

Hunton



*Welcomes
You*

A warm welcome from all of us in Hunton!

This welcome pack has been designed to help you settle in a little easier, providing details of local facilities and amenities in the surrounding area. We hope you will enjoy living in this lovely village.

Emergencies, Doctors & Dentists, Police & Fire

Always dial **999** in the case of an emergency – **if life is in danger or a crime is in progress.**

Call **101** for police non-emergencies. See www.kent.police.uk

101 is available 24 hours, 7 days a week

PCSO Megan Day and Sergeant Nick Hatche are responsible for our ward.

If deaf or speech impaired text '**police**' and your message to **60066**

Hunton has an active Neighbourhood Watch scheme operating. Huntonwatch is run by Sue and Steve Wyles with the support of a number of local co-ordinators each looking after a different area of our village. For further details, and/or to join Huntonwatch, please contact Sue and Steve at huntonwatch@gmail.com. or call them on 01622 820 403.

Hospitals, Doctors & Dentists

The nearest A&E is at Maidstone Hospital Hermitage Lane, Maidstone, Kent ME16 9QQ. There is a new hospital with A&E at Tonbridge Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4QJ. Contact phone number for both hospitals is 0845 155 1000. Limited fee paying parking is available at both hospitals.

Call 111 (24 Hour Service) if:

- You need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency
- You think you need to go to A&E or need another NHS urgent care service
- You don't know who to call or you don't have a GP to call
- You need information or reassurance about what to do next

Call 999 only in a life-threatening emergency

Local doctors and dental surgeries are in Coxheath, Marden and Yalding. All details on finding your nearest A&E, GP and Dentist can be found at **NHS Choices** www.nhs.uk

Orchard Medical Centre, 146 Heath Road Coxheath, ME17 4PL 01622 744 994

Stockett Lane Surgery, 3 Stockett Lane, Coxheath, ME17 4PS 01622 745 585

Marden Medical Centre, Church Green, Marden TN12 9HP 01622 831 257

Yalding Surgery, Burgess Bank, Benover Road, ME18 6ES 01622 814 380

If you have trouble getting registered please contact Kent Primary Care Agency, 11 Station Road, Maidstone, ME14 1QH tel: 01622 655 000

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Your local pharmacy is also a good source of help and advice for minor ailments. Late night and Sunday pharmacies can be found at:

Medipharmacy (Maidstone)	01622 750 785
Morrisons	01622 661 750
Link Pharmacy (not open Sundays)	01622 752 990
Boots	01622 690 751
Sainsbury's Aylesford	01622 701 820
Tesco's Larkfield	01622 701 449

Further advice can be found at www.healthhelpnow-nhs.net

Refuse Collection

Refuse is collected every Monday. The recycling waste is collected fortnightly alternating each week with the normal waste. Food waste (to be disposed of in the small bin) is collected weekly. More items can be recycled such as glass and plastic food trays. A new service is also being introduced to collect textiles and small electrical items. See www.maidstone.gov.uk for more details.

Waste and Recycling Centre

Our nearest is at: Burial Ground Lane Tovil Maidstone ME15 6RJ. For more information on what you can recycle see www.kent.gov.uk for more details.

Local Transport

Buses. There is a new timetable for the buses serving Hunton. The No. 26 bus has a few minor changes, most noticeably that the 1407 bus from Maidstone to Hunton will now run 30 minutes earlier at 1337. The 26A bus replaces the No. 28 service, which in the morning will now start from Pattenden Lane, Marden, continue through Chainhurst, reaching the bends at the bottom of East Street at around 0730 and the stop outside the old post office on Hunton Hill at 0736. The afternoon 26A service will leave King Street, Maidstone at 1603, reaching East Street/Hunton Hill at 1622 and then continuing along East Street to Pattenden Lane for set downs only. The full timetable is available at www.nu-venture.co.uk

Trains (stations) and parking. Hunton is near two stations: Paddock Wood and Marden station to London and Ashford. Paddock Wood also serves the Medway Valley Branch Line to Strood. For more details see www.southeasternrailway.co.uk. Both car parks are fee paying. If you are travelling from Marden after 0815 there is **free** parking behind the library.

There are trains from Maidstone East on the Ashford to Victoria line and you can go to Barming Station for this line.

Maidstone West is on the Medway Valley line but additionally has some high speed trains going to St Pancras.

Post Offices & Post Boxes

The village does not have a post office. You can find these in the surrounding villages of Yalding, Marden and Coxheath. They are open Monday-Friday 0800 - 1730 and 0830 - 1730 on Saturday but if it quiet they close earlier, about 1630. Yalding Post Office closes 1230 on Saturday. If you bank with any of the following you can withdraw money and pay in cash and cheques at the Post Office.
www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder

Information copied from the Post Office website:

Access the cash in your bank account

We offer two options when it comes to withdrawing cash from your bank account.

- **Counter service:** you can withdraw cash and check the balance of your bank account **free of charge** over the counter in any of our 11,500 branches.
- **ATMs:** we have over 2,100 **free-to-use** ATMs. Use our **branch finder tool** to locate an ATM in a branch near you, don't forget to select ATM from the dropdown box.

Deposit into your bank account

It's also free to deposit money into most major bank accounts at the counter in any of our branches.

- **Convenient:** a simple, safe and free counter service
- **Helpful:** check your balance while you're depositing your cash or cheque

Banking Services

Current & basic accounts	Make cash withdrawals and balance enquiries in branch	Deposit cash and cheques in branch
Bank of Ireland	✓	✓
Bank of Scotland	✓	
Barclays	Cash withdrawals only	✓
cahoot (current account only)		✓
Clydesdale Bank	✓	✓
Danske Bank	✓	✓
First Direct		✓
First Trust Bank (basic account only)	✓	
Halifax	✓	✓
HSBC (basic account only)	✓	
Lloyds TSB	✓	✓

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Nationwide Building Society	✓	
NatWest	✓	
Santander (accounts opened with Alliance & Leicester before July 2010)	✓	✓
Smile	✓	✓
The Co-operative Bank	✓	✓
The Royal Bank of Scotland	✓	
Ulster Bank	✓	
Yorkshire Bank (basic account only)	✓	

There are three post boxes: two located on East Street; one at the junction of East Street and Hunton Hill and the other just past Redwall Lane; and one on West Street opposite the Primary School (at the corner of Grove Lane).

Shops & Markets

The village has a 'Pop Up' shop, selling produce either grown or made by Hunton residents. The shop consists of a small stall, which is mobile and can change venue, although it tends to be held in the Village Club. The shop opens from 0900 – 1100 although if you are a producer you can bring your food/fruit/veg or plants at 0845-0900. Please let Annette Trought know what price you wish the item(s) to sell at. The shop will take 10% on goods sold. A coffee morning is also held when the Pop Up Shop is open (known as the Pop Up Cafe). Check out the village diary and the Hunton Herald and Hunton Facebook for dates when the shop is open in 2016.

In terms of small shops Coxheath probably has the largest number including a newsagents, chemist, vet, wool shop/haberdashers (inc. a dry cleaning service), butchers, library, small supermarket, bakery, hairdressers, and an off licence. There is a café and a number of takeaways: Chinese, Indian, Fish & Chips. There is a large Shell petrol station at Linton crossroads. www.coxheath.net

Marden has a butcher, two Indian restaurants (with takeaway facilities), Chinese takeaway, fish and chip/kebab shop, small supermarkets, newsagent, library, bakery, chemist, barbers, hairdressers, tool repair shop, petrol station, and a salon for beauty treatments. www.mardenpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Yalding has a small supermarket, café, library, Indian restaurant, hairdressers and salon for beauty treatments as well as the post office. www.yaldingpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Larger shops include:

Tesco - Farleigh Hill, Tovil, Maidstone, ME15 6RQ

Lidl - 1A Farleigh Hill Maidstone Kent ME15 6RG

Waitrose - Church Road, Paddock Wood, TN12 6EX

Morrison's - Sutton Road, Maidstone, ME15 9NN

Sainsbury's - Quarry Wood Industrial Estate, Mills Road, Aylesford, ME20 7NA

All supermarkets with on-line shopping facilities will deliver to Hunton.

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There are several local farms that sell fresh produce including one on the left just past the Horseshoes pub in Dean Street (go up Hunton Hill and go straight on, when in season you can also pick your own from this farm). Local farmers' markets are held in East Farleigh and Yalding on a monthly basis – look out for their signs on the roadside. East Farleigh's Farmers' market is held on the 1st Sunday of the month 10 am – 1pm. Yalding Farmers' market is held on the 3rd Saturday of the month 10am – 1pm. www.yaldingfarmersmarket.co.uk/ and www.eastfarleigh.net/clubs-activities-groups/farmers-market.php

There is also a large farmers market shop at Teston. The address is: Tonbridge Road, Teston, Maidstone, ME18 5BU. It is in a large barn with a big selection of fruit and vegetables, pet food, logs and kindling.

Maidstone is not far away with plenty of shops and a market at Lockmeadow on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Paddock Wood is useful for shops, a local department store, banks etc and Tunbridge Wells also has a wide range of shops and other facilities.

Pubs/Clubs

The two closest places to drink and socialise are at the White House on 'Hilltop' on the outskirts of Hunton and the Hunton Village Club on West Street. Neither venue serves food.

The Hunton Village Club is a members' only Club but you can visit three times before deciding if you want to become a member. Annual membership, running from Jan – Dec, is £17 (£11 for those over 65). The Club has a variety of activities taking place over the course of the year with a good and varying selection of beers and ales. Local interest groups also use the Village Club as a meeting place. For more information about the club check out their website www.huntonvillageclub.co.uk or see the village diary for events.

Hunton Village Club opening hours

Wed-Fri 8-11pm, Sun 12-2.30pm & 8-10.30pm

There are local pubs in East Farleigh, Marden, Stilebridge and Yalding.

Village Hall

The Village Hall on West Street is used for many different activities. The hall can be hired for weddings and parties – please contact the Bookings Secretary on 01622 820 092 for more information. If you would like to find out more about forthcoming Applause events and join the mailing list please email: huntonvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk or visit the website www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk
For more information.

Schools

We are lucky to have a pre school and a primary school in the village: Hunton and Linton Pre-School (01622 820 309) www.hunton-linton-preschool.co.uk based in the village hall, and Hunton CE Primary School at Bishops Lane (01622 820 360).

Hunton C E Primary School is a small rural primary school, rated Good by Ofsted in 2016. It is an 'Outstanding' Church of England School. The school has strong links with the local community and welcomes volunteers and visitors. Please contact the school office for further information or a tour of our school. www.huntonschool.co.uk

Church

St Mary's Church is situated opposite the Village Hall on West Street. For information on church services see the village diary, the Hunton Herald and/or contact the Rector Rev Peter Callway 01622 747 570, Rev David Jones 01622 741 474 or Alison Ellman-Brown (Churchwarden) 01622 820 288.

Libraries

Coxheath, Marden and Yalding all have libraries. Check kent.gov.uk for opening times.

Local Government and Parish Council

Your local County and Borough Councillors

Cllr Paulina Stockell (Kent County) paulina.stockell@kent.gov.uk

Cllr Brian Mortimer (Maidstone Borough) BrianMortimer@maidstone.gov.uk

Cllr Emily Fermor (Maidstone Borough) emilyfermor@maidstone.gov.uk

Cllr Richard Webb (Maidstone Borough) RichardWebb@Maidstone.gov.uk

Parish Councillors & Parish Clerk

Cllr Jonny Goddard

Cllr David Heaton

Cllr Roger Lee

Cllr Gary Thomas (Chairman of the Parish Council)

Cllr Tony Stanbridge

Cllr Annette Trought

Cllr Helen Ward

Sharon Goodwin (Parish Clerk)

Minutes of meetings and agendas for forthcoming meetings are available on-line through the village website www.hunton.org.uk Notification of meetings can also be found in the noticeboards. To contact the Parish Council please contact the Parish Clerk on huntonpc@googlemail.com or ring 01622 681 238

Communications and Publications

- **Wealden Advertiser.** A free weekly magazine with a diary of local events in the Weald of Kent and advertisers. Available from Marden train station and local newsagents every Thursday.
- **Wealden Times.** A free glossy magazine featuring lifestyle news and information from villages in the Weald. Available from Millbrook Garden Centre, on the Maidstone to Staplehurst Road and Waitrose, Paddock Wood.
- **Kent Messenger.** Local weekly newspaper with event listings and local events. On sale every Friday in local shops. Also on-line www.kentonline.co.uk/kent_messenger/where_i_live/f-k/hunton.aspx Our resident Hunton KM correspondent is Helen Ward (01622 820 810).
- **Downs Mail.** A free monthly paper can be collected from the Village Club each month.
- **Hunton Herald.** A free monthly publication sent to each household in the village containing news and articles about Hunton as well as events and advertisements from local companies and tradesmen.
- **Village Website.** The website www.hunton.org.uk is a good source for minutes and agendas for various groups in the village.
- **Village diary.** The diary is also on the website. The virtual noticeboard provides details of forthcoming events in the village and community issues.
- **Hunton Facebook page.** We have a Facebook page listing village news, event information and photos.
- **Hunton Kent - Community Group on Facebook.** This is a closed group where members can pass on information, offer and request help, sell or give away items no longer required.
- **Noticeboards.** Information about local events and Parish Council news can be found in the notice boards. There are several in the village: outside the Village Hall (West Street), outside the Village Club (West Street) and East Street at the junction of Redwall Lane.
- **Twitter.** Hunton is also on Twitter.

Newspaper deliveries. The newsagents at Coxheath provide a newspaper delivery service extending to the residents of Hunton. Your paper can be delivered early in the morning before you leave for work.

Local Events in Hunton

Snowdrop display in the churchyard

Village Club run a series of events throughout the year

Hunton CEP School May Fayre

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Lent lunches and other lunches held in the Village Club
Summer Fete
Harvest Supper
Christmas Fayre
Christmas and other services at the church including Hunton CEP School Nativity and Christingle Service
Applause events at the village hall
Steam Train Day

Please look out for the dates on the village diary, the website, Hunton Herald and Hunton Facebook page.

A little practical advice

If, like the writer of this welcome pack, you have always lived in town but wanted to enjoy life in the country here are a few things that might be useful to you:

Lighting your wood burner/fire (article taken from Country Living magazine – Jan 2012)

'Most types of wood when unseasoned, or green, are too full of sap and water to burn effectively (ash is the exception). If buying from a log merchant, check that your load will be well seasoned and ready to throw on the fire. If you are still unsure, or storing it yourself, use a moisture monitor (available at stove shops) to detect when the timber's content is below 25%. Until then, store in a pile with plenty of air circulating around it.

When your wood is ready, make a wigwam of kindling – twigs gathered from the woodland floor and dried out, or old pallets sawn into small batons – over a few crunched up sheets of newspaper. Once the paper is lit in several places, this is the foundation of your fire. Other items to give it extra spark include fir cones, loose, dry bark and cardboard. When the kindling is roaring (if using a stove, open up the vent fully or for an open hearth, use bellows to fan the flames), start by adding one log and then more once the fire is established (in a wood burner, leave the vent partially open to keep it steady). Continue to stir and feed when necessary.

On particularly cold evenings, you may wish to stoke up the fire in a stove so its packed with logs and almost close the air vent so that it burns gently overnight and keeps your home warm till morning. Hardwoods such as oak and hornbeam are best suited to this as they are dense and slow burning'.

More suggestions and handy tips from the residents of Hunton to help you on your way

Save money by collecting kindling throughout the year. Collect up twigs and branches that have fallen down in the winds or keep the wood from trees that have been sawn down in your garden. Keep the kindling dry to ensure it is fully dried out to use in autumn and winter.

Chestnut is best for wood burners but mix oak and other hardwoods to prolong the heat in your wood burner. Over the winter save and dry your tangerine peelings – it makes good kindling.

Do have your chimney swept every year as birds love to nest on the top and soot builds up very quickly so it is easy to have a chimney fire!

Hunton is surrounded by a wonderful collection of public footpaths including a section of the Greensand Way to the North of the village.

Life doesn't have to stop once the dark nights arrive. Remember to take a torch and wear a high vis jacket when out and about after dark. Make sure you can be seen and keep safe.

Join the oil club for cheaper oil prices. Go to www.oil-club.co.uk and join the West Farleigh, Hunton and East Farleigh Heating Oil Club.

When you have settled and there is something that you would like to add please send an email to: huntondiary@btinternet.com

Local Clubs and Interest Groups

Bell ringing	Friday evenings at St Mary's West Street. Contact Michael Webb 01622 745 716
Bowls Club	Contact Margaret Carpenter 01622 744262
Church and Churchyard tidy up group	Contact Lesley Lee on lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com or 01622 820 210 for more details or see village diary for dates and times. Tidying up includes cleaning inside the church and gardening in the churchyard.
Cricket Club	Contact Simon Taylor 01622 674193 simon@passmores.co.uk or Steve Jones 01622 726 151 Steve.c.jones@btinternet.com
Beavers	Contact Beech on 01622 820 855 Meet at Boughton Monchelsea
Brownies (Loose)	Contact Chris Summersgill on 01622 820 429

Darts	Two darts teams play on Wednesday evenings at the village club. One plays on a traditional doubles board and the other on a standard trebles board. Both play in local leagues with weekly matches against other local pubs and clubs. Please contact Mark Ward for more information on 01622 820810 or mark@wardy.org .
Girl Guides	www.girlguidingkentweald.org.uk Use 'Contact Us' section to email and the message will be passed on.
Fete Committee	Contact Annette@trought.com for more details.
Hunton Football Club	Contact David Elliott on 07920 475 172
Gardening Group	Contact Lesley Lee for more details or look at the village website and diary for more information. lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com or 01622 820 210
Hunton Herald	Editor Helen Ward 01622 820 810
Hunton Book Group	8pm on 2 nd Thursday of the month. Co-ordinator Chris Summersgill. Venue: Village Club, West Street
Hunton Walking Group	Usually 2 nd and 4 th Monday in the month. Contact Ann Sawtell ann.sawtell@btinternet.com
Huntones Singing Group	Contact Sue Pinks 01622 820 709
Huntonwatch	Contact Sue & Steve Wyles on huntonwatch@gmail.com or 01622 820 403
Women's Institute (Hunton)	1st Tuesday of each month. Contact Ann Sawtell ann.sawtell@btinternet.com

Needles & Natter	Held on 3rd Friday of each month at 8pm at the village club. To find out more contact Kathy on 01622 820 092
Judo & Tai Jutsu	Contact Mike Clapp 07801 822882 /Mike O'Hare 07711 143202 or email mike.hagakure@gmail.com
Parish Plan Steering Committee	Contact Mike Summersgill senseass@btinternet.com
Pop Up Shop (April-October)	Annette Trought Annette@trought.com
Hampstead & Yalding Cruising Club (Yalding)	www.hycc.org.uk
Village clean up team	Contact Di Martin or Nigel Parsons 01622 820 115