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Friends of St. Mary's Church

Many of you will have witnessed how busy the BBQ was at the Fete this year. It was great fun and the hard work all worth it. The Trustees are pleased to report that a profit of £468 was achieved on that day which is very satisfying as after sharing that profit with the Fete Committee substantial funds were accrued to our bank balance. Thank you all for supporting us and we hope that those of you who tried the food enjoyed it. That food was mainly locally sourced, Spot on Produce sausages and bacon, Hunton Bakery for the rolls, Lord Falmouth's estate for the charcoal, Woods for the beef burgers. The Friends were then asked to provide a BBQ but also tea, coffee and cakes for the Ashford Valley Pony Club dressage event, which took place in the beautiful grounds of Hunton Court on Sunday the 7th July. A very hot day as you may recall with over 500 people attending enjoying egg and bacon breakfast from 8am then throughout the day teas, coffees, cakes and of course cold drinks and beef burgers. The Friends could not have done that all by themselves and we are most grateful for additional help including the children of the Trustees who worked so hard to make it such a success. I say success as again we raised over £400 for our Charity and we have been asked by the organisers to do it again next year. What do we plan to do with this money you might well ask? Initially we will be making substantial funds available to the PCC to complete the delicate and expensive work on the windows of the Church. The remaining one to undergo restoration is in the south aisle and as you may have noticed it is currently covered with a plastic shield to protect it. The cost of restoration is in the region of £6000 which Friends have committed to cover subject to the PCC ensuring that no other finance, by way of grant, is available that can be used towards that repair. Revd. David Jones is currently researching that on behalf of the PCC. When that research is done then The Friends can support with whatever funds are needed to restore that window. For future fundraising targets we are discussing our objectives with the PCC and internal repair and decoration and restoration of the bells are just two of the topics that are on that discussion agenda. We will publish our next agreed fundraising target just as soon as we can. Thank you all for your support and we hope that you will be able to see the results of that support when you visit the Church. We are always looking for new members so for a modest £25 pa (and if you are a tax payer we benefit from Gift Aid) you can help us continue with our vital work. For those of you who may not know Ian Pinks (820709) is our membership Trustee. Thank you again. Ron Porter

Alan Bishop - It is with great sadness that we have heard of Alan Bishop's death. He has contributed an immense amount for the Hunton community over many years and will be greatly missed.

The Second Time of Asking

Is there any one who would like to help with the Herald?
We are looking for a new editor/editors and anyone willing to help with delivery rounds.
Please contact Sue Heaton 820678

Christmas Market

Back by popular demand! This year's market will take place on 14th December from 4pm to 7pm at St. Mary's Church. All last year's favourites plus additional new stalls. Thanks to your generosity, the bottle stall was a big success and we will be calling on you again this year for bottle donations.

Admission £1, children free. All monies raised go towards the upkeep of our beautiful Church.

Something to think about now we have the footpath, it would help the parking situation if, where possible, those who can, walk to the market.
Ann Sawtell

Your Local Contacts:

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Sawtell	820731	Clerk to Parish Council: Sharon Goodwin	681238
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Village Hall Booking: Kathy Reid	820092
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Maidstone Police:	608186
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110	Neighbourhood Watch: huntonwatch@gmail.com	820403, 820429, 820731
Pond and Tree Warden: Anne Bishop	820683	'Potholes' concern (KCC): Kim Hills	0845 824 7800
Rector: Peter Callway	747570**	Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
Non Stipendiary Minister Revd David Jones	741474*	PCSO Richard Chainey	07989 992424
Village Club: Doug Redfarn	820495	Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb	745716
		*not available on Fridays	**not available on Mondays

Diary Dates

Saturday 2nd November **Indian Supper Night** Hunton Village Club from 8pm
Friday 22nd November; **Hannah Scott**, Village Hall at 7.30pm
Saturday 30th November **Quiz Night** Hunton Village Club from 8pm
Saturday 14th December Christmas **Market** In and around the Church

Parish Councillors Contact Details

Parish Council Chairman – Roger Sawtell 820731
Clerk to the Parish Council – Sharon Goodwin 681238
Cllr Les Leonard 820858 Cllr Ron Porter 820220
Cllr David Heaton 820678 Cllr Tony Stanbridge 820761
Cllr Gary Thomas 820691 Cllr Steve Wyles 820403

Check out www.hunton.org.uk for changes and see the latest up-dated version. If you would like to add an event to the village diary, email huntondiary@btinternet.com. New events are being added all the time.

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

Guy Fawkes, Fireworks and Freedom

Four hundred and eight years ago, on November 5th 1605, Guy Fawkes was discovered under the Houses of Parliament with 36 barrels of gunpowder. For several months thirteen young men had been plotting to blow up the Houses of Parliament, intent on killing the King and the MPs who had been persecuting them. They felt that they had been persecuted because of their religion. They had hoped that the new king would be more tolerant towards them, but this didn't happen. They believed that blowing up Parliament and killing the king would bring them freedom. But some of those who were involved in the plot became worried that innocent people would be killed or injured and so they tipped off the government and betrayed their fellow plotters. Guy Fawkes was discovered, tortured and executed. Actually, Guy Fawkes was not the leader, just the one who was discovered, but he is the one whose name was given to the day on which we celebrate the foiling of the plot. Lately it has just become known as Firework Night or Bonfire Night but it is all the same thing. The rest, as they say, is history, and we still enjoy fireworks each year on that night.

Jesus, too, was betrayed - by Judas Iscariot, one of his closest followers and disciples. Jesus was tortured. Jesus was executed. But this plot was one that was formed by God, and this plan had an amazing ending: Jesus rose again to return to be with God forever. And his death and resurrection have created a *real* opportunity for freedom. Jesus himself said "He [God the Father] has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." When he died on that cross he took all our wrongdoing away and gave us the opportunity for a new and exciting relationship with God. We can be free from the problem of sin, and free to worship God and enjoy life to the full. And nothing can get in the way of this plan being fulfilled. The Bible tells us that "neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39) Now that's what I call a plot!

Many blessings, Peter Callway, Rector

Hunton Village Hall Music Events

Those 75 stalwarts who braved the terrible weather last Friday 10th to see Jo Harman & Company at the Village Hall were rewarded with a 5-piece band bravura set of soul/blues/rock and a vocal performance long to be remembered; as Jo put on her Facebook page 'What a Lovely Audience!'

There will be one more gig this year, but this one is not an Applause event but is to be self-funded by the Hall. Another young rising star with a distinctive voice, Hannah Scott, will be on guitar/keyboard, accompanied by Stefano Della Casa on cello & bass (www.hannahscott.co.uk). The duo's musical style is described (on Facebook) as '*acoustic/pop*' but it's Hannah's songwriting and melodies that have pleased audiences, and led to significant sales of her first EP 'Still Static'. Having supported such luminaries as Norah Jones, Seth Lakeman and Wishbone Ash in concert, they have also appeared in Kent at Hever Castle's open-air folk concert (where Alan B & Mike S first saw the duo).

Date for the gig is **Friday 22nd November**; doors at 7.30pm, and music at 8pm. Tickets £8 including half-time food (£5 under-18s); please pre-book via telephone to Mike (820429) or Steve (820403). We promise this time to have enough Goachers (and French sticks) to meet unforeseen demand!

Email: info@huntonvillagehall.co.uk



Hunton Church Display Magnificent

Hunton Church was even more stunning than usual at the beginning of October when magnificent flowers adorned its ancient walls and pews. Purple lisianthus, red lilies, white chrysanthemums and orange and yellow dahlias were among the many flowers making up arrangements illustrating the history of the village and the Church. There was an oast house made out of autumn leaves with an arum lily cowl, a wedding dress with a floral bodice and a striking red beacon of red dahlias and black sticks and many more. The three-day History of Hunton flower festival was very well attended and visitors commented, not only on the magnificent flowers, but on the informative boards telling them about the current and former activities of the village such as fruit-farming, hopping and rat and sparrow catching! The former functions of several of the buildings such as housing a shop, hosting village dances and housing prisoners of war were also represented. About £600 was raised which will go towards the upkeep and the running of

the Church and organiser Sue Pinks said: 'Hunton has done it again – it was a massive effort and thanks must go to everyone for all their hard work.' More photos at www.hunton.org.uk

This May Be of Interest to You...

A few years ago I bought this Hunton collage on eBay. I don't know the origin but I suspect it may have at one time belonged to a resident of Hunton.

The advertisements, I believe, have been taken from a Hunton Church Parish Magazine dated around the 1950's and the inn sign is from the familiar Whitbread First Series.

Perhaps some of your readers will remember the traders and business people shown.

All of these trade establishments are now private dwellings.

Ted Mordey



From The Village Club Chairman

The Village Club will most likely have to close its doors on Saturday evenings unless there is a specific function taking place. Sadly, income on a Saturday is not keeping ahead of expenditure. With fewer than four or five members using the Club on a Saturday evening on a regular basis it is clear that there is no longer a demand in the village/Membership for socialising on Saturdays. Bookings for the Bistro nights recently have been extremely disappointing which is not encouraging for the future. It is a great shame as steps have been taken to try to make the Club as welcoming as possible and meeting the points raised in the answers villagers gave to the questions in the Parish Plan. Prices have been kept relatively low but this is clearly a sign of the times and serves to demonstrate why so many pubs and clubs around the country are closing each week.

The Management Committee is very happy allowing the Club to be used, by members and their guests, who would like to hold a special function, for example an anniversary party and a Saturday evening may be a convenient time to hold such a function. However, it has to be remembered that we are a Member's Club, we are not a pub and we only have a licence and insurance for providing facilities for the Members. The rules of the Club are such that Members are entitled to enter if the Club is open and unless the rules are changed a complete private hire is not possible, even if a Temporary Event Notice (TENs) licence is obtained.

It is very pleasing that the various recreational groups in the village are using the Club as their meeting place and we certainly do not wish to deter them or any other new groups from doing so but because we are a Club it is necessary that the individuals involved become Members.

While Member's guests are welcome, there is a requirement that they be signed into the visitors' book and the rules will only allow the same guest to attend twice, at the third visit they should be applying for membership. This is something that has not been strictly followed in the past but the Club's insurers are requiring that we comply with our rules. These rules can be amended within reason but only at the AGM and suggested changes need to be published at least two weeks prior to the AGM. It would be great if every parishioner was to be a Member, we would not have to worry so much about such things and perhaps there is a way we could work with the Parish Council in this respect but that is a long way down the road.

The Club is not yet in dire trouble, it has a healthy membership, but members are not using the Club, which is now run by a diminishing number of volunteers whose enthusiasm is waning. The AGM will be held on Thursday 5th December (please note this revised date) and we would welcome views, constructive criticism, and ideas and, above all, help to keep the Club functioning for the benefit of the village and the Members.

Phil Nichols

Hunton Club Book Group

Review of *Flight Behaviour* by Barbara Kingsolver

Attempting to escape her empty marriage and the drudgery of life on a rundown Appalachian farm, Dellarobia Turnbow heads for an assignation that accidentally transforms her life. En route to a tryst with a lover, she stumbles on a hillside covered with swathes of orange monarch butterflies that appear like fire on the landscape. The monarchs' majestic, and mysterious, appearance distracts Dellarobia from her illicit assignation and in the process she achieves Internet fame as the discoverer of a phenomenon that confounds human understanding of butterfly migration.

Entomologist Ovid Byron, a gifted African-American researcher who comes to investigate, puts the blame on climate change. Byron hires Dellarobia to help him to make sense of the strange apparition on her land and in the process of learning how to help him; she acquires a self-confidence she had been denied by her lack of education and by her poverty.

"Mildly amusing", "quite enjoyed it", "not exciting", "didn't grip" were comments made about this book, which gives, I believe, an idea of how we felt. Only six members voted on this book, some of who had failed to finish it at the time of voting. Surprisingly though it scored 5½ out of 10. Our book for October is *Cold Comfort Farm* by Stella Gibbons.

Footpath update

KCC has completed the selection process and chosen a contractor to cut the hedge alongside the new West Street footpath. We are just waiting for confirmation of the dates for the work to be done.

Out and Out

Small trees, big impact. The time has come to think about planting some trees in the garden but what to choose? Let's think about small trees, small gardens need them to give height and large gardens need them as an extra layer between big trees and shrubs. Which ever it is your tree must earn its space with more than one season of interest.

My short list for this year looks something like this, *Cerciscanadensis 'Appalachian Red'*, this flowers early before the leaves open in shades of dark pink, then the leaves are attractively green and heart shaped. Next is the black mulberry, *Morusnigra*, a tree of character, it seems mostly to grow with a lean to it and tends to look mature at an early age. Good if, like me, you are planting beyond your umpteenth 31st birthday! Lastly the *Amelanchialamarckii* is all round perfection with an airy look, early white flowers, berries for the birds and good red and yellow autumn colour.

It is also worth considering fruit trees on a size limiting rootstock, they are mostly ornamental and have the added bonus of an edible harvest. With a bit of careful planting and thoughtful watering it won't be too long before a small tree will be providing a big impact in your garden.

Christine McSweeney

At St Mary's Church in November

Notices

Flowers – NOVEMBER

3rd Nicky Williams
 10th Wendy Simmons
 17th Wendy Simmons
 24th Alison Ellman Brown

Sunday 3rd November – All Saints

11.00am Family Service—Rev. Peter Callway
 Readings: Preacher's choice

Sunday 10th November – Remembrance Sunday

10.50 Holy Communion— Rev. Eileen Doyle
 Readings: Job 19.23-27a and Luke 20.27-38

Sunday 17th November – 2 Before Advent

11.00am Morning Prayer— Mr David Barnes
 Readings: Malachi 4.1-2a and Luke 21.5-19

Sunday 24th November – Christ the King

11.00am Holy Communion— Rev. David Jones
 Readings: Jeremiah 23.1-6 and Luke 23.33-43

Sunday 1st December – 1st Sunday in Advent

11.00am Family Service—Miss Chris Bostock
 Readings: Preacher's choice

Hop Bines for Sale

After the flower festival we have two magnificent hop bines for sale at a cost of £10 each. Anyone interested please contact Sue Pinks 820709.



Harvest Supper

More than 60 people sat down to Harvest supper in the Village Hall after Harvest Festival service. Thanks to help from many people with cooking, setting up and decorating tables, everyone enjoyed a meal of shepherd's pie and a variety of delicious puddings followed by cheese and coffee. It was the first time for many years that the Harvest meal has been in the evening rather than at lunchtime and the general opinion was positive especially as thanks to amazingly speedy clearing of the hall and the washing up being taken to volunteers' dishwashers everyone was home in time to see Downton Abbey!

Farleigh's Farmers Market

The October Farmers' Market was held on a beautiful Autumn day and we welcomed an almost full complement of stalls, in fact the hall was bursting at the seams with good things! As a result we were delighted to be able to send £100 to the Peggy Wood Foundation, which included a very generous donation of £20 from one of our customers. The next market will be held on Sunday 3rd November. Spot on Produce will be back from their holiday and our two new stalls – Land of Tea and watercolour artist Grenville Allen will be adding even more interest to the range of goods on sale. Please come along and support us, meet your friends and neighbours and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and some home-made cake from the kitchen.

Can anybody help?

I was given the attached photograph recently by a former school chum at Hunton Primary School – the old school in East Street on the corner by the Amsbury Farm entrance. The picture clearly shows a meal/tea party in progress in Hunton Village Hall. Would there be any readers of the Hunton Herald who can identify any characters in the photograph and/or put a date and occasion to the event?

Many thanks.

Ted Mordey,
 Brixham, Devon

enquiries@wiscot.co.uk



November	3rd	10th	17th	24th	Dec 1st
Coxheath	11.00 HC	10.30 MP	11.00 HC	11.00 FS	11.00 HC
E. Farleigh	09.30 MP	08.00 HC 10.45 FS	09.30 HC	08.00 HC	09.30 MP
Linton	09.30 HC 3.00pm Service for the bereaved	10.00 FS	08.00 HC	09.30 HC	09.30 HC
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC	10.45 MP	09.30 HC	09.30 HC Harvest Festival	08.00 HC

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