



HGVs and Road Safety Discussed at Parish Council Meeting

Around 40 local residents attended the parish council meeting on 20th September where increased HGVs and the safety of Hunton's roads were on the agenda, an issue brought sharply into focus the previous week when one of many concrete mixing lorries travelling to Amsbury Farm recently, crashed into the entrance of Hunton school. As Clive Baxter, the owner of Amsbury Farm, was in attendance much of the discussion surrounded the current activities and recent expansion at the farm.

Mr Baxter explained that due to rising wage costs he needed a robotic grader, which would cut the number of staff required. A farmers' cooperative, Fruition PO Ltd, had invested in the machinery and he had financed the extension to house it. He had leased his packing and storage operation to Fruition, who would be packing and storing his fruit and fruit from other local growers. To comply with insurance requirements they had concreted over the yard and added some extensions, laying half an acre of concrete in total. The crash at the school had been an unfortunate incident, which was caused by the driver of the lorry sneezing violently and losing control.

Cllr Tony Stanbridgae expressed local residents concerns about the increasing number of HGVs on village roads and the problems this caused. The largest amounts of these were from Fruition at Amsbury Farm. He understood that they were not only servicing local farms, but were also importing fruit. Amsbury Farm had become a distribution centre. Residents had heard that there could be large increases in traffic but didn't know the truth. This raised serious concerns about road safety and increased road damage. There needed to be a traffic management plan in place to protect the community.

Cllr Annette Trought asked Mr Baxter to quantify the number of HGV movements a day but Mr Baxter was unable to provide this information. He did say that due to increased cropping rates there would be an increase in traffic. When pressed further about current traffic volumes he said that he could give this information but not during harvest. He conceded that signage was a problem but it was difficult to improve as he didn't own the land on East Street leading up to his farm.

Concerns were also raised about inconsistencies in Amsbury Farm's planning applications and adjustments to buildings

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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

Thurs 3 rd November	Village Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm
Sat 5 th November	Village Walk & Lunch Village Club 11am
Thurs 10 th November	Village Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm
Sat 12 th November	Friends' Supper Dance Village Hall 7.30pm
Tues 15 th November	David Tadd Talk Village Club 7pm
Thurs 17 th November	Village Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm
Fri 18 th November	Gardening Club Supper Village Club 7pm
Sat 19 th November	Marasong Yalding Church 9am-9pm
Thurs 24 th November	Village Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm
Fri 25 th November	Needles & Natter Village Club 8pm
Sat 26 th November	Wine Tasting Evening Village Club 7 for 7.30pm
Thurs 1 st December	Village Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm
Sat 3 rd December	Quiz Night 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.

Parish Council Contacts

Parish Council Chairman – Gary Thomas	820691
Clerk to the Parish Council – Sharon Goodwin	681238
Cllr Jonny Goddard	820096
Cllr David Heaton	820678
Cllr Tony Stanbridge	820761
Cllr Annette Trought	820448



Pastoral Letter

November has become the traditional time for remembrance with All Souls, All Saints Day and Remembrance Sunday in the month. This is also the month in which, with the issuing of the Christmas stamps, for the last 50 years my thoughts turn to my Christmas letter and the events of the past year. Ever since I got married, 50 years ago this year, this has become a regular yearly event and I get down the calendar and look back over the year. It's always an interesting time. This year has turned up one interesting fact. I have four grandchildren and the eldest has just gone to university, the next to secondary school, the third to kindergarten and the youngest to preschool. To quote a certain Prime Minister of the past, 'Education, education, education and education! But there are other events/happenings that are recorded. Not all happy memories but in the main the memories are good. As I reflect on the year I remember an email I received about some good news that someone wanted to share and it ended with the words "God is good!" Looking at the events of the year could I actually say 'God is good' to some of the events? My answer was "no". Ought we to be considering God as being "good" or "bad"? We know that God wants the best for us and in that sense he is "good". But ought we to look on God in that way? If we do then aren't we on the road to disappointment when the news isn't good? In psalm 46 the writer describes God as 'being with us, an ever present help in trouble'; perhaps that is how I want to look on God. A God who is faithful. A God who is with us at all times and in all situations. The songwriter, Brian Dierksen wrote these words of his experience of God;

Faithful one, so unchanging
Ageless one, you're my rock of peace
Lord of all I depend on you
I call out to you, again and again
I call out to you, again and again

You are my rock in times of trouble
You lift me up when I fall down
All through the storm
Your love is, the anchor
My hope is in You alone

I hope that as you look back on the year's events you too can find the truth that the events of the year mark the faithfulness of God in your journey and through all that happens we can see the "goodness" of God in our lives to help us through those dark and difficult times.

David Jones

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not in accordance with approved plans. Borough Cllr Brian Mortimer mentioned the application recently submitted to determine whether prior approval was needed to build the extension to house the mechanical grader under the rules of permitted development. It stated that there would be "no impact on the existing vehicle movements". It did not mention that the packing and storage facilities were being leased to Fruition, something which might constitute a change of use, and did not include the newly laid adjacent areas of concrete hard-standing for which there didn't appear to be consent. He felt that a proper planning application should be submitted so the council could make an informed decision and could look at whether a traffic management plan was needed.

Mr Baxter said that nothing had changed; he had been packing and storing other people's fruit for a long time. Cllr Stanbridge responded that the nature of the business may not have changed, but the scale had and nothing had been done to manage the increasing traffic. Mr Baxter said that there had been no increase in operations and activity to date and offered to speak to Fruition to arrange for the parish council to visit.

A local resident commented that he found the large number of Clockhouse Farm vehicles to be more of a problem and more dangerous than the HGVs going to Amsbury Farm.

Upcoming Events at the Village Club

Quiz Night - Saturday 3rd December

Come along with your ready-made team of 4-6 people, or join one at the club. These quizzes are always extremely popular, so come early to secure your spot. The club opens at 8pm with the quiz starting promptly at 8.15pm. All welcome!

1980s Party Night – Saturday 17th December

Forget the shopping, the cooking and the lovely but slightly overbearing relatives... head to the Club for a 1980s party night! Club opens 8pm.

East Street Victorious

Players aged from 6 to 60+, including a good number who had never wielded a cricket bat before, came together for the East Street versus West Street village cricket match on Sunday 25th September. Happily, members of Hunton Wanderers Cricket Club were on hand to provide instruction where necessary and to augment the teams. It was a closely fought contest decided in the final over with East Street eventually claiming victory by 108 runs to 104, although as their team had included two players from West Street, there was some debate about that! All agreed that it was a most enjoyable afternoon and that they would like to do it again next year.



Autumn Lunches

The autumn village lunches continue each Thursday throughout November from 12.30-2pm at the village club, with a final one on 1st December. There will be a choice of homemade soups served with bread, cheese and crackers, and followed by homemade cakes, tea and coffee all for a suggested donation of £5 with proceeds shared between the club and the church. Vegetarian and gluten free options will be available each week. There is no need to book ahead, but please be aware that the lunches are on a first come first served basis. Why not bring your family and friends? All welcome.

Village Club Beer & Cider Festival

Hunton Village Club held its first and definitely not last beer and cider festival on a bright and sunny September Saturday. This was a great event which included apple bobbing, apple pressing, live music and a BBQ together with an opportunity for the WI to show off their apple baking skills and the Pop-Up Shop to sell its wares. Our very own Neil Davis and Sharon Winter provided live music together with some excellent visiting musicians and singers. (Thank you Neil for organising!) This gave "Rocking Robin" the opportunity to blast away on his harmonica to an appropriate rock and roll number, enabling him to work up a thirst to sample some more of his delightful beers, which were in demand. Meanwhile inside the club in addition to its standard house Longmans bitter, Goachers had provided a pin of their 'Green Hop' beer, made from hops picked on the same day as the brew, as well as their 'House Special'. The Musket Brewery provided a pin of their 'Trigger' beer, which was light in colour and full of flavour. Cider drinkers were not disappointed with 'Double Vision' on site (pun intended), as well as ciders from Turners, Pembury and Bullmers. Robin was also kept busy tasting and judging the best home-brews with the prize, kindly donated by Maidstone Winemaking Centre, being awarded to James Small.

At the rear of the club, Bob was very busy with his "Black and Decker" apple chopper and wooden apple-pressing machine. Somehow he managed to press a full bin of apples during the afternoon. The juice produced was marvellous and well worth all his efforts. (Thanks to Helen and Mark for the apples.) In addition to these activities there were quiz sheets to be completed with Julie Older winning first prize. The afternoon was a big success and raised funds for the club's kitchen project. The club has no kitchen facilities and will need many more fund raising activities to meet the anticipated costs. A huge thanks to everyone involved for organising this event, which will hopefully inspire them to bigger and better things next year, although this one will be tough to top.

Huntones in Marasong

The Huntones are taking part in the Marasong at Yalding Church on Saturday 19th November 5.00-5.30pm. Please go along and support them. The Marasong runs from 9am to 9pm with musicians and singers taking a half hour slot each throughout the event. To enable you to plan your choices of listening, programmes priced £1.50 are available in advance from Yalding Post Office or by phoning 01622 814267. Entrance is free, but if you would like to sponsor the Huntones please give any donations to Sue Pinks 01622 820709. All proceeds will go to the Gambian sister school linked to Yalding Primary School.

Friends of St Mary's Autumn Supper Dance

Hunton Village Hall – Saturday 12th November 7.30pm

Live music and dancing to local band, 2bc. Hot supper and well-stocked bar. Tickets £12 adults, £5 aged 13 and under, available by email from Mary Goddard mary@cheveneyfarm.co.uk - please use the heading "FOSM SUPPER DANCE" in your email. If you don't have email access then please call Ron Porter on 01622 820220.

Christmas Market – Help Needed!

Would you be willing to help out with the Christmas Market on 10th December? Could you help set up beforehand or clear away afterwards, man a stall (this will be on a rota basis, so you would still have plenty of time to enjoy the market), or bake some goodies for the cake stall? Please contact Ann Sawtell on 01622 820731 if you can help. As in previous years, volunteers will be collecting bottles for the bottle stall at the beginning of December. Please give generously.

Avanti & Artizani: 6 Impossible Things. Hunton Village Hall – Thursday 29th December

A variety show featuring a revolving stage, projection, conjuring, acrobatics, live music, animatronics, special lighting and a spectacular finale! Suitable for families, although only recommended for children aged 8 and above. Timings are yet to be finalised but probably 6pm doors and finishing by 8pm. More details in next month's Herald or look out for the posters around the village. Tickets/reservations from Mike on 01622 820429 after 15th November.

Hunton Bowls Club End of Season Report

A cold and wet start to the season didn't dampen our spirits and with some new members on board we managed to play all our friendly fixtures. We maintained our top position in the Weald league matches and also kept our positions in the Maidstone league. We did well in the men's Friday night knockout competition, reaching the semi-finals – the first time we have got this far. The men did not fare so well in our ladies v gents club match, as the ladies won the cup, the first time they have done so. Well done ladies!

May saw the club celebrate its 80th anniversary with a match between teams headed by the president and the chairman. A successful open day was held in September and 48 bowlers from various clubs enjoyed a day of bowling, lunch and prizes for the winners. Our final fling was held at the end of September. It has been another enjoyable season.

We have now closed the green for 2016 and open again in April 2017. Anyone interested in joining the club next season please contact John Apsey on 01622 743813. New Members are always welcome.

John Apsey (Chairman)

WI Learn About Life Inside

John Mills talked to the WI about his observations of prison life from his experience as a prison officer who spent much of his career at HMP Maidstone and HMP Holloway. He gave a fascinating insight into the day-to-day life inside a prison along with the problems generated by an ever-increasing prison population. He had worked with serious sex offenders, which he said was challenging but worthwhile, and in contrast, with women in mother and baby units, which presented its own problems. John related the story of one prisoner, an inmate of the open prison at Stamford Hill on Sheppey, who stowed away on a delivery van, intending to escape when the van stopped. Unfortunately for him, the van went straight to its next drop off – HMP Maidstone! He dispelled the myth that often appears in certain tabloid newspapers, that prison is a soft option. The next WI meeting is a Christmas craft evening at Hunton Club on 1st November at 7.15pm. New members are very welcome.

At St Mary's Church in November

Flowers

6 th	Sandra Bullivant	13 th	Wendy Simmons
20 th	Wendy Simmons	27 th	TBA

Services

Sunday 6th November – 3 Before Advent
11.00am Family Service – Rev Eileen Doyle

Sunday 13th November – Remembrance Sunday
10.50am Remembrance Service – Rev David Jones

Sunday 20th November – Christ the King
11.00am Morning Prayer – Rev Peter Callway

Sunday 27th November – Advent Sunday
11.00am Holy Communion – Rev David Jones

Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wed-Fri 8-11pm
Sun 12-2.30pm & 8-10.30pm

Village Walk and Lunch

The next village walk and lunch will be on Saturday 5th November, leaving promptly from the village club at 11am. This will be a circular walk lasting around one and a half hours and returning to the club, where lunch will be available for a donation of £5 with proceeds shared between the church and the club. If you would like to join the walk, come for lunch, or both, please contact Lesley on 01622 820210 or email lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com. All welcome.

Wine Tasting

Please note that all the tickets for the wine tasting evening at the club on 26th November have now been sold and a wait list is in operation.

Road Closure

Lughorse Lane will be closed at Lughorse Cottage from 7th to 18th November for the installation of a new electricity cable.

Post Office Award Winners

Yalding Post Office has been voted the Most Loved Post Office in the Kent Rural Retailers 2016 awards. Well done Tim and June, very well deserved.

Mothers' Union

The Coxheath Benefice has a thriving Mothers' Union. In October we welcomed three new members, Anne Cooke, Pat Crawford and Val Farrant. If you would like to know more about our branch please contact Rev Eileen on 01622 204241.

Forensic Investigations Talk

David Tadd, retired head of forensic investigation for Scotland Yard's specialist crime directorate, will give a talk at an open WI meeting at Hunton Village Club on Tuesday 15th November. Non-members, both male and female, are welcome to come along for a small donation of £5 each, to include coffee and refreshments. Bar will be open from 7pm, talk starts at 7.15pm. David will be giving two talks: the first will be on Scotland Yard's involvement identifying missing persons in Thailand after the Tsunami, and the second will give an insight into how they caught the Brighton Bomber.

Needles & Natter

November's Needles & Natter will be held a week later on Friday 25th November from 8pm in the village club. The first two meetings have been very successful with ladies bringing knitting, sewing and crochet projects as well as learning new skills. Some of the ladies just come along for the chat! All welcome.

Gardening Club Supper

The Gardening Club will meet at the village club on Friday 18th November when there will be a talk from a tree warden. The club will be open from 7pm with soup, bread and cheese, tea or coffee and homemade cakes on offer for a donation of £5, again raising funds for the club and the church. The talk will begin at around 8pm. All welcome. For more information contact Lesley on 01622 820210 or email lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com.

The White House Quiz

On Saturday 3rd December the White House pub will host a fun quiz evening with a distinctive Christmas theme. It's just £6 a head, teams of up to six and this includes a Christmas supper. For more details pop into the pub or give Jan a ring on 01622 820520.



Hunton Christmas Market



St Mary's Church
Hunton

Saturday 10th December 2016
4 till 7pm

Craft Stalls, Food and Drink Stalls,
Homemade Cakes, Antiques,
Collectables - Great Christmas Presents!





Bottle Stall, Mulled Cider, BBQ

November	6 th	13 th	20 th	27 th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	10.30 Remembrance	11.00 HC	11.00 FS
E. Farleigh	09.30 MP	10.30 Remembrance	09.30 HC	08:00 HC
Linton	09.30 HC	10.00 Remembrance	08.00 HC	09.30 HC
W. Farleigh	08:00 HC 1662	10.45 Remembrance	09.30 MP Trad	09.30 HC Mod
HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service				

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