



# HERNHILL NEWS

## AUGUST 2016

### PARISH COUNCIL

You can contact the Clerk with regard to Parish Council business on

- 07740706189
- hillclerk@gmail.com
- hernhillpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Full copies of the approved minutes will be available on the Parish Council notice board on the Village Green.

The Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 27th July was attended by six Parish Councillors and one member of the public.

One planning application was discussed at the meeting.

16/505210/FULL - Erection of a single storey side/rear extension with new pitched roof and detached replacement outbuilding at 2, Mount Pleasant Cottages, Kays Lane. There was no adverse comment.

The planning application for Black Barn Farm is to be discussed at Swale Borough Council Planning Committee on Thursday 18th August.

A request was made by a member of the public for possible acoustic boards to be installed along the

Thanet Way with a view to easing noise pollution in the local area. The Parish Council have suggested that the matter be researched and documented in more detail before progressing the matter further.

There is still an allotment plot available to rent on the Parish Council allotment site at Kays Lane. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you are interested.

The annual allotment inspection will take place on Monday 12th September at 7.00pm and all tenants will be notified.

The Parish Council has received confirmation of grant funding to provide a litter bin on Crockham Road. It is hoped that the bin will be installed by October.

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

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 31st August at 8.00pm in the Village

Chairman: Michael Woods 01227 751027

e-mail [bjwoods53@gmail.com](mailto:bjwoods53@gmail.com)

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

Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend. If members of the public wish to speak on a subject at the meeting then would they please

contact the Clerk prior to Wednesday 24th August so that their items can be placed on the agenda for discussion.

### **TEDDY BEAR PARACHUTE JUMP**

After a successful launch last year, teddy bears will again be testing their skill and courage at the parachute jump.

Teddies will be taken aloft in the teddy bear basket and launched by organisers from the very top of the tower of St. Michael's Church. Teddies need to be securely harnessed into their home-made parachutes and perhaps provided with safety gear to protect their fur. Teddies will be timed during their descent, the slowest descent wins, but it must be all the way to the ground. Sitting on the roof will be counted as a foul. In the event of a tie, the Teddies will have to jump again.

There will be prizes for the slowest recorded jump times. Every Teddy that completes a jump will achieve 'Super Ted' status and receive a certificate to that effect. If your Teddy should be injured First Aid will

be on paw from trained Paratedics and Teddymedics in the Tedical Centre.

All bears will be asked to pay £2.00 for their very daring jump, or £5.00 per family of bears. Profits will be in aid of St Michael's Church, Hernhill.

There is no need to enter your teddy in advance, just turn up on the day. The parachute jumps start at 2.30pm on Sunday 18th September.

All Teddies and their owners will be welcome. Teddies must

come wearing their parachute so that he/she is all ready to jump.

If your teddy needs any more information he can get it from

Jean Burrows 012270 751410



### **EARLY WARNING**

So no excuses

On Monday 3rd October; the Village Hall AGM will be held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

At the meeting you will have the opportunity to elect the committee

and officers for the coming year. We currently have a vacancy for a committee member. So, if you like to join others in the running of your Village Hall please come along.

Peter Rawlins  
Chairman

### **WHEELIE-BIN RACE**

Buster and Charlotte at the Three Horseshoes carried on the now traditional Wheelie-bin Race in July.

The weather was kind and the creations of the contestants from around the county were as crazy as ever. Fourteen groups in fancy

dress and with fancy bins took part. The teams even included a couple who were married the very next weekend although for this occasion they each had their own team. The Pope with a consort of nuns was also present. The Three Horsehoes team was the fastest.

The 'Minions' had the best decorated wheelie-bin and the Star Wars team was the best dressed.



There was much hilarity at the race and afterwards there was a great barbecue at the pub. All agreed it was a great day.

So far the event has raised £3,800 for the Pilgrims' Hospice and there is still some more money to be collected.

What a great achievement. Well done everyone.

### ON LEAVING...

In the space of a week I have heard from a friend who has left an African country very dear to her heart, that has been her home for the last eight years to return home to the UK. I have spoken with someone about to move out of the family home that she and her late husband lived in for years and I have attended two leavers' services for children in Year 6.

These kinds of leaving are all the weighty, bittersweet life-changes we experience from time to time. However positive the reason for the change, there is the difficult task of letting go of places and sometimes people, the ceasing of activities and leaving of organisations we used to belong to, in order to move on to the new thing. The inherent challenge of moving to something new is often that the old thing still feels like home.

In two recent end-of-year assemblies, I talked with the children about hermit crabs - the ones that don't grow a shell of their own, but

over their lifetime will occupy a series of empty shells that once belonged to other sea creatures, moving from shell to larger shell as they grow. Of course, this means that for a short while, the soft-bodied crab is vulnerable and unprotected as it moves out of its old shell and into the new one.

It's a good picture for us of two things - firstly, of our need to move on to new things that fit us better when we outgrow the old or when that season of our lives is past. Secondly, that it is usual to feel pretty vulnerable and exposed as we undergo that change - even when we know we are ready for what we are moving into.

When I am going through times of transition like this, and the place I'm going feels less familiar, less like 'home' than the one I have to leave behind, there's another image I find reassuring.

Jesus Christ spoke about himself as being like a good shepherd. The job of a shepherd in his day was to protect the flock at all costs - as the

flock moved around from pasture to pasture. The sheep were in this sense 'at home' wherever they went – because their security lay not in their location, but in the presence of the shepherd, who guided them and protected them and kept them safe when things got dangerous. And that has been my own experience of Jesus – not that life gets easier, but that I don't travel

through the ups and downs, the gaining and the leaving behind of things by myself.

Whatever new thing you might be moving to next, I pray you will know God's peace at the things you have to leave behind, joy at new blessings to come, and his sustaining love for the in-between.

Revd Paulette Stubbings

### **NEW DAY FESTIVAL**

The big event in August is the three day music festival at Mount Ephraim. It runs from Friday 5th to Sunday 7th inclusive. There are over thirty groups performing providing a wide variety of music. there are also other attractions including Morris and Irish dancing, entertainment for



the children, craft stalls and plenty of food and drink. Tickets are available from

[anewdayfestival.com](http://anewdayfestival.com)

Hundreds of visitors will be arriving Friday morning and perhaps even the night before. Many will be camping in the area. There will inevitably be some congestion on our narrow roads.

### **PLANNING MATTERS**

The seemingly endless meetings about the proposals for 'travellers' sites on Plumpudding Lane was the subject of another meeting at Swale. Arguments for both sides were put before a Planning Inspector. Two Parish Councillors and over thirty Villagers from Dargate turned out in force to make sure that their views were known. They will have left the Inspector in no doubt of the strength of local opposition to the proposals for this site. We must now wait for the inspector's findings.

And now there is another application for a development in the area. This time it is for a 24-hour truck

stop with parking for 58 HGV's and vans and cars. In addition there would be a cafe. The whole is proposed for the area of land which includes the illegal 'pit stop cafe' and the, also illegal, rubble mountain alongside. The Parish Council has raised objections to the proposal on the grounds that there has not been adequate recognition of the disturbance to local residents from noise and light pollution. There is also concern about the significant increase in the level of traffic, and in particular heavy lorries, that the facility would generate. However, the proposals have been recommended by Swale Planning Officers.

ADT

## A PRAYER LABYRINTH

### Hernhill Churchyard, August

A labyrinth is a path which leads, via a circuitous route, to the centre of an intricate design and back out again. There is only one route to the centre of a labyrinth unlike a maze which is designed to confuse and get you lost. A prayer labyrinth is a labyrinth used to help us pray, as we walk we might think about loved ones, distractions or burdens we carry. We walk at our own pace and in our own time. Walking a labyrinth can be like making a pilgrimage.

Labyrinths are ancient pathways, found in different cultures for at least 3,500 years. In the Middle Ages the Roman Catholic church adopted it as a way to pray and one of the most famous labyrinths is in Chartres Cathedral. Prayer labyrinths have become popular again

in the last decade or so and offer a spiritual space for prayer and reflection in our busy world. There is something in the twists and turns of the labyrinth path that touches the twists and turns in our lives. Its winding path seems to help us unwind, slow down and be mindful of our thoughts and promptings of our hearts.

Labyrinths can be on the grandest of scales, both inside and outdoors, or as temporary as a path mowed into a lawn.

During August we will have a temporary labyrinth painted onto the grass in Hernhill churchyard. Anyone who would like to, is invited to walk the labyrinth whenever they like. There will be some simple instructions by the labyrinth to help you and you can do it as many times as you wish.

Revd Jean Burrows

## BITS AND PIECES

"Aint it 'ot mum"



I found myself complaining endlessly about the hot and humid weather. And that was just after making complaints about the dreadful cold, wet weather that we had been having just a few

days before. The cause for our discontent is probably largely because our weather tends to be so unpredictable. We never know what to expect in this country. Just ask the professional forecasters. If the weather were more predictable,

then it would probably not be the subject of so much comment and the forecasters would all be out of a job. Not taking sides, but that is probably also true of the endless, current conjecture about the outcome of Brexit. Given time, we will know for sure and in the meantime it provides a good conversational substitute for 'the weather'.

One or two families turned-up in July for the 'Teddy bear parachute jump'. They found that it had been postponed and they were understandably very disappointed. I had shown the event as being in July in the diary of the June issue of the 'News'. However, although I re-

moved it from the diary in the July issue I did not make it clear that the event had been postponed until September. I apologise for not making this clear and hope that the disappointed families, together with many others, will now enjoy the fun on Sunday 18th September at 2.30pm.

Many of us have suffered in the multiple traffic problems that greeted the first weekend of the school holidays. I was caught in the first of them. When driving to Maidstone on Friday I was stopped because of an accident on the M2. A large lorry with a full load of hay had caught fire. After a wait of nearly two hours, we were allowed to pass. The load of hay was still burning and there was not much left of the lorry. It took six fire engines with a water tanker to get it under control. To make matters worse there was another accident on the other, coast-bound lane. The M2 was now shut down in both directions between Sittingbourne and Faversham. The resultant delays lasted until late evening. And then, on Saturday, there was a major problem getting to Dover. After a

lorry deliberately mowed down and killed 84 men, women and children, and then a shooting and then the murder of a priest; the French authorities introduced stricter inspections of vehicles and passengers at the ferry terminal in Calais. The result of that was a major traffic jam with people being delayed, sitting in the cars and lorries, for up to 15 hours. And it was hot. The temperature was in excess of 24C. Happy holiday!

The big event in August on the international stage will be the Olympic Games. That starts on Friday 5th. No doubt many will be glued to their TV sets. In the Village, starting on the same day, there is the Music Festival at Mount Ephraim and then the Children's Society tea party is to take place on the Village Green on Sunday 14th August starting at 2.30pm. As usual there will be teas and cakes, stalls of things to buy and a raffle with excellent prizes. If you have a collection box, bring it along. With these three events, there is surely something for everyone this month.

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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NEXT ISSUE

**Mon  
29th  
Aug**



<b>Tues 2 Aug</b>	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Fri 5	-----	-----	Olympics start
	-----	Mt Ephraim	Rock Festival
Sat 6	-----	Mt Ephraim	Rock Festival
Sun 7	-----	Mt Ephraim	Rock Festival
	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 9	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sun 14	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
	-----	Mt Ephraim	10 kilometre run
	2.30pm	Village Green	Children Soc Tea
Tues 16	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sun 21	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 23	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sun 28	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Mon 29	-----	-----	Bank holiday
Tues 30	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Wed 31	8.00pm	Village Hall.	Parish Council
<b>Sun 4 Sep</b>	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 6	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sat 10	-----	-----	Ride and stride
	-----	-----	Hort Soc Autumn Show
Sun 11	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 13	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sat 17	-----	-----	School Fete
	3.30pm	St Barnabus	Messy Church
Sun 18	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Patronal Festival
	2.30pm	St. Michael's Ch	Teddy Bear Parachute Jump
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



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