



Editors: Sue & David Heaton, 3 New Cottages, Barn Hill, Hunton, ME15 0QT 01622 820678 herald@hunton.org.uk

## Parish News

Keith Eatwell, Chairman of the King George V Playing Fields Committee, reported to the September Parish Council meeting that the sports area had been tidied and the hedges trimmed.

"It looks a lot neater and we received thanks from the bowling club for our actions. However, for the litter bins to be emptied, there has to be access for the Maidstone Borough Council team and without this the bins have been overflowing."

Parish Councillors agreed to check with the Borough Council to see what can be done to remedy the problem.

Borough Councillor Colin Parr warned that the Council was continuing to look into ways that cuts could be made in its finances. "The problem is that if the cuts are too severe in a short space of time it could be really damaging - which is the same situation with the national economy."

Mr Parr reported that the potholes in "the Gorge" at the bottom of Hunton Hill were highly dangerous and he was surprised that there had not been a serious accident. He is pressing for action from the Highways Committee before they make cutbacks in their finances.

He asked Councillors if they had any major issues which they wished to raise at the newly formed Neighbourhood Forums which are bringing the local communities of Yalding, Marden, Coxheath and Staplehurst together to identify any such problems. Leaders of the Forum believe that as a larger group they can have an influence on the decision makers. Hunton Parish Council is to consider its response.

## Applause Event - Martin Harley

Fresh from his success at Glastonbury and energised by his cycle ride south via The Dales, Martin Harley entertained an audience of 90 to a fine display of guitar playing laced with smokey vocals. Influenced by early Delta blues his slide guitar playing was of the highest quality and thoroughly appreciated by the audience who enjoyed his personable style and easy going stage presence. A truly professional troubadour whose last gig on his cycle tour takes him to the Eden Project.

It was a good night all round and raised £525 for Village Hall funds which will contribute to the substantial improvement works carried out to the small kitchen area and to the main floor. Many thanks to the helpers on the evening and to all those involved who worked so hard in putting the hall improvement works into effect.

By the time you read this you may well have missed the exciting 4 Square who are playing on Friday 1 October. We welcome the New Budapest Cafe Orchestra on Friday 3 December at 8pm and look forward to an evening of high quality Eastern European influenced music.



Alan Bishop

**Hunton School Hollywood Dinner & Dance** Hunton School PTA are organising a dinner and dance for Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 7pm and the theme will be Hollywood. Tickets will be £18 per person which includes an aperitif, fish and chip supper and disco. Money raised from this event will go towards establishing an outside classroom area. For tickets please contact Dawn Dixon 820598.

### Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell	820731	Clerk to Parish Council: Vikki Stancombe	842782
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Village Hall Booking: Jane Crane	820127
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Maidstone Police:	608186
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110	Neighbourhood Watch:	608173
Pond and Tree Warden: Anne Bishop	820683	'Potholes' concern (KCC): Kim Hills	0845 824 7800
Rector: Revd Peter Walker	747570**	Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
Associate Rector: Revd David Jones	741474*	PCSO Jo Watts/Gary Shaw	604392
Village Club: Doug Redfarn	820495		

\*not available on Fridays \*\*not available on Mondays

### Dates for Diaries:

Friday 1st October- Applause Event, '4Square  
 Saturday 2nd October, Freighter Service, Village Hall, 1.40-2.10pm  
 Saturday 9th October - Barn Dance, Village Hall  
 Saturday 16th October - Hollywood Dinner & Dance, Hunton School, 7.00pm  
 Friday 3rd December - New Budapest Cafe Orchestra - With Chris Garrick

### Parish Councillors contact details

<b>Parish Council Chairman</b>			
- Roger Sawtell	820731		
<b>Clerk to the Parish Council</b>			
- Vikki Stancombe	842782		
Cllr Les Leonard	820858	Cllr David Heaton	820678
Cllr Moira Walter	745765	Cllr Keith Eatwell	745569
Cllr Gary Thomas	820691	Cllr Ron Porter	820220

*All items for the November edition to the Editors as soon as possible, and by 15th October, please*

Dear Friends

'O Lord our God how majestic is your name in all the Earth!' (psalm 8:9)

Swallows gathering on the telephone wires tell us that they are getting ready to fly to warmer climes, and that Winter is on the way for us and that the harvest is gathered in.

Two hundred years ago men were not at all certain that birds migrated. The 18<sup>th</sup> century Swedish botanist and zoologist, Carl Linnaeus believed that swallows hibernated and the naturalist and ornithologist Gilbert White of the same era was only convinced about migration from evidence told to him by his brother, who was chaplain to the Gibraltar garrison, who saw large numbers of birds passing over the rock at different seasons of the year.

Summer and Winter bird-migration is one of the wonders of Mother Nature and of our amazing Creator God. Many theories have been put forward to explain how birds can navigate often over vast distances. How, for instance does a young cuckoo which never knows its parents, find its way unaided to Africa? How do certain young waders migrate from Arctic regions on their own after their parents have flown?

There is certainly much 'hereditary' knowledge that helps, while birds also get to know topographical features such as rivers, coastlines, valleys and the like.

Their 'd-i-y' navigation kit seems to also have that innate sense of time, an internal clock which enables birds to make allowance for the position of the sun or stars overhead, just as the human navigator does with his instruments.

This brings me to mention a recent visit to the Royal Observatory in Greenwich. I have been fascinated by the story of how longitude was discovered since learning about the long history which surrounds this conundrum that faced ships in those long-ago days. King Charles 2nd in 1675 founded the Observatory to enable mariners at sea to find their ship's position from the sun, moon and stars.

Navigators had a major problem, for once out of the sight of land, they had no way of finding their longitude - their position east or west of their home port. They could find the latitude- *continued on back page*

## Hunton Village Club - New Image - New Name

Don't miss out on the chance to choose the new name of your Village Club. Entries for this competition were collected on Hunton Calling Day but it is not too late to submit your choice now. The Club committee will be meeting on 21 October so get your entry in by this date. Just pop into the club with your entry or, if closed, post it through the letterbox. Good luck!

..... and the prize for the winning name - ONE YEAR'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP!

*Tricia Nichols*

## The Hunton Club Book Club Review

**Salmon Fishing in the Yemen, By Paul Torday**

Spin doctors, scientists and sheiks are joined together in this highly imaginative, enjoyable tale about a project to introduce salmon fishing into the Yemen. Told through a series of emails, diary entries and memos, the novel is a humorous and sometimes moving account of an impossibly difficult project and its impact on the lives of those that surround it.

The book is littered with inferences about the positive, simple outlook of the East, versus the mindless, self serving bureaucracy of the West. This undertone did lead to a debate among the Book Club members about the naivety of the argument, however, all agreed that the obvious joy that the author has in taking large literary sweeps at the Blair Government makes for a highly entertaining read. The Book Club members were also fairly unanimous about the central themes of the book: belief, hope and optimism, in their widest sense. Combined, these three elements make for a deceptively powerful book, which like all good satires, manages to mix comedy with tragedy to dramatic effect. The overall score was 6.5/10.

*Liz Macham*

## .New School Term

**Lower School** are learning about how to keep their bodies fit. They will find out where the foods they eat come from, and which foods are healthy and how exercise can keep their bodies fit. They will be sketching different parts of the body in art and make collages of themselves.

**This term Middle School's** topic is 'Healthy Me!' and they will be comparing works of art from different periods, particularly famous smiles and looking at the history of dentistry. In Geography they will be looking at leisure facilities in the area, conducting surveys and using ICT to format their results. They will be looking at some exciting image creation in art of their skeletons using pasta. In DT they will be designing and creating healthy meals and packaging. In RE this term they will be looking at the Word of God and thinking about the values and messages that are important to us.

**Upper School's** topic this term will be Australia and they will be researching Australia's famous landmarks and designing a new flag for Australia, learning about why people started to move there 200 years ago and research the journey from England before aeroplanes had been invented! Literacy will link to the topic as they write diary entries in role as convicts on a ship bound for Australia.

## Come to Hunton Village Harvest Lunch

Hunton Village Harvest Lunch follows the Harvest Festival service on Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Village Hall. All are welcome and if you haven't bought your tickets yet contact Liz Oliver on 01622 820200 or Tricia Nichols on 01622 820804. The tickets are £4.50 for adults and £3 for children under 12. It is important to buy tickets before the lunch as none will be sold at the door. The lunch is at 12 pm for 12.30 pm. Let's make this a truly 'village' lunch. Look forward to seeing you there!

## Out and Out Autumn Outrage

One of Nature's most outrageous colour combinations is to be found at around this time of the year on a native shrub called the Spindle Tree. The shrub for most of the year is fairly unremarkable but come Autumn the leaves deepen from plain green to a fiery autumnal red, a warming sight in its own right. But it is the seed cases which we are interested in. They ripen to a bright pink colour then split open to reveal deep orange fruit, a very daring colour mix which is so rich it comes close to being a clash.

The Latin name of this shrub is *Euonymus Europaeus* but its common name, the Spindle Tree, is widely used and reminds us that its wood was found to be ideal for making spindles for wool spinning. Growing to no more than 6 metres the Spindle Tree can be seen in hedgerows and woodland edge, I'm not certain that I have spotted any growing wild in Hunton but there are a couple in gardens which can be easily seen from public roads. Keep looking and be prepared to be outraged!

*Christine McSweeney*

## Maidstone Symphony Orchestra

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010, 7.30pm, Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park. Conductor, Brian Wright, will perform Malcolm Riley's new Fairmeadow overture which includes the tune of a locally collected folksong and references to the music of the 17<sup>th</sup> century composer John Jenkins, who was born in Maidstone.

Acclaimed young pianist Tom Poster returns in the classical splendour of Beethoven's 4<sup>th</sup> Concerto and MSO tackles the effervescent brilliance of Rachmaninov's Symphonic Dances.

Season tickets are available from the Membership Secretaries on 01622 736392 for five concerts at £48, £68 and £84. Season tickets for all Children up to and including 18 years of age are FREE. Single tickets are £14, £18 and £22. Full time Students with a student card £5, available from the membership Secretaries on 01622 736392 paid for and collected on the concert evening at Mote Hall. This concert is sponsored by "The Friends of Maidstone Orchestral Society. MOS Registered Charity No. 287986".

## Heart of Kent Hospice Events

**5k Big Fun Run, Sunday 10th October, Mote Park, Maidstone** 11am start. Reduced charity entry fee - adults £8, children (5-18) and over 65 £5, under 5's free. Please visit [www.bigfunrun.com](http://www.bigfunrun.com) to enter. Click on "entry info" and select The Heart of Kent Hospice as your official charity to get a reduced entry fee. Your details will then come through to us and you will be issued with an official sponsorship form.

**The JMW Trust Dinner & Dance, Saturday 23rd October 2010, Grange Moor Hotel, Maidstone** Annual dinner and dance hosted by The Johnathan Wenborn Trust. Arrive at 7.30 pm for 8pm start. £35 per person, or £300 for a table of ten. To make payments and reservations please visit [www.justgiving.com/JMWdinnerdance](http://www.justgiving.com/JMWdinnerdance). Alternatively contact Gavin Wenborn on 07545 171526 or email [gavin@jmwtrust.com](mailto:gavin@jmwtrust.com).

**Charity Gig, Saturday 23rd October, Coxheath Village Hall 'Miles From Next Door'** are back by popular demand. 7.30pm 11.30pm. £10.00 per ticket. Bring your own refreshments. To book please call Andrew or Vicky on 01622 753150 or email [andrew.putley@gcornell.co.uk](mailto:andrew.putley@gcornell.co.uk).

## Coxheath Benefice ALPHA course 2010

The new "Coxheath Benefice ALPHA course 2010" will be starting on Tuesday the 14th September and continuing each week until 23<sup>rd</sup> November (with a break on 26<sup>th</sup> October).

*Alpha* is a short, practical introduction to the Christian faith. The course is ideal for those wanting to learn more about the Christian faith and a good opportunity for committed Christians to deepen their faith and progress their personal pilgrimage. It is also a wonderful chance to meet and make new friends. The course includes an 'Away Day', in November. This is a key part of the course, as well as great fun, further details will be available later. A team will lead the course and each evening begins at 7.00pm, with a meal. This is followed by a DVD presented talk and opportunity to discuss the issues raised. The evening ends at 9.30pm approximately.

The meetings will take place at the home of Kay & Tony Mason and it would be a great help if you could ring or email them to book your place on the *Alpha* course. Kay & Tony look forward to meeting you. Contact details— Kay & Tony Mason, 23 Bensted Close, Hunton, ME15 OSD, Tel : 01622 820 488, E-mail : [kaysey61@yahoo.com](mailto:kaysey61@yahoo.com)

## At St Mary's Church in October

Notices	Services
<p><b>Flower Arrangers</b>            3<sup>rd</sup> HARVEST FESTIVAL - All            10<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Wright            17<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Wright            24<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Bullivant            31<sup>st</sup> Benefice</p> <p><b>Hunton Sunday Club</b> - Our October meeting, Sunday October 17<sup>th</sup>, will be held at the home of Darcie Tought and family 3 Grove Cottages, West Street. The Club is open to all children of primary school age either living in Hunton or attending Hunton School. Contact David Jones 741474 for further details.</p>	<p><b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October - 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>            11.00 am Harvest - Rev David Jones  <span style="float: right;">Readings: Preachers Choice</span></p> <p><b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October - 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>            09.30am Holy Communion - Rev David Jones            Readings: 2 Kings 5 v 1-3, 7 - 15 and Luke 7 v 11 - 19</p> <p><b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October - 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>            11.00am Morning Prayer - Rev David Jones            Readings: Genesis 32 v 22 - 31 and Luke 18 v 1 - 8</p> <p><b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Last Sunday after Trinity Bible Sunday</b>            11.00am Holy Communion - Rev Peter Walker            Readings: Isaiah 45 v 22 - 25 and Luke 4 v 16 - 24</p> <p><b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October - All Saints Sunday</b>            10.30 am Benefice Service West Farleigh</p>

how far north or south of the equator they were, by measuring the position of the polar star or the sun, using simple instruments.

Rough estimates of longitude often meant ships were hundreds of miles off course and the inevitable ship wrecks which often happened as unseen rocks and other sea hazards took their toll.

To find longitude the mariner needed to know the time at their home port and the local time for his ship's position. The Earth which spins on its axis (360 degrees in 24 hours) making one hour's difference in local time as 15 degrees of longitude. Local time could be found from the stars or the sun. The simplest way to know the time at home was to take a clock. Accuracy of such devices was hopeless because of the rolling and pitching of the ship at sea.

Many years and many men turned their minds to solve this. The history is long but eventually a man called John Harrison after four attempts at constructing an accurate clock for sea voyages solved the problem. The H4 clock now sits in the Observatory for all to see the intricacies of this construction.

Birds seemed to have solved the problem of navigation long before mankind did!

Psalms rejoice in the creation of the birds and all other animals together with the creation of men and women. It is a wondrous thing which God has done and we praise Him for all these things!

With my prayers, Peter

**Tearfund Talk** Sam Woods will share his personal experiences of working for Tearfund in the "Darfur camps" of Sudan over the last three years. Followed by prayers for Tearfund projects & the needs of the world

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010** at 7.45pm in Loose Baptist Church. Sale of Tearcraft and Fairtrade goods and refreshments at close of meeting. For more information please ring Karen Mackley at 01732 870625

### 5P Men Group

On **Saturday October 16th** we are holding our **Big Breakfast** at Coxheath Village Hall, Stockett Lane from 8am to 10am. Our guest speaker will be Max Sinclair, Founder and President of CVM (Christian Vision for Men), author and one of the very few people to walk out of Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

Don't miss the chance to hear Max speak and enjoy a great breakfast. Do invite your friends and neighbours along all are welcome to this important event in the 5p Men calendar. Please book the date now.

Tickets are available from Mike Marsh 01622 745702, David Simpson 01622 743977 or Mike Cooper 01622 744047 and contacts in each of the Benefice churches. For more information, help with transport etc contact any of the above or email; 5pmen@talktalk.net. Details of 5P Men events are on a link at, <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/coxheath-holy-trinity/>

### Church Arm Africa Talk

Rev Capt Richard Mayabi General Secretary, Church Army Africa will speak on Church Army Africa's strategic plan H.E.A.L. Africa which aims to bring hope and healing to communities across Africa by establishing 1500 holistic Anglican churches by 2015 on **Saturday 16th October 2010** at 7 30 pm in St Luke's Church Foley Street, Maidstone ME14 5BD. For further information phone Laurence and Chris on 01622 751603

October	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
Coxheath	11.00 HC	11.00 MP	11.00 HC	11.00 FS	10.30 Benefice West Farleigh
E. Farleigh	09.30 Matins	08.00 HC 11.00 FS	09.30 HC	08.00 HC	10.30 Benefice West Farleigh
Linton	09.30 HC	09.30 Harvest	08.00 HC	09.30 HC	10.30 Benefice West Farleigh
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC	11.00 Harvest	9.30 MP	09.30 HC	10.30 Benefice West Farleigh

HC: Holy Communion, MP: Morning Prayer, (bcp) Book of Common Prayer, FS: Family Service, SW: Service of Word

# Hunton Calling!!

More than 125 people were involved in making Saturday such a great success and that does not include all of those that turned up to enjoy the day! All the clubs and groups across all four key sites: the club, the church, school, village hall and the playing field clubs plus external organisations contributed so much time and effort with their individual stands that all added to such a rich array of things to see and do with many highlights across the day.



Barbara's 'Farming in Hunton Stand' displayed the rural scene of the hop picking days and many interesting photographs of the not too distant past.



There was an array of stands in the village hall including the energetic activity of the judo club contrasting with the sedate and fabulous flower arrangements on display from the flower group.



Barbara reported that for her, the day began at the Village Club accompanying the panel of judges for the Images of Hunton Today exhibition. "Gilly Devas, Brian Mortimer and David Way were impressed by the high standard, finding it difficult to choose from the variety on display. After serious deliberation and discussion they reached their conclusion and announced their verdict":

**Landscape & Wildlife** - 'Hunton - My Home - Scenes from Favourite Walks' by **Liz Oliver**



**Architecture Children** 0-12 yrs - Hunton Timber Framed House by **Tommy Love**

**Architecture Adults** 19+ - 'Bright & Beautiful' by **Phil Nichols**

**People** - 'Rachel' by **Liz Oliver**

Congratulations to the winners of each category who received a £20 gift voucher. Barbara adds "A big thank you must go to all our entrants for creating a fine patchwork of life in Hunton through images and to our judges and sponsors.

A number of residents suggested that a selection of images should be made into a calendar and that an annual exhibition should be arranged. We will be considering this".

Di our events coordinator wishes to thank all those who had baked such a delicious array of cakes. "They were very popular and raised £281 which will go to the Hunton Parish Plan. Thank you also to the ladies who helped with the refreshments and washing up. Well done."



Kathy and Simon reported that as part of Hunton Calling!!, the classic car show was an opportunity for the residents of Hunton to display their classic vehicles for the benefit of the public, with a competition for the best vehicle. We had over 20 entrants!



In glorious sunshine, Ian Farrow from Redwall Lane and his immaculate VW split-screen Camper van took first place.

Despite competition from some well presented vehicles, the judges thought the amount of work and attention to detail in the VW was enough to secure the cup. A big thanks to all who displayed their vehicles, the wide variety of entries ensured enjoyment for the many spectators who turned up on the day.

Simon Taylor reported that "Nine members of the cricket club attended on Saturday and we ran a net on the edge of the square from about 1.00pm to 5.30pm". They had a gazebo up and were offering Pimms, tea, squash and nibbles to visitors and the football club had a display and their changing rooms on show.

**Other winners of the day were:**

**Treasure Hunt Prize winner:** Harriet Odling; **Word Search Winner:** Karen Bell from Loose Road; **Raffle prize winners for flower displays:** Tricia Nichols, Sandra Bullivant, Lisa, Kathy, Claire Taylor, Linda Ray; **Hunton Calling! Raffle Draw on the Parish Plan stand were:** 33, 321, 109, 332, 66, 238, 356, 438, 384, 300, 402, 44, 292, 220, 270, 465, 417, 412. Which raised £106 for Hunton Parish Plan. (Those that have not collected their prizes, they are behind the bar at the Village Club).



The school had an array of events: the 'Welly Wanging' adult category was won by Lorraine Redfarn and £40 was raised for the school. The children's 3D model of Hunton was on display and some fascinating historical records were among a host of interesting displays. There was an opportunity to measure your carbon footprint



and see how many planets you consumed.



The bus proved to be a great success adding further excitement to the day, it was lovely to see people using it, piling on and off at the various request stops. The village club did an outstanding sale on the 'Barby' and beers - even the fire engine disappeared down the road for a quick bite!



Phil reports that "No one was brave enough to participate in the darts or bar billiards, so no winners". The Scalextric hill climb was well received and was just for fun. The club gained nine new members and people said how nice it was to see the place so full. All in all it was a great success. Thanks needs to go to Nick and Doug for the bar and BBQ and Tricia who did much of the behind scenes work.

The friends of St Mary's and the Fabric Committee had a display in the church to the accompaniment of the sound of the bells. A few of us tried our hand at ringing and getting into the swing of it!



The whole day's event was rounded off in the church by a few words from Rev Peter Walker and a real treat of a first performance from Sue Pinks' singing group, 'The Huntones' with some popular well-known numbers enjoyed with a glass of wine. Sue reported that "the Huntone Singers really enjoyed the chance to perform to round off the day and we were thrilled by the positive reception we were given", adding that **the next rehearsal will be on October 7th at 7.30 at Barnhill House. Everyone is welcome.**

All in all in was a spectacular day. The Parish Plan Steering Committee want to say a big thank you to so many people who contributed to the preparations and to so many of you who came to participate and make this a truly village event. We hope by now you will have gained some food for thought to enable you to complete your questionnaires.