



HERNHILL NEWS

OCTOBER 2012

PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 26th September. Present: Mrs Figgis, Mrs Taylor, Mr Chapman, one member of the public, the Clerk-elect and the Clerk. Apologies for absence had been received from Mr. Wood, Mrs Geliot, Mr Elliott. Apologies for absence had also been received from Mr Bowles and Mr Bobbin, both attending meetings elsewhere.

The Chairman spoke with sorrow of the sudden illness of Mr Morsman, who had spent some time in hospital following a heart attack. The Clerk reported that he had telephoned Mr Morsman at about an hour before the meeting. He has returned home and states that he is already feeling a great deal better and is recovering well.

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 29th August were signed as a true record.

Matters arising:

- With respect to the disgraceful state of highway verges - Mrs Figgis stated that she had contacted KCC's Highways about

this matter. A puny effort had been made at the beginning of the season, but this was too little, and the growth of vegetation was seriously reducing the usable highway. This was a particularly dangerous situation for cyclists. This sport is becoming more and more popular, and hedging and verge tidiness should be a priority subject.

- The provision of allotments was discussed at length. Mrs Figgis has held talks with Mr Dawes, who has suggested an available piece of his land which might prove suitable for the desired seven allotments required. The site would have to have water introduced to it and the rabbit problem would entail fencing the whole of the area. Projected costs would amount to probably around £1500. The subject is to be placed on the October agenda.

- The drains at Kemsdale are again causing problems and are to be reported to the Highways Department.

- Mrs Figgis reported on the latest

Chairman: Helen Figgis 01227 751149
e-mail helen@lavenderfarm.plus.com

Clerk: Sarah Muteham 01227 751053 or 07740 706189
sarah.muteham@tiscali.co.uk

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 752840
and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

update on the provision of a library service, to be centred on Boughton. The project is to be more fully advertised. Street signs are to be increased and the public better informed.

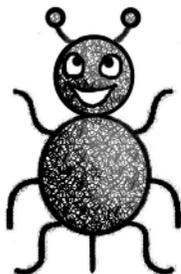
- An invoice for £144 has been received from the Audit Commission. This is nothing short of iniquitous. The Council's financial accounts have already had the cost of an External Auditor to pay for (he found no fault with any aspect of the Council's bookkeeping). There is a distinct possibility that the Audit Commission will be severely curtailed in the near future.

- The Register of Disclosable Interests Code of Conduct is now complete. Kent Highways has

announced small changes for Household Waste Centres. These put a limit on trailer size; a limit on soil, rubbish and hardcore, and imposes a small charge for asbestos and tyres. It is advisable to telephone ahead to get details.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting to be closed at about 8.45 p.m.

After the meeting, the Chairman thanked the Clerk for his 25 years of service. Her kind remarks were endorsed by all present. The Clerk replied suitably, and said that he had genuinely enjoyed the work, and thanked Councillors for treatment of him and their appreciation of his efforts.



BEETLE DRIVE

Staplegate WI is holding a Halloween Beetle Drive in the Village Hall on Saturday 27th October. It will start at 6.45pm to begin playing at 7.00pm. This is a fun family evening. No skills are required; just roll a dice and mark your score sheet. Tickets are £4.00 for adult, £2.00 for a child or £10.00 for a family of two adults and two children. Light refreshments are included in the price. Put the date on the calendar now! Ticket can be ordered from Barbara Taylor on 01227 751293

Margaret Heathcote

SHOES NEWS

We had a successful curry and quiz night on Saturday 22nd September, thanks to all who supported us. We continue to serve food everyday except Monday, with a fantastic roast on a Sunday between noon and 4.00pm.

On Friday 2nd November decorate your pumpkin lantern and bring it along to the pub where there will be prizes for the best designed pumpkin. The judge for the day will be local pumpkin grower Vaughan Howland. Why not come in fancy dress and maybe win a prize for

that as well? For further information please phone the pub.

On Saturday 1st December we will be holding our annual karaoke competition. Come along and see if you can beat our last year's win-

ner or just come along and enjoy the performers.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon in 'The Shoes'.

Lucy and Marc
01227 750842

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY TEA PARTY

What glorious weather it was to sit and chat or run around with the family, whilst the raffle and stalls provided some entertainment . It was good to see all the box-holders who, throughout the year, so kindly collect for the abused, homeless and disadvantaged children who are protected by the So-

ciety. The volunteers who each year get together to stage this event again turned up trumps. they raised just over £350 in addition to nearly £359 in the collecting boxes.

Many thanks to all who contributed to this total of nearly £710 which is to be sent to the Children's Society through Hernhill church.

Doreen Jelfs

DOVE DOINGS

The end of the 'summer' leaves us looking forward to a few events to get us through the colder months before Christmas is upon us! It must be something about being in the food and drink industry that makes time seem to fly by so quickly! Phill is positively 'bah humbug' at the thought of my hounding him for a festive menu already!

With the Bat and Trap season drawing to an end and despite only a few victories, there will be no commiserations for our team who have done us proud. We hope the players have enjoyed the matches as much as Phill has enjoyed taking Olly's hard earned cash each time he loses a bet on the outcome! We also warmly welcome our new team, inherited from The

Four Horseshoes in Graveney! With the always present need to drum up trade in country pubs, we are glad to have them and coupled with that, they are divisions above our own team!

Lined up for October we have an Autumn Pub Quiz. This will take place on Tuesday 16th October (starting around 8.30pm). Just like last time, Phill will be cooking before hosting the quiz. All meals will be good old pub classics at only £10.00. Reserve a table in advance, enjoy some pub grub and enter a team to win a cash prize!

Our autumn gourmet events include Classic One Pot Dinner with Wine on Thursday 25th October. October's one pot is 'Blanquette de Veau'. A classic French bourgeois recipe perfect for seeing in the winter months! There will be another

of these evenings in November (Thursday 15th) that will conclude this year's offering of great food perfect for sharing! If you haven't been to one yet, why not try it before the year's out; there is always a wonderful atmosphere!

Well I think that's autumn wrapped up for us at The Dove. Watch out for our growing pumpkin family that will be in residence around Halloween!

Best Wishes
Sarah

MESSY CHURCH

Saturday 20th October, 3.30pm to 6.00pm in St Barnabas.

This is a fresh way of experiencing church. It's for all ages. It's fun. It's family friendly. Messy Church is about crafts, a story, singing and sharing a meal together. You can find out more on the Messy Church website

www.messychurch.org.uk. Ours will be on the third Saturday of

each month, The dates this year are 20th October, 17th November and 15th December. It is not necessary to pre-book but it would really help us with the catering, if you would let us know that you are coming

(jeanburrows@jeanius.me.uk).

There isn't a set cost but you are invited to give a donation on the day.

THE LION'S ROAR

Many apologies to all for missing the copy date for September's issue of Hernhill News, I'm afraid we were run off our feet with our summer music festival! Again we raised lots of money for Pilgrim's Hospice with help from our friends running the food stalls. All the bands played their hearts out, with 'Coco' getting everyone into the dancing mood! This will definitely be an annual event and I am open to suggestions on how to make it bigger and better.

Many of you have already visited our new restaurant upstairs "Tastes of Kent" that opened in August. We hope to entice customers old and new with an ever changing seasonal and locally sourced menu. Personally, it's been good

to be back in the kitchen and rising to the new challenge of creating new dishes.

So this month's BIG event is of course.... the landlord's birthday on Saturday 13th October. All are welcome for a free hog roast and live music so put your glad rags on for a good old fashioned village party!

On Wednesday 31st October come along for a fun filled family half term Halloween Party; best dressed competition, best carved pumpkin and plenty of Halloween tricks and treats.

Of course Saturday 3rd November is Mount Ephraim's big firework night and so we will be complimenting events with live music in the pub from 9.30pm onwards pending people leaving the fireworks.

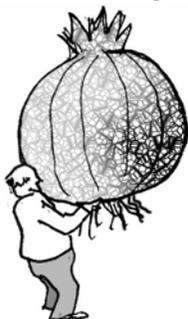
I'd like to finish this month's Lion's Roar by saying a goodbye and thank you to another long standing staff member, Sam Coomber. As many of you know she finished her teaching degree last year and has been juggling part-time teaching and bar work for some time. We are pleased to say that she is now

in a full time teaching position, and we are sure that her time with us is practise enough for keeping children under control! We'd also like to wish Elouise Wild and Michael Emery all the best on the expected arrival of their first child; we can't wait to meet the new addition!

Ben Edwards

KNOW YOUR ONIONS

Jimmy Syrett kept his title at the Barry Roberts memorial onion contest at the Three Horseshoes on Sunday, September 9th with a 4lb 3oz specimen. Second was Crispin Whiting on 3lb 9oz and joint third were Steve Boshier and Richard Curry with 3lb 7oz. First time entrant Irish Mick did well to finish fourth with a Kelsae weighing 2lb 9oz. The contest is open to all who fancy trying their hand at growing a monster specimen. Seeds are traditionally sown on Boxing Day or New Year's Day and beds should be dug over and well manured before this winter's first



frosts. The competition is for the biggest, with no requirements for presentation.

Hernhill's onions have been around a pound heavier than those grown for a similar village challenge at Stalisfield, so there is parish pride at stake.

At the cricket club auction which followed the weigh-in, Dan Hiester shifted a table full of produce, half-lambs, pork pies and other odds and ends raising a magnificent £1,577 for club funds. The spectacular cake baked by former landlady Sue Sinclair sold for an eye-watering £130.

Crispin Whiting

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We are holding our social evening on Friday 19th October in the Village Hall. 7.00pm for 7.30pm, the annual cups will be presented and afterwards there will be a quiz followed by a buffet at a charge of £4.00 per person to include a glass of wine. Tables of up to six people for the quiz with prizes of £5.00 garden vouchers per person for the winning table. To book a table

please contact Mark James on 01227 751607.

Any person who won cups last year please return them on the night.

Outing for 2013

We are planning a trip to the Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Heligan. We are looking at April, May, or September. It will be three nights, four days at a cost of approximately £300 per person. Those interested need to call Isabel

CHARITY FIREWORKS

Mount Ephraim
Saturday 3rd November
Gates open 6.00pm for 7.30pm

Organised by the Dawes Community Association and held in the grounds of the spectacular Mount Ephraim Gardens this professionally run annual event offers spectacular fireworks set to music, food outlets, refreshments and food to suit all tastes. Side-stalls entertainment and more. Access to the site is well signposted and will probably be the easiest (and quickest) fireworks display you have ever attended to access or more importantly, leave! Special provisions are made for disabled



parking close to the event. The Dawes family kindly allow us to use the gardens for the event and all the proceeds go towards funding the Dawes CA and other Hernhill organisations.

Tickets are just £10.00 in advance and admit 1 adult and up to 3 children under 14yrs so represent fantastic value! On the night they are £12.00 per ticket. More information is at www.dawesca.co.uk.

Local outlets for tickets are: The Red Lion, The Three Horseshoes, The Dove, Hernhill School, DCA Childcare & Hernhill Herons (Saturday only).

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Back to Church Sunday

“Would you like to come to church with me?” That is the question being asked all over Britain this autumn as people invite their family, friends or neighbours to church. In Hernhill we are taking part in ‘Back to Church Sunday’ on our Harvest Festival day which is Sunday 21st October.

It has been found that thousands of people who don’t normally go to church would say ‘yes’ to a simple invitation from a friend. Back to Church Sunday has caught on in churches everywhere because it is so simple. Since 2004 a quarter of a million people have said ‘yes’ to

the prayerful invitation of a friend. Each year more churches take part and more people come back to church.

At its heart is the oldest idea of all, the one that made shepherds leave their flocks, fishermen leave their nets and tax collectors climb out of trees. Someone invited them.

Of course people can invite their friends to church any Sunday of the year but sometimes we need a nudge to do it. And our friends and neighbours sometimes need a nudge to come along to church. Many people think about coming to church but never get around to it. ‘Back to Church Sunday’ might be just the impetus they need.

Our Harvest Festival service; is

suitable for all ages and doesn't include Holy Communion. The church will be decorated beautifully for harvest and we will have the traditional harvest hymns and readings. The service (lasting no longer than one hour) will be followed by some special, harvest themed, refreshments.

If you already go to Hernhill Church, who are you going to invite? If you don't worship in any church why not give Hernhill Church a try and come along to Harvest Festival? Who knows, you might be pleasantly surprised.

Revd Jean Burrows
01227 751410

BITS AND PIECES

Towing a caravan home in driving rain and strong winds is not a pleasant way to finish a short break in Yorkshire. However the weather north of York was reasonably kind, mostly dry but cold.

Having arrived home I was distressed to hear that Geoff Morsman had had a heart attack and was in hospital. He is now back at home. As a long standing member of the Parish Council we need him back to health and we wish him a speedy recovery.

All was peace and quiet at home until I brought my German Shepherd back from kennels. First he had an argument with the dashound and then he ate the fish food. Welcome back! It is now my intention to keep a close eye on him in case he starts to grow fins.

There are some new restrictions on



the use of Household Waste Centres. The Village notice boards have a leaflet, but if you want to know more phone 0845 3450210 or visit kent.gov.uk/hwrc.

I'm delighted to see that all three of our pubs are doing their bit to provide entertainment in the Village. Their events together with the Horticultural Society's social evening and the WI Beetle Drive are providing a lot of entertainment. By the way, I am told that some of the WI members are planning to go to their Halloween Beetle Drive in costume.

Perhaps they will be renaming themselves as a WI Coven and arrive at future meetings on their broomsticks.

Something that we all need to remember, on Sunday 28th October the clocks go back. An extra hour in bed!

ADT

To book the Village Hall ring the Red Lion 01227 751207

Alan D. Taylor
Yew Tree House, Dargate
near Faversham, Kent ME13 9HG
01227 751293
e-mail taylornews@hotmail.co.uk

COPY DATE

**Mon
29th
Oct**



Mon 1 Oct	8.00pm	Village Hall	Village Hall Committee
Tues 2	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 3	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Committee
Sun 7	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Patronal festival
Mon 8	7.15pm	Dunkirk V.H.	Joint PCC
Tues 9	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 10	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - David Harper, Pubs & pub signs
Sun 14	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 16	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Fri 19	7.30pm	Village Hall	Horticultural social evening
Sun 21	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Harvest festival & Back to Church day
Tues 23	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Sat 27	6.45pm	Village Hall	Halloween Beetle Drive
Sun 28	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 30	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 31	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council
Sun 4 Nov	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	All Saints Day Amnesty cards
Tues 6	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 7	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Committee
Sun 11	10.50am	The War Memorial	REMEMBRANCE DAY
Tues 13	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 14	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Eileen Brookes, Crafts for Xmas
Sun 18	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 20	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Sun 25	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 27	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 28	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council