



HERNHILL NEWS

APRIL 2014

WATCH OUT

Some evil devil has hacked into my computer and stolen my e-mail address and my address book. I don't know what pleasure it provided but there is no doubt about the amount of trouble it has caused. I have taken action to stop any damage to others, but if there are still e-mail messages around that appear to come



from me at my old address (taylornews@hotmail), DO NOT OPEN. Delete immediately. If you have sent me any e-mails to the old address in the last couple of weeks, they will not have reached me. Please send them again to newsadt@gmail.com

ADT

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 26th March.

Present: Mrs H. Figgis (Chairman), Mr G. Morsman, Mr M. Woods, Mrs J. Geliot, Mr A. Chapman, Mr M. Woodcock and Mrs S. Muteham (Clerk) plus one member of the public. Apologies were received from Mr A. Bowles (County/Borough Councillor), Mr G. Bobbin (Borough Councillor).

The minutes of the full Council held on Wednesday 26th February were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising: The Clerk has received three quotes for road repairs between the church and the Village Green. It was agreed to request First Highways Ltd to undertake the work

at a cost of £800 + VAT.

Reports: Mr Morsman noted a large pothole near the bungalow at the top of Fairbrook and commented that the extensive litter at Wey Street has now been cleared. Mr Chapman has received several comments regarding the hours of work at the new-build development at School Mews, which the Clerk will follow up with Swale Borough Council. It was also noted that Mr Chapman represented the Parish Council and attended the recent Lord Lieutenant's Civic Service at Canterbury Cathedral. Mr Woods and the Clerk planted a silver birch tree on the playing fields at the start of March (being a prize from the annual Kent Men of the Trees competition). It was also noted that the light at the phone box

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e-mail helen@lavenderfarm.plus.com

Clerk: Sarah Muteham 01227 751053 or 07740 706189

e-mail herhillclerk@gmail.com

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 752840

and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

by the Three Horseshoes has not yet been repaired and that there is a significantly large pothole on Staplestreet near Chalky Lane. Mrs Geliot commented that the flooding at the bottom of Fairbrook does not appear to be drying out and requested the matter to be raised with the KCC drainage team. It was also noted that the new-build development on Staplestreet is taking a long time and there are concerns that the planning permission may expire. Mr Woodcock commented on the lack of road markings at the Godfreys Grave "T"-junction, along with the tree debris which is awaiting clearance at the same location. Mrs Figgis commented on the number of potholes around the parish that have recently been repaired, along with a large number of potholes that are still awaiting repairs. It was also noted that there are a number of cones by the junction of Staplestreet/Dawes Road where the roadside is collapsing into the orchard below.

Planning: SW/14/0219 – Extension to existing house to create bedroom accommodation for elderly persons at Forge Farmhouse, Staplestreet. No objections were raised. TC/14/0039 –Leyland Cypress reduction in height by approximately one third. Norway Spruce – fell to ground level. Norway Spruce and Larix Decidua – removal of deadwood within the crowns at The

Dove Inn, Plum Pudding Lane. No objections were raised. SW/14/0296 – Conversion of outbuilding to granny annexe Crockham Farm Cottage, Crockham Lane. There were no objection to the application as long as any planning permission granted on the property takes account that the annexe should be ancillary to main house, entirely dependent upon the main house, unable to be sold independently of the main house and should not at any time now or in the future be used for business or holiday let purposes. The current planning report (decisions) was circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that the planning application SW/13/1447 for Evaluna (caravan), Plumpudding Lane has been refused by Swale Borough Council.

Administration: There had been one application for the casual vacancy of Parish Councillor. Following a vote among those present, it was agreed to co-opt Mr Matthew Cooper to the Parish Council. The annual contracts for the allotments have been sent out to all current plot holders.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Victim Support asking for financial contributions. It was agreed by those present to make a donation of £50.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

RETIRED

Many residents will have noted in last month's 'News' that after more than 30 years service to the Parish Council, Barbara Taylor has resigned due to ill health.

Barbara has been a valuable member of the Council, always giving

very balanced views on issues and has been a great strength and support to her fellow members. The Parish Council members would like to thank Barbara for her many loyal years of service and wish her well for the future.

Parish Council

CLEAN-UP

At last the rains have stopped and it looks like spring has arrived, so time for our churchyard clean up day. This year it is on Saturday 5th April between 10.00am and noon. Volunteers are needed to weed, prune and sweep. any help will be greatly appreciated, please bring

your own tools if possible.

Refreshments will be available for everyone during the morning.

Brian Jenkins
Peter Willcock
Churchwardens



FAVERSHAM MIU

The problem rumbles on. The study group of the NHS East Kent Trust has held its final consultation meeting in Faversham. Their purpose has been to find a viable means of keeping the Minor Injuries Unit open or to find a suitable alternative, but many think that there is a hidden agenda. An option to move outpatient services to Estuary View has been outlined. Not only this, but

the scheme could include Herne Bay's Queen Victoria in the move. Patients at both hospitals are understandably unhappy and those who already use Estuary View will not welcome the inevitable overcrowding there.

An update on their investigation will be given by the study group to KCC at the end of April.

ADT

CHORAL CONCERT

Friday 18th April

The Boughton, Dunkirk and Hernhill Festival Choir will be singing Faure's Requiem and the Cantique

de Jean Racine. The concert starts at 7.30pm in Boughton Parish Church.

Admission is free, but there will be a retiring collection.

YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The various Budget meetings went as I forecast last month. I am pleased that Swale Borough Council froze its share of the Council Tax at the same level as the last four years. It is a matter of satisfaction to me that many of the Parish Councils in Swale East manage to freeze or reduce their proportion of the Council Tax.

We had a good attendance at the most recent Swale Rural Forum held at Doddington Village Hall. There were lively debates on plan-

ning rules as they apply to Gypsy and Traveller sites and also on parking and poor driving in the vicinity of Village Schools, the latter allied to the proposed relocation of Tunstall School.

I spent three days in February reviewing the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership on behalf of the East of England Local Government Association. It was interesting that between being commissioned to undertake the review and actually arriving on site our own Mid Kent Waste Partnership received a na-

tional award. I hope I was able to contribute to the future improvement to the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership and as usual in these reviews I picked up pointers which I hope will be to our advantage locally.

A useful meeting was held last week with the head of Kent Highways Drainage Unit to discuss numerous issues around the Swale East Division. This followed extensive consultation with the various Parish Councils. Councillor Colin Prescott the Swale Borough Coun-

cil Member for East Downs was also in attendance.

I have also attended the Kent Association of Local Councils Swale Branch Committee, the Swale Joint Transport Board, the Kent Flood Risk Management Committee, the Kent and Medway Economic Partnership, the Kent Rural Board and the Association of Drainage Authorities AGM amongst other meetings. This coming week I am due to attend the Sittingbourne and Swale West Local Engagement Forum.

Andrew Bowles

FROM THE VICAR

On Wednesday 23rd April it is not only St George's Day and Shakespeare's birthday but memorably for me, the day in 1994 that I was ordained a priest in Coventry Cathedral. It was a truly historic and wonderful occasion and I feel honoured to be among that first group of women priests. It was a typical spring day, showers and sunshine, and many of my congregation sat in the bombed cathedral ruins in their waterproofs watching the service relayed to them on a large outdoor screen. The joy and support for us in the cathedral was very moving, especially after my Rural Dean made a speech objecting to the service.

When I went to theological college in 1989 women had been ordained deacons in the Church of England for two years which meant they were called Reverend and could wear a clerical collar, they could marry, baptize and take funerals but not preside at Holy Communion

services or give an absolution or a blessing. We knew the time would come when women would be ordained priests and General Synod passed the legislation in November 1993. I remember we were all slightly stunned that after so many 'no' votes from 1975 onwards we had a 'yes' at last. My phone didn't stop ringing with messages of congratulations. The first ordinations were held in Bristol Cathedral in March 1994 by Bishop Barry Rogerson who for thirty six years had been arguing and working for the ordination of women as priests.

At last women could take their rightful place with our male colleagues at the communion table and our full ministry be recognized and affirmed. The journey was a long and painful one but it is not over yet. In 2010, for the first time in the Church of England, more women than men were ordained as priests, we now have women Deans, Archdeacons and Cathedral Canons. I continue to hope and pray that by the end of

this year it will also be possible for women to be bishops in the church in England.

If you would like to give thanks for twenty years of women's priestly ministry, there is a special service of celebration in Canterbury cathed-

ral on Saturday 10th May at 11.00am to which all are welcome. Much has happened in the past twenty years for God is constantly on the move and the journey continues.

Revd Jean Burrows

GIANT GARAGE SAFARI

Following the recent flooding of farmland across the country, the "Summer Lees Events Team" is hoping to raise funds for RABI - The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. The plan is to hold



a Giant Garage Safari in the village and surrounding area over the bank holiday weekend at the end of May. For those unfamiliar with the concept of "garage" sales, the idea is that you set up the items that you wish to sell at your own home - either in your garage, on your drive or on your front lawn, and that prospective buyers come to you. The charge for being involved will be either £7 for one day or £10 for both days. This money will go to RABI. Any money that you make after paying this charge will be yours to

do with as you wish.

However we need your help! In order for this to be a financial success we need lots of you to be involved. If you are interested in having a "garage" or stall please contact one of us by the end of March so that we can assess whether this is a viable idea. Thank you.

Date: Sunday 25 May and Monday 26 May
Time: 10.00am to 4.00pm
Cost per garage/stall: £7 for one day £10.00 for both days.

Contact:s: Jane Foreman,
Summer Lees Farm
07767693345
Joy Pritchard
Woodfield
01227 750372

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AGM

About 40 people came to AGM. The business meeting was held first at which the officers (Jill Geliot Chairman, Rebecca Parr Treasurer and Louise Harding Secretary) were all unanimously re-elected. The committee was also re-elected with the exception of Peter Saddleton and Ann Butler who have stood down.

A presentation was made to Ann and Peter in appreciation of their contribution to the society. Subscriptions will remain the same for the coming year. Afternoon and evening outings are planned but no all day coach outing. Unfortunately nobody has offered to organise the Open Gardens so the society will not have the benefit of the £200-£300 income that this event usually

generates. We are hoping to have closer links with the school's gardening club and encouraging pupils to exhibit at the shows. Requests were made for plants for the society's stall at the Summer Fete. The Spring Show will be held on Saturday 29th March.

After the business meeting we were treated to a most informative and entertaining talk from Laurie Manser on his experiences as a garden boy in the days when there were large houses with gardens employ-

ing several gardeners under a head gardener. Glimpses of a bygone era and hints of the old ways of gardening and managing plants.

The afternoon finished with a buffet tea and a chance to chat.

New members are always welcome, please contact Violet and Shane Croll on 751141. The shows are open for anyone to visit from 2.00pm so do come along (free tea and coffee!)

Jill Geliot

ROGATION WALK

This will be at The Bounds on Sunday 4th May at 10.00am. Local farmer Henry Bryant will give us a guided tour of part of his farm and we'll sing and pray a blessing on his crops. All are welcome including dogs and buggies but dress warmly if necessary as we are outdoors all the time.

This is an ancient ceremony. The word 'rogation' comes from the Lat-

in 'rogare' which means 'to ask'. It's the time of the year when we ask God to bless crops and animals, remembering that all life is a gift from God.

We will meet at the brown metal gates on your left in the slip road off Bull Lane that leads to Boughton Village Hall car park. If it is wet we will instead meet in Hernhill Church and use photos of the farm instead.

Revd Jean Burrows

CRAFTS CENTRE

The annual general meeting of the Crafts Centre is to be held in the Village Hall and not the Crafts Centre. The meeting will start at



2.00pm on Sunday 6th April. A number of changes are to be discussed.

Members and anyone interested will be most welcome.

LION'S ROAR

Last month's village party with a great reggae band was an absolute blast, so thank you all for coming and making it a great night!

We hope to see you over the Easter holidays, start your Easter with another fantastic evening with live music from 8.00pm (band to be

confirmed!), on Good Friday. Our traditional Easter Egg hunt will of course be on Easter Sunday. Please let us know if you are planning to attend with the family so we can get an idea of numbers.

You may have noticed some restoration going on upstairs in preparation for our function room lounge

area. Do pop upstairs to see our new champagne flute chandelier for you to drink your bubbly from, yes the glasses come off for use!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon,

Ben Edwards

BITS AND PIECES

Right up to today I have still been having trouble in the aftermath of someone hacking my computer. And that was despite having two, up-to-date virus checkers working. This means I could have missed some of your e-mails for publishing in the News. If this is so, I hope that you will send them to my new address (newsadt@gmail.com) for publication next month.

On a happier note, I'm delighted that The Horticultural Society meeting went well. The Society has had a long and successful history and I hope that now there is a secure future for it.

Congratulations are due to our local Ward Councillor, George Bobbin. He is to take over from Councillor Sue Gent as Mayor of Faversham. The ceremony will take place on Tuesday 13th May.

Many of us are aware of the magnificent achievements of Hilary Lister, the paraplegic sailor, but we have another woman sailor in the

area. Alyson Wreford, who lives in Whitstable, has just completed a session crewing in a 70ft clipper. She has returned home after sailing from Brisbane to Quigdao in China in section nine of the 'ound the World Clipper Race'. What is more, after a short break she will return to complete another leg from San Francisco to New York via the Panama Canal. You can read about the day-to-day progress of the race at www.clipperroundtheworld.com.

He's at it again or maybe it is 'they'. Whatever, there have been more raids on garden sheds and the police are asking everyone to take extra care and be vigilant.



May I remind you that the Village fete is not far off now. April is nearly upon us and the Fete is on Saturday 3rd May. That is only five weeks away from when I am writing. Make a bold note in your diary.

ADT

To book the Village Hall www.hernhill-bookings.net

Alan D. Taylor
Yew Tree House, Dargate
near Faversham, Kent ME13 9HG
01227 751293
e-mail newsadt@gmail.com

COPY DATE

**Mon
28th
Apr**



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|-------------------|---------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Tues 1 Apr | ----- | ----- | BLUE bin collection |
| Sat 5 | 10.00am | St. Michael's Ch | Churchyard clean-up |
| Sun 6 | 10.00am | St. Michael's Ch | Sung Communion + Annual meeting |
| Tues 8 | ----- | ----- | GREEN bin collection |
| Sat 12 | 3.30pm | St Barnabas | Messy Church |
| Sun13 | 8.00am | St. Michael's Ch | PALM SUNDAY Holy Communion |
| Tues 15 | ----- | ----- | BLUE bin collection |
| Thurs 17 | 6.45pm | St Barnabas | MAUNDY THURS Passover supper |
| Fri 18 | 2.00pm | St. Michael's Ch | GOOD FRIDAY |
| | 7.30pm | Boughton Ch | Choral concert |
| Sun 20 | 6.00am | Boughton Ch | EASTER DAY Dawn Holy Communion |
| | 10.00am | St. Michael's Ch | Holy Communion |
| Tues 22 | ----- | ----- | GREEN bin collection |
| Sun 27 | 8.00am | St. Michael's Ch | Holy Communion |
| Tues 29 | ----- | ----- | BLUE bin collection |
| Wed 30 | 8.00pm | Village Hall | Parish Council |
| Sat 3 May | 2.00pm | Village Hall | VILLAGE FETE |
| Sun 4 | 10.00am | The Bounds | 'Beating the bounds' Service |
| Tues 6 | ----- | ----- | GREEN bin collection |
| Sun 11 | 8.00am | St. Michael's Ch | Holy Communion |
| Tues 13 | ----- | ----- | BLUE bin collection |
| Sat 17 | 3.30pm | St Barnabas | Messy Church |
| Sun 18 | 10.00am | St. Michael's Ch | Sung Communion |
| Tues20 | ----- | ----- | GREEN bin collection |
| Sun 25 | 10.00am | St. Michael's Ch | Holy Communion |
| Tues 25 | ----- | ----- | BLUE bin collection |
| Wed 28 | 8.00pm | Village Hall | Parish Council |