cllr Jonny Goddard	820096
Fri 16 th September	Needles & Natter Village Club 8pm	Cllr David Heaton	820678
Sat 17 th September	Village Walk & Lunch Village Club 11am	Cllr Tony Stanbridge	820761
Tues 20 th September	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm	Cllr Annette Trought	820448
Sat 24 th September	Beer and Cider Festival Village Club 12-5pm		
Sun 25 th September	East St v West St Cricket Match Playing Fields 12.30pm		
Sun 2 nd October	Harvest Supper Village Hall 6.30pm		
Sat 8 th October	Karaoke Village Club 8pm		
Check out www.hunton.org.uk/diary for the latest events.			
If you would like to add an event, email huntondiary@btinternet.com .			



This is the time of year for new beginnings: young children starting school; older ones venturing into secondary school; young adults commencing at university or beginning a new job. Altogether a challenging time. So how do we cope with these issues? We are all different; so of course we shall each have our own way of dealing with things. Does our way include God or Jesus? For many it won't, of course. This is unfortunate, because not only is God a great resource and enabler, he very often knows much better than we do, not only what is best for us, but what he would wish us to do. When we are young, we simply do not know what lies ahead - how could we? To what extent should we trust God's judgement? His knowledge? Perhaps, somewhere there are some words which may help us. In the seventh chapter of St. Matthew's gospel, Jesus has some very wise words about how we should live our lives, and he sums up his advice with these words: "The man who hears these words of mine and acts upon them is like a man who had the sense to build his house on rock. The rain came down, the floods rose, the wind blew, and beat upon that house; but it did not fall, because its foundations were on rock". Which way will we choose?

Hugh Grainger

No Flood Protection for Hunton After All

You may have seen items on BBC South East or ITV Meridian recently following an announcement by the Environment Agency (EA) that promised flood protection for Yalding and surrounding villages on the Beult and Teise (which includes Hunton of course) will not now be delivered. Instead the EA are saying they will recommend increasing protection for Tonbridge and Hildenborough by doing additional work on the Leigh barrier and also make some money available that individual householders elsewhere can apply for, in order to put in place their own flood protection and resilience. A maximum figure of £5,500 per household has been mentioned but we have been given no indication of the 'rules' defining who might be eligible to apply or what would be covered and what would not. Any additional spend would likely be at the householder's own expense. This seems in stark contrast to the commitments made, live on TV, by Messrs Cameron, Clegg and Carter during the 2013 floods.

Hunton is represented on the Medway, Beult and Teise (MBT) Flood Group, which is a group of concerned residents fighting for the sort of flood protection that we all deserve. This group has a number of concerns - not only about the decision, the way in which it has been reached and the lack of information forthcoming from those involved, but also about long term implications for us given the apparent focus on operation of the Leigh barrier to protect Tonbridge and Hildenborough only - especially as it is widely believed that this operation was a significant factor in the flooding seen in 2000 and again in 2013.

If flooding is something that concerns you, or you would like further information on the current situation and our very real concerns, please write to us at the Huntonwatch e-mail address (huntonwatch@gmail.com) and let us have your thoughts. We will then add them to the significant number of comments that the MBT Flood Group has already received from other villages in the Medway, Beult and Teise catchment area.

Huntonwatch

Thank You For the Music...

A "mad idea" dreamt up by our panto writer and director, Sharon Winter, became reality when singing group, The Huntones, augmented by talented performers from the village and beyond entertained an appreciative audience of over 100 at Musicals on the Green. There were group numbers from Oliver, Les Miserables, Mamma Mia and Grease, which soon had the crowd singing and dancing along, and some wonderful solo performances, including nine-year-old Stanley with his heart-rending version of "Where is Love". Many thanks to the Friends of St Mary's, who provided the refreshments, and to the cricket club and village hall committee for the use of their facilities. And a special thank you to Sharon, Neil Davis (technical wizard) and Sue Pinks (choir director extraordinaire) for bringing us another fabulous community event. "I'm really pleased I shared my mad idea to perform Musicals on the Green," said Sharon, "The hard work from all involved really paid off and it was truly an enjoyable fun day".



Changes to Bus Services

There is a new timetable in operation for the buses serving Hunton. The No 26 bus has a few minor changes, most noticeably that the 14:07 bus from Maidstone to Hunton will now run 30 minutes earlier at 13:37. The school days only No 28 service is no longer operating. This has been replaced by the No 26A, which in the morning will now start from Pattenden Lane in Marden, continue through Chainhurst, reaching the bends at the bottom of East Street at around 7.30am and the stop outside the old post office on Hunton Hill at 7:36am. The afternoon 26A service will leave King Street, Maidstone at 16:03, reaching East Street/Hunton Hill at 16:22 and then continuing along East Street to Pattenden Lane for set downs only.

The full timetable is available at www.nu-venture.co.uk.

Needles & Natter

Can you knit, sew, crochet or make jewellery? If not, would you like to learn? Whatever your craft, if you would like to try something new we are holding a "Needles & Natter" group on the 3rd Friday of each month from 8pm in Hunton Village Club. This is a chance for you to bring along whatever you are working on, seek advice and tips or share your knowledge, patterns and ideas with others. We will be holding our first get-together on Friday 16th September and everyone is welcome. Or, if you want to find out more beforehand call me, Kathy, on 01622 820092.

Harvest Supper

The Harvest Village Supper is on Sunday 2nd October at 6.30pm in the village hall, following the Harvest Festival Service at St Mary's Church at 5pm. This will be a special service, which will include thanksgiving for the wonderful recent refurbishment of St Mary's, particularly the assistance of the Friends of St Mary's. Do come and join us for a 'fish and chip' supper, followed by delicious puddings. Tickets from Wendy Simmons 01622 820875 - Adults £6.50, senior citizens and children £5.

Local Athletes Top Medals Table

It was a record haul of medals for Hunton's athletes at the mini-olympics at the village club on 13th August. There were some outstanding performances in a range of very inventive sports that included Sock Put, Rubber Band Archery, and Human Hungry Hippos (an event certain to be making its international debut at the Tokyo games in 2020), with a number of competitors winning multiple medals. There was a sticky moment when Team USA's Stanley, having been offered the inducement of a Kit Kat by Team Australia to compete for them in the Bum-Sled Sprint, in addition to competing for his own country, faced the very real possibility of having to race against himself in the final. Fortunately some swift diplomacy averted the potential crisis. Team Australia were controversially declared the ultimate winners despite a robust appeal from Team China in second place. "I did appeal but they laughed me out of the stadium", said Anna, Team China's spokesperson. "We were robbed of our title I tell you!" The Hunton Olympic Committee was approached for comment but it seems no one was sure who had actually won – clearly the sign of a good evening!



Poppy Appeal Help Needed

The Royal British Legion is looking for someone willing to take over the organisation of the Poppy Appeal in Hunton. It involves collecting the trays of poppies and collecting tins (usually 10-12 of each) from the office in Marsham Street, Maidstone; distributing to various collectors within Hunton, including the village club and school, then, about three weeks later, returning to collect unsold poppies and the tins with the money in and returning them to Marsham Street.

If anybody is interested and would like more information, with no obligation, please contact Maureen Jopson on 01622 746086 or email joplot8@hotmail.co.uk.

Hall Gig News – Autumn events

Hopefully those of you who attended our TrackDogs open-air event in July enjoyed it; there are some tracks on FaceBook if you missed it! We had great weather, and thanks to David's efforts on the barbeque, I hope people enjoyed the different kind of event. Many thanks also to the Dolmans for helping to put the band up Sunday night, then getting them breakfast in time to drive to Gatwick & Norwich! Sorry the Goachers ran out, but we had over 60 people turn up and just 32 pre-booked by Thursday, when I ordered the beer! Anyway, it's testimony to TrackDogs' ability to bring people from all over Kent, some of whom had heard them just a few days previously and/or seen them on BBC Kent TV.

With weddings at the hall throughout September, a WI barn dance early October and the St.Mary's Friends' rock'n'roller in November, we will be squeezing just one gig into this Autumn – the welcome return of **4Square**, the young Manchester alt/jazz-folk group who played Hunton before (twice). The date is **Saturday 22nd October** – so get that in your diary. Pre-book for tables with Mike on 01622 820429.

Just to 'whet your appetite', we are awaiting confirmation of a couple of Applause Rural Touring events for the New Year; a family-suitable play the week after Christmas (described by one reviewer as 'Eric & Ernie meet Men in Black'), and a traditional Spanish musical ensemble showcasing 'Iberian Colours' in mid-January. And we've been pencilled in for a return visit of DLM during their April tour.

Friends of St Mary's Supper Dance

Saturday 12th November 7.30pm at Hunton Village Hall

Following the success of our 2014 Autumn Supper Dance we are holding another this year as our main fund raising event. We realise that this might seem a long way off but we do not want you to miss the opportunity of buying tickets. We are restricted as to the number we can sell by catering requirements, the stage for the live music and of course room to dance, so put the date in your diary now to avoid disappointment. Tickets will be on sale in early autumn.

You may remember that we could not hold such an event in 2015 owing to the serious illness of Brian Mortimer, who leads the band 2bc who were such a success for us and donated their services for free. Happily Brian has fully recovered and 2bc are playing again and will be with us in November. We look forward to seeing you there.

Coxheath Church Fete

Saturday 3rd September 1.30-4.30pm

Free Entry

Strawberry Teas, BBQ, Raffle,

Entertainment,

Local Produce, Tombola,

Coconut Shy, Stalls and Games.

Lots of Fun for Everyone

Finances in the Diocese of Rochester

You may have heard that there are some difficulties in the finances in the diocese. This is true, and is of some concern. The situation is that because of a historical lack of full understanding about the actual financial position - caused by complexity in the way accounts were reported, multiple funds, and one off events which distorted the true picture - the reserves of the diocese have been steadily diminishing. This has been exacerbated by a poor response from parishes under the new pledge scheme and this means that there is a forecasted shortfall for this year which cannot be met through existing reserves.

Clearly, action needs to be taken and the new chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance is working with Bishop's Council to address the challenge. There are short-term actions to keep costs down, and longer term plans to bring the finances back on an even keel. Whilst this is of some concern, there is no need for despair or panic, and I am confident that the issues will be addressed. Please feel free to speak to me if you wish to find out more. Meanwhile, I want to take the opportunity to acknowledge the continued contribution made by our parishes and so many individuals to the wider mission and ministry of the church, both financially and through time and talents offered.

Peter Callway, Rector

At St Mary's Church in September

Flowers				Services	
2 nd	Wedding	4 th	Fay Joyce	Sunday 4th September – Trinity 15	
11 th	Fay Joyce	18 th	Erica Hanna	11.00am Family Service – Rev Peter Callway	
25 th	Erica Hanna (Wedding)			Sunday 11th September – Trinity 16	
				9.30am Holy Communion 1662 – Rev David Jones	
				Sunday 18th September – Trinity 17	
				11.00am Morning Prayer – Miss Chris Bostock	
				Sunday 25th September – Trinity 18	
				11.00am Holy Communion – Rev Peter Callway	

Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wed-Fri 8-11pm

Sun 12-2.30pm & 8-10.30pm

Church & Churchyard Working Party – Saturday 10th September

There will be a combined cleaning of the church interior and tidy up of the churchyard on Saturday 10th September from 9am-12pm, with the usual break for tea or coffee and biscuits. Any help would be very gratefully received, even if you can't stay for the whole time. Please let Lesley know if you are able to come along on 01622 820210 or email lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com

SingFest 2016 – A Chance to Take Part!

19th & 20th November in Yalding Church

What's happening? - Two different events will take place on Saturday and Sunday: a "*Marasong*" on Saturday and a "*Sing from Scratch*" on Sunday.

What is a "Marasong"? – It is a non-stop selection of singing groups and soloists who will take turns to perform in the church from 9am to 9pm. A wide range of repertoire: favourites from the 1950s, from opera, from around the world, popular and sacred songs and more. Each performer will be sponsored to sing and the audience will listen for FREE. A programme will be available in advance so that you can plan when to listen throughout the day. This is a UNIQUE event so make sure you keep the date free. If you know of anyone who would like to take part, do please make contact on 01622 814267 or gamblegambia@gmail.com

What is a "Sing from Scratch"? – A chance for anyone and everyone to take part in famous works from the sacred and light popular repertoire. Experts will guide you through the music in two separate sessions: 1½ hours before lunch and then 1½ afterwards; a combined rehearsal and then a fine performance in the early evening.

Everyone is welcome to take part: singers of any standard are welcome to the *Sing from Scratch* and, of course, we want as many people to come to support the singers and be an appreciative audience. Keep an eye open for the programme and spread the word!

All the proceeds will go to GamBLE, supporting our sister Yalding school in The Gambia

RIVERSIDEpopupGALLERY

The final exhibition for 2016 takes place throughout September with paintings and puppets by Jessica Exall, linocuts and screen prints from Kate Neame and pottery by Mike Goddard. The venue is at Riverside, Lees Road, Yalding, ME18 6HB and will be open every Monday, Thursday and Saturday from 2-5pm. Other times of opening can be requested by either visiting Yalding Post Office or by text to 07925 201617.

Train Day

Wayside, Amsbury Road - Sunday 11th September 2pm. Adults £12.50, Children £8. For tickets, call 01622 746125.

Village Walk & Lunch – Saturday 17th September

It was a hot day for the July village walk, so the twenty or so participants returned to the club happy to be in the shade and have drinks and lunch. There will be another village walk on Saturday 17th September at 11am, when hopefully the temperature will be a little more suited to walking. Please arrive at 10.45am so that we can leave promptly at 11am. Everyone is welcome so feel free to bring along family, friends and well-behaved dogs. This will be a circular walk lasting approximately one and a half hours and finishing at the club where a ploughman's lunch followed by tea or coffee with cake will be served for a donation of £5 (all profits will be shared between St Mary's Church and the club). If you would like to come along please book a place in advance by entering your details on the form in the club or email lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com. You are welcome to just walk or just eat if you don't wish to do both, but please let Lesley know to ensure that there is enough food and that we don't leave without you. Lesley can also be contacted on 01622 820210 for further information.

September	4 th	11 th	18 st	25 th
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	09.30 FS & Baptism	08.00 HC	09.30 HC
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC 1662	11.00 MP Mod	09.30 MP Trad	09.30 Harvest Festival
HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service				

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