



Next Editors: Liz Oliver and Graham Dolman: herald@hunton.org.uk
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th May

New Fencing for Play Area

You may have spotted the latest improvement to the play area at the King George V Playing Field. Fencing has been erected enclosing the multi-play equipment and infant swings. This was largely funded by a grant from Maidstone Borough Council of £7,585 with the remaining 10% being covered from playing field committee funds. Many thanks to the members of the committee for their efforts in securing the grant.

Saturday 18th May, 7.30pm.
St Mary's Church, Hunton

HUNTONES 9TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Saturday 18th May, 7.30pm
St. Mary's Church, West Street, Hunton.

Tickets £6.00 to include a glass of wine
Tickets from Sue Pinks 01622 820709
and on the door

All proceeds to Friends of St. Mary's

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'The Huntones' go from strength to strength, turning simple beginnings into an eclectic mix of music.

The group help with Carols at Christmas, sing at weddings and contributed to the Remembrance Day Service. Singing at the village fete brings the whole community together, working up to a crescendo with 'Musicals on the Green'. A number of the group take part in the 'Pantomime'! All of this would not have been possible without Sue Pinks and Nick Drewe at the piano. Nick keeps Sue, who vaguely conducts, and the singers, in order! So please come and enjoy the wide-ranging music.

Tickets £6 to include a glass of wine. Phone 820709 or purchase on the door.

TrackDogs are back in Kent

They are playing Rochester Sweeps Festival AND Maidstone Fringe on the same weekend...May 4th-6th. They have three gigs on the Saturday in Rochester - headline stage in Castle Gardens at 1pm, the Boley Hill Stage at 4pm and the Man of Kent Alehouse at 8.45pm. Then, on Bank Holiday Monday, they are part of the non-stop music at the Style & Winch at the top of Union Street, Maidstone about 5pm. For more information, contact Mike Summersgill on 820439.

Fete Committee begging for Help! Fete June 22nd

Donations of cakes, plants, jams and other produce needed in abundance, lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com. Please donate bottles for the bottle stall, anything accepted, as long as it is in date and would make a nice prize! Donations can be dropped off at Hunton Dog Grooming, Scotts House, West Street. Or, give Lisa a call on 820508, and she will collect. Volunteers are needed to help with all stalls.

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 - Martin Chivers	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: Gil Robertson	820059		
Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at www.hunton.org.uk/contacts			

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

Diary Dates			
Sat 4th May	Film Night , Village Club	Mon 13 th May	Parish Council AGM , Village Hall 7.30pm
Sat 18th May	Huntones Concert , Hunton Church 19:30	Mon 20th May	Annual Village Meeting , Village Hall 19:30
Tues 21st May	WW1 talk at the WI , Village club 19:15		
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

It is my turn to write the monthly letter for May which means it has to be to the editors of the newsletters by April 15th. So, there was I checking my emails on Sunday 31st March when I received the following: 'I am preparing a spring edition of Linton Parish News which is delivered to every home in Linton. Peter's April pastoral letter isn't really suitable as it is all about April Fools which will be long past by the time this is delivered. I know that the May edition isn't due until 15th April, but I thought I would just check if you have it nearly ready and would be available this week.' My reply was I hadn't even thought about it yet and anyway how could I write anything at the moment that wouldn't be out of date by the time May arrives. Ought I to write about Prime Ministers, general elections, Europe or referendums? The only certainty in my life at the moments that would not be changed by May is that Maidstone United Football Club will be relegated! Whatever I wrote would be bland if it was to remain topical. Well, that got me thinking and after a good night's sleep bringing me to the present, 9.00am on Monday April 1st, I am writing a 'topical letter' which I hope and trust will not be out of date whenever it is read.

How would you like to live in a 'certain world' where nothing in the future doesn't followed a predicable pathway? As one of Newton Law's state, 'to every action there is a reaction'. It might appear great to live in a perfect world where any action we take leads to the predictable reaction. Yet look back on your life and see how things have actually turned out from the predicted pathway. I got my first job because the other candidate for the job didn't turn up! I wasn't run over when I stepped in front a car because the driver happened have good reflexes. The doctor's initial prognosis didn't turn out to be correct; yet the symptoms indicated otherwise. I didn't marry my first 'love', but I wouldn't have changed the outcome! Our world is not a 'certain world', it's full of surprises some welcome, others not so. I thank God for the many times when people forgive me for what I have said, done or not done.

But there is one certainty in this world, and it was a truth that I learned as a young man over sixty years ago in a chorus that we were taught: *Yesterday, today, forever, Jesus is the same, all may change, but Jesus never! Glory to His name, Glory to His name, Glory to His name; All may change, but Jesus never! Glory to His name.*

Yes, in a changing and uncertain world God's love, God's forgiveness and his presence is the one constant and the one statement that I believe is true today and will be true whenever you read this letter. Simplistic, maybe, but why complicate things?

There it's written and the time is 9.55am on the 1st April and I am sending this off now to the editors. Whatever happens in the coming hours or days before you read this letter, trust in God's promise to be with us as we journey through life.

David Jones

EASTER 2019, Something for Everyone.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make the Easter celebrations so varied. Hunton School, produced a very moving Holy Week presentation in St Mary's Church, well done a fantastic event! The church held a well-rehearsed 'Choral Evensong' for Psalm Sunday. This new venture for the joint voices of the Choir and members of the Huntones was very well received, as they sang Psalm 118, The Magnificat and the Nunc Dimittis with great feeling. Reflective services followed for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. These events led into a community churchyard working party, flower arranging and church cleaning. The whole church looked stunning for the joyous Easter Day Communion Service. Members of the congregation were invited to decorate a huge cross with flowers, another first for Hunton. Of course, there were plenty of chocolate eggs to share and several hidden chocolate bunnies! More chocolate, great fun and a jacket potato lunch were highlights of the Easter Monday Family Trail. Clues were laid out on local footpaths around the Village Club and rewards were back at the Club! Overall, more than 200 adults and children (an estimate) have been involved in our village events, what an achievement!

Hunton WI Learn the Ups and Downs of Being a Wedding Photographer

The Speaker for the March was John Yarrow who spoke about his experiences as a Wedding Photographer. John's interest in photography began at the age of 13, later becoming a Scenes of Crime Officer in the police. Following retirement, he set up his own photographic studio in Rochester. At this point a wedding photographer would use roll film and take around 100 pictures, in marked contrast to the 1,500-2,000 digital photos taken today. John recounted tales of incidents at various weddings, Highlights being: 'borrowing' a neighbour's garden for photos, as it was prettier than the bride's, competing with a BBC 'fly on the wall' film team that threatened to hijack one wedding, and many 'wardrobe malfunctions'.

Talk on Those who died and Those who survived WW1 from Hunton. Tuesday 21st May

Following the success of the presentation at St. Mary's Church Remembrance Service, James Forster and David Heaton have accepted our invitation to share their research and findings with the wider village. Do come and support this Open Meeting, where all are welcome. A donation of £5 includes refreshments. Doors open 7.15 at Village Club for a 7.30 start.

News from the March Parish Council Meeting

A new handyman has been found for the village hall. Quotes are being obtained for maintenance of the outside of the building. The committee is looking at putting on more Applause events. Bookings for weddings and parties are up. The school is looking into expanding car parking on the school site; to cut down the number of cars parked on the road. The village club Beer Festival will go ahead again this year with new organisers. The club kitchen has now been completed. Volunteers are needed to help with the fete bar, please contact Gil Robertson on 820059.

30mph speed limits and Elm Corner signage.

Members of the Traffic and Road Safety Working Party had a fact-finding meeting with East Farleigh Parish Council about the new traffic calming being installed on Lower Road. Hunton Parish Council is consulting with KCC Highways about the possibility of lowering the speed limits to 30mph on East Street and West Street. The initial opinion from KCC has been unsupportive, although consultation continues. Elm Corner residents asked Hunton Parish Council to push for new road signage in order to slow cars down. There is currently no signage to warn drivers of the double bend or the single-track section that leads round to East Street. The Parish Council has requested a double chevron for the central island, black and white bollards with red reflectors for George Street and a "zig-zag" bend sign.

Lughorse Lane.

A number of gullies are blocked, causing flooding and erosion to the road surface. The PC will write to KCC asking for them to be cleared. KCC has cleared the gullies on East Street and carried out a CCTV survey of the drainage system, which had identified a land drain connecting the gullies but couldn't find where it drained to. Water is still coming out of the manhole cover by the Gudgeon on West Street. KCC would be asked to look at this as well.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Maidstone Borough Council is seeking to secure an AONB protection for the Greensand Ridge. It was agreed that the parish council should support this as it provides a green shield from Maidstone and some protection in planning issues. Cllr Heaton suggested that the parish council should push for the status to be extended to the whole of the village.

Brighton Marathon

Congratulations to Marcus Leonard and Charlotte Bowers on finishing the Brighton Marathon, with times of 3hrs 37mins and 2hrs 3mins. Charlotte Bowers was the 13th ranked woman, amazing! Marcus ran in memory of his father Les. Many of you will remember Les with great fondness, both as a friend and as the first editor of the Hunton Herald.

Annual Village Meeting – Monday 20th May 7.30pm

The meeting will take place in the village hall on Monday 20th and all residents are invited to come along to this informal evening. We're delighted to welcome back Charlie Russell from the University of Kent, who will give an update on 'The Little Owl Project', for which Hunton is a participating site. There will be an open session where you can raise any issues of concern, or ask your parish and borough councillors any questions you may have about the village. Local groups and clubs will also present short reports on their activities over the last year, so do come along and find out what's been happening in your community. Light refreshments will be served from 7.00pm.

Would you like to keep a diary for one day only on Sunday 12th May?

In 2019 the 'Mass Observation Archive' will be repeating its annual call for day diaries, capturing the lives of people across the UK. Written diaries will be stored in the 'Archive at the Keep'. And used by a wide range of people for research, teaching and learning. In 1937 Mass Observation called for people from all parts of the UK to record everything they did from when they woke up in the morning to when they went to sleep at night on 12th May. This was the day of George VI's Coronation. The resulting diaries provide a wonderful glimpse, and an invaluable record, for countless aspects of the era. Information: <http://www.massobs.org.uk/write-for-us/12th-may>

RIVERSIDEpopupGALLERY

Arts & Crafts Fair, Village Hall, Yalding, Sunday, 12th May 11am until 4pm.

Vintage Tea Afternoon Saturday, 25th May 2-5pm.

Poetry Karaoke in aid of Yalding Cricket Club on Saturday, 11th May 2-5pm. To book your 5-minute slots (£1), the list will be in Yalding Post Office. Melanie Chapman will be kicking off the afternoon with a recital of Green Eggs & Ham by Dr.Zeus.

Craft Club is on Thursday, 16th May 2-5pm and Art Club is on Saturday, 18th May 2-5pm
Email: chapman.june59@gmail.com See me in Yalding Post Office, or call 01622 817324

Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

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

West Farleigh Church Plant Sale

will be held at All Saints Church on Sunday May 12th from 11.00 am to 4.00pm. There will be teas & cakes available and an activity for children decorating bird boxes.

Walk and Sunday Lunch – 7th April

On a dry Spring day, twenty-three humans and several dogs followed Roger Lee for just over an hour's circular walk from the Club up towards Buston Manor and back via the village hall. They were then joined by other locals for a full Sunday lunch. Thanks to Graham Ashlin for cooking the delicious roast beef, chicken and potatoes, and to the many other people who prepared and donated food, helped serve and cleaned up afterwards. Donations raised over £150 towards Club improvements. The cooked lunch proved to be a successful trial of the new kitchen and will be repeated on a Saturday or Sunday later in the year. You can find out about events by being a Club member (pop into the Club to collect an application form) or keeping an eye on the Hunton Facebook page.



HUNTON BOWLS CLUB. COME AND GIVE IT A TRY!



Pop along on Thursday nights starting in May at 6.00pm.

We are a friendly club, welcoming new members.

Experience Not Necessary!

Join us for friendly matches, mixed matches, league and, ladies' games.

Information from: Angela Baptie (Membership Secretary)

Tel: 01622 820625, Mob 07759 296265,

Email angela.baptie@btinternet.com

Hunton Club Film Night Saturday 4th May at 6:30pm

Your support is needed at Hunton Club for supper followed by the film "The Pink Panther" starring Peter Sellers and David Niven. Have as much popcorn as you wish. A donation of £7.50 per person will, it is hoped, cover costs and help raise funds for club improvement projects.

Contact Bridget on 01622 820059 or e-mail lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com if you hope to attend

Litter Pick. Well Done to Di's Team of Volunteers.

The first litter pick of 2019 was held on 6 April. Although a miserable morning, we had a very successful effort, with 65 sacks of general rubbish collected, including car parts and an estate agent's board. Thank you to Jason, from Yalding, for dealing with the bags dumped on the private land. Fly tipping, in the woods at the top of Barn Hill, is still a problem. Fortunately, with the aid of collections by Maidstone Council, Hunton looks much tidier now. The next litter pick will be arranged for July, date to be arranged.

At St Mary's Church in May

Flowers	Services
May: Di Martin	Sunday 5th May 9.30am – Holy Communion Service - Rev Peter Callway Sunday 19th May 9.30am – Family Service - Rev David Jones

Other services in the Benefice					
May	5th	12th	19th	26 th	Other Services/events
Coxheath	11am HC	11am MP	11am HC	11am FS	Ascension Day HC 30 th May, 10am Every Thursday 10am HC
E. Farleigh	9.30am MP	8am HC	9.30am HC	8am HC	First Tuesday of the month Compline 6.45pm
Linton	9.30am FS	9.30am HC	8am HC	9.30am MP (Matins)	Messy Church, 18 th May 3pm. Last Wednesday of the month HC 12 noon
W. Farleigh	8am HC	9.30am MP	No service	9.30am HC	

HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service

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