



Next Editors: Lesley Lee and Bridget Robertson: [herald@hunton.org.uk](mailto:herald@hunton.org.uk)  
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th July

## The Huntones Concert 18<sup>th</sup> March

In recognition of 9 years of singing together, The Huntones singing group put on a concert in Hunton church on Saturday 18th March. They put together the biggest programme they ever attempted and the audience of 60 people were entertained to a very varied programme of music from Jonah Man Jazz to Barry Manilow, with Les Mis, West Side Story and ABBA numbers, as well as more serious songs. Nick Drewe, the Huntones fantastic piano player, composed two quartet pieces, for piano, flute, clarinet and cor anglais, all the players being in the choir as well, to give the audience a break from singing!



He also played two Gershwin pieces in the second half. The concert finished with Thank You for the Music and the whole audience joined us for the chorus. Everyone, audience and singers seemed to really enjoy themselves and they received many compliments. Thanks were given to the Friends of St. Mary's for providing the refreshments and the evening resulted in a donation of £325 to the Friends of St. Mary's.

If you would like to sing every other Thursday in Hunton, then come and join the fun. The Huntones are an informal mixed group. You don't have to be a great singer, or even read music, it's all for fun. Contact Sue Pinks 01622 820709 for information.

### Honey for Allergies?



Seasonal allergies are the plague of many who love the great outdoors. They usually begin in February, ending around late September, ruining some of the loveliest months of the year for sufferers.

There are multiple over the counter medications but many prefer natural treatments. One example rumoured to help allergies is locally produced honey which is raw, unprocessed and produced close to where you live. The idea behind this, yet to be proven, is that eating local honey means ingesting local pollens. Over time this may help sufferers experience fewer allergy symptoms.

We are very fortunate in this area to have a number of local honey producers one being our own Roger Sawtell. Even if you are not an allergy sufferer, locally produced honey is always a delicious addition to any diet!

#### Your Local Contacts:

School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110
Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill	820429
Rector: Revd. Peter Callway	747570*
Hon Associate Rector: Revd. David Jones	741474*
Associate Rector: Revd Eileen Doyle	204241**
Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288
Village Club: Gil Robertson	820059

Village Hall Booking:	<a href="http://www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk">www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk</a>
Maidstone Police	690690 or 101
Neighbourhood Watch: <a href="mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com">huntonwatch@gmail.com</a>	820403,820429, 820731
'Potholes' Hotline (KCC)	03000 418181
Community Warden: Adam McKinley	07811 271021
PCSO - Martin Chivers	101
Helen Grant MP <a href="mailto:helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk">helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk</a>	0207 219 7107
Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb	745716

Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at [www.hunton.org.uk/contacts](http://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 6<sup>th</sup> July **Village clean up**, Village Hall car park 10.00 am Sat 13<sup>th</sup> July **Wine Tasting/Supper**, Village Club 6.30pm  
Sun 11<sup>th</sup> August **Sunday walk and lunch** Sun 18<sup>th</sup> August **Musicals on the Green**, Village Green  
Check out [www.hunton.org.uk/diary](http://www.hunton.org.uk/diary) for the latest events. If you would like to add an event, email [diary@hunton.org.uk](mailto:diary@hunton.org.uk)

## Pastoral Letter

Greetings! Have you ever wondered about the origins of certain traditions, the where and how of the context in which they originated?

Recently in the benefice we have had groups studying 'The Bible Course' designed by the Bible Society. Whilst it's been beneficial for us to explore the words contained in the Bible, this course has also helped us to root the Bible in its historical context. We've explored what was happening in the world at the time different books of the bible were written and have come away with a fresh understanding and appreciation of this best-selling book as a source of historical reference as well as the guiding word of God.

So often in our world today we can hear/see/read a snippet of information that is taken out of context, and on its own it can have an entirely different meaning to the one intended. These stories are often referred to as 'fake news' and can lead to extensive threads on social media with people voicing their outrage at the idea contained within that small snippet of the whole. These mis-quotes can also be used to fuel propaganda aimed at causing discord and disunity within society. I suggest that the best way to avoid these issues is to look for the context. Question, investigate, dig deeper, to find the truth rather than just accepting what you are told at face value. It is only through being fully informed that we can develop our ideas and take a stance on the many issues facing our society. Understanding the context can help us to promote the peace and unity that so many in the world want.

Sometimes context is everything!

We intend to run the Bible Course again soon. If you would like to know more about the Christian context, what we believe and why; even if you are not a Christian, why not start with 'The Bible Course'? More information from Peter Callway, the Rector.

Becky Parnham

## "Just for Fun" - Another Successful Quiz Night at the Hunton Club

On Friday 7th June, more than 50 people eagerly turned up for the Hunton Club 'Just for Fun' quiz night. Participants formed 8 teams of between 4 and 9 persons, whilst Helen and Mark Ward had their work cut out behind the bar with one of the liveliest draught beers which refused to settle.

The quiz, prepared by quizmaster, Phil Nichols, comprised of 9 rounds and was closely contested with only 8 points separating the first to last teams.

The "Hills Have Eyes" team won the evening by just one point and were rewarded with "Hero's" chocolates, which were shared with everyone. Another quiz will be organised for later in the year.

## A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing?

Pembury Hospital A and E:

*Nurse:* Well how did you do that?

*Me:* I was knocked over by a sheep.

*Nurse:* I see (intoned with disbelief). You've broken your wrist in three places; fortunately it's not dislocated.

The culprit was our first ram, 'Freddie' (his quizzical facial expression had an uncanny resemblance to a cousin's husband!). I should have known better than to go into the field, in the fog, carrying a bucket of food as we knew he already had a penchant for butting people in a semi friendly way. The next thing I knew I was over on my back with a searing pain in my right wrist. Although sheep are supposed to be flight animals they can be aggressive, though this is normally ewes protecting their lambs.

We had bought him a few months earlier with our first ewes, all of which were and are pedigree Southdowns. From the start he was a bit of an attention seeker, his boisterous greeting only assuaged with a handful of sheep nuts: probably a mistake in hindsight. We acquired a friend for him in the form of a young brown Southdown/Lleyen cross ram of my brother's, who we called 'Hoppity,' as he used to bounce around a lot. Unfortunately he too started to get boisterous as well, not just with us but with Freddie too. I once saw him butt Freddie whilst the latter was on the ground and move him some feet on his back. Hoppity had to go, and my brother eventually sold him as his behavior got worse, leaping fences and hurdles and acquiring a facial visage of a sheep crossed with a pit bull, he really did look like he was snarling at you.

Freddie's offspring 'Rammie' (Hunton 15/00004 to be precise!) inherited Freddie's butting genes as well. After one tuppung season enough was enough and we sold them both.

We bought two more rams as replacements at the Southdown show, a shearling, 'diPirbrac Oscar' and a lamb 'Goodwood Dappy' (the names are genuine, honest). Both are from very good pedigree lines and their natures are far more placid. Oscar and Dappy are quite happy to be handled, even though they are both bigger than Freddie and Rammie. The moral of this story is: always beware of a sheep with a quizzical gaze; it could be a wolf in disguise!

David Heaton

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary D Day Celebrations in Normandy

When our two boys agreed to join us on a trip to remember what my father, Alan Forster, and his fellow Paras did on the night of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> June 1944, I was delighted to be able to share this experience with them, so they could more fully appreciate just what was risked and sacrificed by so many of that generation.

At that time my father was a 20-year old Lieutenant in 3 Squadron Royal Engineers, part of 6<sup>th</sup> Airborne. He was dropped from the 17<sup>th</sup> Dakota over Normandy at approximately 01.20am, part of a troop tasked with blowing up two of the six bridges to be demolished to protect the eastern flank of the beach landings. Some of the pathfinders who were to mark their landing zone had been captured and shot in the back of the head, so a degree of chaos reigned. Hundreds of paras were drowned on landing, in fields deliberately flooded as part of the defence strategy; others, like my father, had to work out where they were, gather together men and equipment and then walk about 5 miles in the dark to get to their target destinations.

My father and his men tackled an 80ft span railway bridge that was furthest away, while Lt John Shave MC started to rig a similar farm bridge. My father blew his bridge at about 8am and retreated over 500 yards to cross the second bridge. Just as this was about to be demolished, a young woman farmer appeared and asked if she could first bring over her cows that had not yet been milked! This delayed proceedings by about an hour but both bridges were blown by 9.30am. My father only ever described his war as “relatively uneventful” but in the next 10 weeks 3 Squadron RE lost half of its strength as they defended the key Le Mesnil crossroads from counter attack by a crack German Panzer battalion that was much better equipped.

While in Normandy we met one veteran, now a Chelsea Pensioner, who had served with my father; also, we met the son of Major Tim Rosevere DSO (the commander of 3 Squadron) and, sitting by one of the bridges, the son of another veteran who had chosen to have his ashes scattered there, somewhere that had meant so much to him.

We attended services at Le Mesnil and at the Ranville War Cemetery where, amongst many, a 19-year old Para and his dog were buried. Tragically, they were killed by friendly fire but only after the dog, during the night, had been instrumental in rounding up many who were scattered and lost; also buried there was a 16-year old boy who had joined up under age. We heard stories of great heroism: the man who for the sake of secrecy, let his wife-to-be send out wedding invitations for the 8<sup>th</sup> June when he knew he would be otherwise engaged (as did his 17 brother officers who were somewhat surprised by the invitation). Brave as this was he also won 4 DSO's (a medal ranking only behind the VC). Another Para officer won 3 DSOs and a MC (one awarded for capturing 3 tanks armed only with a revolver)! In this company it is perhaps not surprising that my father felt rather ordinary.

My abiding recollection though was not of the stories of incredible courage nor of the parachute drop, wonderful as it was to see, but rather the juxtaposition of the pride in their achievements that was felt by both their relatives and by their regiments (the only unit to meet all of its D Day objectives on the day), set against their own self-effacing humour and modesty. I was reminded of how, many years ago, my father was persuaded to stop off in Normandy on our way back from holiday. We visited the Pegasus Bridge Museum and, while being guided around, our French guide forgot the name of one of the British officers. Unthinking, my father told him, whereupon he was then mortified to be identified as one of those involved that day! He would have preferred to be unacknowledged and anonymous - how different from today when “celebrity is all”.

I hope others will read this and be encouraged to send the Editor their own stories of family experiences in the war, both at home and overseas, military, civilian and of childhood, so that we can build up a record of what our families experienced in WW2. My story has no connection to Hunton, other than that I live here now, but it is still our shared history and worthy of remembering.

James Forster

### Scones & Songs or Scones & Tones!

An afternoon of music and food with luxury Cream Tea, a variety of musicians, Bric-a-Brac stall, Raffle, School Gambia stall and much more.

St Peter & Paul Church, Yalding, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August from 3.00 – 6.30 PM. £7.50 all inclusive

### Film Night

The provisional date for the next film night is Saturday 21st September. More details to follow.

### Fading Memories

I am sure you have all noticed the very sad “demolition of The Caravan at the top of Foreman’s Barn Road.

Sadly Glad passed away in the spring and her sister Chris decided not to stay on. They leave a beautiful woodland garden where, when Tom worked for Lord Falmouth, they were allowed to create and make their home. “The Hunton Eyes” will be sadly missed.

## Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

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

### St. Mary's Church and Churchyard Working Party

Many thanks to all concerned for their valuable time in keeping our church and churchyard looking spick and span. In July we have a wedding on the 20th July so our aim is to ensure the church and grounds are immaculate for this special day ...any volunteers more than welcome - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 9.00am – 12.00 noon.

### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July. Sizzling Summer Wines - Wine Tasting & Supper at the Club

Doors open at 6:30 pm for another informative and memorable evening. A few spaces are still available at £17.50 per head.

### Litter Pick

The next village litter pick will be on 13 July. Meet at 10 a.m. at the village hall to collect equipment as usual. If you would like to join the team would you please call Di Martin on 01622 820115 by 6 July.

### Evensong, July 14<sup>th</sup>

Hunton are hosting a service of Evensong at 5pm on July 14<sup>th</sup> to which all are welcome. If any singers from any part of the benefice would like to be part of the choir, please let the Rector know as soon as possible.

### W.L.R Open Days In July

The W.L.R. Is having an open day on the trains with tea on Sunday 14th and 28th July, Starting 2.p.m. Tickets £12.50 from Sue Martin. Please call 01622 746125.

### Musicals on the Green 2019 is Back!

Get ready to use those vocal chords. Deck chairs at the ready, BBQ sizzling, Drinks being poured and let us entertain you again. Great songs from The Greatest Showman, Sweeny Todd, A Live Band playing and much more.

Save the date - August 18th - 2.30pm onwards .....Ticket sales soon.

### Sue Heaton's Gardening jobs for July – five key tasks

- 1.Sow carrots, beetroot, swede for autumn and winter use.
- 2.Mulch borders after rain with compost or other organic matter to conserve moisture, same for vegetable plots.
- 3.Thin apple and pear fruitlets if there has been a heavy set on your tree, reduce down to one or two fruit per cluster.
- 4.Feed roses after first flush of flowers.
- 5.If the weather is dry and hot continue to water trees and shrubs planted in the spring.

### At St Mary's Church in July

<b>Flowers</b> Andrea Forster	<b>Services</b>
	<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b> 9.30am – Holy Communion Service, Rev. David Jones <b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July</b> 5.00pm –Evensong, Rev David Jones/Rev Peter Callway <b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b> 9.30 – Family Service, Rev Eileen Doyle

#### Other services in the Benefice

July	7th	14th	21st	28 <sup>th</sup>	Other Services/events
Coxheath	11am HC	11am MP	11am HC	11am FS	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)	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

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