



Next Editors: Wendy and Iain Simmons: herald@hunton.org.uk
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th June

HUNTON'S BIG JUBILEE LUNCH

Sunday 5th June 12 – 6pm

Hunton will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the Club in just a few days. The bunting is up, Union Jacks are flying and all arrangements are now in place for everyone to join in the festivities and celebrate. There is no need to be a Club member so bring along your family, friends and neighbours to share this special occasion. Entry is free to all and everyone is welcome to enjoy the afternoon.

There will be complimentary nibbles/finger food in the bar for all to enjoy. For sale there will be real ales and three special Jubilee cocktails plus a mocktail for the children as well as the usual wines, spirits and soft drinks. For your entertainment we have a magician, photo booths, royal memorabilia, activities, a quiz for the children and special surprises!

This event is being supported by various organisations within the village including the Parish Council, the Club and people from Friends of St. Mary's, the Walking Group, Needles and Natter, Gardening Group and more.

Please note that besides West Street, additional parking will be available at the village hall car park. (The closing date to purchase lunch tickets has now passed and they are no longer available.)



Summer organ recital, St Mary's Church, Hunton, July 9th

Hurry if you have not yet bought your tickets for the exciting musical event taking place in Hunton Church. Tickets were selling fast when this issue of the Hunton Herald went to press. Celebrated International Organist D'Arcy Trinkwon is giving a recital on the superb Willis organ and his mastery of the instrument is not to be missed. He will be playing a selection of music by composers including Bach, Mozart, Mendelssohn and Dubois. The summer evening of music which starts at 7.30 pm will include wine and refreshments.

Tickets at £15 are available from Liz Oliver at liz.oliver@waitrose.com and Sue Scott at sue@cheveneyfarm.co.uk.

Plants, Produce, Cakes & Refreshments at Hunton Club - Saturday 18th June - 12-4pm

We are very fortunate in Hunton by having some keen gardeners and some lovely gardens. The Gardening Group traditionally ran a successful plant stall at the fete and there is interest in continuing this. There will be snacks available for purchase and the bar will be open for members to buy drinks for themselves and their guests. Donations of any type of plants, produce including fruit, vegetables, eggs & honey, as well as cakes, will be very welcome. Proceeds will go towards further refurbishment of the Club. Please take donations to the Club on Friday 17th June from 3-5pm or contact Lorraine on 07702 078187 or email lori.redfarn@btinternet.com to arrange a convenient time.

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 - Paul Vasey	101
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@googlegmail.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		Hunton Club Film Night - Tuesday 28 June;	Organ Recital - Saturday 9 July;
Big Jubilee Lunch - Sunday 5 June;	Plant Sale - Saturday 18 June;	Hunton Club Beer & Gin Festival - Saturday 10 Sept	
St Mary's Working Party - Saturdays 2 July, 13 Aug, 3 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

This month we are celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Given that she's reigned for 70 years many of us can't imagine what it will be like without a queen as head of state. Some people love the monarchy, some don't and for some there is an air of indifference around the whole Royal Family.

In early drafts of this letter I found myself wanting to say things like 'the Queen must feel....' or 'the Queen must think....' and that got me thinking about how much we know about, not only public figures but about each other. I don't know the Queen personally; who am I to make assumptions about how she feels or what she thinks? There are times when I can't even work out what my children are thinking let alone someone I have never met!

There are a variety of sayings along the theme of walking a mile in another person's shoes before you comment on their life and choices. But how quick are we to jump to conclusions about someone's decisions or appearance?

Even innocuous sounding comments like 'wow, look at the size of the heels on your shoes, I couldn't walk in those!' can have an affect on the person on the receiving end depending on their mental state, the tone and manner in which the comment is made. There are so many variables. And how much harder must it be for those in the public eye who often have to play to the expectations put upon them rather than show how they actually feel? How difficult must it be to keep smiling and doing your duty rather than reacting with your true emotions?

Recently one of my granddaughters said she wasn't talking to her sister because she'd been told if she didn't have anything nice to say don't say anything at all (there'd been an issue with friends at school). But if only we could all learn that and only say kind things to each other and use our words to build each other up. In his letter to Titus, St Paul writes 'no insults, no fights. God's people should be big hearted and courageous'. Surely this is a message we could all get behind, no matter what our beliefs?

So let's all 'engage our brains before speaking' and make sure that the words we use are gracious. Our Queen has been a great example of this over her 70 years as monarch always polite and with an encouraging word for those she meets whilst out and about and whatever you think about her we can all be thankful for that.

Best wishes Becky

A world away from village life - 'Crufts' at the National Exhibition Centre

The 'world's greatest dog show' with over 20,000 dogs with 200 different breeds from 7 groups are rotated annually through the 4 days. The pastoral and working dog groups were on Thursday. Janet, my 4th generation home bred German Shepherd Dog (gsd), had qualified in a show in 2021 and we were very excited.

Before our turn in the ring there was a lot of studying to do watching not only the other entrants but what the judge was looking for. There were 140 German shepherd dogs exhibiting in 20 classes for male or females and age categories. As the classes proceeded I found myself changing outfits quickly in the loos to look smart and contrast with my dog's colouring wearing light coloured trousers and a jacket with my exhibitor number on. Soon we were with 15 others in the largest all female class. All the dogs were of similar age and looking their best.

We all stood with our dogs in front of the judge. This is called 'stacking' your dog, followed by trotting round the edge of the ring whilst trying to show how well our dogs moved. We watched as each dog was displayed in front of the judge individually. Then it was our turn. Janet and I stood in our 'stacked' position and she looked great although her ears were not as upright as they can be. We trotted up and down in a line in front of the judge. In the next movement we were meant to trot all the way round the arena and back to the judge again but I got so carried away trying to look at Janet as I trotted that I forgot where I was in the sequence. Seeing the end of the line of exhibiting dogs I stopped there giving Janet a huge hug. The steward came over to us and asked us to 'finish the movement'. How embarrassing! I couldn't believe it, I'd blown it, but I asked Janet to continue trotting round, stacked her again and then we returned to the end of the line.

The judge finished looking at all the dogs and as she started walking up the line for the placings I think she must have seen my pleading face, begging her to call us into the line up and yes, yes, yes, she pulled us out fourth, fourth out of 16! Wow, we were overjoyed!

Judges, breeders and owners are now looking for good health rather than exaggerated features in our pets. The fashion is changing slowly and the straight-backed type are becoming more noticed by judges again. I will continue showing Janet as I agree with this policy for the majestic German Shepherd Dog both in character and confirmation. This day was a huge triumph and Janet was a star for me in a huge class a world away from village life.

Wendy Sharp

Lego Club

Yalding Library now hosts a Lego Club. It is held on Friday afternoons, after school from 3.30-4.30 (as the library closes at 5pm) for all children aged 7 and over. Term time only.

However more Lego is needed! Please look for any bricks you have spare to help this club succeed and bring your donations to Yalding Post Office.

Thank you, June Chapman

Farewell Hunton

Little did we know when we moved into Bishops Lane in 1984 what an amazing place we would be part of. In 1984 the talk at all gatherings was of main drainage and the problems of being without it in a low lying area near the river. It was a great relief all round when this arrived.

When we welcomed 1987 in, little did we know what that year would bring. Our eldest daughter, Amy was born on 9th January at Pembury. Roger came with me and that was last I saw of him for a week as Hunton was cut off with snow! He did manage to visit by walking out to Yalding and getting a lift. Unfortunately the snow had drifted on his return journey and he ended up in a frightening situation whereby his only progress was like swimming. 1987 had not done with us yet, in October we experienced the hurricane which decimated the Scots Pines in Bishops Lane, chopping cars in half in the process. All the tiles came off Bishops Oast, very frightening.

Roger soon became involved in most of the activities in Hunton, being Chairman of the Parish Council for 19 years, Treasurer of St. Mary's PCC, Treasurer of Peace Cottage Charity, Member of St. Mary's Fabric Committee and one of the founding members of Friends of St. Mary's. He still managed to spend time at Bearsted Golf Club where he was a member for over 20 years. He had a private pilot licence and could be seen flying over Hunton on many a summers evening.

As a working mother I stayed in the background until my retirement in 2010. This coincided with the Village Plan being prepared by Barbara Wright and Sue Heaton and they approached me to set up a Walking Group. This has kept active and is still going strong today. Many friendships have been made between villagers who lived in the village for years but didn't know each other until joining the group.

At a drinks party at the Porters I persuaded a few to help with a Christmas Market. We did not realise at that time how popular it would become. It was great fun and very rewarding. From this friends were persuaded to reform the Hunton WI which had ceased in the 60s. We have had great speakers that we have shared with the men of the village too. To everyone who supported me in my ambitious activities, you were brilliant, thank you.

Our daughter Lizzie was married to Graham in 2017 and so many of the village helped to make this weekend a memorable one. It went on for 3 days, culminating on Monday with the Walking Group helping dismantle and enjoying a super lunch of leftovers, both food and drink! Thank you all, we have had a ball.

Ann and Roger Sawtell

Sorry to see you go

The village will be sorry to see Ann and Roger leave but wish them all the best in their new home. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for the huge contribution they have made to Hunton village life over many years. We will miss you.

St. Mary's Church Working Parties

St. Mary's Church is being chosen by more couples as the venue for their weddings. So to enable the church and churchyard to look as nice as possible there will be working parties from 9 to 12 noon on the following Saturdays: 2nd July, 13th August and 3rd September.

New volunteers are always welcome to join the friendly team who give as much time as they wish, choosing which of the various jobs they would like to do on that day. We always stop for a coffee break and so that Lesley can organise enough cake or biscuits please let her know if you hope to be at a session. lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com 01622 820210

Hunton Club Film Night & Supper - Tuesday 28th June

Hunton Club volunteers are delighted to announce that *Cool Runnings* will be shown on Tuesday 28th June and we hope you will join us to celebrate the first ever Jamaican bobsleigh team with a glass of rum punch in your hand. Doors open at 6.30pm and a two course supper will be served before the film at a cost of £10 (non-members £12) with as much popcorn as you can eat. The bar will be open for members and guests. Please contact lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com if you would like to attend this event. The caterers need to know numbers a week ahead so final date for bookings is Tuesday 21st June.

New members are always welcome and details can be found on <https://huntonvillageclub.co.uk/>

Hunton Ladies

Following the closure of the Hunton WI a new group, Hunton Ladies, now meet at the Village Club on the last Wednesday in the month. The April meeting had a "getting to know you" theme and a thoroughly interesting time was had when members spoke on an event in their lives, on their jobs or their hobbies. Conversations were plentiful around such interesting subjects as showing at Crufts Dog Show, taking up art as a career to a hilarious recount of a party faux pas.

New members are always welcome and Chris Summersgill (c.a.summersgill@btinternet.com) would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in joining the group. Members pay £2 each meeting they attend which will allow the group to pay for a speaker or activity event. Members will be required to join Hunton Village Club.

Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wednesdays 8 - 11.00pm & Sundays 8 - 10.30 pm

Another Reason to be Grateful!

Following on from Clockhouse Farm's decision to listen to local residents and change their tractor fleet for quieter vehicles, they have ridden to the rescue again!

Some years ago, we had an active and committed litter picking group, led and organised by Di Martin and Nigel Parsons, but this relied on MBC to provide the basic kit and collect the bags of litter. As has been commented on in this publication and elsewhere, this support was removed from a number of villages, including Hunton, on health & safety grounds and so this excellent community effort had to stop.

For the last few years residents have risked the disapproval of MBC by collecting rubbish and disposing of it in village bins or their own but thanks to Oli Pascall of Clockhouse Farm, we now have an opportunity to restart a regular litter picking activity.

Clockhouse Farm has agreed to collect rubbish from a couple of pre-agreed sites in the village and to dispose of it with their own commercial waste. Di and Nigel have a few hi-vis jackets and litter pickers but The Hunton Herald and Hunton Parish Council has agreed to cover the cost of getting some more.

Details are still being worked out but we hope to hold our first litter pick on Thursday 2nd June so that the village looks its best for the Queen's Jubilee Weekend. We are contacting the old group and some others that we know might be interested but if you would like to join us we will be in Village Hall car park at 10am on the day.

Given the concerns raised by MBC we must make it clear that volunteers are responsible for their own safety. We are happy to do what we can to help the collective endeavour but each volunteer must choose where they are happy to pick up litter and be responsible for their own safety and bring their own gloves if required.

Details of future days will be circulated in the Herald with a little more notice in future but hopefully you will all see a positive change in the cleanliness of our roads, verges and hedgerows by the extended Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend!

James and Andrea Forster

Yalding Art Group

Yalding Art Group started in 2001 and through thick and thin we are still going strong! We moved from the Baptist Church to Riverside next to the Post Office when numbers dropped and then we had the dreaded Covid years where we worked in our own homes and kept on going.

Now however, we are back and working hard most Thursday mornings. Sessions cost £3 which includes a well earned break at 11am for refreshments. We are a group of differing talents from the nervous beginner to the more at ease painter.

We meet at 10am until 12 and finished work is then posted onto our facebook page Yalding Art Group. Take a look and see the different topics we have covered. There is a new topic every two weeks to get our teeth into. We love other artists posting so we can admire their work and of course, get ideas! Why not join us and just drop in any Thursday and we'll take you under our wing.

June Chapman

chapman.june59@gmail.com; www.yaldingartgroup.weebly.com; www.facebook.com/yaldingartgroup

St. Mary's Church, Sunday June 5th

On Sunday June 5th St Mary's Hunton will be replacing the usual service at 9.30am with a Special Service to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. It will be a service of hymns, readings and prayer and all are welcome to attend. It is also Whit Sunday or Pentecost Sunday and Holy Trinity, Coxheath will be celebrating Holy Communion at 11am. within the benefice.

Benefice Service Rota – June 2022

	5th	12th	19th	26th
Coxheath	11.00am HC (LF)	11.00am MP (LF)	11.00am HC (DJ)	11.00am MP (BP/BW)
E. Farleigh	9.30am MP (BW/LF)		9.30am HC (DJ)	
Hunton	9.30am Special Jubilee Service		9.30am MP (BP)	
Linton		9.30am MP (SE)		9.30am HC (DJ)
W. Farleigh		9.30am HC (LF)		9.30am MP (LF)
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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