



# HERNHILL NEWS

## NOVEMBER 2010

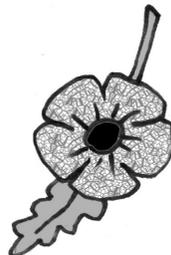
### WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



Sunday 14th  
November  
10.50am the  
Village Green

This year we are having a different style of service to enable more people to attend this very important event in our national calendar. The whole service will be held outside at the war memorial (unless it is pouring with rain when the service will be in

church) and will last about twenty minutes. As usual it will include reading the names on the war memorial, the laying of wreaths and two minute silence. We will also have a bugler with us again this year. You are then all invited into church for refreshments. It is hoped that as many people as possible from the village will come to this service of Remembrance.



### PARISH COUNCIL (SEPTEMBER)

The monthly meeting of the Council took place on 29th September. With the exception of Mr Elliott and Mrs Martin, who both sent apologies for absence, all Councillors were present, as were Mr Bowles and the Clerk.

**Matters arising:** no remedial

work appears to have been carried out on the Drove Lane footpath, where operations on it in the summer have left a two feet gap between the two ends. The KCC Footpaths Officer is aware of the problem.

The ongoing complaints about the blocked drains at Dargate may be approaching a result. Af-

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e-mail [helen@lavenderfarm.plus.com](mailto:helen@lavenderfarm.plus.com)

Clerk: Terry Smart; phone 01227 274047

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 767423

and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

ter a pointless effort by Highways staff, where six shovelfuls of mud were taken from the top of a drain, and deposited on the other side of the road, Councillor Bobbin was informed. He again contacted KCC Highways, and it was reported at the meeting that a full-scale operation seemed to be about to start, a few hundred yards further along the site of the original complaint. Councillors expressed an opinion that perhaps all of the drainage was to be investigated in the Dargate area. Communal breaths will not be held. Appreciative thanks are to be passed to Councillor Bobbin for his efforts in this matter.

Mr Morsman said that similar difficulties are being experienced in the Oakwell area, and Highways seem to be either incapable or unwilling, or both, of curing the problem. He also reported that the top cover of a drain in the New Zealand area is missing, and this has been reported. Councillors spoke of the increase of fly tipping in the whole parish. A huge pile of conifer tree topplings has been left on the Black Oast, Dargate road, which has obviously been abandoned by a non-resident of the parish. The usual favourite site - the Wey Street flyover - also figures largely under this heading. A sack of builder's rubbish was dealt with by another fly tipper, who emp-

tyed the sack and went off with it.

Mr Chapman said that a further meeting is to be arranged with the Amicus organisation, regarding the parking problems at Manor Cottages. In connection with this, the Clerk reported that he been speaking to the Police Community Support Officer, Angela Burden. Ms Burden said that she had already been to Hernhill, where she had visited the school and made herself known to the pupils. She also added that she was aware of the Manor Cottages problem, and would herself be attending the next meeting arranged by Amicus. She also expressed a wish to attend a Council meeting., the earlier the better. Although Councillors welcomed the idea, it was considered that she be asked to come to the November meeting - her visit would be well-advertised in the October Hernhill News (in the absence of a September edition) and may encourage the public to attend.

Mrs Figgis announced that the school urgently required another container, for the storage of fete equipment etc. Planning permission would be sought. Mr Chapman expressed misgivings - he felt that more construction work at the site would be followed by even more but the Chairman assured him that this would be the

final application.

the Chairman declared the meeting to be closed at 8.55 p.m.

There being no further business,

### **PARISH COUNCIL (OCTOBER)**

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on 27th October. All Councillors and the Clerk were present. Apologies for absence were sent by Mr Bowles. The minutes of the previous Council meeting were signed as a true record. The sole matter arising was that remedial work on the drains of the Parish is being attended to, albeit slowly.

**Reports:** Mr Elliott said that the price of paper for the printing of the Hernhill News continued to rise. He is investigating a fresh source and will report back at the next meeting when he has made further enquiries.

Mrs Taylor reported on a planning application for attention to established trees in the Dargate area, which is a Conservation Area. The Parish Council has called in the services of the Village Tree Warden, Michael Woods. (Mr Woods was appointed to the post by the Kent Men of the Trees Organisation, and has many years experience in arboriculture). His opinion that some of the trees concerned are overhanging the highway, but this could be dealt with by crown lifting. The application does not specify whether the

trees are to be crown lifted or felled, and the Clerk is to write to Swale Borough Council Planning Services, asking for far more detail before any work is begun at the site.

Mrs Figgis complained of excessive mud on the road at Wey Street. She has contacted Swale Borough Council, Kent Highways and, in desperation, the police. All of these bodies were of no use and the Clerk is to call in the services of Mr Bowles.

It was reported that a sheep, which had escaped from its pen, caused many problems before it had to be shot. The Parish Council would like to remind those persons who own, or are responsible for stock of any description that care should be taken to ensure that the animals are suitably enclosed in well-maintained fencing or hedges.

The parking at Wellside was discussed. The three spaces for residents at these premises are solely for those residents to whom some respect should be shown over the parking situation. Mr Chapman said that he had visited Hernhill Nursery at Waterham. He was certain that there would not be problems with flood at the site, and, by and large,

found the site to be satisfactory. Mr Morsman reported that the two posts on the Village Green which had been stolen had now been replaced.

No adverse comments were offered on the following recent planning applications: Kemsdals Stud Farm, Kemsdale Road - side and rear extension; Victory Wood, Dargate Road - relocation of access; Mount Farmhouse, Staple Street Road - single storey side extension.

Carillion is a new contractor bidding for KCC Highways Maintenance contract. The Company will be given details of what

needs to be done, some of which has been outstanding for more than five years. Whichever bidder is successful can only be an improvement Correspondence: the police have contacted the Council, wishing to patrol the village allotments, of which we have none. However, the Police Community Support Officer will attend the next meeting of the Council on 24th November, when all interested persons will be welcome. The meeting will start at 8.00 p.m.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting to be closed at 9.10 p.m.

### OLD WIFE, LEES

Well that was a dirty trick to play on me. There I was going to go out on a cloud of glory in the October issue of the Hernhill News and there wasn't one.

May I take this opportunity to thank everybody for all the cards, presents and all the good wishes we have had. The only thing was how the last two weeks were moved with sadness by the loss of two very good friends.

Here I am in my jimmy jams writing this. We have been here just over a week and it's lovely. Have no regrets and nothing to do but

I must confess I have been getting bored at times.

The amount of people that have said, how on earth will we get on being together all the time. I don't know what they thought we'd done for 12 years in the pub. Actually,

we now see less of one another. Mike is on friendly terms with the guys at the tip, as he has been down there so many times. When I first sent him down there with six bags of rubbish, I did not know you had to separate things for recycling so he had to stand there and go through all the black bags, ha ha!



I panicked the first Saturday out of the pub, talking about what we had to do. While we were out Mike said he had to pop into Tesco. I looked at him and was just about to say we won't get that all done by midday so that we could get there for opening time, and then I started to laugh.

Our granddaughter has not stopped smiling as she can see more of us now, not sure about seeing more of son and daughter (only joking!)

Well that's it. Will pop something in the mag every now and then. Have a good month

Vera



### **WINE & WISDOM IN AID OF THE RESTORATION FUND**

Saturday 27th November  
7.30pm in the Village Hall

Tables of 6 to 8 people. Tickets are £6.50 per person (Bring your own glasses). A number of tables have been booked already, so if you want to enjoy a real fun evening, book now with Jan or Dave Leaning on 01795 534937.

### **FROM THE VICAR**

"If a doctor diagnosed you had an illness that required you to build twenty minutes of therapy into your day, every day, without fail, otherwise you'd die most people would manage it." That was a Benedictine monk, Father Christopher Jamison, best known from the television series, 'The Monastery', speaking in a new series that began on BBC2 last week. He then went on to say, "The question is, can we believe that about the life of the soul? Actually our souls will die if we don't give them some breathing space every day." This new series is called 'The

Big Silence' where five people from a variety of backgrounds spend eight days in silent retreat with the Jesuits in St Beuno's in Wales. All of them, like most of us, are busy people, who find it almost, if not totally impossible to find silence in their own daily lives, Father Christopher spoke about an 'epidemic of busyness.' How they cope with silence we wait to see but the signs are not good.

We all need breathing space whether it's time out, silence or some peace and quiet but with Christmas fast approaching any hope of peace and quiet is fast receding. However, one of my

theories is that we make time for what we see as important. We make time to eat and drink otherwise we would die, if we saw silence as vital to the life of our soul or inner being we would make time for it, even if only a few minutes each day.

It is relatively easy for me to have silence at home, I know people live in far more chaotic households than mine, and each person has to find their own pattern of silence and reflection, but I usually spend the beginning of each day in a time

of silence, prayer and bible reading, not because I'm a priest but because I'm a Christian. In silence we meet our inner self and we meet with God, how can God communicate with us if we never make space to listen? It can be scary as the five people in 'The Big Silence' will discover but as Father Christopher said, "We meet God in the silence, it just works like that, it appears to be one of the laws of the universe."

Revd Jean Burrows  
01227 751410

## **DAWES CA FIREWORKS DISPLAY**

Mount Ephraim  
Saturday 6th November.  
(by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Dawes)

Gates open at 6.00pm with a bar and food available. The display starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £8.00 in advance and £10.00 on the gate. Each ticket admits one adult and three children under 14years.

This is the Community Association's main fundraising event of the year. We are hoping that, depending on the amount of money raised, the profits can continue to benefit other organisations in the community besides our own. To do that, we need support



from **you, the community.**

This year there will be extra attractions including a visit from a Dalek as well as the Faversham Carnival Queen who will open the event. The firework display will once again be provided by Phoenix Fireworks.

If you can offer help in any way on the Friday, Saturday or Sunday, please contact the hotline on 07513 750145 or [www.dawesca.co.uk](http://www.dawesca.co.uk)

Felix Krish  
Chairman  
DCA Fireworks Display

**VILLAGE HALL  
COFFEE MORNING.**

Staplegate WI will be holding their annual coffee morning in aid of the Village Hall on Saturday 20th November at 10 00am. till noon. Do come and enjoy a cuppa with a nibble of something tasty in a friendly atmosphere. There



will be a range of Christmas goodies for sale - from cards to puddings with much in between! Also a raffle with lovely items to win. Have an pleasant morning and support your Village at the same time. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lesley Holmes

**FAREWELL**

As Vera and Mike retire from their busy lives at the Three Horseshoes, I want to wish them a long and happy retirement.

Together they have been so in-

involved with the Village; by holding the village Hall keys and taking the bookings, by raising funds for charities etc.

On behalf of everyone, thank you both.

Anne Butler

**CHILDCARE**

I am delighted to say that I have now been awarded the 'Early Years Professional' status.

We have appointed another member of staff. Her name is Lydia McCorriston and she will be with us to give supply cover. She is a fully qualified teacher who has worked in the primary sector. She is also a qualified childminder and an Ofsted reg-

istered nanny.

We would like to thank Miriam Layton for cutting back the over grown bushes alongside the building on Sunday morning. This will now be much safer for the children to walk past on their way to school.

For any new bookings, siblings will be half price.

Hanan Al-Mударis  
01227 751195

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**  
Amnesty International is an organisation that stands up for

stands up for humanity and human rights, their purpose is to protect individuals wherever

justice, fairness, freedom and truth are denied. Hernhill Church has supported the work of Amnesty International for many years by writing cards of encouragement to those who are unfairly detained. On Sunday 1st November at our 10.00am service we welcome a speaker from Amnesty to tell us more about their work and on

Sunday 21st November at 10.00am, as part of our service, we will be writing our cards of encouragement. You are all invited to come and learn more about Amnesty and support their work in a very practical way.

Revd Jean Burrows  
01227 751410

### **HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

The social evening was held on Thursday 21st of October at the Village Hall and was very well attended by members and friends. The evening started with the presentations of the awards, followed by a Wine and Wisdom quiz enjoyed by all.

The following prizes were presented by Mrs Lesley Dawes: Winners of cups and trophies were; Dahlia Cup - Mr Maurice Lloyd, Rose Trophy - Mr Peter Bentley, Photographer of the year Trophy - Mr Peter Bentley, Mens Cup for most entries - Mr Peter Bentley, Ladies cup for most entries - Mrs Isabel Pettifer, Floral, Art cup - Mrs Isabel Pettifer, Pot Plant cup - Isabel Pettifer, Floral Art Runner up -

Mrs Helen Bentley, Fruit and Vegetable cup - Mr Roy George, Pot plant supplied - Mrs Anne Butler, Home Economics - Mrs Anne Butler, Tomato Cup - Mrs Anne Butler, Childrens Cup - Hannah Bentley.

### **Outings for 2011**

We would like your suggestions for outings for next year, as we have visited a lot of gardens in Kent it would be rather nice to venture further afield. Please contact Isabel Pettifer on 01227 151128 with your ideas.

We hope to arrange an outing to Highgrove in Gloucestershire next year anyone wishing to go please contact Isabel.

Peter Bentley

### **FROM PUB TO PEW**

It's goodbye from Vera and hullo from Lionel, as the Hernhill News once again brings you the

latest chit-chat and tattle from pub to pew and from Dargate to Staplestreet.

She says she has not yet had a

chance to stay in her jimmy-jams all day. Vera, that is. Most people who receive e-mails detailing people's bed attire pop them into the recycling bin alongside the offers of immense wealth from friendly Nigerians with an odd approach to spelling. But this one was genuine, from former Tales from the Bar columnist Vera Skipper, who with Mike is now settling down for the winter in a straw-filled box in Old Wives Lees. They were just letting old friends know that they can be contacted on 01227 731824. So if you still have a tab to settle, give them a call.

But onwards ....

The cacophony of highly un-birdlike noises from reed beds in winter indicates the presence of ever secretive **Water Rails**. These distinctive calls, most often heard at dawn and dusk, are a mixture of squeals, grunts and

groaning screams likened to the cries of an animal in mortal agony.

When they are coming from the region of Dan and Liz Hiester's marshy bits, up on the slopes of the Blean, they could well be both. One of the Hiesters' adorable kittens, we are told, last week emerged from the reeds with a less-than-common baby water rail gripped firmly in its teeth. Apparently the defunct bird is still in the Hiesters' fridge. Anyone enjoying hospitality and canopes up on the hill might be well advised to stick to the olives.

Lionel Doveshoes



Water Rail

Guard Rail

**STAPLEGATE W.I**

We held our AGM in October and had a really enjoyable evening. The same committee members and President, Jean Medley, were asked to continue for the coming year. The business being over, the meeting had fun with a quiz "mastered" by Pat Warner. The answers were all women and

what a varied and clever lot we are!!

The next meeting on Wednesday 10th November will be a talk by Anne Hill on the Royal British Legion and the Poppy Appeal. Any visitors will be made most welcome so come along and see what we are all about.

Lesley Holmes

## **BITS AND PIECES**

I should have explained why there was no 'News' in October. I was away at the time. Normally I am careful to fix holidays so that I am here to get the 'News' published. This time it didn't work out. It was because I went to see the Passion play at Oberammergau. You probably know that it is only produced every ten years and at my advanced age I felt it was the last chance for me to see it. Unfortunately the only date available meant that I could not produce the 'News' last month; my apologies.

We have not yet reached the end of October and already we have had to use the central heating. The other morning the windows of my car were iced-over and there has been snow in the North. But, the leaves are still on the trees and many have not changed colour. It was only two weeks ago in St. Michael's that we celebrated Harvest Festival and were treated to wonderful displays of flowers. We also enjoyed Henry Bryant talking about farming and the changes over the last forty years.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 24th November. It is hoped that Angela Burden, our Police community Support Officer, will be present to

take your questions and hear any views you might have. All are invited to attend.

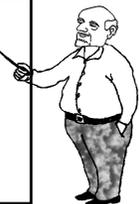
Over the last three years the Restoration Fund Committee has successfully produced a number of concerts in the church. This year our efforts seem to have been jinxed. Earlier in the year we arranged to get a vocal quartet from St Petersburg. At the last minute their work permits were not available in time and we had to cancel the concert. Now, also at the last minute, the concert by the Kent Wind Quintet has had to be cancelled. We hope to have better luck next year but in the meantime we are offering a very enjoyable evening in November. On Saturday 27th November there will be a Wine & Wisdom evening.

This issue of the 'News' was going to be goodbye to Vera and hello to Lionel. As it has turned out we have both this month. I am sure that we are going to enjoy hearing from Lionel and Vera may also be persuaded to give the occasional insight into her goings-on in deepest Lees. It is also hello to Peter Sinclair who is back in his old stamping ground, the Shoes. Welcome!

ADT

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**COPY  
DATE  
Mon  
22nd  
Nov**



<b>NOV 1 Mon</b>	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
	8.00pm	Jubilee Room	Village Hall committee
<b>Tues 2</b>	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 3	7.45pm	Jubilee Room	WI Committee
Sat 6	7.30pm	Mount Ephraim	DCA Fireworks
<b>Sun 7</b>	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung communion
<b>Tues 9</b>	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
<b>Wed 10</b>	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Anne Hill, Poppy appeal
<b>Sun 14</b>	10.50am	Village Green	Remembrance Service
<b>Mon 15</b>	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
<b>Tues 16</b>	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
<b>Sat 20</b>	10.00am	Village Hall	Village Hall Coffee Morning
<b>Sun 21</b>	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	All Ages Service
<b>Tues 23</b>	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
<b>Wed 24</b>	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council
<b>Sat 27</b>	7.30pm	Village Hall	Wine & Wisdom
<b>Sun 28</b>	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
<b>Tues 30</b>	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
<b>Dec Wed 1</b>	7.45pm	Jubilee Room	WI Committee
<b>Sun 5</b>	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung communion
Mon 6	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 7	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 8	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Paul Harris, Theatrical Landladies
Sun 12	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
Tues 14	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Sat 18	5.00pm	Village Green	Carols on the Green
Sun 19	10.00am	Boughton Church	Carol Service
Fri 24	11.30pm	St. Michael's Ch	Sung communion
Sat 25	Tba	St. Michael's Ch	
Tues 28	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection



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