



Next Editors: Lesley Lee and Bridget Robertson: huntonherald@outlook.com
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th August

‘Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang’, We Love You!

The beauty of a small school is that every child has the opportunity to play in a school team, become a leader in school and, of course, perform on stage. Talking of which, the Y6 Leavers’ play was ‘Chitty, Chitty Bang Bang’; it was performed brilliantly! The pupils’ talents in singing, dancing and acting made us laugh and cry, as we watched in disbelief at their emerging talents. Thank you, Mrs Makey, Mr Ming, Mrs Underdown and Mrs Evans. Mrs Underdown’s creative, artistic talent, produced what looked like a real ‘Chitty Chitty Bang Bang’, with wings to fly. Certainly, a wow production, enjoyed by pupils, parents, grandparents, governors and visitors. Without staff giving their time freely, things like this could not happen. No mean feat! Well done everyone, now enjoy your holidays. Good luck to the wonderful Year 6 pupils as they start their new schools in September.



St Mary’s Hunton – Joyous Virtuoso Organ Recital

There are few things more magical than a summer’s evening in an ancient church and churchyard. But, when that is accompanied by classical organ music, well, it doesn’t get much better. Those who attended D’Arcy Trinkwon’s previous performance in St Mary’s Church, knew they were in for a treat -- though an entirely different repertoire meant that our interest remained piqued by his varied selection of pieces. For those of you, myself included, who get a bit twitchy during long concerts, D’Arcy’s performances are a breath of fresh air. Each, relatively short musical piece was preceded by a brief but interesting historical tale. We learnt about the composer, the context in which the piece was written, as well as amusing anecdotes. It takes more than musical talent to incorporate cockroaches, false teeth and illegitimate children into an organ recital! He also explained a little about Hunton’s prestigious Willis organ and the fact that no modifications have been made since it was installed. It sounds as it would have done when it was first made in 1864. The audience of 60 enjoyed pieces by Bach and Mendelssohn, the latter written when the composer was only 18 years old, as well as *Summer Sketches*, Op 73, by Edwin Lamare and *The Swan* by Camille Saint-Saens. The concert ended with a piece by a Norwegian composer, which D’Arcy initially considered to be awful. However, due to popular opinion the piece had its moment; moreover, the piece put a smile on everyone’s face with its upbeat, ‘seaside’, feel!

Catching up with friends and neighbours in the interval, and for nibbles and fizz, it was hard to drag ourselves away. Indeed, the last concert goes did not leave until 11:00 pm. Thanks must go to everyone who was involved: D’Arcy Trinkwon, the organisers, canape-makers and flower arrangers who helped to make it a resounding success once again.

Jennifer Dixon

Your Local Contacts:		Maidstone Police	690690 or 101
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Village Hall Booking:	www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk
Under 5’s Pre-School:	820309	Huntonwatch: huntonwatch@gmail.com	07907 019996
Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill	820429	‘Potholes’ Hotline (KCC)	03000 418181
Rector: Revd. Lorna Faulkner*	747570	Hunton Ladies: Chris Summersgill	c.a.summersgill@btinternet.com
Hon Associate Rector: Revd. David Jones	741474*	PCSO - none	
Community Wardens Team	07811 271021	Helen Grant MP helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk	0207 219 7107
Hunton Bell Ringers: Lavinia Thompson	07885 763071	Village Club: Roger Lee: roger.c.lee@btinternet.com	820210
*not available on Fridays		Reporting HGVs	huntontrafficroporting@gmail.com
Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk			

Parish Council Contacts	
Parish Clerk: Sharon Goodwin - 681238, huntonpc@googlemail.com	Chairman: David Heaton - 820678, dhhuntonpc@gmail.com
Cllr Jonny Goddard – 820096, jonny@cheveneyfarm.co.uk	Cllr Tony Stanbridge - 820721, tshuntonpc@gmail.com
Cllr Annette Trought - 820448, annette@trought.com	Cllr Mike Summersgill - 820429, mshuntonpc@btinternet.com
Cllr Iain Simmons - 820875, ishuntonpc@btinternet.com	Cllr Jean Fuller – 07738 935630, jfhuntonpc@outlook.com

Diary Dates
16th Aug – ‘Children’s Cookery’, Coxheath Scout Hut, 9.30 – 12.30; 17th Aug – ‘Music Workshop’ for children, St Mary’s Church, 9.30 – 12.30.
18th Aug – Children’s ‘Fun Olympics’, All Saints Church, West Farleigh, 9.30 – 12.30; 19th Aug - Messy Church and BBQ, St Nicholas’ Church, Linton, 3.00- 5.00pm;
19th August - St Mary’s Church Working Party, 9am to 12 noon; 2nd Sept - Hunton Beer Festival, 12.30 to 6.30pm;
9th Sept - The annual ‘Ride and Stride’ to visit any church in Kent.
Check out www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk/events-list for the latest events. If you would like to add an event, email huntonpc@gmail.com

Pastoral Letter, Ups and Downs!

Dear friends,

Recently, I watched two young children enjoy playing on a seesaw. They chuckled and giggled as they went up and down! Watching them made me start thinking about the ups and downs of life.

Do you remember when the late Queen had her Annus Horribilis? That was 1992 – how time flies! For those of you too young to know about this, 1992 was a year in which 3 of the late Queen's children either separated or divorced and then Windsor Castle was badly damaged in a fire. A definite 'down'!

My family have had quite a few ups and downs this year. How about you and yours?

At the moment, many are facing 'downs' with the cost of living and mortgage rate rises. At least in the hot weather we don't have to heat our homes, a decision that for some in the cold months meant heat or eat.

In the early church, the Bible says that they shared what they had, and nobody was in need. You will be reading this letter in August. Children are off school, and some families may not be able to go on holiday because finances are too tight. Days out for families are so expensive! If you have neighbours, family or friends who are in this situation perhaps you can help with the children. Maybe go out together for a walk in the countryside, or to a park, and have a picnic together. Perhaps ask them round for tea. Make some cakes, children love doing that, or maybe do some crafts together. All these things might be fun for the children and bring some relief for a mum or dad who maybe struggling to keep the children amused.

When communities pull together, those who are weaker become stronger; everyone has a part to play in this. Let's all try to bring some 'ups' into the lives of those who are burdened by 'downs'. Enjoy the summer! Blessings to all,

Sue Elliott – Pastoral Assistant and Ministry Team member.

Sit Safely

You may have noticed that the bench outside of Hunton Village Club has been renovated with new locally sourced oak slats. The old slats had become cracked and were becoming a danger to sit upon safely. We are therefore grateful to the Parish Council for funding the materials for renovation. Thank you to a small team from the Village Club, including Phil Nicols and Mike Dixon, for carrying out the work. There was a plaque on the old bench which was in memory of Frank Richard Botting who passed away in 1988. We understand he was a prominent member of the Club but would be grateful for more information about him and the circumstances of dedicating the old bench to him. The plaque has been placed on the wall by the bench.



Roger Lee, Club Chairman

Film Night at Hunton Village Club

We had a fun evening at the Club on the 24th of June, when we showed the film Le Mans 66. It was much enjoyed, even by those who were a bit dubious at first. It was a very hot night, so the cold supper suited the evening perfectly. The audience also appreciated being able to watch with a cold drink in their hands! I hope to see you there for our next film, which will be in the autumn.

Lesley Lee

Hunton Beer Festival: Saturday 2nd September, 12.30 to 6.30pm

Bring your family and friends to this relaxed event at Hunton Village Club. There will be a wide range of local cask ales; a selection of unusual spirits and plenty of soft drinks; bacon and other rolls, as well as fabulous home-made cakes for purchase. Steph is hoping to pay us a visit with her amazing Ices at some point during the afternoon. There will be an area for plants and produce; plus, a Tombola and activities for small children. Sharon Winter will be providing musical entertainment. There will be a small entrance charge of £2 for adults, but children are free. Please park at Hunton Village Hall and walk down the footpath to the Club.

Before the Club opens for the Beer Festival, The Linton Walkers will be leading a walk of about 1.5 hours, starting from Hunton Village Hall car park at 11am prompt and ending at Hunton Club. They welcome anyone who would like to join them; please note they charge £1 a head which is donated to local good causes.

The team organising this family friendly event are now collecting donations for the Tombola and will also welcome any plants and produce you can spare on Friday 1st September between 3 and 5pm at the Club. Please bring cakes on Saturday 2nd September from 10am. The Club has a few games, including dominos, which children and adults play during the event. If you have any additional small games to donate to the Club, please contact me. I will also be delighted to hear from you if you are willing to help in any way. Thanks.

Lesley 01622 820 210 lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com

St Mary's Church Working Parties - Saturdays 19th August & the 9th September

A friendly group of volunteers meet several times a year to prepare St Mary's Church and the churchyard for services and special events. Volunteers decide which job they will do, including clearing round the base of graves and dusting in the church. The next two working parties will be on Saturday the 19th of August, before a village wedding. Then following this on Saturday the 9th of September when the church will be welcoming people taking part in the annual 'Ride and Stride'. This event raises money for Kent Churches, including St Mary's. Working parties run from 9am to 12 noon with a mid-morning break. If you can volunteer to help for all or part of a session you will be made very welcome. Please contact me for further information, or to let me know that you are coming, so I can prepare enough biscuits etc for the break.

Lesley 01622 820210 lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com

Pop Up Children's Activities During August

The Benefice will be providing free, fun, pop-up activities for children who are in KS2 (years 3-6) at the end of the school year.

- Wednesday 16th August - Cookery in Coxheath Scout Hut. Limited to 15 children
- Thursday 17th August - Music at St Mary's Church, Hunton. Limited to 20 children
- Friday 18th August - Fun Olympics at All Saints Church, West Farleigh. Limited to 30 children.

The above sessions will run between 9.30 – 12.30.

On Saturday 19th August everyone who attends any of these events is invited to join us with their family at St Nicholas' Church, Linton for a celebration and afternoon tea at Messy Church 3.00- 5.00pm. Activities, storytelling, and BBQ.

Please contact Becky Parnham for booking forms 07949 646865 or if you would like to help.

Sheep Showing at the Kent Show, 2023.

Enthusiastic members of the Sharp family arrived at the Kent County Show Ground with our clean, and I thought, 'well behaved' Jacob sheep. This was the first time at the show as a competitor, and not as a helper, and we were feeling quite rough round the edges. For two weeks we had been taming and halter training seven sheep; we were not confident they were ready! This feeling was made worse when one of our shearling ewes jumped out of her pen into another; apparently, 'her friend' was in that pen; urgently and with great speed, we reinforced the boundary hurdles.

During the afternoon, other competitors arrived, with a final flurry at teatime on Thursday evening. There was a good representation of Jacob sheep; this was lovely to see, as the existence of this class was at risk. We slept overnight in the livestock camping field and were eagerly at the sheep lines by seven in the morning. Our class was the first in the ring. Sadly, we had to forfeit the 'stockmen's breakfast', in order to make haste preparing for our classes. Combs, clippers, sponges and halters all appeared because of the camaraderie between my lovely team. Everyone united in a common aim: to produce the best sheep at the show ground. Competitors keenly helped each other, making new friends and rejuvenating older friendships.



We had entered all of the Jacob classes, except the first for the older rams. Once we got going, we did not stop. There was not much time between classes. We busily led sheep into the ring and then out; then, into the ring again for the next class. Second prize in shearling Ram with Bruno, wow! A third with our lovely Ram lamb, Ryan. Then, a first! Yes, a 'red' in the older ewe class; winning with our favourite ewe Elsa. Then came the shearling ewes, and finally ewe lambs. Our showing skills were being seriously challenged at this point, as our 'group of three', sheep, were a bit of a shambles. We just kept smiling, having fun and learning a lot on the way!

The second day was for the young handlers. We weren't sure if they would actually go in the ring or go shy on us. Well, to our delight, all our youngsters decided to compete, all six of them. There was a mad rush to get the children ready for the ring. So that everyone could look their best, a mix and match of white coats and ties of various shapes and sizes were swapped across the sheep pens. I am told that they all did really well, especially as they were in huge classes; from the photos, it certainly looked that way, with all competitors receiving a rosette, and some feedback from the judge. Well done to you all!

The children participated in camping on the show ground, and enjoyed the disco, which was put on by the show organisers. It is something special to walk the animal lines at dusk, hearing them chewing the cud and settled in their beds after the crowds have gone home. Fun was had by all, a show to remember. What a feeling, 4 rosettes, in all the colours! The hard work was all worthwhile. Now, we look forward to the next time!

Wendy Sharp, Hunton resident and smallholder

Kenward Trust

Kenward Trust was established 55 years ago when Ray Sinden decided to sell his home, and successful farming business, to purchase Kenward House, a large property in Yalding. His reason and vision were to provide members of the street sleeping homeless, in London, with a place of safety and recovery. The majority of these men were alcoholics.

Ray himself had come to faith in Christ at a relatively late age and he was passionate about a spiritual solution to addiction. The Trust remains faithful to the Christian ethos of care and uses the 12-step process of recovery; itself rooted in Christian principle for those residents who choose to adopt it. Addiction has, of course, moved on and many of the folk in the residential rehab unit have a drug using background. The common theme is a quest for recovery and freedom from substance misuse.

Kenward is supportive of those from all faiths and none. This caring sanctuary has provided a place of safety for hundreds of men and women, undoubtedly saving many lives in the process.

Kenward Trust is open to the public with a beautifully situated café; a great place to meet friends for an out-of-town coffee and delicious cakes. There are a variety of open days and, of course, the ever-popular alpaca walking experience. Do consider a visit to Kenward House, especially during this summer holiday period. Location, in Kenward Road, Yalding.

Dr Tony Jones – Kenward Trust Trustee

Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wednesdays 8 - 11.00pm & Sundays 8 - 10.30 pm

School's Out, All Quiet on West Street during August!

I realise that when you come to read this month's edition of the Hunton Herald we will be on our summer holidays. Yet, when writing this we are in the midst of celebrating our past year's successes, including those of our wonderful Year 6 children. They really have been superb role models for our younger children and have exuded confidence by embracing every opportunity that has come their way.



The Year 6s went on to challenge themselves even more, striving outside of their comfort zone on their PGL adventure. Look out on Twitter – you might gulp! What a time they had.

On a reflective day, Y6 were able to attend a very special event at Rochester Cathedral alongside other schools in the Diocese. We spent the day thinking about the promise of Jesus; found in Matthew, 'I am with you always.' (Matthew 28:20). The day was full

of workshops. The children enjoyed singing, making beaded key rings and reflecting on their time in primary school. There was also time to think about their future journey ahead. I am sure our Y6s came away with their own special thoughts for their future.



'One more step along the world I go' is also pertinent for our staff. After devoting 16 years to Hunton Mrs Adams, a Hunton resident, is leaving us to pursue another role, working as a health care assistant in a care home. Throughout her time, she has witnessed many key events and changes. She has contributed significantly to the school's values and community. We wish to acknowledge Mrs Adams' commitment and loyalty as well as our heartfelt gratitude.

We are also sending our best wishes to our Key Stage 1 teacher, Miss Blundell, who is expecting her first baby; what a special time that will be. We look forward to keeping you up to date with more school news in our next academic year. Whilst the children and staff are having a well-earned rest, there will be lots of activity at the school, making improvements within the buildings and in the grounds. Thank you to everyone in Hunton who supports this thriving school. We hope that you will enjoy everything that you will be doing this summer.

Anita Makey, Headteacher

Are you 60+, retired and looking for a place to live locally?

A vacancy exists for a single person/couple who would like to live in Linton in one of 5 Almshouses situated on the main bus route. It will be available shortly at an attractive rent. The Almshouses are let unfurnished. There is a small garden for each house, together with a communal garden. Preference will be given to those having connections with Linton.

Application forms are available from: The Clerk to the Trustees, Mrs K Cooper, Linton Park Almshouses, c/o Forge Cottage, Linton Hill, Linton, Maidstone, ME17 4AW Tel: 01622 741494 email:cooperkath2@gmail.com

Closing date for applications – 31st August 2023

Benefice Service Rota – August 2023

CHURCH	Week 1 (6/8) LF off	Week 2 (13/8) LF off	Week 3 (20/8)	Week 4 (27/8)
Coxheath 11:00 am	Communion <i>CD</i>	Morning Worship <i>BP + Michael Cooper</i>	Communion <i>DJ</i>	All-age worship <i>LF</i>
East Farleigh 9:30 am	Morning Worship <i>BP</i>		Communion <i>CD</i>	
West Farleigh 9:30 am		Communion <i>DJ</i>		Morning Worship <i>LF</i>
Hunton 9:30 am	Communion <i>DJ</i>		Family service <i>DJ</i>	
Linton 9:30 am		Morning Worship <i>BW + Kath</i>		Communion <i>DJ</i>
Midweek Services				
Coxheath - Every Thursday; Holy Communion, 10:00 am.				
Linton - Holy Communion last Wednesday of each month, 12.00, followed by lunch				
DJ – David Jones, BP - Becky Parnham, LF – Lorna Faulkner; CD – Clinton Davies; SE – Sue Elliott; BW – Bertie Woodward				

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