

# HERNHILL NEWS

## APRIL 2017

### HERNHILL VILLAGE FETE

Saturday 13th May

2.00pm at the Village Playing Fields

Lots of fun for all the family including music by a jazz Sax Quartet, fun dog show, bouncy as-



sault course, delicious refreshments, variety of stalls and attractions and the return of the popular egg throwing competition. Come and support this traditional annual event in the Village.

### PARISH COUNCIL

You can contact the clerk for Parish Council business on 07740 706189 or [hernhillclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hernhillclerk@gmail.com) or [hernhillparishcouncil.org](http://hernhillparishcouncil.org). Copies of the approved minutes are available on the Parish Council website and the notice board.

The Parish Council meeting held on 29th March was attended by five Parish Councillors and one member of the public.

Two planning applications were discussed at the meeting, 17/501081/FULL (Elm Tree Cottage, Butlers Hill) and 17/501295/FULL (Springfield, Church Hill).

The Parish Council supported the idea given by a member of the public, to create a Village "tidy team". The idea of the team is for members of the Parish to use their

time and skills in helping to keep the Village tidy. This could include litter picks, maintaining wooden benches on the Green, maintaining notice boards etc. The Parish Council would look to provide the materials needed for any "tidy team" jobs. If you would be interested in being part of the team, please contact the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Council and Swale Borough Council are aware of the recent appearance of a static caravan at a site on Kemsdale Road and also at a site on Monkshill Road.

Members of the public are reminded that they can report highway matters such as potholes and vegetation obstructing the highway or footway either to the Parish Clerk or directly to Kent County Council at [kent.gov.uk](http://kent.gov.uk).

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Wednesday 26th April at 7:00pm in

Chairman: Tony Chapman 01227 750874

e-mail [tt.chapman@vfast.co.uk](mailto:tt.chapman@vfast.co.uk)

Clerk: Sarah Muteham phone 07740 706189

e-mail [hernhillclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hernhillclerk@gmail.com)

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 752840

and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

the Village Hall. Light refreshments will be provided. This is an informal meeting for the electors of the Parish to come together and local community groups will give short presentations on events of the preceding year. This is NOT a Parish Council meeting. If anyone has any suggestions for a guest speaker at this event, please contact the Parish Clerk.

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 26th April at 8:00pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend. If members of the public wish to speak on a subject at the meeting then please can they contact the Clerk prior to 19th April so that relevant items can be placed on the agenda for discussion.

#### **YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

February is always Budget time in local government. This year, following cuts to Government grants, the Band D Council Tax for Swale residents has gone up by £57 per year. Kent County Council increased their tax by the maximum 1.99% plus 2% for the Social Care levy. The Police and Crime Commissioner put up his precept by £5 and Swale Borough Council by £4.95 per year per household. Swale Borough Council was hoping for a seventh consecutive freeze. A decision by Government to take £805,000 of New Homes Bonus money over the next three years from the Borough Council was followed by a late increase in the precept for the Lower Medway Drainage Board of £456,000 for inland flood defences. These two factors, and their timing, combined to make this impossible to achieve.

It has been a strange Budget Cycle this year. At Kent County Council most, fairly innocuous, opposition amendments were taken on board by the ruling Conservative Group so we had a Budget most Councillors could support. At Swale the only amendment proposed was from the two-Councillor Independent Group.

The final Budget was approved by a massive majority of 31 to 7 with several opposition Councillors voting in support.

This month has been a time of farewells. Swale Borough Council's Chief Executive Abdool Kara has left for a new job at the National Audit Office. On a sadder note we said goodbye to local benefactor Sir John Swire at a packed Memorial Service in Canterbury Cathedral. Few local charities can have failed to benefit from Sir John's generosity. A true gentleman, I shall miss Sir John not just for his generosity but equally for the ever interesting conversations, often when his gardens at Luton House were opened to the public for charity. I would wish to add my condolences to Lady Swire and the family.

The other "big ticket" item this month has been 'Planning' in all its guises. The Government appointed Inspector has now completed her examination into the Swale Local Plan and we await her report; probably in April. We have had a written appeal against the Borough Councils decision to refuse a cold store at Owens Court Lane to which I sent my written objection. We also had a

Planning Site meeting at Winterbourne Quarry. The application for four dwellings was subsequently approved by the Borough Council Planning Committee. Local representation I received was pretty evenly split.

During February I have attended Parish Council meetings at Boughton, Newnham, Doddington, Dunkirk and Lynsted.

A happy event was travelling to Battersea with a group of Borough

Council Officers for the Sunday Times sponsored "100 Best Not For Profit Businesses To Work For Awards". This is the first time Swale Borough Council has been nominated and we are proud to have finished second highest placed Local Authority. A great tribute to recently departed Chief Executive Abdool Kara as these awards are based on surveys of staff. I always believe 'a happy ship is a successful ship'.

Andrew Bowles



### **CHURCH URBAN FUND**

Quite a lot of money has already arrived but there is still some to

come. Please let me have your boxes as soon as possible. Bring them to Alan or to Peter Willcock in church, or to me in Dargate.

Barbara Taylor 01227 751293

### **THANKS & HELP**

The Hernhill News would like to thank Mrs Mumford for delivering the Village newsletter. Due to health problems she can no longer continue. We would like to ask if there is anyone who could take up this round. It is only once a month for the delivery of forty copies in the

Yorklets area.

Miss J Condon is also retiring from delivering the Hernhill News, we would also like to thank her for her service over the years.

For information please contact

T Chapman 01227750874

or email [tt.chapman@vfast.co.uk](mailto:tt.chapman@vfast.co.uk)

### **EMPTY PROMISE**

Have you ever put your trust in someone only to be let down so completely and unexpectedly that it shakes your whole existence?

Almost 2000 years ago, the shock discovery by women, of an empty tomb where they fully expected to find a dead body to anoint and mourn over, threw them into chaos. Instead of a sealed and guarded tomb, they found it open and empty. It was bad enough that Jesus, their teacher and Lord was dead. Now it

seemed, someone had taken the body.

Why that tomb was empty is of utmost importance. If it was empty because someone indeed did come and steal the corpse of Jesus; if that is really all that took place; a criminal's death and an ordinary burial, then hope died with him on the cross. Trust in all he had said was destroyed, it was nothing more than an epic and life-shattering let-down. And that, at first, is what the devastated followers of Jesus thought

had happened.

In a couple of weeks time, Christians across the world and in this community will greet the Easter day dawn with the shout of 'He is Risen!'. Many of us, Christian or not, will give Easter Eggs to those we love. The hollow egg is traditionally a symbol of that empty tomb. We shout 'He is risen!' because beyond all expectation, hope did not stay dead. The impossible happened on that first Easter day. It blows our western, rational minds to even think it, despite some very compelling (and rational) evidence that supports it! It blew the minds of the first disciples too. They took some convincing. Jesus appeared to them several times, but had to let them touch him and He had to eat in front of them to bring the point home.

The reality of the resurrection of Jesus kick-started the growth of Christianity. Over two billion people in the world today hold the hope that stems from that first shock discovery of the empty tomb. God is not dead. He is alive, and because of Jesus any human being on this planet can know what it is to be loved by God. Some of the first followers and friends of Jesus even went to their deaths for that incredible claim, but they wouldn't retract it.

Join us this Easter if you can. Service times are in this magazine and you'd be very welcome. The tomb is empty, but if you really are seeking the risen Jesus, you will find him and discover a hope that is death-proof. Find that, and life will never be the same.

Rev. Paulette Stubbings



This year I am running the London Marathon on Sunday 23rd April for the Child Brain Injury Trust in memory of Tom Brenchley. It is a fantastic cause. If peo-

ple would like to donate, the web address that they need to go to is, [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Victoria-Mcguire1970](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Victoria-Mcguire1970)

Victoria Mcguire  
Hillside Cottage, The Fostall

### **APCM**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is a time when the church family reflects on its life together. How have things been for us in the past year, and what are we facing together for the future? It is also an important meeting as we elect churchwardens and PCC members

for the coming year. Every family on the church electoral roll should be represented at this meeting which will be held after a shortened 10.00am Service on Sunday 2nd April in Hernhill Church. The meeting should last no more than one hour.

### **HERNHILL SCHOOL**

The following article has been written in sections by seven members

of Year 2 (Ben, Zach, Isla, Molly, Marcie, Sophia and Taylor). They are reporting on the recent World

## Book Day at Hernhill CE School.

“On Thursday 2nd March we celebrated World Book Day. All of the children and grownups dressed up as book characters and brought their books in. There were lots of amazing costumes like Cat in the Hat, Fantastic Mr Fox, Matilda, Gruffalo, Peter Pan, the Wicked Witch of the West and Alice in Wonderland.

Instead of having a normal assembly, we had a parade assembly where there was music to walk to. The cat walk was where we all walked down the middle of the hall; we did it class by class. The judges were two grownups dressed as a pirate and a witch. People from each class were awarded certificates - the best homemade and the most original costumes. It was very hard to choose.

During the morning there was a whole school storytime. There were 12 places with one storybook in each place. Each place had a different story. Some of the stories were Green Eggs and Ham, Teddy Rober, Dogger, Bearhunt, Bog Baby and Superworm. You could choose which book you wanted to go to. It was great to go to other class-

rooms. I listened to Green Eggs and Ham.

Just before lunch, all 205 children went into the hall and had a 'Big Read'. The children read in pairs or groups. They all sat on mats. I read with Zach and we read Funny-bones. It was funny and interesting to read. I enjoyed it a lot. Mrs Carroll took loads of pictures.

We decorated our classroom doors to look like the front covers of books. My favourite door was Year 3's The Enormous Crocodile.

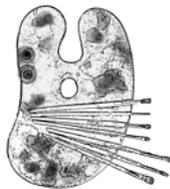
There was also a “Guess the teachers” competition. In the photos the teachers had a book by their face and a wig or hat on. The headteacher took her glasses off so it was really hard! The photos were put on a board for us to try and guess who they were. Everyone in class 2 got the number 1 picture wrong and it was the headteacher! It was really hard to guess.

In the afternoon every class took part in creating one story. The book went from class to class from class R to class 6. Each class had to write the next chapter. Class R started the book by using story stones. I am going to look forward to reading the finished story.

World Book Day was fantastic!”

## ART EXHIBITION

Something for your calendars. That is true in two ways. A wall calendar for the year 2018 is at the printers now and will be available for sale at the Village Fete on Saturday 13th May at the Village Hall.



The pictures are by local artists and you can buy these high quality calendars for an attractive price. The profits go to your local church.

The same artists will be showing their pictures at an art exhibition in St. Michael's Church on the 8th and 9th of July.

Make a note in your diary. You will enjoy the show and you might pick

up a future Picasso for a few pounds.

### **BITS AND PIECES**



Abject apologies for failing to change the date in the last issue to

that of the next month, namely March. I suppose it must be one worse failure than forgetting to put the clocks forward on the morning of Sunday 26th March. Did you?

It was just a matter of time before the terrorist attack in London took place. I am afraid that it was inevitable. There was no way that we could expect to be exempt from the threat that has been made to the whole of Europe. Being an island was no protection since this terrorist had been born in this country. Whilst it is no consolation for those who have suffered, it is a blessing that so few were involved as compared with atrocities elsewhere. "Keep calm and carry on" has never been more apt.

Some really nice weather has been able to lift any gloom. The flowers in the garden have also been helping by giving a grand and colourful

display of Spring flowers. The only downside is that the grass is also growing. It's time to dust off the lawnmowers. The Summer task is upon us.

Despite what the shops say, Sunday 26th March was 'Mothering Sunday'. It is a traditional, English event that is being suffocated by commercialisation and called Mother's Day. The proper 'Mother's Day' does not occur in March at all. It is an American event which this year occurs on Sunday 14th May. Mother's Day is also recognised on that date in Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

April sees the issue of the new pound coin. We then have six months to trade in the old ones. Check down the back of the sofa.

I am told that there has been a recurrence of thefts in Hernhill and a burglary in Dargate during the day. As ever, be aware of any suspicious behaviour. Especially make sure that house windows and sheds are locked.

ADT

To book the Village Hall go to [www.hernhill-bookings.net](http://www.hernhill-bookings.net)

A copy of the Hernhill News and other local information can be found on the Village website. [www.hernhill.net](http://www.hernhill.net)

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Articles by  
**Monday**  
**24<sup>th</sup>**  
**April**



<b>Sun 2 Apr</b>	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
	11 00am	St. Michael's Ch	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
	2 00pm	Village Hall	Crafts Centre AGM
Tues 4	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sat 8	3.30pm	St Barnabas	Messy Church
Sun 9	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Palm Sunday Holy Communion
Tues 11	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Fri 14	2 00pm	St. Michael's Ch	Good Friday Last hour on the Cross
Sun 16	5 30am	St. Michael's Ch	<b>Easter Day Dawn Service</b>
Tues 18	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sun 23	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 25	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Wed 26	7.00pm	Village Hall	Annual Parish Meeting
Sun 30	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
<b>Tues 2 May</b>	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sun 7	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 9	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sat 13	2 00pm	Village Hall	<b>VILLAGE FETE</b>
Sun14	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 16	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sat 20	3.30pm	St Barnabas	Messy Church
Sun21	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 23	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sun 28	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 30	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Wed 31	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting



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