



Next Editors: Christina Harrison & Angela Baptie: [herald@hunton.org.uk](mailto:herald@hunton.org.uk)  
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th August

## Parish Council News

Now that the lockdown has been eased the Parish Council has decided to reopen the car park. Nevertheless, the PC and the King George V Playing Fields Committee are conscious that last year, on a number of occasions, facilities were broken into. So, the gate will be locked at 7:00pm during the summer and at dusk during the winter. It will be reopened at about 7:30 in the morning. The play area was closed for use in March following government guidance, but since the easing of measures, a risk assessment was carried out (a requirement) and the area has been reopened. Please follow the strict guidelines on the posters which have been put up round the equipment. These include taking your own hand sanitiser and wipes to clean the equipment before and after use.

Our clerk, Sharon Goodwin, found out that the village hall was eligible for Business Rates Grant under the government's package of emergency measures. Sharon applied for this and £10,000 was awarded. This will go a long way towards recouping monies lost through cancelled bookings and paying for the running costs of the hall.

Parish Council meetings cannot be held as public meetings in the village hall, but a teleconference facility is used to which parishioners can dial into by requesting the code from Sharon (tel 681238 / [huntonpc@goolemail.com](mailto:huntonpc@goolemail.com)). The next meeting is on 21<sup>st</sup> September at 7:30pm.

*David Heaton, Chairman*

## Hunton Village Club Update

At the time of writing, we are preparing the Club for a safe reopening for volunteers, staff and members on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July. Following Government guidelines, after a thorough clean, we are installing a Perspex screen at the point of sale, reducing the numbers of tables and chairs to allow for social distancing, introducing a one-way system and providing hand sanitisers, signage and posters to inform members of what is expected of them. Members who have provided e-mail addresses will also receive information directly. We are obliged to keep records of attendance with contact details and it is important that we comply with the regulations. As a members' club, we can only serve current members and their guests (each member may have no more than three guests). It is important therefore that those wishing to use the Club, who have not renewed their membership for 2020 re-join. Application forms are available on request. We are starting, tentatively, by opening on Sundays at lunchtime from about 12 noon to 3pm; evenings 8pm – 10.30pm and on Wednesday evenings between 8 and 11pm. The opening times will be reviewed to consider opening for additional sessions but that is very much dependent upon there being sufficient volunteer staff and, of course, customers. We look forward to seeing you there soon.

*Gil Robertson (Chairman)*

## Hunton Beer Festival

Volunteers had hoped to hold a Beer Festival on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September but this is unlikely to go ahead as current guidelines are so limiting. If the situation changes details will be emailed to Club members, posted on Club Notice Boards and the Hunton Facebook site.

## Club Cleaner Required

Hunton Club requires a cleaner for three hours a week. This includes vacuuming and dusting, cleaning the kitchen, bar counters and shelves, sinks and toilets and replacing paper hand towels and toilet paper. Cleaning materials and equipment are provided. The hours are flexible as the Club is only open for limited periods during the week but applicants will be expected to take responsibility for unlocking, turning off the alarm and resetting the alarm and relocking on leaving. Rates of pay to be discussed. If you are interested, please apply to Bridget on 820059.

<b>Your Local Contacts:</b>		Village Hall Booking:	<a href="http://www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk">www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk</a>
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Huntonwatch: <a href="mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com">huntonwatch@gmail.com</a>	07907 019996
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	'Potholes' Hotline (KCC)	03000 418181
Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill	820429	Community Warden: Adam McKinley	07811 271021
Rector: Revd. Peter Callway	747570*	PCSO - Paul Vasey	101
Hon Associate Rector - Revd. David Jones	741474*	Helen Grant MP <a href="mailto:helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk">helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk</a>	0207 219 7107
Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288	Hunton Bell Ringers: Jeff Young	746541
Village Club: Gil Robertson	820059	WI President: Ann Sawtell	820731
Maidstone Police	690690 or 101	<b>*not available on Fridays</b>	
Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at <a href="http://www.hunton.org.uk/contacts">www.hunton.org.uk/contacts</a>			

<b>Parish Council Contacts</b>	
Parish Clerk: Sharon Goodwin - 681238, <a href="mailto:huntonpc@goolemail.com">huntonpc@goolemail.com</a>	Chairman: David Heaton - 820678, <a href="mailto:dhhuntonpc@gmail.com">dhhuntonpc@gmail.com</a>
Cllr Jonny Goddard - 820096, <a href="mailto:jonny@cheveneyfarm.co.uk">jonny@cheveneyfarm.co.uk</a>	Cllr Roger Lee - 820210, <a href="mailto:rhuntonpc@btinternet.com">rhuntonpc@btinternet.com</a>
Cllr Tony Stanbridge - 820721, <a href="mailto:tshuntonpc@gmail.com">tshuntonpc@gmail.com</a>	Cllr Annette Trought - 820448, <a href="mailto:annette@trought.com">annette@trought.com</a>
Cllr Helen Ward - 820810, <a href="mailto:hwhuntonpc@wardy.org">hwhuntonpc@wardy.org</a>	Cllr Gary Thomas - 820691, <a href="mailto:gthuntonpc@gmail.com">gthuntonpc@gmail.com</a>

**Diary Dates**  
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

As the lockdown eases and travel is less restricted, will you be taking a holiday? Alison and I plan to be away for a week to recharge the batteries. Whether we stay at home or travel afar, holidays can be a great time for reflection. The very name of the month conjures up images of balmy relaxation. The word 'august' means grand; majestic; serene; revered; and is a glorious time of year. August is declared "Happiness Happens Month" by the Secret Society of Happy People, whose members encourage us to recognise moments of happiness and to share them with others. (Amazing what you can find out on the web, isn't it?!)

Did you know that the origin of the word "holiday" is "holy day"? These were days past when the church encouraged people to stop work and to celebrate the life of a saint or other holy event. There were lots of them, and they were needed, because work was hard and rest was not always easily achieved. They have largely fallen into disuse now, and although the saints' days are marked in our Christian calendars and lectionary (the reading plan for the Bible) we don't get the day off work for many of them in the UK. We get Good Friday and two days at Christmas, and that's about it! The origin of the late May public holiday was the feast of Pentecost, but that has now become just "the last Monday in May." Countries such as France, Spain and Italy where the majority of people are Roman Catholics have a few more holy days, and they treat them as days of rest and thoughtfulness – no Bank Holiday DIY shopping for them. In August there is only the one – the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, Mother of Jesus - which is August 15th and a day when France, for example, comes to a complete halt.

So, may I suggest that at some point during August, whether at home or away, you stop, pause for a while and reflect? Ponder the good things in your life, count your blessings, and then give thanks to God. Have a Holy Day. And a great holiday.

Every blessing, *Peter Callway Rector*

## The Reverend Eileen Ann Doyle

We were all saddened by the death of our dear friend Eileen on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 following a short battle with illness. Eileen was born on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1953 and grew up in Snodland, the third of 4 children, Lilian, Michael, Eileen and Stephen. She is survived by husband Barry, sons Lee and Lewis and her sister Lilian.

Throughout her life, faith in God gave purpose and meaning to Eileen. In her own words "He is the ever present, ultimate love that walked with me day by day, in both good and difficult times." Eileen worked in accounts at the Mid Kent Water Co and achieved many qualifications for her work as both Teaching Assistant and Learning Mentor, but she was most proud of overcoming her dyslexia and being awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree that she completed for her Ordination to the Priesthood in the Church of England.

Eileen trained first as a Reader, then for ordination and was ordained in 2007. Following her retirement from school work, she served as the Associate Rector in the United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh, Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh. Although, like other members of our Benefice, she was an unpaid volunteer she gave up a huge amount of her retirement time by taking responsibility for various areas of the life in the church here, including Mothers' Union, the Pastoral Support team and the Ladies Prayer Group. She was a committed and valuable member of the team and will be greatly missed, not only for what she did, but for whom she was.

## The Doves of Hunton

For the last four or five years the colony of white doves living at The Watermill on West Street has been growing steadily. We didn't buy them, they just appeared. On average, there are now about 6, sometimes there are none and at other times as many as 25. The doves have really settled in, they sit on the roof, sunbathe on the lawn, splash in the river, look through the lounge window and they even nest in the cellar. Even if they leave a lot of little presents they are welcome, they're pretty and the cooing is very soothing, except at 5:00AM. But, we are perplexed, where did they come from? Where do they go? How did one of them get green and yellow rings last week? Do you know? Are "our" doves really your doves? If you have any information or would like to do some dove detective work please contact me!

*Rick Oldfield, richard.oldfield@btInternet.com*

## Music Events at the Village Hall, or not...

The four gigs due to be held at the Village Hall in the Autumn have (all but one) been cancelled or postponed, as a result of the Covid-19 situation and (like many Summer festivals) because of the uncertainty surrounding live events and social distancing. So, Mike's return to promoting may have to wait until 2021, and he may have to keep working past Xmas instead of retiring! If you had noted down the Bubble Club gigs on September 12<sup>th</sup> (Nine Below Zero) and November 20<sup>th</sup>, their artists have moved their tours into next year, and dates may be re-booked in due course. The October 24<sup>th</sup> '4Square' gig has been re-scheduled to Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup> next year, but there is a chance that another artist/band might fill the gap. The Nick Harper 14<sup>th</sup> November 'Applause' concert is still technically on, although not all the dates on Nick's tour are being re-confirmed, so he may have to shift the whole tour one year! More certainty on that next month, when Mike will also be asking for feedback as to whether gig-goers would still be happy to attend live events (probably in reduced numbers) and, if so, what type of live music (there may be budgetary problems with lower audience numbers). Contact, Mike Summersgill 820 429 for more information.

## Peter Pan, The Hunton Pantomime

The Pantomime should have taken place at Easter this year, but due to the dreaded virus hitting the UK, we postponed it till just after Christmas, merrily assuming that all the problems would be done and dusted by then and we were looking forward to entertaining you with our whacky pantomime. With the current climate of uncertainty over when professional theatres will be allowed to open and the possibility of a second spike of the virus come the Autumn, we have made the decision to postpone the pantomime to Easter time 2021, as we think people may still be uncomfortable sitting in close proximity to others in the Hall, even in December.

The new dates for Peter Pan 2021 will be - Sponsors night/open dress rehearsal on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April, first night Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April and Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April, matinee and evening performances. We hope those who originally bought tickets for the production will be happy to use your tickets on these dates instead. We will, of course, refund any tickets that cannot be used.

*Sue Pinks 820709 and Sharon Winter*

## Thanks for Helping Hunton

Firstly, huge thanks to the Hunton Watch team who, at the start of lockdown, set up Hunton's wonderful 'meds' collection service. Supported by a group of volunteers, they have helped many locals unable to get to their GP or pharmacy. For more info: [huntonwatch@gmail.com](mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com) or 07907 019996. Next...here are just a few of the local suppliers & service companies whose staff, during lockdown, have gone out of their way to make life easier for Hunton residents. We hope you will find this list useful. Please suggest more names for future issues of The Herald so others can use them in future.

**Candl Cakery:** 01622 436756 [Facebook.com/CandlCakery](https://www.facebook.com/CandlCakery) - Hunton made celebration or simply treat cakes. Deliver.

**Dyne Thyme:** 07969010565 [www.dinethyme.co.uk](http://www.dinethyme.co.uk) - Cream tea boxes and a lot more.

**Marden Farm Shop:** 01622 831504 High Street Marden TN12 9DR. Deliver.

**Marlpit Farm Shop:** 01622 743851 Weirton Road, Boughton Monchelsea ME17 4JW. Phone & collect.

**Oakapple Farm:** 07753 245891 Benover Road, Yalding ME18 6AZ. Phone & Collect. Select from a weekly list of vegetables and fruit.

**Simply Delicious Bakery:** 01622 746518 Coxheath, ME17 4PR

**Spot on Produce:** 01622 820678 [info@spot-on-produce.co.uk](mailto:info@spot-on-produce.co.uk) - Hunton grown Pork, Lamb, Eggs & Veg boxes. Deliver.

**Woods Fresh Foods:** 01622 746250 101 Heath Road, Coxheath ME17 4EH. Meats, Cheeses, Vegetables. Phone & Collect or Deliver.

**Bijou Nurseries,** 399-401 Tonbridge Road, Watlingbury, ME18 5PG. 01622 812278. Ring and Collect

**Blooming Green Flowers:** 01622 298676 [www.bloominggreenflowers.co.uk](http://www.bloominggreenflowers.co.uk). Pick your own or they deliver.

**Denys & Fielding:** [www.denysandfielding.co.uk](http://www.denysandfielding.co.uk) - Gifts for Gardeners & Deckchair Hire

**Pleasant View Garden Centre:** 01622 842042 Plough Wents Road, Maidstone ME17 3SA. Deliver.

**Lightning Tech Support:** 01580 388380 <https://lightningtechrepairs.com>. - Repair phones and computers.

**Scuffs & Scratches:** 0333 009 6371 <http://www.scuffsandscratches.com>. Unit 4, Slaney Place Farm, Headcorn Road, Staplehurst, TN12 0DT. Collect, repair and return cars.

A massive thanks to the extra helpful people in all of the above companies. Once we are out and about again, we hope everyone will continue to support these local enterprises.

### Village Verse

When talking to neighbours felt naughty but nice,  
When all of our futures were sitting on ice,  
When exercise out was to do you some good  
And made you aware of the toys in the wood.  
When birdsong was louder and skies were more clear  
And the flowers all came out so early this year,  
And the traffic was gone and a bicycle's hum  
Could be heard close behind you when out for a run.  
When some folk were working long hours on the trot  
And cared for us all while their lives went to pot,  
When they left their own kids to look after our Dads  
And so many people were lonely and sad.  
When a trip to go shopping for something to eat  
Felt dangerous and daring and also, a treat.  
When neighbours were kindly and strangers would smile  
And six feet apart, would chat for a while.  
But don't have a party and don't light a fire,  
Don't leave your litter or sing in a choir.  
Don't come too close and don't shake a hand  
And fasten your mask with a strong rubber band.  
For some it's been happy and almost like fun,  
For some, it's been work till you drop and then some.  
We clapped for the carers and sang out their praise  
And said we'd be grateful for all of our days,  
Now care for the sacrifice, jobs lost and gone,  
Look after the ones who can't say, "Job done".  
They must not be left by the wayside of life  
We must find a way to help lessen their strife.  
But Hurray for the fact of blue skies and hot sun  
For quizzes and Zoom and all kinds of new fun,  
For families, friendships and Facebook (maybe?)  
Good luck to you all and good wishes from me.

Anon.

### Tales From The Science Lab – Part 3

It is entirely possible that from January 2021 goods being imported into the UK from all over the world, including Europe, will be liable to some form of income duty or 'tariff' being applied. This is not a new situation and indeed my first 4 years in the laboratory (back in the late 60's and early 70's) was concerned with the analysis of various liquids to determine their alcohol content and thus whether duty was payable and if so, how much.

Customs officers would take random samples of imported goods and send them to us for analysis. This included top of the range perfumes, bath foams, paints, inks, cleaning fluids etc. etc. (it was a long list!) and we were under strict orders to destroy all samples 3 months after the date of the analysis. Pouring Channel no5 down the sink always seemed like sacrilege to me but the one I found hardest was Badedas bath foam. It was a nightmare to analyse (you try boiling a bath foam/water mixture and see how many bubbles you get!) but I loved the smell and at the time it was right up there with the top brands – something reflected in the price in the shops.

Not every analysis was trouble free. The very nature of the test (to distil a known volume of the ink or whatever and collect the distillate to determine the alcohol content) meant that you never quite knew what to expect. I have had flasks explode, foul smells given off that made me wretch, the occasional fire and much more but there was always the next Badedas sample to analyse and that kept me sane.

I survived those 4 years pretty much intact and then moved on to a different area of the laboratory using new and leading-edge instrumentation. And did I manage to put the Badedas down the plughole as I had to? Yes, bit by bit every Sunday night after a 20 minute soak!!

*Professor Plum*

### Cricket Returns to Hunton

Hunton Wanderers are back playing matches. For more details - <https://hwcc.play-cricket.com>

### Yoga Classes at the Village Club

Erica is hoping to re-start the Yoga classes at the Club as soon as Government guidelines allow it. She will contact all those who have attended in the past but if you would be interested in joining please contact Erica for more information on 820849.

## Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wednesdays 8pm – 11pm Sundays 12.00pm to 3pm and 8 – 10.30pm

### Returning to Hunton School

We returned to Hunton CEP School on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Coming back to school was a bit weird at first because we have to stay 2 metres apart from our friends and that has not been an easy thing to do when we have been away from them for so long. Social distancing can be very tricky and feels a bit odd. When we first started, we all felt excited but nervous, as it felt strange. The first thing we did was sanitise our hands and had to discuss new school rules, including games we could play at break times that encouraged social distancing. Now we are back at school, it has been a delight to return. It is much quieter with not as many children in the classroom. It is really fun to be back and it is so much better than being bored at home during lockdown. While we have done English and maths lessons in the morning (studying poetry and perimeter, area and measurement), we have also undertaken some enjoyable lessons in the afternoon such as Design Technology and PE. In design technology, we have done some embroidery, as well as designing and making our own vehicle out of wood.

*Written by children in 'The Borton Bubble'*

### Bees: Facts You May Not Know!

We need to care for bees as they are essential for our flowers, vegetables and life on earth. There are several hives around the village. Some bee facts:

- Bees need water to dilute their honey to the right consistency.
- Water helps them with their digestion.
- Bees add water to the hive and then use their wings to fan it around to cool the hive.
- Nurse bees use water to make the right baby food for the larvae (tiny new bees), this is royal jelly.
- Honeybees are amazing. They fly very quickly, at about 16 miles an hour.
- They beat their wings at 230 times a second!

#### An activity for children.

Why not have a go at making your own bee water station? Find some kind of shallow pot, fill it with water and put it in a shady spot in the garden. Please add a stone to the pot to provide a dry surface from which the bees can fly away or they might drown. Remember to re-fill the water daily. The birds will also benefit from the water.

**You may like to make a model bee.** If you do, please take a picture for the Hunton Herald. These pictures use a milk container for the wings, but tracing or greaseproof paper will be just as good. (By kind permission of 'The Cranbrook Goes Nuts In May' virtual craft tent.)



*Wendy Simmons*

### St Mary's Church

Whilst we've all been in 'lockdown' the same has applied to St Mary's which has been unused since March although not forgotten! Thanks to a band from the 'semi shielded brigade' a working party was arranged and went in the other week to give the church and brass a jolly good spring clean ready for people coming for individual prayer on a Wednesday afternoon and possible opening of the building for worship later in July. Without refreshment and not coming too close the team had a good morning and made a wonderful job. The spiders left very fast! The cleaning was helped by the increased LED lighting which was fitted one day in May thanks to a donation in memory of John Scott. The fittings look the same but they now emit much more brightness and show, together with the removal in February of the tree outside the east window, the beauty of the building.

Outside, the churchyard continues to look its best thanks to the grass cutting team and those who tidy round the headstones. The new churchyard is also looking its best thanks to a volunteer and the church grass cutter. A programme to tidy up some of the headstones is underway with one gravestone and kerb being lifted which had sunk very badly at one end. A few more headstones are now vertical and kerbs horizontal. Finally, whilst the church has been closed, MBC have confirmed their approval for the toilet which the diocese had approved quite some time ago and news has just come in that work should commence at the end of September and it should be ready within a few weeks of the start. What a relief!

So, well done Hunton for keeping the church and graveyard looking so good. Do take time to look in on the churchyard and admire the quiet beauty of the place and thank those who are rightly proud of Hunton.

### St Mary's Church in August

A period of transition has started towards the reopening of our local churches. St Mary's Church will be open on Wednesdays from 2 – 3.30pm for private prayer.

Online services will continue at 10.30am each Sunday: Computer / tablet / smartphone: <http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice> . By phone: 0203 051 2874 then enter 185124308# (call is standard cost to the geographic number). Services at St Mary's will be Holy Communion at 9.30am on Sunday 2nd August and Family Service at 9.30am on Sunday 16th August. Flowers for August organised by Andrea Forster.

Other Services in the Benefice: Coxheath: Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion; East Farleigh: Sunday 16th August 9.30am Holy Communion & Sunday 23rd August 8am Holy Communion; Linton: Sunday 9th August 8am Holy Communion & Sunday 23rd August 9.30am Morning Prayer; West Farleigh: Sunday 9th August 9.30am Morning Prayer. Anybody who wishes to attend any service is welcome - not just those from a particular parish. However, under current rules, numbers in the building are limited: Coxheath: 26; East Farleigh: 40; Hunton: 30; Linton: 35; West Farleigh: 21. If you are currently not able to worship in church due to shielding or other vulnerability, please contact Revd. Peter Callway 747570.

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