



Editor: Helen Ward, Old School Farm, East Street, Hunton, ME15 0RA Tel: 01622 820810 herald@hunton.org.uk

Fun, Games and a Special Visitor at the Christmas Fair

The Hunton Christmas Fair is on Saturday 9th December from 3pm until 6pm. An entrance fee of £1 per adult will go towards repairs in the church. There will be a wide selection of gifts and crafts available to buy in the church; with a BBQ, roasted chestnuts, toasted marshmallows and more to cheer you in the churchyard (we have it under good authority it might snow!). The ever-popular bottle stall also makes a return appearance (donations will be collected during late November). In addition this year there are fun activities in the hall - with face painting, lucky dip, guess how many sweets in the tin and much more for kids. Hot drinks, homemade cakes, and a bar will give the adults a chance to warm up and rest their feet. We hope to include a wreath-making workshop for those of you feeling "crafty". There is also to be a visit from a very special gentleman between 4pm and 5pm - Ho, Ho, Ho! Please phone 01622 820403 to book a place to meet him, reserve an age appropriate gift and avoid disappointment on the day. He is very busy at this time of year so we must have all reservations by Sunday 12th November please and the cost will be £5 per child.

The Village Club gets a new "Smart TV"

The club has been hosting a number of events where speakers have been making presentations on a variety of topics. Unfortunately the club's technical equipment was not very 21st century, comprising of a portable slide screen, which was kindly given to the club some time ago. Thought was given to the purchase of a projector to enable laptop PCs to be connected and then presentations to be beamed onto the screen or wall. However, it was also suggested that a "Smart TV" would be a better option; not only can they be connected to a PC and act as a visual display unit, they can also connect to the internet and would be more user friendly for use on Karaoke nights. So the decision was taken to purchase a new TV, a decision, which was made easier by the very kind gesture of the Village Fete Committee who funded the purchase, leaving more club funds to be used on the kitchen project. The TV will be an asset to the community as a whole, with its first use being for the presentation of "Our Man in Hamburg", arranged by the Hunton WI.

Beer Festival

The village club opened its doors and strung up the bunting for the second Hunton Beer Festival in September. Villagers and visitors enjoyed tasty treats from the Pop-Up Shop and WI; a selection of six local beers; an international selection of lagers and ales kindly donated for a beer tombola; BBQ; apple pressing with a mix of cox, egremont russet, spartan and worcester apples from the village; and the icing on the cake - four extremely talented musical acts that were just brilliant! The home-brew competition heated up this year - there were five entries up from two! The winners were Tony and Stuart at the Winter Stanbridge Ciderhouse with their Baxter Brew, a slightly sweet, sparkling cider made with cox and early worcester apples sourced from a number of orchards in Hunton and brewed with a champagne yeast. They will enjoy the prize of a £20 tab waiting behind the bar at Rockin' Robin's Beer Barn in Boughton Monchelsea. Proceeds and profit from the day have gone towards creating a new kitchen at the club. Thanks to everyone who came and helped create such a fun, enjoyable atmosphere...same time next year?

Your Local Contacts:		Village Hall Booking:	www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Maidstone Police	690690 or 101
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Neighbourhood Watch: huntonwatch@gmail.com	820403,820429, 820731
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110	'Potholes' Hotline (KCC)	03000 418181
Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill	820429	Community Warden: Adam McKinley	07811 271021
Rector: Revd. Peter Callway	747570*	PCSO - Jasmine Pay	101
Hon Associate Rector: Revd. David Jones	741474*	Helen Grant MP helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk	0207 219 7107
Associate Rector: Revd Eileen Doyle	204241**	Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb	745716
Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288	*not available on Fridays; **not available on Mondays or Tuesdays	
Village Club: Philip Nichols	820804		
Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at www.hunton.org.uk/contacts			

Parish Council Contacts			
Parish Council Chairman – Gary Thomas 820691		Clerk to the Parish Council – Sharon Goodwin 681238	
Cllr Jonny Goddard	820096	Cllr David Heaton	820678
Cllr Tony Stanbridge	820721	Cllr Annette Trought	820448
		Cllr Roger Lee	820210
		Cllr Helen Ward	820810

Diary Dates			
Thurs 2 nd November	Autumn Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm	Sun 5 th November	East Farleigh Farmers' Market 10am-1pm
Tues 7 th November	WI Meeting Village Club 7.15pm	Thurs 9 th November	Autumn Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm
Sun 12 th November	Remembrance Service St Mary's Church 10.50am	Thurs 16 th November	Autumn Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm
Fri 17 th November	Gardening Club Talk & Supper Village Club 7pm	Sat 18 th November	Karaoke Village Club 7pm
Sun 19 th November	Indoor Boot Fair Village Hall 10am	Mon 20 th November	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
Thurs 23 rd November	Autumn Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm	Fri 24 th November	Needles & Natter Village Club 8pm
Sat 25 th November	"A Taste of Latin" Village Hall Doors 7.30pm	Thurs 30 th November	Autumn Lunch Village Club 12.30-2pm
Fri 1 st December	School Xmas Fair Hunton Primary School 2-4.30pm	Thurs 7 th December	Village Club AGM Village Club 7pm
Sat 9 th December	Hunton Xmas Fair St Mary's Church 3-6pm		
Check out www.hunton.org.uk/diary for the latest events. If you would like to add an event, email diary@hunton.org.uk			

Pastoral Letter - Mind: Blown

I have a weather station in my garden that is connected to a controller in my study, which in turn connects to my computer and uploads weather data to a global weather database called Weather Underground (you can see real time weather information from my garden on their website). My interest in weather goes back to my childhood, but I guess that living in Britain means I have absorbed the national obsession with the weather. I think part of the reason we are so interested in weather is that we have such distinct seasons, and the turning of summer to autumn is happening (with winter fast approaching). Our seasons happen because of the tilt of the earth and our orbit around the sun. Some parts of the earth do not have seasons like ours, being hot or cold all year round. When I think about the delicate balance that brings this about, the fact that we have what are sometimes called the "Goldilocks factors" (not too hot or cold, not too hard or soft) that mean life can exist on this amazing planet we call home it boggles my mind. Of course, all is not perfect: adverse weather affects many lives – drought meaning no food, floods causing untold damage to crops and homes, hurricanes destroying all in their wake, dry heat causing fires that rage uncontrolled. And those things astound me too – the power of nature and the delicate changes that cause such powerful phenomenon. Giles Fraser recently talked about awe and wonder on Radio 4's thought for the day. Two quotes he used were these: "To be human is to be awe inspirable" (Clemency Burton-Hill); and "Wonder is just a few clicks away from a reverential attitude towards existence." (G K Chesterton)

A contemporary worship song has these words. "I'm lost in wonder. I'm lost in love. I'm lost in praise for evermore." Awe and wonder can lead us to ponder the very reason for life itself, and to praise the creator God who brought about the conditions for the Big Bang and life to emerge. The song goes on to say that, "Because of Jesus' unfailing love, I am forgiven. I am restored." That simply blows my mind.

Many blessings, *Peter*

Club AGM – Thursday 7th December at 7 pm

The annual general meeting will take place on Thursday 7th December. It has been another busy year at the club with numerous events taking place including walks, talks, lunches, wine tasting, Karaoke nights, quiz nights, Yoga and Pilates classes, not forgetting the successful Beer Festival. Please come along and learn about how the kitchen project is progressing. The club does of course rely solely upon voluntary help for running functions, bar and operations and it always needs more help. The committee especially needs help as the acting Secretary and Chairman gave notice at the last AGM that he would not fulfil those roles after the 2017 AGM. As mentioned in a previous Herald article the roles are not particularly onerous and the retiring chairman is quite happy to continue with much of the voluntary work already undertaken. The club rules do require the appointment of officers, which include the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The licence to operate is dependant upon the rules being adhered to. Functions within the roles can be split amongst the committee if necessary, it is more of a figurehead that is required for charring meetings and writing / signing the odd document or two, nothing very burdensome. Don't let this put you off attending the AGM, please do come along and give the club your support.

Huntonwatch News

There have been a number of dog thefts in and around Maidstone in recent months – please keep an eye on your pets and remember a dog must have a collar when out of the house. Should your pet go missing we suggest you contact your vet and neighbourhood watch – we have been able to help others in the past be reunited with their animals.

There have been a number of reports of rogue traders and doorstep salespersons. You do not have to agree to any work being done and if they refuse to leave then call 999. If they do leave but you are worried please report it via 101. Be aware, sometimes one person will keep you occupied at the front door while a second enters house or garden from the rear so it is best to ensure rear doors are locked (you can close the front door asking the caller to wait – a genuine one will).

There are several scams going around. All start with an unsolicited email, text or phone call and often scammers will pretend to be from a bank, building society, utility provider, merchant (such as Amazon), government body or even the police. If you are contacted and have any doubts hang up the phone and do not reply to texts or emails and certainly do not click on any links or open any attachments. Typically you are asked to update information, confirm bank details, are told you owe money or that something is dangerous or broken and must be fixed urgently. If you want to check whether the contact was genuine contact the organisation directly using a number or mail address you KNOW to be correct (from a bill for example) and leave a good 30 minutes before using your phone to allow any scam caller to disconnect (or use another phone line or mobile if you have one).

Karaoke at the Club

Hunton Village Club is holding another Karaoke Night on Saturday 18th November starting at 7pm. These popular evenings are great fun and open to all, not just club members. There are over 10,000 songs covering all genres, including many recent hits, a recording studio grade sound system and for those singing with their friends, there are five radio microphones and three screens displaying the words. As always there's no pressure to sing, just come along and join in the fun. Entrance is free, but the increased bar takings help raise much needed funds for the club. This will be the last Karaoke Night before New Year's Eve.

WI are Breast Aware

Fiona Anderson, a highly experienced breast care nurse based at the Peggy Wood Unit in Maidstone Hospital gave a talk about Breast Awareness at the last WI meeting. She is the first contact for patients who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and continues with their care right through their treatment and the 5-year follow up. There was discussion of the risk factors involved and minimising those risks and an explanation of the histology of breast cancer. Fiona emphasised the importance of regular mammograms and the reasons for recalls and the WI ladies also learned the signs to look out for themselves. It was an excellent, informative talk leaving all members more knowledgeable and appreciative of the work done by Fiona and her colleagues.

The next WI meeting will be at the Village Club on Tuesday 7th November – doors open at 7.15pm – when members will have the chance to experience some Christmas craft making led by committee members. New members very welcome.

Hunton Bowls Club End of Season Round Up

As we come to the end of another season it's time to reflect on our achievements and events throughout the summer and our aims for 2018. At the end of February a group of us enjoyed another bowling holiday to Paphos in Cyprus playing against local clubs. Again, the weather was kind to us and it was a great way to start our outdoor season. It was a cold start at the end of April but it didn't deter our members who all turned up for our "Opening Fling". As a club we played all of our friendly and Weald League fixtures. We also entered into open competitions and tournaments with local clubs, which resulted in winning the Mixed Triples held at Headcorn. Our ladies have done exceptionally well again this year with Diane Cheeseman, Janice Brunning and Angela Baptie winning the Maidstone and District Ladies Triples. Well done Ladies! Our club competitions were well supported and it's always good to report a few new members winning the trophies this year. Our Open Day held in August was another successful event, welcoming players from other clubs. Social events including quiz nights, UNO evenings and BBQs have all been well supported by our members who help to raise much-needed funds for the club.

The green has been in superb condition throughout the season and a pleasure to play on. Our thanks as always to our groundsman and his team for all their hard work, not only during the summer season, but keeping it maintained during the winter months. If only we could say the same about the pavilion!

The pavilion as it stands at the present time was erected in 1969 to replace an earlier second-hand "hut" purchased in 1960 from the Red Cross Society at a cost of £12.10.0d. However, a burst pipe in the kitchen area during a cold snap earlier this year, together with the usual report of subsidence, means that the pavilion is in urgent need of replacement to enable HBC to continue as part of our community and for future members. It's a long road ahead but hopefully this time next year we will be able to report on any progress we have made. If you would like to be involved in any way or if you would like to take up outdoor bowls next season you would be most welcome to join our friendly club. Our practice evening is on Thursday throughout the season. If you would like to give it a try please call Angela Baptie our Membership Secretary on 01622 820625 or email angela.baptie@btinternet.com. You can also look us up on our Facebook page under Hunton Bowls Club.



Winners of the Maidstone and District Ladies Triples from L-R Janice Brunning, Diane Cheeseman and Angela Baptie.

John Apsey, Chairman

November Music and Christmas Theatre at the Village Hall

Thanks to the many villagers who turned up (and danced along) to The Runaways at the end of September. Although we had about ten fewer punters than last year, everyone including the band had a great time and the introduction of Prosecco to the bar menu seemed to work (as did Rockin' Robin's Rock-a-Hula pale ale). We made well over £150 for village hall funds; once again, grateful thanks to our volunteers' efforts in the kitchen, bar, and stage erection.

So now coming up for the autumn, we have two Applause Rural Touring supported events: "A Taste of Latin" music in the evening on Saturday 25th November, and "The Wind in the Willows", a puppetry-based adaptation of the famous book for families (and grown-ups) in the early evening on Friday 29th December.

The Latin rhythm is provided by a 5-piece band called Sonrisa (www.sonrisamusic.co.uk), who hail from the Midlands, but they will take us from Spain to the Caribbean & Latin America! Tickets for Sonrisa are £10 in advance (£5 for U18's) from Mike on 01622 820429 or Steve on 01622 820403; we've sold 30 already, and there may be others who asked for them back in the summer when first announced, so please remind Mike now that he has the actual tickets. As well as something Latin-related available at the bar, some sort of music-specific food will be included at half time on the night (they don't have many ploughmen in Cuba!). As usual, doors open at 7.30pm for music at 8pm.

Then the adaptation of The Wind in the Willows at Christmas, by the Box Tale Soup company looks to be an interesting diversion for all ages – a winner at Buxton Fringe of "Best Show for Families". It will be at 6pm on 29th December, finishing around 7.30pm. More information in the next Herald, but tickets (including punch & mince pies) are priced at £10 adults, £7.50 U18's, £30 for a family of 4-5.

Autumn Lunches

The popular Autumn Lunches continue at the village club every Thursday this month from 12.30-2pm with the final one on 30th November. All welcome. Enjoy a choice of homemade soups with bread, cheese and biscuits, homemade cakes, tea and coffee all for a suggested donation of £5. Funds raised are shared between the club and St Mary's Church. Booking is not essential but food is available on a first come, first served basis and it is helpful if you can let Lesley know if you hope to attend, especially if you have any food allergies. Call Lesley on 01622 820210 or email lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Many thanks to those who were able to attend Hunton School's Macmillan coffee afternoon held on 29th September in honour of the late Ruth Porter (wife of governor, Ron Porter). It was a delight to see so many parents, staff, governors and local residents come together for this good cause. Also, many thanks to those who were able to bake cakes for the afternoon. The number of attendees at this event exceeded all expectations and resulted in over £400 being raised for this deserving charity. The whole idea was suggested by the school in memory of Ruth. She would have been thrilled by the quality of cakes, the politeness and helpfulness of the children, the remarkable, happy and friendly atmosphere and the generosity of all attending.

At St Mary's Church in November

Flowers

5th tba 12th Wendy Simmons (Remembrance)
 19th Wendy Simmons 26th Alison Ellman-Brown

Services

Sunday 5th November – 4 before Advent
 11.00am Family Service – Rev Peter Callway

Sunday 12th November – Remembrance Sunday
 10.50am Remembrance Service – Rev David Jones

Sunday 19th November – 2 before Advent
 11.00am Morning Prayer – Rev Eileen Doyle

Sunday 26th November – Christ the King
 11.00am Holy Communion – Rev Peter Callway

Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

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

Harvest Supper Thanks

There was plenty of food, conversation and good humour at the recent Hunton Harvest Supper when around 70 friends and neighbours sat down to a delicious meal at the village hall. After the main course there was much thought given to which of the tasty desserts should be chosen and as usual there were "seconds" available of both courses so no-one went home hungry, or thirsty, as the Friends of St Mary's ran the bar. Three boxes of vegetables, honey, wine and other raffle prizes were kindly donated and the winners were all delighted with their prizes. Sincere thanks to everyone who helped make this such a successful event; their hard work and generosity was much appreciated by all.

New Picnic Spot

We have a lovely new picnic table in the Community Orchard! Many thanks to Carole, Dave, Taira and Sean Trow of Hunton Engineering for their generosity in purchasing this table for the orchard.

Here are Carole and Taira trying out the new table in the sunshine.



Village Clean Up

The last litter pick of the year was held on 7th October. There were 16 volunteers and the weather stayed mainly dry. As usual there were a lot of discarded fast food bags and containers and also coffee cups, with 27 sacks of general rubbish being collected in total along with 14 car tyres, an easy chair and several miscellaneous items. A bag was also dumped just above the hall in West Street that contained dirty nappies and wipes!! Many thanks to Di Martin and her team for their hard work during the past year in keeping the village tidy and also to the people who work "behind the scenes" collecting rubbish in their own time.

Hunton and Linton Pre-School

Indoor Boot Fair at Hunton Village Hall

Sunday 19th November 10am
(Entry for sellers 9.30am)

Entrance for buyers £1
 Refreshments available - tea, coffee and bacon sandwiches
 Tables pre-ordered / including payment - £15 large, £10 small
 Contact Sally at huntonpreschool@hotmail.com or 01622 820309

Organic Farming and Flood Prevention Talk - Friday 17th November

Don't miss the talk by local farmer, Peter Hall, about his organic farming methods and flood prevention projects, at the Gardening Club meeting in the village club on Friday 17th November. You don't have to be a Gardening Club member to come along – all are welcome! Doors open at 7pm with a buffet supper available for a donation of £5 with funds raised going to village club building projects. So enough food can be prepared please contact 01622 820210 or email lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com if you hope to attend.

School Christmas Fair – Stallholders Wanted

This year Hunton School will be having a Christmas Fair. This will be held on Friday 1st December between 2pm and 4.30pm. They are looking for stallholders of a seasonal theme; stalls are £15 payable in advance. Please contact Mrs Tompkins at the school on 01622 820360 or email nikki.tompkins@hunton.kent.sch.uk.

Remembrance Sunday – 12th November

The annual Remembrance Sunday Service will be held at St Mary's on Sunday 12th November commencing at 10.50am to allow the two minutes silence to be observed at 11.00am. As in past years the list of names of those killed in the 1st and 2nd World Wars will be read out and wreaths laid by representatives of village organisations and the village itself at the War Memorial in the church.

November	5 th	12 th	19 th	26 th
Coxheath	11.00 HC	10.30 Remembrance	11.00 HC	11.00 FS
E. Farleigh	09.30 MP	08.00 HC; 10.30 Remembrance	09.30 HC	08.00 HC
Linton	09.30 HC	10.00 Remembrance	08.00 HC	09.30 HC
W. Farleigh	08.00 HC 1662	10.45 Remembrance	09.30 MP Trad	09.30 HC Mod

HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service

All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editor by 15th November, please