



HERNHILL NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2011

PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council took place on Wednesday 31st August. All councillors were present as were Councillor Bowles and two members of the public. The minutes of the last meeting were signed as a true record.

Matters arising: The person most affected by the travellers at the Silver Sands site gave an up-to-date account of the situation. So far he said that he had attended Court on the due date but the case in which he was interested – the injunction against the travellers – had been yet further adjourned until October.

Mr Chapman said that a fresh approach was to be made to stem the flooding near the old shop. A drain is to be made in the pavement. This work will necessitate road closure for a period.

Mr Elliott spoke of the purchase of a new printer. Discussion took place as to where it could be

stored, the need or otherwise of insuring it, its cost and the cost of a servicing contract if any. Details will be finalised at the September meeting.

Financial report: the Clerk said that that Audit Commission had completed its annual inspection and professed itself satisfied.

Correspondence: the Queen's Diamond Jubilee was discussed. The Parish Council is to organise the beacon. Invitations are to be made to the public as to how they would wish the celebrations to be set up and perhaps to make suggestions to local Councillors. Kent Highways has sent a copy of the positions of all drains in the Parish and councillors will be given a copy. The quality of the broadband in the Village appears to be reasonable and considerably better than some other parishes in the Swale area.

Planning applications: No ad-

Chairman: Helen Figgis 01227 751149

e-mail helen@lavenderfarm.plus.com

Clerk: Terry Smart; phone 01227 752840

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 767423

and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

verse comments were offered in respect of the following:

- (a) the construction of industrial units at the Duke of Kent site
- (b) a two storey extension at the Corner House, Forstall
- (c) Elm Tree Cottage, Dargate.

Items to be discussed at the next meeting will include the Queen's 60th Anniversary and the purchase of a new printer.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

I would like to thank everyone who sent cards, letters, expressions of sympathy and offers of help on the death of Brian. He was a good husband and friend and I miss him terribly but I thank my lucky stars that I live in a super village like Hernhill. The sympathy and support from this community is almost tangible and will help me through these difficult days. Thank you.

Jill Geliot

SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

The morning of the BIG B-B-Q BREAKFAST. Between 9.00am and 11.30am you can indulge yourself with a complete English breakfast in the garden of Yew Tree



House (opposite the Dove). Whilst you are tucking-in you can browse a knick-knack stall and buy a ticket for the raffle. There is plenty of parking for cars and if it should rain, the tents will keep you dry. Please bring your own chair.

B-B-Q tickets are just £5.00 for adults and £3.00 for children. We need to know numbers so please apply for tickets well ahead; phone 01227 751293.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COFFEE MORNING

in Crockham Meadow

Many thanks to everyone who came on Saturday 20th August to support this charity event. The weather was kind so everyone could enjoy the social gathering, stalls, raffle, coffee and chat. Children ran about and played football in the meadow, while older young-

sters ran stalls, served coffee and were generally helpful.

The team of adults, as always, worked like efficient clockwork and amazingly at the end of the event cleared the meadow of chairs, tables, umbrellas, balloons and stalls so that by 1.00pm you would never have guessed the event had taken place at all.

In total, £656.44 was raised, i.e.

£374.75 from all the stall sales and donations with £281.69 from the Children's Society boxes.

My thanks to everyone who gave their time, strength and expertise, their bring & buy gifts and their boxes. All of this effort and the money raised is to help the children of our country who are home-

less, run-aways, abused, defenceless and cruelly treated.

I hope to see you again next year. If anyone would like a money box for that precious loose change we all accumulate, please let me know.

Doreen Jelfs
01227 752309

FROM THE VICAR

A priest I worked with many years ago said 'People come to church for many reasons but they stay for only one – relationships.'

We were a growing church and there were many reasons for that but we were also aware of people who came in the front door and quite soon were passing out the back door. In this pick and choose age perhaps we weren't the sort of church they were looking for but in the journey between the front and back doors they had not made any new or meaningful relationships.

Perhaps you are somebody who has tried to become part of your local church, you came once or twice and for whatever reason it didn't work out. I would like to encourage you to try again and we have a special Sunday coming up which may help you to give it another go.

Sunday 2nd October is when St Michael's Church is, for the first time, having a 'Back to Church Sunday'. It started in Greater Manchester back in 2004 and is now

the largest single local-church invitational initiative in the world. The word 'Back' suggests it is only for people who used to attend church and don't do so now but in fact it could also be called Come to Church Sunday enabling people who have never or rarely attended to come along and see what it is all about.

Our 10 am service in St Michael's that day is a special one, it comes during our flower festival so the church will be beautifully decorated, it is also our patronal festival, the day we remember our patron saint, St Michael. Our preacher will be our Area Dean the Revd Canon Tony Oehring. The service is followed by refreshments which all are invited to stay for, it is all part of being the church community and that is when the all-important relationships are made. I am hopeful that our toilet will be installed by then so your comfort is guaranteed. If you would like to come to church but can't get there please do give me a ring as I can easily arrange a lift for you.

If you take the plunge on Back to Church Sunday/Come to Church

Sunday on October 2nd you will receive a warm welcome and, who knows, you might even want to come back again the following week!

Alpha Course

You are invited to an Alpha supper on Tuesday 19 September to hear a talk 'Christianity - exciting, relevant, dynamic!' and to learn more

about the Alpha course which starts the following Tuesday. St Barnabas Community Centre, The Street, Boughton under Bleau, 7.30pm for 7.45pm til 9.45pm. There is no charge but donations are invited towards the cost of the meal. To book a place or for more information please contact me.

Revd Jean Burrows
01227 751410

FLOWER FESTIVAL 2011

As a prelude to the flower festival, there will be a flower arranging demonstration by Carol Murray who is a Chelsea Flower Show Gold Medalist. This will be on Thursday 8th September at 7.00pm in the Church. Tickets are £5.00, available from Joy Pritchard 01227 750372



The Flower Festival at St Michael's will be held on Friday 30th September, Saturday 1st October and Sunday 2nd October. There will be stunning flower arrangements and stalls selling local produce, books and gifts. Refreshments will be at Church Oast - hopefully in the garden.

Jill Geliot
01227 750974

THE LION'S ROAR

Well summer has ended and here at The Red Lion we are welcoming in the new season with autumnal produce and recipes. Look out for some of my favourite dishes. I'd love to hear about your favourite autumn dishes. Send them to enquiries@theredlion.org, maybe you'll see them on the weekly specials menu!

I must say a special thank you to Simon Edgington who helped us celebrate India's Independence Day on Monday 15th August by guest starring in the kitchen. His

curry recipes went down very well with all who attended and he coped brilliantly with the pressure of a busy kitchen, especially as we managed to serve more covers than intended.

The children's fun afternoon was also very well attended with much fun had by all! The fire eating went down particularly well with all the children mesmerised.

Unfortunately due to the poor weather forecast our Bank Holiday BBQ was postponed.

We have live music from "Paul the Other One" on Sunday 11th September, a local acoustic guitar

duo (with band) playing eclectic and surprisingly pleasant blend as acoustic blues and reggae at 5.00pm. We are looking forward to a Hog roast and charity night on Saturday 26th November. This

will be taking place come rain or shine and the band should keep us all entertained!

As ever we hope to see you in The Red Lion soon!

Ben Edwards

SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE & STRIDE

The Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Bike Ride and Walk takes place on Saturday 10th September, 10.00am - 6.00pm. It is open to everyone. 50% of the sponsorship money raised goes to the church chosen by the participant and the remaining 50%, plus any gift aid, goes into a fund administered by the Friends of Kent

Churches. All of this fund is distributed in grants to Kentish churches provided they are in use and are of historical interest or architectural merit. St Michael's is fortunate to have been one of those churches to benefit from this fund.

For sponsorship forms, list of churches and any further information required please ring me.

Pat Hall

01795 529156



RESTORATION FUND 1878

The Restoration Fund has featured many times over the past few years because it has been and is a major project for the Village. Approaching 150 years ago the Village was engaged in similar restoration and refurbishment of the church. In 1826 work was done on the porch into the North aisle but the major work of restoration took place in the late 1870's and was completed in 1878.

This work was largely concerned with the fabric of the building. As now, there were many things that needed attention. Some of the

stonework, coping stones and window mullions had deteriorated. Like us, they had work to do on the roof and they had problems with the rainwater gutters. With local help they also cleaned up the cemetery and had the surrounding wall built. Also, as now, there was much to do inside the church. The lath and plaster that was hiding the roof beams was taken down and some of the beams thus exposed had to be replaced. The floor was levelled with concrete and the gangways were tiled. A plaster partition over the rood

screen was removed to bring in light from the east window and a gallery that obscured light from the west window was also removed. The box pews in the nave and the pulpit were replaced by those that exist today. For the improved comfort of the parishioners, a boiler was installed to heat the church.

The total cost of this work was £1,400 of which £200 was still outstanding at the celebratory reopening of the church in March 1878. This equates to £127,000 in present day values. That is not unlike the cost of the present projects. In those days the only way to raise the money was to appeal to local people. Nearly all of the money came from individual donors in and around the Village, much of it from the local clergy. Most of the gifts were of one or two

guineas (£1.10 and £2.20) but the Archbishop gave £70.00 and £50.00 each came from the Vicar (J. F. Thorpe), Nash Court and Mount Ephraim. At the other end of the scale, "two poor women" gave two shillings and sixpence each. To put those gifts in perspective, a vicar in 1881 was earning £315p.a, a skilled craftsman was earning £87p.a. and an agricultural worker got £42p.a. In those terms the gifts were astonishingly generous.

The Vicar still had in mind installing an organ, new pews for the choir and a clock. In time they were all forthcoming but sadly not in his lifetime. However, his great achievement was to ensure that the church that is such a feature of our local landscape is still there for us to enjoy.

ADT

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!

A rabbit, although made of stone
Who held open the gate of a home
Developed the habit, like any real rabbit
Of chasing a doe on his own

You cannot inhibit a rabbit
That will never get into the habit
Of staring at stars
While speeding fast cars
Can easily outpace a rabbit

Bunny Warren



FAVERSHAM MARKET STALL

Saturday 30th July

Thanks to everyone who supported this fund raiser for the St Michael's church Restoration Fund. Because of the fantastic efforts of everyone - bakers, helpers and buyers, we managed to raise the huge sum of £782.61, an increase of nearly £150 on last year's total. As everybody donated their culinary creations, there were no expenses to deduct. Additionally, as many peo-

ple agreed to Gift Aid the cost of their ingredients and their monetary donations, an extra £63 will be added to this by the tax man.

Several buyers remembered that we were at the market on the same Saturday last year, and said how much they had enjoyed the cakes. Two even said, "See you next year". If we still need funds then, we may be in touch!
Many thanks again.

Barbara Taylor & Joyce Robb

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Summer quiz: On behalf of the Society I would like to thank everyone who attended the summer quiz. It proved to be a very enjoyable evening.

Matthew Biggs: will be at the Village Hall on Thursday 6th October at 7.00pm. Matthew is well known for his participation on Gardeners' Question Time and also for articles in the Gardeners' World Magazine and talks on specialist cruises. Entry is by ticket only and numbers are limited. There are still some tickets available, to get your ticket send a cheque made payable to Hernhill Horticultural Society for £4.00 per ticket to Mr P Bentley, 41 Clover Rise, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3EY with a stamped addressed envelope.

Autumn show: this will be on Sat-

urday 24th September. You can stage your exhibits on Friday evening, 7:30pm to 8:30 pm, and on Saturday 9:45am to 11:15am. All exhibits must be staged no later than 11.15am on Saturday. The Show opens to the public at 2:00pm, presentations are at 3:00pm followed by an auction of produce. Entry is free. Tea and coffee will be available

Thanet Earth: Tyler Hill society are having a speaker from Thanet Earth on Wednesday 21st September at 7:30pm at the Memorial Hall, Summer Lane, Tyler Hill. Tickets are £2.00. If you are interested, call Mrs Penny Whiting on 01227 471566 as she would like to know numbers for refreshments.

Peter Bentley
01227 276032

VILLAGE HALL AGM

Thank you to all of you who attended the AGM on Monday 1st August. It was nice to see three new faces!!

The Committee reviewed last year's performance financially and explained its decisions behind actions taken to update and improve

the Village Hall. The comments received from those using the hall have been very encouraging and supportive of the works completed to date.

The Chairman thanked the Committee, the Parish Council, the Fete Committee for their donation, the Red Lion for taking bookings and the cleaner, Ruth Thody, for their continued support. Barbara Taylor thanked the Chairman on behalf of the Committee for his work during the last year.

It was agreed in principle to proceed with the total refit of the kitchen to bring it up to date and provide a much needed facelift to this area. Final costs are being sought before proceeding but it's expected to be in the region of £14,500 when completed. This will bring to an end the current schedule of works in the Village Hall for the time. We are in talks with the DCA about providing a more "Community" style building maximising the use of both to meet the changing needs of our Community. This would be part of a much larger "upgrade" of the buildings to allow them to continue giving good service to the community for many years to come.

The Kitchen works we are undertaking will not be affected by any future changes which is why we are proceeding now.

The question of "Committee Members" was again raised by me as I have not been trampled in the rush of volunteers!. As previously advised I will be standing down as Chairman next year after the 2012 AGM, so a new Chairman is required, along with I believe at least two other Committee members to help spread the small load of work more widely and take pressure off other Committee members who have served far longer than me.

So, PLEASE DO NOT JUST READ THIS AND PUT IT DOWN - if you are a long term member of the Community or a newcomer, why not get involved and support your community service. It's not hard work, only meeting six times a year for about an hour, and can be very rewarding. Get in touch now 0773 6463921 or dsmann50@msn.com for more info or come along to our next meeting on Monday 3rd October at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Thank you
David Mann

STAPLEGATE WI

We met on Wednesday 10th August in the Village Hall for a 'fun and fund-raising' evening. The twenty members present very much enjoyed team games organised by Bob Holliday for their entertainment. Money was raised by holding a raffle for the Federation's 'Stretch a

Fiver' scheme. For our charity this year, The Samaritans, the bring and buy stall of home-made goodies raised £57.00

The next meeting is on Wednesday 14th September in the Village Hall at 7.45pm. Please come and join us.

Barbara Taylor

DOVE DOINGS

Thank you to everyone for your good wishes and gifts following the surprise announcement of our marriage. We enjoyed a wonderful wedding celebration back at The Dove and we were so happy to have had so many of our friends join us despite the short notice. We will definitely be featuring more of 'Paul the Other One' at The Dove - they are a very talented band and did us proud on the day! Just for the record I have re-paid the Mother-in-Law her £1.19 for her Wedding Invitation that she had to collect from the Post Office because I didn't stamp it correctly! I was very relieved that she turned up at all after that faux-pas! Back to business and despite the end of Summer fast approaching, we have a busy September planned at The



Dove. We have our Beer and Food Matching event on Wednesday 14th. The evening will be hosted by Shepherd Neame's Master Brewer who will deliver interesting snippets about the beer and the all important brewing process whilst you enjoy Phill's carefully matched accompanying courses! Tuesday 20th September will see the first of Phill's Retro Food nights. He will be cooking some old classics from days gone by guaranteed to transport you back to happy times! Lastly we are looking forward to November and our third Big Bonfire Burn

Up. Should anyone have any burnable waste, we would be grateful if you could contribute it to our growing bonfire pile that is in the field next to the pub. Please feel free to drop stuff off at any time and thank you in advance for your support.

The MacGregors

BITS AND PIECES

Like you, I was horrified by the smashing, looting, burning and brutality that broke out in cities round the country this August. It brought home to me how lucky we are to be living in a village. I had the guilty feeling that perhaps I don't appreciate that privilege as much and as often as I should. Of course all is not untrammelled bliss. Of course there are times of sadness. We had three this month. Mary Turner, Roy Geer and Brian Geliot died. Mary lived in Hernhill

for many years and was a stalwart of the Crafts Centre. Many Sundays in the summer she could be seen there with her spinning wheel. Living here all his life, Roy Geer always had a ready smile and a wave for passers-by and his vegetable garden in Crockham Lane was a picture. Brian Geliot was an enthusiastic supporter of the Scout movement but also deeply involved Village matters. He was Church Warden at St Michael's for several years and played a major role in raising money for the Bell Fund.

But there are good times too and we had two lots of good news last month. The 'hot news' left with us in the last issue is that Sarah and Phill returned from their holiday, married. Congratulations! We also have good news from the other end of the Village. Lucy and Mark Everett have taken over at the Shoes. Lucy comes from Whitstable, but, Marc was born in Dunkirk and went to Hernhill School; a true local lad. It is particularly good news that Marc plans to bring back the wheelie-bin race next year. You can start thinking about your entries now.

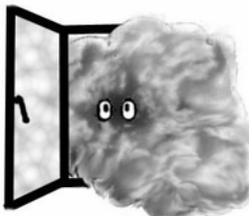
Garden waste that cannot be composted is a damned nuisance. It is a nuisance for the gardener and for the neighbours. It means a bonfire is needed to get rid of it. Carefully ensuring that the wind is in the right direction before you light the fire, you can guarantee that the wind will change. The minute that the smoke is thickest, the wind will turn right round and blow straight into your neighbour's open window.

There is no best time for a bonfire, but the Swale.website does have some helpful advice.

"It is a common misconception that there are specific byelaws prohibiting garden bonfires or specifying times they can be lit - there aren't.

However, this is not a licence for indiscriminate burning! Occasionally a bonfire is the best practicable way to dispose of woody or diseased waste that cannot be composted. And bonfires are used to mark traditional celebrations - especially November 5th.....If you do have a bonfire to dispose of garden waste, or on Bonfire Night follow our good bonfire guidelines.

- Only burn dry material.
- Never burn household rubbish, rubber tyres or anything containing plastic, foam or paint.
- Avoid lighting a fire in unsuitable weather conditions - smoke hangs in the air on damp, still days. If it is too windy, smoke blows into neighbours' gardens and windows and across roads.



- Avoid burning when air pollution levels in your area are high or very high.
- Keep your fire away from trees, fences and buildings.
- Never use oil, petrol or methylated spirits to light a fire - you could damage yourself as well as the environment.
- Never leave a fire unattended or leave it to smoulder - put it out."

ADT

Alan D. Taylor
 Yew Tree House, Dargate
 near Faversham, Kent ME13 9HG
 01227 751293

**COPY
 DATE
 Mon
 26th
 Sep**



Sun 4 Sept	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung communion
Mon 5	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 6	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 7	7.45pm	Jubilee Room	WI Committee
Thurs 8	7.00pm	St. Michael's Ch	Flower arranging demonstration
Sat 10	9.00am	Yew Tree House	B-B-Q breakfast
Sun 11	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
	-----	Mount Ephraim	Apple Sunday
Tues 13	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 14	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - John Hinns, WI judging
Sun 18	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	All Ages Service & baptism
Mon 19	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 20	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Sun 25	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
Tues 27	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 28	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council
Fri 30	-----	St. Michael's Ch	Flower Festival starts
Sun 2 Oct	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung communion - Patronal Festival
Mon 3	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 4	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 5	7.45pm	Jubilee Room	WI Committee
Thurs 6	7.00pm	Village Hall	Horticultural Society - Matthew Briggs
Sun 9	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
Tues 11	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 12	7.45pm	Village Hall	WI - Don Wilkes -Paddlers, waders etc
Sun 16	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	All Ages Service Harvest Festival
Mon 17	2.00pm	Village Hall	Monday Club
Tues 18	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Thurs 20	7.00pm	Village Hall	Horticultural Society - Social evening
Sat 22	7.30pm	St. Michael's Ch	UK Paper - brass band
Sun 23	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy communion
Tues 25	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 26	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council
Sun 9	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Said communion



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