



# HERNHILL NEWS

## JUNE 2011

### PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council took place on 25th May. Apart from Mrs Geliot, who sent apologies for absence, all Councillors were present, as were Mr Bowles, Mr Bobbin and the Clerk. The newly-elected Councillor, Michael Woods, was welcomed on his return to the Council. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27th April were signed as a true record.

**Matters arising:** Mr Bowles spoke at length on the twin problems presently facing the parish - Thirlwell and the gypsy site at Silver Sands. He said that he had to speak with caution, as the subjects were sub judice and therefore not to be placed in the public domain at this time. He assured Councillors that steady progress was being made; pressure was being applied wherever and whenever the situation arose. The Chairman thanked Mr Bowles for his sustained efforts.

**Reports:** it was announced that the pothole at Kemsdale had been repaired. The untidy site at the old school development has obviously been attended to in some ways. The meeting was reminded that planning permission was still in force for this

site.

The Clerk gave a financial report, which included an account of the External Auditor's visit to examine the Parish's accounts. All was found to be in order, and an Inspection Report Certificate was issued.

**Planning application:** Wye Management Limited for the erection of an office building at Chapel Plantation, Dargate. All Councillors were opposed to these plans, largely on the ground of excessive size. The building is over-large for the size of the site and the building would more nearly resemble a conference centre. The number of parking spaces (seven) is considered too many for this ultra-narrow country lane. In any event, this proposal is an infill, which, it was always hoped, to be illegal. The proposal is considered to be an industrial development too large for such a rural area.

**Correspondence:** was read and reviewed. Outstanding accounts were paid including; Village Hall hire, audit fee, insurance premium and the Clerk's expenses.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting to be closed at 8.50 p.m.

Chairman: Helen Figgis 01227 751149

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

Clerk: Terry Smart; phone 01227 752840

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 767423

and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

### **BAD PARKING COSTS LIVES**

Many roads across Swale, are regularly turned into no-go zones, for fire engines, and other emergency vehicles, because cars are double-parked, positioned at junctions, or too far from the kerb. Poor parking by the public, restricts access to emergencies, for fire engines, because they are wide vehicles, and need a lot of room, to reach an incident quickly. Selfish and inconsiderate parking, is particularly bad around local schools, during drop off, and pick up times. In other parts of Swale,

motorists who ignore these warnings, are fined.

Fire crews will continue to work alongside their Community Safety partners, including Swale Borough Council's Parking Enforcement Officers, to monitor this, and other problem areas across Swale. The Council will target those who continue to ignore this life saving message, which could involve fines for the perpetrators, and *removal* of any cars causing an obstruction.

Community Safety Partners

### **THANKS TO MY SPONSORS**

The rumours were right - I did complete the London Marathon last month in a time of 5 hours 16 minutes, not bad without a single blister and I didn't need the assistance of St. John's Ambulance! Although I was beaten by someone dressed as a camel!

It all began after I did the Hernhill 10K last summer "for fun". When I got home my daughter said "that's a quarter of a marathon mum, why don't you do the London Marathon for charity". The idea took hold in my brain and I thought - why don't I?! The hardest part was the training during the cold, dark winter months. Long, boring, tiring - but it helps you sleep. The day itself was like one long street party with flags up ready for the Royal Wedding two weeks afterwards. It really is true that the crowds drive

you along - everyone shouting your name and cheering you on gives you the willpower to keep going. I have to say that I thoroughly enjoyed it from start to finish. I ran with the Charity Help the Hospices which supports hospice care throughout the UK - it donated to both Pilgrims and Demelza House last year. I have raised a total of over £3,600 (20% more if you include the Gift Aid) of which £2,000 will go to Help the Hospices and £1,600 direct to Pilgrims Hospice. I am delighted and proud to possess a finishers T-shirt and medal and would urge anyone who has half contemplated taking part in the future to definitely get out there and do it. The feeling when you cross the finish line is unbelievable! It really is worth every drop of sweat! I wonder if I could do it faster next year?

Helen Figgis

### **HERNHILL OPEN GARDENS**

Sunday June 12th

Noon until 6.00pm

Seven villagers in and around Hernhill are opening their gardens. This

year we have a new garden joining. Violet and Shane are opening their garden in Stony road Dunkirk (just off Dawes Road). Also the Complete Bonsai shop and nursery at Yorkletts

is opening this year. Even if you are not into bonsai this is well worth a visit as the trees are amazing. See [www.completebonsaishop.co.uk](http://www.completebonsaishop.co.uk) for more details. The Coach House in Kemsdale Road will be serving coffee from 11.00am for those of you wishing to make an earlier start, and there will be cream teas all afternoon. Hopefully there may be some honey for sale from the resident bees! Alfie and Flossie, the Kune Kune pigs, would love any old vegetables, fruit or bread! Kemsdale House is also opening and offering strawberries. Joy Pritchard at Woodfield (opposite the Village School) has cakes for sale in aid of the Church Restoration



Fund. Angie and Crispin Whiting at Forge Farmhouse (opposite the Three Shoes pub) are opening, also Jill Geliot at Church Oast.

Discuss bee-keeping, pond-building, insect house construction, chicken keeping, pig keeping and enjoy the lovely countryside.

Entry by programme £5.00 per person (children free). These are available from any of the gardens on the day or from the local pubs in advance. The Three Horseshoes in Staplestreet and the Red Lion on the Village Green.

For more information see [dawesca.co.uk](http://dawesca.co.uk) or call me on 07801824867.

Alison West

**MRS EDIE LAWRENCE**

Mrs Edie Lawrence died recently (in-April) after a short illness. She was aged 99 years. She had lived in Hernhill since the mid-1940's firstly at Dargate and then at Staplestreet

before moving into sheltered accommodation. She was a long-standing member of the Monday club. Our thoughts are with her family at this time.

Anne Butler

**CHARITY HORSE SHOW**

Sunday 10th July

On 24th April our very close friend, Brenda Irving, lost her battle with cancer and died peacefully at the Pilgrim's hospice in Canterbury. On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July we are holding

a dressage show to raise money for the Hospice, in her memory. For details please check our website ([cairolodge.co.uk](http://cairolodge.co.uk)).

Clare & Steve Waterman  
07789 908218

**DOVE DOINGS**

Thank you to all those who supported our Family Easter Egg Hunt. We hid over 500 eggs in the field for the eager hunters to find and despite the hot weather the children were quick to find them before they melted,

much to my relief! I never thought we would have to consider cancelling the event due to adverse hot weather conditions! The Egg and Spoon obstacle race that followed the hunt was supposed to be a little extra fun for the children but soon went to an-

other level when some sprightly adults decided to have a go! Sportsmanship fell by the wayside and an oh-so-adult competitive streak was seen when fresh eggs were launched at opponents in a bid to see them fall 'fowl' of the course! The kids were more than happy to egg them on as you can imagine!

We are half way through our calendar of yearly events and would like to welcome you to the next - following our previous Indian Curry Night and Italian Hog Feast we are hosting our very own French Bistro Soiree on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June. So if the thought of a 3 course 'Carte du Jour'



coupled with wines from France's famous chateaux takes your fancy, please book a table in what will be our very own authentic bistro for the evening (limited availability). Even Oily promises to dress the part!

Finally an update on the Bat and Trap pitch - this is coming along nicely however not as quickly as we would have hoped due to the exceptionally dry weather. Thank you for all your interest in setting up teams etc and we will certainly be in touch.

Best wishes  
Sarah and Phill

#### **VILLAGE HALL AGM:**

The Village Hall AGM will be held on Monday 1st August at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Everyone is invited to attend and have their say on past performance and future plans for the Village Hall in relation to future improvements.

We need a few more villagers to come onto the Committee and be Trustees to represent village organisations and groups. We now meet every two months for about one hour on the first Monday of the month (the second if it is a Bank Holiday). So, there is not a lot of time involved in supporting this Village facility.

As advised at last years AGM this coming year will be my last as Chairman (ending at the 2012 AGM) as I feel it should really be taken on by someone who lives in the Village!

I am happy to stay on as Treasurer for the foreseeable future, if required. If you would like to know more about the role before the AGM please contact me at [dsmannSO@msn.com](mailto:dsmannSO@msn.com) or on 07736 463921

We look forward to seeing lots of Villagers at the AGM.

On behalf of  
the Committee and Trustees.  
David Mann

#### **FROM THE VICAR**

How happy are you? My newspaper a few weeks ago had a quiz where I could find out how happy I was. I started it but soon gave up; the answers just didn't fit my thinking, I know how happy I am without

a quiz. Happiness is in the news; the government want us to be happy, they have realised that there is more to life than just prosperity. The wonderful Royal Wedding gave us an opportunity to see the very

obvious happiness of Prince William and Kate Middleton.

We read of people who are rich but deeply unhappy. Money does not buy happiness and neither can we be forced to be happy. When I was in Tanzania I saw that the happiest people are often those with the least in terms of material goods, their happiness comes much more from relationships and a different outlook on life.

I don't find the advice 'Don't worry, be happy,' very helpful, we can't just be told to pursue happiness or we become too self conscious about it. Some of you may have these lines by Thoreau on a fridge magnet, 'Happiness is like a butterfly: the more you chase it, the more it will elude you, but if you turn your attention to other things, it will come and sit softly on your shoulder.'

Happiness creeps up on us when we aren't looking, when we're involved in doing something else it comes and 'sits on our shoulders.' Happiness comes from outside ourselves, from relationships, the natural world; it doesn't come from a programme or

a series of lessons, how sad that children have to be taught how to be happy.

Jesus certainly wasn't a happiness guru, he talked about being blessed rather than about being happy. Blessed can sound quite a pious word to us and happiness is perhaps a modern translation but it doesn't quite give the full force of blessed. Blessed to me means a deeper happiness that comes from God, the giver of all good gifts. For followers of Jesus happiness comes through a living relationship with him, through being open to what Archbishop Rowan calls, 'moments of gift and surprise,' and through being less self centred and more open to the needs of others.

How happy am I? Well, on a score of 0 (unhappy) to 10 (very happy) much nearer to 10 than 0. How blessed am I? Very!

Revd Jean Burrows

On Saturday 11 June we are having a 'quiet morning' from 9.30am till 12.45. Bring and share lunch. No need to book, donations welcome on the day.

### **OPEN DAWES**

We are pleased to announce the launch of a new section of the Dawes CA, 'Open Dawes'.

This section will provide a broad programme of workshops, activities and events. The programme will be centred on pre-school and primary children and is intended to support and supplement their formal education.

We hope to include the children's families and encourage the participation of their community as much

as possible and to bring the community together around the education of the newest generation. It will provide new opportunities for everyone to access the diverse skills and knowledge of the people who live within our community, to appreciate the environment around them and to enjoy the rich history and culture of Hernhill. All local families and friends are welcome to join in. The more the merrier! If you have skills or knowledge to share and

can offer a workshop, activity or event, particularly art, craft or music, please contact us. Also, if you would like to request a workshop, activity or event, please contact us and we will do our best to organise it.

History came alive this weekend in Bossenden Wood, as David Shire led a tour of the site of the battle, the last armed uprising on English



soil. This was the first walk organised by 'Open Dawes' and we thank David Shire who led the tour and illuminated the history of the area with fascinating tales at specific sites along the route, and really brought the drama and impact of the events alive to everyone.

Miriam Layton  
01227 752189

### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**Welcome:** We extend a very warm welcome to new members; Jackie and Dave Brenchley, Heather Bryant, Noreen Francis, Mary Howland, Cathy and Peter Lintoff, Liz and Richard Walton. We hope you will enjoy participating in the Society and bring some new ideas for events and outings.

**AGM:** 28 members attended the AGM in February. Tony Pettifer was elected as Secretary. All other officers and committee members were re-elected. The treasurer reported that there had been a profit of £294 for the year and the bank balance stood at £2013. It was decided that the membership subscription should remain the same for the coming year. Members had the opportunity to choose from a short list on the annual coach outing, with Cambridge Botanical Gardens getting the most votes. Other possible outings and events were discussed.

**Distribution** of the Newsletter: Some of you will receive this news-

letter via e-mail. We hope to extend this to as many members as possible in order to limit the cost of printing and stationery and to save the time and energy of Sylvia and Brian Philpott who deliver them. We therefore need e-mail addresses so if you have one please could you send it to me ([jill@geliot.plus.com](mailto:jill@geliot.plus.com)).

**RHS** contact for technical advice: Isabel Pettifer has offered to be our contact if we wish to ask the RHS for advice. If you have any questions or want advice, contact Isabel and she will liaise with the RHS for you.

**Spring Show Report:** What a wonderful show of daffodils we had. There were a record number of entries and the judge commented on the high standard of exhibits.

Cup winners were: Wade Cup for best bloom - Tony Bentley, Woods Cup for best vegetable - Roy George, Greville Cup for best in home economics - Peter Bentley, Bentley shield for most points for daffodils - Mark James, Children's

Class - Hannah Bentley.

Please remember that the rules state that you must complete your show entry form and hand to the Show Secretary before you stage exhibits. This is so that the secretary can be writing out your cards whilst you are staging.

Jill Geliot, Chairman.

**Outings:** There will be an all day visit to Cambridge Botanical gardens on Thursday 23rd June. The cost of the coach is £12.00 to members and £15.00 to non members, full amount to be paid on booking. Entry to the gardens will be paid individually on arrival which is £4.00, concessions £3.50. The coach will be leaving Mount Ephraim car park at 9.00am prompt Please be there by 8.45am. The journey will take approximately 2 hours and estimated time of arrival at the gardens is 11.00am. We will leave the gardens at 4.00pm.

**Summer show:** This is on Saturday 18th June in the Village Hall. The hall will be open on Friday the 17th June from 7.30pm to 8.30pm for members to set up exhibits and on Saturday from 9.45am to 11.15am; no entries will be accepted after this time. The show will be open to the public at 2.00pm with presentations at 3.00pm followed by an auction of produce. The Mary Dawes Memorial Vase will be presented at the summer show for the best rose as voted for by the audience. Tea & coffee will be available. Please come and support us.

**Open garden:** Helen & I will be

opening our garden on Sunday 26th June, 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Admission; adults £4.00, children £2.00 to include tea & homemade cake at 41, Clover Rise. All proceeds go to the Pilgrims Hospice & Whitstable RNLI.

**Summer quiz:** We are having a quiz at the Village Hall on Saturday 6th August at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Make up a table of six people or you can join a table with others. Bring your own food, drinks and glasses. Tickets are only £2.00 per person. The prize for the winning table will be £5.00 garden vouchers for each person up to six.

To book a table contact me on 01227 276032 (evenings only).

**Canterbury Bowling Club:** We have had an invitation for members to go on Friday 15th July at 2.00pm for an afternoon social occasion and have a go at bowling if anyone would like to. It's a new membership initiative but I think on this occasion just open to members of gardening clubs as they do have some nice gardens to show off. The contact telephone number for anyone interested is Jill Jenkins 01227 470799. She would like to have numbers for catering purposes.

**Spalding Flower Festival:** A group of 14 from the Horticultural Society went to this flower festival. They also visited Stratford on Avon and Geoff Hamilton's Gardens. It proved to be an enjoyable three days.

**Thursday 6th October:** We have arranged an evening with Matthew Biggs, well-known from 'Gardeners

Question Time' & articles in 'Gardeners World'. Entry is by ticket only and numbers are limited to 80. To get a ticket please write to me, Peter Bentley 41, Clover Rise, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3EY; a

cheque for £4.00 made payable to Hernhill Horticultural Society together with a stamped addressed envelope.

Peter Bentley  
01227276032



### **HERNHILL ARTISTS CALENDAR 2012**

Sold in aid of the Restoration Fund,  
St. Michael's Church, Hernhill

A unique, stylish calendar on good quality paper.  
13 beautiful images of local scenes reproduced from  
the paintings by local artists.

It is also a celebration calendar for the 2012 London Olympic Games  
The MINIMUM cost of this limited edition (which  
includes a strong envelope) is £5.00

Buy/order NOW :phone 01227 752309

### **PROHIBITION OF DRIVING**

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Staple Street, Boughton Under Blean, on or after 31st May 2011 for up to 17 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in phases as shown below:

PHASE 1 - between the junctions with Church Hill and Bull Lane, from 31st May 2011 for up to 4 weeks

PHASE 2 - between the junctions with Bull Lane and the entrance to Farming World, from 27th June 2011 for up to 11 weeks

The alternative route for these phases is via Staplestreet Road, The Street, Canterbury Road, A2 Boughton By-pass, Brenley Corner, A299 Thanet Way, Whitstable Road and Staplestreet Road.

PHASE 3 - between the London-bound carriageway of the A299 Thanet Way and the Staple Street Road overbridge, from 15th August 2011 for up to 2 weeks.

The alternative route for this phase is via A299 Thanet Way to Brenley Corner, A2 Boughton By-pass Canterbury Road, Stockers Hill, Bull Lane and Staple Street.

The dates of the phases are approximate guidelines, and may vary



subject to weather and ground conditions. The exact dates will be no-

tified to local residents and signposted on site.

### **KEEP IT LOOKING GOOD**

The churchyard at St Michael's is kept in good condition throughout the year by a team of dedicated volunteers and their hard work is greatly appreciated.

The PCC want to keep all parts of this large area looking good, especially for those people with loved ones buried there. In order to do this we are hoping for some more volunteers from the parish who will be able to spend a few hours to help with the strimming. The aim is to introduce a rota system during the

summer months and the more helpers the easier the task. (The church has strimming machines). If you can help please phone 01227 750453.

Also a big thank you to all the helpers who came to our churchyard clean up day on 21st May. They all enjoyed themselves so much it was suggested we have another on Saturday 25th June from 10am. All are welcome.

Peter Willcock,  
Churchwarden  
on behalf of the PCC

### **HEAR, HEAR!**

As regular users of the Village Hall we would like to say how much we appreciate the redecoration and renovation works that have been done recently. The hall looks really bright and clean and I have heard

many people commenting and admiring the new look. I'm sure it has been appreciated by all the regular users of the hall- so thank you to the village hall committee for brightening up our lives!

Miriam Layton

### **VILLAGE HALL - THANKS**

I would just like to say thank you to everyone who passed positive remarks on the Village Hall improvements completed ahead of the Fete and on behalf of the Committee and Villagers to say thank you to John Kay and his team for a job well done.

I would also like to thank Jane Foreman and Ian for very kindly cutting back the grass at the entrance and around the hall/footpaths ahead of the Fete, without being asked! A very kind gesture that was greatly appreciated by everyone on the day.

Thanks also go to Joy Congdon for undertaking the organising of the cleaning and repairs to the Village Hall curtains, which will be back up in position very shortly to complete the refit.

It is very pleasing to see more groups and individuals now using the Village Hall for events and we hope the improvements made will see a further increase in use going forward. The more everyone uses the hall the more economic we can keep the hire rates for everyone, so pass on the good news.

The next phase is a complete overhaul and upgrading of the kitchen

area which we hope to have completed by the end of November 2011 at the latest.

We also have plans to extend the hall slightly to provide more storage space and a new disabled access but we need to secure external funds for this which is not easy in

the current climate but if anyone would like to take this on as a project for the Village please phone 07736463921 or get in touch with me at dsmannSO@msn.com

David Mann  
Chairman & Treasurer



There is to be a meeting to review the outcome of the Village Fete. It will be held at 8.00pm on Tuesday 7th June in the Village Hall. All interested parties are most welcome.

### **BITS AND PIECES**

The Village Fete was, once again, a great success both socially and financially and the weather was kind too. Despite a threat, the rain stayed away. I have just had a week near Salisbury where the fields were a lush green. When I got back it was clear that the rain had continued to stay away. The garden looked parched and the grass was straw-coloured. But to get back to the Fete: I don't think that we have ever had so many people there and they came from far and wide. It was nice to see Mike and Vera Skipper again and we even had visitors from Holland. Everyone I spoke to said that they had greatly enjoyed themselves. That is good news for the future. The total takings amounted

to £4950 and after expenses this gives a profit of just over £4400. What a great achievement by all concerned. A very rewarding day in every sense.

The calendar that Brian Jelphs masterminded sold well at the Fete and received a number of compliments from viewers, so keep it in mind when your are looking for a present that you can send through the post.

You have probably seen that putting in a new water main is going to stop traffic using Staple Street for over four months. In case you have missed the 'good news', I have included the official notice – you have been warned.

ADT

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

**COPY  
DATE  
Mon  
27th  
June**



<b>Jun 1 Wed</b>	7.45pm	Jubilee Room	WI Committee
Sun 5	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung communion
Mon 6	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 7	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
	8.00pm	Village Hall	Fete review
Wed 8	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Clive Medley, The environment
Sat 11	9.30-12.45am	Boughton Church	Quiet morning & lunch
Sun 12	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
	Noon	-----	Open Gardens
Tues 14	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Sat 18	-----	Village Hall	Horticultural Summer Show
Sun 19	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	All ages Service
Mon 20	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 21	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Sun 26	10.00am	Boughton Church	United Service
	1.00pm	Clover Rise	Open garden
Tues 28	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 29	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council
<b>July 3 Sun</b>	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung communion
Mon 4	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 5	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 6	7.45pm	Jubilee Room	WI Committee
Sun 10	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
	-----	Mt Ephraim	Cherry day
Tues 12	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 13	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Brian Whitehead, Hearing dogs
Sun 17	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung communion
Mon 18	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 19	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Sun 24	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
Tues 26	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 27	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council



**PUBLISHED BY  
COURTESY OF  
HERNHILL PARISH  
COUNCIL**