



Next Editors: James and Andrea Forster: herald@hunton.org.uk
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th November

Service of Remembrance, St Mary's Hunton.



As promised, an up-date concerning the arrangements for the Service of Remembrance. St Mary's continues to follow the Church of England's guidance concerning services. We intend to go ahead with the service unless circumstances and advice alter.

Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November at 10.50am

Seats need to be reserved and will be allocated on a first come basis. At the time of writing this, only a few seats remain.

To reserve a seat please call or e-mail Wendy Simmons on 01622 820875

Wendysimmons01@btinternet.com (note the zero after simmons)

All seats will be labelled with individual, or family group, names.

Please follow social distancing within the church and when arriving and departing. Face masks must be worn.

Together, we will endeavour to ensure that the memory of those who fought, served, and gave their lives for us, continues to be remembered.

Garden tips for November

It is time to clear the leaves, especially off the lawns and borders. If you can tie this in with a final mow, the mower will do some of it for you if you have the collection box on.

Cover ponds with netting to catch the leaves, but make sure birds and animals can still get access for a drink.

Check that your plants in pots are not standing in trays of water and stand them where they can drain freely so they don't get waterlogged. Provide protection with fleece or bubble wrap for the tender plants in pots or bring them into a greenhouse.

Do a basic prune on the roses to take the weight off long branches in order to prevent wind rock causing the plant to loosen its' hold in the soil. Leave the final pruning until the spring.

Village Club News

We are still getting used to the new regulations. It seems very odd not to approach the bar to order drinks. The bar volunteers are also having to learn new skills by taking orders and serving at the tables. However, everyone is being very sensible and patient, as table service does take longer.

As little had taken place since their September meeting the Committee did not meet in October but dealt with matters via email. Low attendance on Sunday lunch sessions is causing concern particularly as the Club is now heated for each session. It is most likely that these lunch sessions will be terminated due to the lack of demand.

The Committee had previously decided that those members who had renewed and paid their 2020 membership subscriptions prior to the Covid 19 lockdown in March would not be required to pay a subscription in 2021 but of course all donations will be gratefully received.

The plea for help with the Committee in last month's Herald did meet with some success for which we are grateful, but we are still in need of help, particularly organisers. There is no shortage of volunteers to help out at most functions, but they do need co-ordinating and it is in this area that help is needed. It would be nice if we could organise some functions but the present ever-increasing restrictions make this most unlikely for the remainder of the year. If you are interested in joining the Committee please contact Phil Nichols 01622 820804 or email pk.nichols@btinternet.com.

Your Local Contacts:		Village Hall Booking:	www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Huntonwatch: huntonwatch@gmail.com	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 helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk	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	*not available on Fridays	
Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at www.hunton.org.uk/contacts			

Parish Council Contacts	
Parish Clerk: Sharon Goodwin - 681238, huntonpc@googlegmail.com	Chairman: David Heaton - 820678, dhhuntonpc@gmail.com
Cllr Jonny Goddard - 820096, jonny@cheveneyfarm.co.uk	Cllr Roger Lee - 820210, rlhuntonpc@btinternet.com
Cllr Tony Stanbridge - 820721, tshuntonpc@gmail.com	Cllr Annette Trought - 820448, annette@trought.com
Cllr Helen Ward - 820810, hwhuntonpc@wardy.org	Cllr Gary Thomas - 820691, gt1huntonpc@gmail.com

Diary Dates
 Sun 8 Nov - 10.45am Service of Remembrance - St Mary's Hunton
 Check out www.hunton.org.uk/diary for the latest events. If you would like to add an event, email diary@hunton.org.uk

'Thank you for the memories....'

This morning I woke and found myself singing the opening bars of the anthem we always sang at harvest time many years before. 'Thou visitest the earth and blessed it, Thou crownest the year with thy goodness.' Yes, looking out of the window it was plain to see the signs of autumn and harvest but why did those words from years before come into my mind? What had awoken my memory of that event and that moment? The memory opens us to the past at sometimes the most unexpected moments and in so many ways. Deep in thought I heard the words 'The TV's gone dead'. A search for the remote control indicated that it would take more than that solution to sort out the problem. No power, so check the fuses, and then the realisation that we had no electricity to the house. Had the workmen working at the substation at the corner cut us off? Oh blow and I was going to write the letter for the November Newsletter and now no computer! The mind went off again into that distant memory of a similar moment at school when we had a power cut and the dance teacher was beside herself when she realised that the lesson after break couldn't happen as she had no ways of playing music. The solution was to ask me to duplicate off a worksheet for the lesson instead and the agony of her face when I said the lack of power meant that I couldn't use the duplicator either!

It's wonderful the way our memories work, bringing us at one moment pain of moments we wish we could put well into the past and at other times memories of joy and happiness which we long to keep and share. They come to us at odd moments, out of the blue with seemingly little connection to the present moment. So my November letter got changed and delayed until the computer came back. Whatever happened to the written word, of pen and paper? But no that's another memory.

November is the traditional time for memories as do birthdays, anniversaries or Christmas, smell and sounds spark off thoughts of events or people from the past.

Throughout the Bible, the act of remembrance is never far away. The children of Israel on that epic journey to the Promised Land were told over and over and over again to 'remember' the great promises God gave them throughout that journey. And again following Jesus' death the women went to the tomb and we read that two men in clothes' that gleamed like lightening' reassured the women that Jesus had risen and we read 'Then they remembered his words' (Luke 24 v 8)

Memories are there to encourage, challenge and reassure us. May your memories at this time give you comfort, reassurance and hope for the future as perhaps the events of the past bring an assortment of memories.

David

Church meetings and services update

Due to the fluid situation we currently face with Covid-19 regulations, at the time of going to press the following is the current situation.

Alpha

We began our Online Alpha course on 23rd September. If you haven't registered yet and would like to, please be in contact with the Rector as soon as possible. All are welcome to this safe and enjoyable space to explore the big questions of life.

Service for the bereaved

It will not be possible to safely hold our usual service where we all come together to remember the loved ones lost to us in the past two years, so we are making an opportunity to do so throughout the afternoon of November 1st at West Farleigh, where the church will be open from 2pm to 5pm for individuals or family groups to come and say a prayer and place a lighted candle on the altar.

Worship pattern

The Ministry Team have looked at our pattern of worship and undertaken a risk assessment to see if we are able to make any further moves to increase services in church. At present this is not possible to do safely and without risk of interruption. So we will continue with the current until Easter unless something dramatic changes in the world of Covid-19. We will amend the service type by adding a Holy Communion after the Morning Prayer in West Farleigh and Linton, so that each church has a chance to take communion each month but retain the flexibility of ministry which is needed at present. As mentioned elsewhere in the Herald this month, Zoom services will continue but please note that from September 27th Zoom are introducing new security measures which means you will be placed in a "waiting room" before the service. Don't panic! Someone will let you in as soon as possible!

Christmas

Clearly, we will not be allowed to hold services as normal during Christmas unless something changes, and so we hope to produce a Carol Service video using as many of our church members and community as possible. We will record readers, musicians and carol singers and produce the best that we are able to do. Again, more details later but if you sing, play an instrument or have technical capabilities please be in touch with the Rector soon so that we can start to put together a plan.

Finally, we are immensely grateful for the continued support from a variety of people across the benefice who are keeping our worship alive, ensuring that we are all cared for, praying for each other and the nation, and keeping our buildings safe and virus free. This is how the church should be – loving, mutually supportive, and worshipping the living God.

Stay safe and keep praying! On behalf of the Ministry Team.

New requirements for zoom meetings and services

Please be aware that I have updated the links for our Zoom meetings and services to include a password, according to the new requirements. This means that if you use the links provided you will see no change, you will go straight in without the need for a password. Links set up are:

Sunday worship	http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice	Meeting i.d. 185 124 308
Thursday communion	http://bit.ly/ThursdayCommunion	862 4548 7631
Saturday Prayers	http://bit.ly/SaturdayPrayers	993 530 273
Alpha online	http://bit.ly/BeneficeAlpha	881 2238 2330

If you use the Meeting ID from Zoom or by telephone, however, you will need the password, which is **316**

Peter

Further lockdown recollections from a Hunton family through the eyes of Jack Bowers (age 11) and his mother Charlotte, a teacher

How was Home Learning set for you?

I was lucky as the school sent me work on Microsoft teams. At the beginning of the week there was a PowerPoint showing me what I needed to complete that week in every subject. Every day I would study English, Maths and another subject of my choice. It took me time to learn how to structure my day and not to get overwhelmed.

What did you enjoy about learning at home?

I enjoyed being able to work when I wanted to as I wake up early and so could work when I woke up and finish earlier so I could go outside and play

What did you find difficult?

I found it hard not being able to talk to the teacher directly, but I could send them a message and they would reply but it was not the same as having a direct conversation.

Working on the screens all the time was tiring in a different way and sometimes gave me headaches. I had to remember to take breaks rather than try and finish my work as fast as possible!

Was there anything you missed?

Seeing my friends and having contact with them. I missed all the sport we do at school and the practical subjects such as art, science and drama which are harder to learn without the practical, interactive element.

What was good about going back to school and how does it differ?

It was amazing to see all my friends again, but the regulations are much tighter. We are only allowed to mix with people in our pod and now only our year group. The school are not able to offer all the clubs and extracurricular activities which I loved. We can not play matches against other schools. The school found other ways to make it fun for us to be back and we have been doing a lot more learning outdoors. We can not have big assemblies and it is harder to talk to the dinner staff as they must wear masks and are behind plastic screens.

Being a Mum and teacher in lockdown

I am a Maths and games teacher at Somerhill School in Tonbridge.

Like so many of us I could not believe it when the country went into lockdown. What would be the implications for how we teach and how the boys would learn? How long would it be for and how would we teach online? We had had no time as a staff to prepare for this and I remember how confusing it was to know what resources we should suddenly be preparing or giving to the children to take home. I took a set of maths textbooks home and felt it must feel like this to be evacuated as I grabbed resources which I thought may help my teaching or my children for the foreseeable future.

We had just over a week until the Easter holidays and so for the interim period I was trying my hardest to set online work for my classes but in such a short time I had so much to learn about the world of online teaching. In the meantime, my 3 boys were also needing attention, help and support. I, like so many nationwide, felt torn in all directions. Our internet was patchy and frustrating to say the least involving multiple engineers. We muddled through until the Easter holidays which gave us time to regroup. During the holidays I was informed I had been furloughed. Whilst this was helpful to me as a Mum, it felt frustrating not to be able to help my colleagues and more importantly not being able to help the children I had been teaching all year.

It was an incredibly challenging time supporting my 3 boys and we definitely had our highs and our lows. I am incredibly grateful that our school did not run zoom lessons as our internet was so erratic it would have created such stress when it dipped in and out. I know others who would have liked more. Schools can never please everyone and I feel for all school managers as the decision as to how best to provide home learning is incredibly difficult. Do children have access to internet? Do they know how to use it? Do they have parental support or are they alone all day? On top of this the biggest concern is for our children's mental wellbeing. Being alone all day is isolating, children, as adults, need interactions with others. Schools provide so much more than the academic curriculum. Children need the outdoors, the sound of laughter and verbal encouragement.

After a few weeks I was unfurloughed and delivered online maths workshops to my maths classes through Teams. This changed our home dynamic again and was incredibly stressful as I once again felt torn in all directions; learning to plan and deliver whilst my boys also needed my help and the internet caused further problems. It was a relief to make it to the summer holidays!

How has it been returning to school?

It was an absolute joy to see the school filled with people again. The happiness on the children's faces as they talked and laughed with friends. Naturally we have had nervous children too, those who have been self-isolating for most of lockdown, those who have slipped into a new comfort zone on their own but with the right support we have a school filled with life and energy.

What does the future look like?

I would be lying to say it is all a bed of roses. It is hard adjusting to a new normal at school. The curriculum is modified, the school day shorter, the restrictions tighter and the tensions higher. We are also needing to prepare for the what ifs? What if we have children self-isolating? What if we, ourselves need to self-isolate? What if a year group is sent home due to a positive case and yet we still need to deliver lessons to those at school? What if we all are locked down?

What is for sure is that we are more prepared as teachers than we were in March. In the event of another lockdown of any sort I still have a lot of uncertainties about what it will mean for myself in my role as a teacher and as a Mum but I try to live a day at a time whilst also being prepared for what the future may hold. In the words of H. Jackson Brown Jr, 'Life doesn't require that we be the best, only that we try our best.'

Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wednesdays 8pm – 10pm Sundays 12.00pm to 3pm and 8 – 10pm

Children's Corner - Guy Fawkes Night Quiz

Open to all young people. Please submit your answers to: herald@hunton.org.uk. All Successful entrants' names will be printed in the Hunton Herald next month



1. Complete the saying: "Remember, remember the"
2. Which King did Guy Fawkes attempt to kill with his Gunpowder Plot?
 - a) King James I; b) King Henry VI; c) King George V
3. What was the year the Gunpowder Plot took place?
 - a) 1600; b) 1505; c) 1605
4. What was Guy Fawkes real first name?
 - a) Guido; b) Gunther; c) George; d) Guy
5. Complete the saying: "A penny for"
6. Name four types of fireworks:
7. Which two things do we traditionally set fire to on Bonfire Night? and
8. How many barrels of gunpowder are said to have been hidden under the House of Lords? a) 30; b)36; c) 46
9. Who visited and still visits the Houses of Parliament on the State Opening of Parliament:
 - a) The Monarch; b) The Mayor of London; c) The American President
10. What happens as a result of Guy Fawkes plot today?
 - a) The Monarch never visits the Houses of Parliament
 - b) The cellars of the Houses of Parliament are searched before the State Opening of Parliament
 - c) The State Opening of Parliament takes place at Buckingham Palace

2 friends, 5 paths

Plan A - after 25 years working in the same place I'd managed to negotiate a block of six weeks annual leave to allow me to walk the Camino in Northern Spain with my daughter Meg in April before she headed off to America for several years to start her PhD. And then a world virus happened.

Meg got her visa and was off, leaving me with six weeks delayed annual leave to take, but nowhere to go.

Plan B - on a dog walk with my dear friend (and panto buddy!) Astrid a new plan was hatched for the two of us to go walking in the UK. We had exactly a month to sort it - my one stipulation being that I *really* didn't want to camp. Over lots of coffee and flapjacks we mapped out a route taking in 5 long distance walking paths in Scotland, England and Wales.

5am on the 10th September and we were off, being driven all the way to Scotland by Astrid's husband Sam - thank you Sam. After a stopover with friends it was Fort William to start Path 1 - the West Highland Way. The West Highland Way is Scotland's longest walking trail and is traditionally walked northbound, Glasgow to Fort William but we did it backwards. It is described as "a hiking path of moderate difficulty with an element of hill walking, over 96 miles, ascending and descending a total of 10,350 feet"... Day one was a 15 miler with "some steep climbs" and the forecast was for 90% chance of rain - but this was Scotland after all!

The rain was driving so hard horizontally that we started in traditional girlie fashion by sitting it out for half an hour in a cafe with a hot chocolate! After some quick photos we were ready - and then realised we didn't know which way to go! Tarmac paths gave way to gravel paths through woodland and we climbed up to some spectacular views between the rain clouds.

We had seven days to complete this amazing path and saw some of the most beautiful scenery the UK has to offer - through woods, alongside Loch Lomond, up granite hills, past waterfalls - such a privilege. We lost a day of walking to a severe weather warning but finished this path in glorious sunshine as we stepped out onto the high street of Milngavie - and celebrated with a cup of tea! Awesome start to a fabulous trip.



Lisa Dolman

November Transitional Benefice Service Rota

November	1st All Saints	8th Remembrance Sunday - In Person	15th	22nd	29th
Zoom	10.30	10:45		10:30	10.30 Benefice Service
Hunton	9.30 HC	10:45	9.30 FS		
E. Farleigh	9.30 Matins	10:45	9.30 HC		
Linton	9.30 FS	10:45	8.00 HC	9.30 Matins	
W. Farleigh	8.00 HC	10:45		9.30 HC	
Coxheath		10:45			

HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service

Flowers for November: Wendy Simmons

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