



JUBILEE NEWS

JUNE 2012

Friday 1st	2.00pm	Childrens' party	Hernhill School	The school	01227 751322
Sunday 3rd	10.00am	Jubilee Service	St. Michael's Church	Jean Burrows	01227 751410
	Noon	Jubilee picnic lunch	Village Green	Joy Pritchard	01227 750372
	3.00pm to 5.00pm	Jazz on the Green	Village Green	The Red Lion	01227 751207
	5.00pm	Pork rolls & apple sauce	Red Lion	The Red Lion	01227 751207
	5.00pm to 9.00pm	Disco	Village Green	The Red Lion	01227 751207
Monday 4th	3.30pm	Pimms, ploughmans & music	The Dove	The Dove	01227 751360
	8.00pm	Beacon lighting and B-B-Q	Crockham Bank	Jane Foreman Ian Machin	01227 751295 07808 077864
Tuesday 5th	Lunch-time	Great British roast	The Dove	The Dove	01227 751360

Chairman: Helen Figgis 01227 751149

e-mail helen@lavenderfarm.plus.com

Clerk: Terry Smart; phone 01227 274047

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 752840

and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council took place on Wednesday 30th May. All Councillors were present, as were Mr Bowles, the Clerk and three members of the public. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 25th April 2012 were signed as a true record.

Matters arising: the enquiries into the viability of organising an allotment organisation in the parish proceeds. Mr Woods, the Councillor representing the Parish's input, stated that the venture must be in accordance with various matters e.g., fencing of the plots, the possible introduction of water onto the site, not to mention insurance. He said that the next moves would include a search for possible areas of land available for the purpose.

Reports: Mr Morsman again queried the responsibility of either Swale Borough Council or KCC for the provision of road signage. Mr. Bowles said that the former dealt with minor local signs (e.g., "Kay's Lane) but that KCC were supposed to deal with direction signage, and that there was a huge backlog in this department. Mr Morsman also commented on the unsatisfactory actions of dog walkers and their disposal of their animal's

mess. Some persons gather it up and bag it and then leave the bag either in the grass or hanging on a fence or tree. Councillors were disgusted at the cavalier way in which many dog walkers treat this matter. The Clerk announced his retirement on 30th September next, after nearly 25 years of service, for which he was thanked. Notices advertising the vacancy are to be displayed. The closing date for applications is to be 31st July.

The Clerk reported that the Council's financial matters had been processed by the External Auditor, who had made no adverse comments except to say that he considered the balance at year end to be at a borderline limit. In any case, Council Tax payers should be aware that next year's Precept will show a rise on 2012/3.

Correspondence: no comments were offered on KCC's Mineral and Waste Local plans. Consultation on the appointment of an external auditor will be of no benefit to the Parish, partly because the Precept will, in the foreseeable future, remain below £20,000.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting to be closed at about 9.00pm.

UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE

Dog walkers use the waste bin by the Staplestreet notice board to deposit their bags of dog pooh. This is OK providing the bags do go into the bin. I was cleaning round the area and strimming the weeds that surrounded the bin. To my horror there were bags there that



had not fallen into the bin. You can imagine the disgusting mess that resulted. I then had to clear it up. Please make sure that your rubbish does go into the bin, and if you miss, please pick it up.

Geoff Morsman

VILLAGE HALL AGM

Just a reminder that the AGM is on Monday 6th August at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

All are welcome and we hope to see a few new faces this year! Come and have your say – it's your hall and playing field!

Come and join the Committee to help make it even better in the future. If your Village based organisation is not represented on the Committee, it should be!

David Mann
Chairman (but not for long!)
& Treasurer.

COMING SOON

Barbeque breakfast

Saturday 14th July between 9.00am and noon at Yew Tree House, Dargate.

This is the only event in the Village this year to be run in aid of the Restoration Fund, and we hope that it will be even better supported than the very successful breakfast last year. Come and enjoy a very full English breakfast with coffee, toast

and marmalade to follow for a mere £5.00. The only complaint we had last time was that it was over generous. Forget your diet for once. Sunshine has been booked and sunshades are available but, there will be tents if there should be a problem. There will also be stalls and a giant raffle to enjoy.

Book now!
Barbara Taylor 01227 751293

SCHOOL NEWS

Maypole Dancing: A troupe of willing Year 2 children did the maypole dancing at the Village Fete. We used the new maypole but danced using the old headpiece (16 ribbons and dancers). The new headpiece has 24 ribbons....more practice needed before we try that one! Thanks to Mrs. George for leading the rehearsals for this.

Sporting news: We have had a busy year, so far, and there are still all the Olympic themed sports activities and sports days to look forward to before July. However, we have been successful on the football pitch all season - Mr. Sharp took a team to the Faversham tournament....we lost in the final with the last kick of the match, to Davington!

Our basketball team has been successful in local festivals and has progressed to represent Canterbury

Coastal schools in the Kent Games at the end of June.

Our speed stacking squad has been equally successful, winning the local team trophy for the fifth year running and they too will represent Canterbury Coastal schools in the Kent School Games.

Hernhill School's Jubilee Garden: the school has now been on its new site for eight years. In that time, we have watched our front gardens mature and have had various plans to make a garden on the grassed area outside the classrooms. The School Council approved the idea of a Jubilee Garden; step one was the willow dome, which was planted before the Easter break. After Easter, a team of staff and partners, and one of the dads, spent one very wet and cold Saturday, making up the raised beds. From then on, the project has become a celebration of community spirit and

great kindness. I must thank a number of people, on behalf of the school:

- David and Helen Figgis, who have made a few visits to the site with a forklift, whilst we decided where to finally place a couple of very heavy planters- Year R were very impressed by the tractor. Mr. Figgis innocently asked, "Who would like to sit on the tractor?" Only all 30 of them!

- Ian Machin, who generously gave the soil for the beds, all for the price of a cup of coffee!

- Brian May from Maytree Nursery, who donated some plants and spent a morning moving soil around - making the digging task just a little easier;

- Mr. Payne, an early bird who was here slaving away, before heading off to his 'day job;'

- A team of parents, who spent two days filling, digging and levelling the beds;

- Finally, to our families, for helping to fill the beds on the Bring a Plant Day on May 11th.

The weather held for the afternoon and photos show that it was a memorable occasion. The result has exceeded our expectations. All the children had a 'hands on' moment and I hope they will remember this effort in years to come.

We are having a Garden Party on the afternoon of June 1st to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee and hope to be able to sit in the new garden....weather permitting!

Once again, many thanks to all who supported us in the creation of the garden.

Brenda Wilson
Headteacher

FROM THE VICAR

Depending on your point of view here begins a summer of celebration and excitement – the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, Euro 2012 (England's first match is Monday 11 June), Wimbledon, the Olympics and the Paralympics - I wonder how much work will get done in the next few months?

Sixty years on the throne is no mean achievement for British monarchs, only Queen Victoria has reigned for longer. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee is a great moment in the life of this country and we celebrate the life of someone who is clearly very special. Our Queen has given herself unreservedly to serving this country and the Commonwealth and embodies many virtues which are perhaps unfashionable today. Paul Valley named them as 'service, commitment, discretion, loyalty,

resilience and . . . modesty. Above all there is a sense of duty. . . . What the Queen shows is that the ideal of public service is not so much old-fashioned as timeless.' We would all do well to rediscover such qualities. It is not about the cult of personality for the Queen and the same thought struck me about Archbishop Rowan as he gave his Holy Week lectures in Canterbury Cathedral.

Our Queen's Christian faith is there as a rock in her life, underpinning all she does and sustaining her in her darker moments. The following Prayer was written at The Queen's direction by the Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral for her Diamond Jubilee and it will be used in the Jubilee Thanksgiving Service in St Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday 5th June as well as our own service in Hernhill Church on Sunday 3rd June.

God of time and eternity,
whose Son reigns as servant, not
master;
we give you thanks and praise
that you have blessed this Nation, the
Realms and Territories
with Elizabeth our beloved and
glorious Queen.
In this year of Jubilee,
grant her your gifts of love and joy

and peace
as she continues in faithful obedience
to you, her Lord and God
and in devoted service to her lands
and peoples,
and those of the Commonwealth,
now and all the days of her life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Revd Jean Burrows

OPEN GARDENS

Just a reminder for your diary!
Hernhill Open Gardens is
on Sunday June 24th.
Eight gardens are open-
ing this year and they will
be open from noon till
6.00pm.
Programmes for the day
which include a map of the
gardens' locations can be



got in advance from the Red Lion or the
Three Horseshoes or, on the day, from
any of the gardens that
are opening (look for the
signs outside participating
gardens). Entry is £5.00
per person and children
are free.
For any more info look at
www.dawesca.co.uk
Alison West

SITTING PRETTY!

Hopefully by the time you read this the
Village Hall will be sporting its latest
“update” feature – a complete new set
of modern folding chairs with storage
trolleys and a table store trolley for the
fold flat tables.
These will provide additional seating for
up to 80 people and the trolleys will en-
able easy movement / setting up / col-
lection of the chairs within the hall
reducing the time and effort needed to
set out the hall and help avoid unnec-
essary damage to the floor by dragging

of chairs / tables over the surface.
The added advantage is that when
stored they will take up less space and
can be easily moved to create more
space for hirers if required.
The current stacking chairs are going to
a good home to help extend their useful
lives – recycling at its best!

Just a reminder to Committee Members
that the next meeting is on Monday 11th
June at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Hernhill Village Hall Committee.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Summer Show: Saturday 9th June at
the Village Hall. Staging Time 9:45am
to 11.15am, All exhibits must be staged
by 11.15am. The show opens to Public
at 2.00pm. Presentations will be at
3.00pm followed by an auction of pro-
duce. Entry is free.
Evening Outing: A group from the so-

ciety had a visit to Old Bladbean Stud
Gardens on 16th May it proved to be an
enjoyable evening. The garden is open
under the NGS 10th & 24th June & 19th
August 2.00pm to 6.00pm Admission is
£5:50 for adults, under 16's free. It is
well worth a visit. Their website is
oldbladbeanstud.co.uk. Their postcode
is CT4 6NA.

Full Day Outing: A visit to Loseley Park Gardens on Thursday 14th June leaving Mount Ephraim Car Park at 9.30am prompt and leaving Loseley Park Gardens at 4.00pm.

At the date of going to press we have seven seats left on the coach. If you are interested call Isabel Pettifer on 01227 751128.

Dates for your Diary: **Social on** Friday evening 19th October. Quiz Night on

Saturday August 18th, further details in July 'News'.

Open Garden: We are opening our garden on Sunday 17th June 1.00pm to 5.00pm at 41 Clover Rise Whitstable CT5 3EY. Entry for adults £4.50, children £2.50 to include tea & homemade cake. All proceeds to Pilgrims Hospice & the Kidney Transplant Federation.

Helen & Peter Bentley 01227 276032

STAPLGATE WI

We held our meeting this month in the hall of Mount Ephraim house, courtesy of Sandys, Lesley, and Will Dawes. Both Sandys and Lesley treated us to an history of the house and gardens, going back to the original founding of the house and farm when, in the early 19th century a member of the family left the Lake District to come south to buy land and farm here. From then, the family expanded the holdings to make it what we recognise today. The house has had a fascinating history, having been a small house at first, and then

rebuilt and added to over the years. It was used by the army during the war and thanks to energy and vision has been transformed into a comfortable home with wonderful gardens.

We were allowed to see old maps of the land which had been acquired and delightful water colours of the house prior to additions, and we peeped in to see the newly decorated and furnished wedding room and dining room.

Our business was dealt with quickly and we spent a delightful evening.

Liz Walton

FRIENDS RELAUNCH

You will have noticed that a great deal of work has been done to restore our lovely church St Michael's. Parts of the building had deteriorated considerably and parts were unsafe. The Restoration Fund Committee has put in a huge effort to raise the £160,000 needed for the work by fund raising events and applications for grants. The village owes all those involved a tremendous thanks. That, of course, is not the end of the story. It is important that St Michael's continues as an active place of worship, a building that is open daily for people to visit and spend times of quiet contemplation and where people can come to celebrate marriage, baptism or find solace in loss and remember the life of a loved one. Each year it costs over £30,000 to run the church with heating

and lighting, insurance, the parish share to the Diocese, general expenses and there are always minor repairs to attend to. This money has to be raised each year – there are no grants.

"The Friends of St Michael's" was started about ten years ago. This scheme is an opportunity for contributions from people who may not be worshippers at the church but who want to see the church used and well looked after. This contribution is by way of a yearly subscription of £30 and members of the scheme are acknowledged on a list in the church porch. Members also receive newsletters to update them on what is happening in the church, forthcoming events and the state of church finances.

At one time the 'Friends' were contributing around £2,000 which was a signif-

icant amount of income for the church. Recently, for various reasons, the 'Friends' have somewhat lapsed and this income has decreased. I would like to reinvigorate the scheme and ask you to read the leaflet enclosed in this Hershill News. Please, if you can, support the scheme and fill in the form, gift aid

your subscription if you are a tax payer, and return the form to me. I'm sure that the majority of villagers consider St Michael's to be an important part of the Village and wish to see it to continue as an active place of worship.

Thank you.
Jill Geliot

BITS AND PIECES

Although it didn't rain, the day of the Village Fete was bitterly cold. Stall holders froze and the threatening skies probably kept some visitors away. Despite maintaining a very high standard of attractions for this event, the money raised was down on last year. Fewer people and money being tight was probably to blame. Nevertheless, the event still raised over £3,000 and all involved are to be heartily congratulated. If we were in Greece now with all their financial problems we probably could not have run the Fete at all.

As I write this I am looking forward to the events in the Village that are planned in celebration of the Jubilee (so is auntie). By the time that you read it, the celebrations will probably be history. I hope that you viewed all the delightful scarecrows scattered round and about. They were great fun. I also hope that the weather was kind and that you have had a really enjoyable time. I remember that both the 25th and the 50th celebrations were blessed



with fine weather, so, I've got my fingers crossed.

The last few days have certainly been wonderful; sunshine and blue skies. Such a change from April which was one of the wettest on record. But still we have drought warnings. Of course the reservoirs are still low and the aquifers are not at a level to support continued dry weather. A recent newspaper report made a very valid point. If we had a water network like the national grid for electricity we probably would not have a problem. Stopping the leaks would also help. There was a leak on the road from the Dove to Dunkirk that was not repaired for nearly two years. Whilst it was not a major water spout, over such a long time the loss must have been considerable.

Barbara and I are planning to be off in our caravan next month so you can expect two things to happen. One, the aquifers will get another spell of being topped-up and, two, the 'News' will be out a little later than usual. However, I would appreciate it if you would still get your entries in by Monday 25th June.

ADT

To book the Village Hall ring the Red Lion 01227 751207

Alan D. Taylor
Yew Tree House, Dargate
near Faversham, Kent ME13 9HG
01227 751293
e-mail taylornews@hotmail.co.uk

**COPY
DATE
Mon
25th
JUNE**



Sun 3 Jun	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Jubilee Service
	Noon	Village Green	Picnic lunch
	3.00 - 9.00pm	The Red Lion	Music and food
Mon 4	3.30pm	The Dove	Pimms etc
	8.00pm	Crockham Bank	B-B-Q & beacon lighting
Tues 5	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
	Noon	The Dove	Great British roast
Wed 6	7.45pm	Jubilee Room	WI Committee
Sat 9	9.45am	Village Hall	Horticultural Summer Show
Sun 10	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Mon 11	8.00pm	Village Hall	Village Hall Committee
Tues 12	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 13	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Salvation Army
Thurs 14	9.30am	Loseley Park	Horticultural outing
Sun 17	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	All ages Service
	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Sun 24	10.00am	Boughton Ch	Patronal festival - joint Service
	Noon - 6.00pm	-----	Open Gardens
Tues 26	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 27	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council
Sun 1 July	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Ringers & singers Service
Tues 3	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 4	7.45pm	Jubilee Room	WI Committee
Sun 8	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 10	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 11	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Helen Allison, Toys and play
Sat 14	9.00 - Noon	Yew Tree House	B-B-Q
Sun 15	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	All ages Service
	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Sun 22	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 24	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 25	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council
Sun	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 31	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection