



Next Editors: Lesley Lee and Bridget Robertson: herald@hunton.org.uk
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th July

Hunton thanks Her Majesty The Queen

for 70 years of dedicated service. A Service of Thanksgiving -
Sunday 5th June.

A congregation of thirty-three gathered in St Mary's Church, Hunton to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. The church was resplendent with special displays of flowers; notably, one in the form of a crown. A Union Flag was draped over the altar. Red, white and blue was all around. The service also coincided with Pentecost; when the Christian church celebrates the arrival of the Holy Spirit, sent by God. Two marvellous things to celebrate: one here and now and the other historic and spiritual. The congregation sang heartily, inspired by the organ playing of Marion Greensill and the booming voice of David Jones, who kept his microphone on for the hymns, wonderful singing! The church echoed to the words of: 'Praise my soul the King of heaven;' 'Guide me O my great Redeemer;' 'Love divine, all loves excelling;' 'I vow to thee my country;' 'Jerusalem;' and finally, the National Anthem. Everyone left in high spirits, many to gather later in the village for a celebration lunch party at Hunton Club.



Hunton's Big Jubilee Lunch, a wonderful day of celebration.

The Village Club looked glorious, bedecked in red, white and blue; moreover, the weather stayed dry. It was indeed a perfect setting for Hunton's Big Jubilee Lunch. It was lovely to see the Club so full of people (more than one hundred). Friends had time to catch up on news and new friends were made. There was a buzz to the atmosphere and much laughter as Peter, of 'Peter Lee Magic,' entertained with his amazing tricks and great one-liners! The children and their parents spent time examining the memorabilia, completing quizzes, having faces painted and particularly relishing the fun of the two dress-up photo booths. The designs of the booths were just fantastic. The bar and jubilee cocktail corner were kept busy throughout the day. The delicious lunch and nibbles were relished by all. At 4pm, complimentary prosecco flowed, and the stunning Union flag cake was distributed. Everyone raised a



glass to toast the Queen on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee. It was truly a special moment in history.

Thanks must go to everyone who helped to make this lunch such a success. Initial planning began on the 2nd of March, followed by continual meetings, emails and telephone calls, discussing every aspect. We shopped for Jubilee paraphernalia, controlled the budget, consulted the caterers, prepared food and a very talented baker produced the spectacular cake. It did not end there, we had to choose a great magician, design photo booths, and set up the display of memorabilia. Cocktail recipes were decided; I suspect someone tried a few out before deciding - not a bad job! People volunteered to bring tables, chairs and gazebos from the hall and homes, erect them and return them. Finally, let us not forget those who worked hard in the bar, cocktail corner and kitchen all afternoon.

So, with too many people to thank individually we'll just say thank you to everyone who helped and worked hard from March onwards. Thank you too to those who came along and even helped with the clearing up. It was lovely to see so many people there. What a

great bunch of people we have in this lovely village.

Trisha Nichols

Your Local Contacts:		Maidstone Police	690690 or 101
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Village Hall Booking:	www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Huntonwatch: huntonwatch@gmail.com	07907 019996
Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill	820429	'Potholes' Hotline (KCC)	03000 418181
Rector: vacant		Hunton Ladies: Chris Summersgill	c.a.summersgill@btinternet.com
Hon Associate Rector: Revd. David Jones	741474*	PCSO - none	
Curate: Revd. Iornafaulkner@gmail.com	439304*	Helen Grant MP helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk	0207 219 7107
Hunton Bell Ringers: Jeff Young	746541	Village Club: Roger Lee: roger.c.lee@btinternet.com	820210
*not available on Fridays			

Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Council Contacts		Chairman: David Heaton - 820678, dhhuntonpc@gmail.com
Parish Clerk: Sharon Goodwin - 681238, huntonpc@googlemail.com		Cllr Tony Stanbridge - 820721, tshuntonpc@gmail.com
Cllr Jonny Goddard - 820096, jonny@cheveneyfarm.co.uk		Cllr Mike Summersgill - 820429, mshuntonpc@btinternet.com
Cllr Annette Trought - 820448, annette@trought.com		Cllr Jean Fuller - 07738 935630, jfhuntonpc@outlook.com
Cllr Iain Simmons - 820875, ishuntonpc@btinternet.com		

Diary Dates
Organ Recital - Saturday 9 July; St Mary's Working Party - Saturdays 2 July, 13 Aug, 3 Sept; Hunton Club Beer & Gin Festival - Saturday 10 Sept
Check out www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk/events-list for the latest events. If you would like to add an event, email huntonpc@gmail.com

Pastoral Letter

Memories – the subject of many love songs over the decades, the events of the last month have brought back so many. The older you get the more you have to remember and of course the more you've forgotten. Yet, the brain is a strange organ, as things long forgotten can be brought back into the memory by present events. Remembering is an important part of life. We learn from the past. We look back into the past with fond memories, but also of mistakes made and hopefully, not repeated.

What is your earliest memory I wonder? My sister was given a record player in the mid-1950s. It was so different from the gramophone we had before, which we wound up and had a needle which appeared wider than a pin. The first record she bought was, 'Magic Moments' sung by Perry Como – It was 1957 and that song has stuck with me ever since, at times haunts me! This past month has been a time for many of us to remember the magic moments brought on by life's events over the last 70 years. They have made me look back to times shared with special people and moments which have shaped my life.

There are memories that are important and have helped shape my life since. As I look back, so I see how things have turned out despite the hurdles and distractions on the way. Perhaps the one constant is not my faith in God, which has wavered over the years, but his faith in me. At those times when things were hard and dark, he was there throughout, although not always obvious at the time. So, memories help us to realise that the journey of life is one of constant surprise, many failures but many highs. And, if at some stage we have committed our lives to live in God's service he is the one constant.

Enjoy July as you sit in the sun and dream...

David Jones

Annual Parish Meeting

On Monday 23rd May the Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Village Hall and about forty-five parishioners attended. The first part of the meeting included an open session where parishioners were able to comment and ask questions of the Councillors. Topics covered included: planning enforcement (or lack of) at Little Clockhouse Farm and the traffic in West Street. Possible remedies including moveable speed indicators and a mirror for Benstead Close were highlighted; Councillor Goddard is in communication with KCC Highways on these matters, with funding from the PC to help with this.

The second half was given over to brief reports from the various bodies and clubs in the village, most of which have been able to start up again successfully since the covid restrictions were lifted. Future events such as the Jubilee Lunch and the Friends of St Mary's Firework display on November the 6th, as well as the St Mary's Christmas Fair. Councillor Simon Webb gave the audience an update on both County and Borough matters. Perhaps more importantly for Hunton, Councillor Webb presented a cheque for £2500 to the Chair of Governors at Hunton School, Councillor Iain Simmons. This money, being a significant proportion of his members' grant, will enable the landscaping and planting surrounding the school's new outdoor building, which will be used for individual tuition and the children's wellbeing.

Before the official meeting took place, ornithologist Ray Morris gave a fascinating talk on the Marden Wildlife Group and their work with farmers and residents to highlight the wildlife in the Marden area, as well as measures made to enhance and protect it. A great deal of this is what is known as 'citizen science,' with residents recording what they have seen to build up a true picture of what is extant in the area. This is really important as, like Hunton, Marden is in the low weald area along the Beult which does not have any protected landscape designation; meaning it is more open to potential development. By recording their findings, the Marden Wildlife Group has enabled opposition to future development on environmental grounds. The feeling in the room was that Hunton would like to perhaps join in with this project to increase knowledge and information north of the river. You can Google Marden Wildlife Group to see their impressive website. Many thanks to Ray for a stimulating presentation.

David Heaton Chairman. Hunton PC

Hatchgate Airfield

A few months ago, I asked if anyone could substantiate a story that the first flight from Paris to England may have landed in Hunton on the Hatchgate Airfield and, perhaps unsurprisingly, no-one could!

From a conversation with the current occupiers, it appears that the old sign on a barn in Mill Lane referred to a WW1 German bomber pilot landing there, thinking it was his home field! Whether this was a navigational error, or whether there is another explanation, we cannot know but either way he was apparently taken to a nearby house under guard and entertained there by a retired Admiral until the authorities arrived to take him away to live out the rest of the war as a POW.

My reservation about this new story is that the book, 'My Warrior Sons,' which catalogues the lives of the Borton family of Cheveny during WW1, makes no reference to this event. As Col Borton owned the airfield, and as his house was perhaps closest to it, there may still be further questions to answer - any help welcome!

James Forster 820628

Save The Date, 'Friends of St. Mary's Firework Event'

Hunton's first firework event will take place on Sunday the 6th of November 2022 at the recreation ground, adjacent to the village hall. Tickets for the evening will include a professional firework display, barbeque, bar, live music and Guy competition.

This will be an evening not to be missed! Further details of ticket sales, which will be limited, will be available soon. Put the date in your diaries and keep an eye on the Hunton Herald!

School Crossing Patrol

The school needs a new Crossing Patrol person from September. If you are interested, please contact the school on 820307.

Hunton School's Jubilee Report

What a busy term we have had with lots of events and excitement in the final week: the May Fayre, a special farewell to Mrs Venus, a football tournament and of course, the Jubilee celebrations!

The May Fayre was truly a fabulous day for me, as it was so special to see parents, children and villagers all chatting and having fun together. Primary school days really do create important memories; the Fayre was one those of days that Covid previously deprived us of. Thank you so much to the PTA, parents and friends of Hunton who worked together to make the day so successful.



More memories were also made with us marking the Platinum Jubilee. Each year group researched a decade and then presented it to the school and our school community of governors, PTA and volunteers. We hope that you were able to hear our rendition of the National Anthem, which we learnt to sign. We also sang a special song called, 'Here's to the Queen.' Money raised by the PTA has now meant that we have our own sound system, so we can sing outdoors. We think that most of the village would have heard us!

The children looked amazing in their red, white and blue, whilst thoroughly enjoying a party which included Lilibet apple juice, a Lilibet apple and strawberries from Berry Gardens. They all received a medal too.

This week we also said a special farewell to Mrs Venus who has been at Hunton for twenty-three loyal years. As a teaching assistant, she has supported and nurtured so many children. Her music teaching developed a love of singing throughout the school. Her choir sang beautifully with the whole school,

singing a rendition from the Sound of Music. The gifts and messages we gave her were so well deserved. We know that the school and families will miss her.

On Wednesday 25th May 2022, Hunton's school football team competed in a South-East regional football tournament at Bromley Football stadium. The team represented 'Maidstone United,' having already won the Maidstone football tournament, the winning prize being an opportunity to play at the London Stadium.



The tournament comprised of seven of the best football teams from the South East. They competed in a league format, with everyone playing each other. Hunton school struggled initially with the physicality of the tournament and unfortunately lost the opening two games. However, Hunton dug deep, showing courage and perseverance. In the afternoon matches, Hunton won three out of the four and eventually came a very creditable third place! Well done! Everyone is immensely proud of their achievements



In goal: Stanley, William, Noah, Isaac, Thomas, Riley and Zaph

and the manner in which they played throughout.

Prior to the tournament, Hunton CEP School were very fortunate to receive free football coaching from Maidstone United, as part of the 'Stones Community Trust Scheme.' Hunton CEP School would like to thank Maidstone United for the opportunity and the support they have given our school with a special thank you to Mike Cogger, Ben & Max MacDonald.

Anita Makey, Headteacher

The Wombles Gather Again!

Following the last-minute decision to get a group litter pick underway again, enabled by the kind offer from Oli Pascall of Clock House Farm to collect and dispose of the bagged rubbish, fifteen villagers were able to collect forty-four sacks of rubbish, a rolled-up carpet, a plastic bumper and a large sheet of cardboard from Hunton roads. This was in addition to several sacks disposed of in household bins.

Thank you to all who helped with this Jubilee weekend clean-up, and to those who do so throughout the year. For a brief time, the roads looked cleaner than they have done for years. Sadly, four days later, we were able to collect a further two sacks (such is the attitude of a small minority to littering the countryside)!

We will plan a second litter pick when verges are a little less lush and when the volume of litter warrants it. If you are happy to be added to the list of those willing to offer their service, then please contact us on: forsters.hunton@btinternet.com.

James and Andrea Forster



Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wednesdays 8 - 11.00pm & Sundays 8 - 10.30 pm

Summer Organ Recital, St Mary's Church, Hunton, Saturday July 9th

Over seventy tickets have been sold, guaranteeing a superb musical event. Tickets are still available, priced £15, from Liz Oliver at liz.oliver@waitrose.com or Sue Scott at sue@chevenyfarm.co.uk.

Clock House Farm Tour

On the 19th of May, Roger and Leslie Lee arranged a comprehensive tour of Clock House Farm's impressive fruit growing operation along with their managing director, Oli Pascall.

Oli hosted the thirty strong group, relating the history of his family's farm, founded by his great grandfather in 1903. The farm initially grew hops and fruit before specialising in soft fruit.

The tour met at the Village Hall where Clock House buses transported us to the most local of their seven sites, visiting operations in Redwall Lane, Mill Lane then Lughorse Lane.

At Redwall Lane they showed us their new field of blackberries raised from seedlings grown at Linton Growing; a separate Clock House enterprise covering 30 Hectares which they established in 2020. Moving on to Hatchgate Farm in Mill Lane, we saw polytunnels housing predominantly strawberries and raspberries. Robots are already in use, keeping the crop healthy and using less chemicals. A full trial using Government funding for a multi-agency project will start soon. Then, to the final stop at Lughorse Lane where Oli Pascal briefed us on the logistics and some of the challenges modern farmers face from staffing shortages to the many measures undertaken to reduce environmental impact.

Annual production from Clock House totals some 4.5 million punnets of blackberries, 8m punnets of raspberries and 4m punnets of strawberries. All of this represents 10% of the nation's soft fruit consumption. What impressed everyone was the scale of the operation at their 7 Farms. With forty-two full time staff, eight hundred seasonal workers and the best practices adopted to further improve biodiversity.

Altogether a most fascinating tour and we would like to thank Oli Pascal, Vali Neagu, James Dearing, Stephen Wilson, Nicholas Deppe, and Andrew Barclay along with many others who hosted the group.

Subject to farming schedules, Leslie and Roger plan to organise another tour this summer and will advertise the date in a future Hunton Herald.



Stephen Banks

St Mary's Church, Hunton Christmas Market

After a break of two years, due to Covid, the St Mary's Christmas Market returns on Saturday November 26th from 3.30pm until 6pm at St Mary's Church. To date, most of the previous stall holders have confirmed their attendance, several new people have been approached and the response has been very positive. More information nearer the time but please book the date, time and place in your diaries, and note that Christmas will start early in Hunton in 2022! If anyone wishes to book a stall, then please either contact James Forster on 01622 820628 or David Jones on 01622 741474 or email davidjones.coxheath@gmail.com

Benefice Service Rota – July 2022

	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st 10:30am
Coxheath 11:00 am	Communion (1+2+3) LF	Morning Worship (Preacher's Choice) BP	Communion (1+2+3) DJ	Morning Worship (Preacher's choice) LF	
East Farleigh 9:30 am	Morning Worship DJ		Communion LF		Benefice Service DJ
Hunton 9:30 am	Communion LF		Morning Worship DJ		
Linton 9:30 am		Morning Worship LF		Communion LF	
West Farleigh 9:30 am		Communion DJ		Morning Worship BP	
Coxheath	Every Thursday, 10:00 - BCP Holy Communion				
Linton	Last Wednesday of each month, 12:00 noon , BCP Holy Communion (followed by Lunch)				
HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service, LF – Lorna Faulkner, DJ– David Jones, BP - Becky Parnham, SE - Sue Elliott					

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