



Next Editors: Wendy & Iain Simmons: [huntonherald@outlook.com](mailto:huntonherald@outlook.com)  
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th August

## Save the Date - Hunton Club Beer Festival:

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August 12.30pm Start**

Yes, it's that time of year again and preparation is well underway to make Hunton Club's Beer Festival even bigger and better than ever before.

As well as getting to mingle with friends, colleagues and neighbours there will be Local Real Ales, a Cocktail Corner and Tasty Food for you to enjoy.

Plants and Produce will also be on sale, Kids will be kept busy in the Activities Area and of course there will be Live Music so dust off those Dancing Shoes!

This year, instead of the traditional 'Tombola' there will be a 'Spin 2 Win'. Same principle, with fabulous prizes but hopefully a bit more fun! Prize donations have already started to come in but we do need more. If you have any new but unwanted gifts, booze, chocolates or similar, why not donate them so others can enjoy. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support. Please contact: Kerry Larkin on 07939 869433, on Facebook or [kerryanicholls1@aol.com](mailto:kerryanicholls1@aol.com) if you think you can help.

As always, everyone is welcome. Adults £2 and Kids & Pets go free. All proceeds will help support the ongoing running of Hunton Village Club, so please stop by. Should be another fantastic event.



*Kerry Larkin*

## Wayside Light Railway Train Day - Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2pm start



You are invited to take your family and friends to enjoy an afternoon of train rides at Wayside in Amsbury Road. There are 8 steam engines and numerous coaches. Each ride, around the track in the 5 acre grounds, lasts about 20 minutes and there is no limit to the number of rides offered. Tea, coffee, cakes, sandwiches and soft drinks are included in the ticket price. Parking is opposite Wayside in Amsbury Road. Tickets for this event, which aims to raise funds for St Mary's Church and Riding for the Disabled, are £15 adults, £10 children up to 12 years old and under 5s free. No dogs allowed. Contact Sue on 01622 746125 or 07850 708596 or [suej.martin@btopenworld.com](mailto:suej.martin@btopenworld.com) to obtain your tickets.

### Your Local Contacts:

School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Maidstone Police	690690 or 101
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Village Hall Booking:	<a href="http://www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk">www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk</a>
Pond and Tree Warden: Sam Andrews	<a href="mailto:huntontreewarden@gmail.com">huntontreewarden@gmail.com</a>	Huntonwatch: <a href="mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com">huntonwatch@gmail.com</a>	07907 019996
Rector: Revd. Lorna Faulkner*	747570	'Potholes' Hotline (KCC)	03000 418181
Hon Associate Rector: Revd. David Jones	741474	Hunton Ladies: Chris Summersgill	<a href="mailto:c.a.summersgill@btinternet.com">c.a.summersgill@btinternet.com</a>
Churchwarden: Iain Simmons	820875	PCSO - none	
	<a href="mailto:ishuntonchurchwarden@btinternet.com">ishuntonchurchwarden@btinternet.com</a>	Katie Lam MP	<a href="mailto:katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk">katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk</a>
Community Wardens Team	07811 271021	Village Club: Roger Lee: <a href="mailto:roger.c.lee@btinternet.com">roger.c.lee@btinternet.com</a>	820210
Hunton Bell Ringers: Lavinia Thompson	07885 763071	Reporting HGVs	<a href="mailto:huntontrafficroporting@gmail.com">huntontrafficroporting@gmail.com</a>

*\*not available on Fridays*

Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at [www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk)

### Parish Council Contacts

Parish Clerk: Sharon Goodwin - 681238, <a href="mailto:huntonpc@googlegmail.com">huntonpc@googlegmail.com</a>	Chairman: David Heaton - 820678, <a href="mailto:dhhuntonpc@gmail.com">dhhuntonpc@gmail.com</a>
Clr Jonny Goddard - 820096, <a href="mailto:jonny@cheveneyfarm.co.uk">jonny@cheveneyfarm.co.uk</a>	Clr Tony Stanbridge - 820721, <a href="mailto:tshuntonpc@gmail.com">tshuntonpc@gmail.com</a>
Clr Annette Trought - 820448, <a href="mailto:annette@trought.com">annette@trought.com</a>	Clr Mike Summersgill - 820429, <a href="mailto:mshuntonpc@btinternet.com">mshuntonpc@btinternet.com</a>
Clr Iain Simmons - 820875, <a href="mailto:ishuntonpc@btinternet.com">ishuntonpc@btinternet.com</a>	

### Diary Dates

St Mary's Working Party - Sat 10th Aug 9-12; Beer Festival - Sat 31st Aug 12.30pm onwards; Hunton Run Group - Hunton Backyard Ultra. Ride & Stride & Church Working Party - Sat 14th Sept; Friends of St Mary's Harvest Supper - Sat 19th Oct; Hunton Club Green Hop Beer Event - 25th - 27th Oct; Gardening Club Social - Sat 2nd Nov; Walk / Lunch - Thurs 14th Nov; Christmas Market - Sat 23rd Nov; Post Christmas Walk / Lunch - Sat 28th Dec.

Check out [www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk/events-list](http://www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk/events-list) for the latest events. If you would like to add an event, email [huntonpc@gmail.com](mailto:huntonpc@gmail.com)



Hunton



[www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.huntonparishcouncil.org.uk)



@HuntonVillage

## Pastoral Letter

Hello everyone. Time flies, doesn't it? August already! So here we are again, children off school and parents, grandparents and other carers and friends trying to find things to do to occupy them. It can be a difficult time, especially if the weather isn't kind. Our strange weather is all the fault of the Jet Stream apparently. It is further south than it should be and is drawing cold, unsettled weather down from the north. Hopefully, by the time you read this (I'm writing it mid-July) the weather will have improved.

Within our Benefice there will be a couple of children's events taking place; a holiday club on 13th August, school years 1-6 (book via email to [becky.thecat@bopenworld.com](mailto:becky.thecat@bopenworld.com)) and on 15th August, a Crafternoon for parents and children, all ages 2-4pm.

For those of you who like DRAGONS there is one in Rochester Cathedral! It's name is Draco Roffensis. It's made up of lots of foil scales; silver, gold and bronze, that were decorated by children and adults who visited the Cathedral earlier in the year. It is well worth a look, and it is free to get in the Cathedral. (What attractions are free these days?!) The Rochester Dragon has been inspired by illuminated artwork found within the pages of Textus Roffensis, a 900 year old medieval book that can be seen in the crypt. Find out more here: <https://www.rochestercathedral.org/dragon>.

There are also free Family Craft Activities at the Cathedral on Tuesdays and Fridays in July and August, and a free Family Friendly Organ Recital on 26th August. Music inspired by Draco Roffensis. Guess what, the organ has 3,808 pipes! Amazing! A free, daily Anglo-Saxon Riddle Trail, too, to help you discover more about the Cathedral. The link above shows you all about what is happening in your Cathedral over the holidays including one or two ticketed events that you might be interested in.

For those of you who might prefer a quieter life in the summer, find a nice place to sit, a garden or park, and relax. Look at nature, the flowers and trees, and think on this, from a song that many will have sung at school: Think of a world without any flowers, think of a world without any trees, think of a sky without any sunshine, think of the air without any breeze. We thank You, Lord, for flowers, trees and sunshine. We thank You, Lord, and praise Your holy name.

How blessed we are to be surrounded by the beauty of creation. Enjoy!

*Sue Elliott – Pastoral Assistant*

## A message from the new Churchwarden; St Mary's Hunton

I am delighted to let you all know that I am now, officially, a Churchwarden for our Parish. Having been chosen by the people of Hunton in April, I attended a packed service at St Barnabas' Church Bexley on a very hot and humid evening at the end of June. We sang, we prayed and then completed our vows before the Bishop's representative. At that moment I was appointed legally.

So, what does a Churchwarden do? As the senior lay representative of the parish, my role is extremely varied. It is about management, maintenance and mission. Put simply, I am responsible for the building, its contents, the churchyard, maintaining order at all times and supporting the minister to conduct services. I have a duty to work with our rector, Lorna Faulkner, but, if the need arises, to liaise with the Bishop. It seems an onerous task and it could be elsewhere. In Hunton, we are blessed with volunteers and organisers who: maintain the churchyard and the building; provide and arrange flowers; read the bible during services; welcome visitors to the church and offer refreshment after a service. We also have a group who organise stunning events to raise funds and, more importantly, grow the link between the church and the wider Hunton community. If you are inspired to volunteer, in any way, do ask. All are welcome; whether you attend church or not.

*Iain Simmons, Churchwarden [Ishuntonchurchwarden@btinternet.com](mailto:Ishuntonchurchwarden@btinternet.com) 01622 820 875*

## Ride & Stride – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September

Would you like to help raise funds for St Mary's Church by spending some time walking or riding between local churches? If so, you can take part in the Friends of Kent Church Ride & Stride Day on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September. This annual charity event for walkers, horse or bike riders enables those sponsored to raise money for their church and others in Kent. You plan your own route taking in as few or as many of the 700 churches as you wish to visit. More information - [www.kentrideandstride.co.uk/](http://www.kentrideandstride.co.uk/)

The Friends of Kent Churches was set up in 1949 in response to the poor state of repair of Kent's churches at that time. It has raised funds by various means including the annual Ride & Stride Day. Half the sponsorship money goes straight back to the church nominated by participants and half to the Friends of Kent Churches. St Mary's Church has benefitted from grants.

It is hoped that St Mary's Church will be open from 10am to 6pm. During the morning there will be a Working Party so volunteers will be there to help check people in at church. James Forster (01622 820628 [forsters.hunton@btinternet.com](mailto:forsters.hunton@btinternet.com)) looks forward to hearing from anyone wishing to take part in the event or willing to sit in the church for an hour or two from 12 noon onwards.

## Working Party at St Mary's Church: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August 9am – 12 noon

Volunteers will meet for the next church Working Party on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August. This is a week before St Mary's will host a Communion Service, when this will be the only service to be held that day in the 5 churches in our Benefice. The regular team of volunteers hope you will join them to help make the church and churchyard look smart. If you want more information, or think you might be able to assist on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August, please let Lesley know so she can provide enough treats for the coffee break.

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

## Christmas Market: Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

Bit early I hear you all saying to talk about Christmas, 'We haven't had summer yet'. Well Wimbledon is over, strawberries coming to an end, Olympics nearly over and this month the Beer Festival! What else is there to think about? Obviously early thoughts about the planned Christmas Market on Saturday November 23<sup>rd</sup> which aims to raise funds for St. Mary's Church. Stall holders are applying already so why not book the date in your diary now. This year we're thinking about a 'Made in Hunton Stall'. If you don't want to have a stall of your own, why not exhibit your talent by making things for sale on this stall. Contact David Jones 01622 741474 or [davidjones.coxheath@gmail.com](mailto:davidjones.coxheath@gmail.com).

## Hunton Primary School

### Open Days

If you, or someone you know has a child starting school in September 2025 please book a tour of Hunton CEP School. There are three open days on 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 14th November, but if you require an alternative date we will do our best to accommodate you. Feel free to book via the school website- <https://hunton.kent.sch.uk>

### School Trip



In June, Borton, the year 5 & 6 class at Hunton CEP School, embarked on their school residential trip to Bawdsey Manor in Suffolk for a week. The manor used to be an old RAF base, and the scenery and weather were exceptional. The children had a remarkable time as

they grew in independence and their confidence skills. During the week, the children participated in rock climbing, abseiling, raft building, canoeing, coastal hikes, fencing and much more!

As ever, the children showed brilliant determination and perseverance to push themselves and conquer their fears particularly demonstrating our Christian Vision of 'Live Life in all its Fullness'.

Furthermore, the children became more independent and did the school proud through their exceptional behaviour and attitude. At Hunton, as well as the academic, we also strive for children to have memorable experiences at primary school and hope such wonderful opportunities such as the PGL residential provide just that.

### Hunton's 'Hop the Sheep' (aka Shaun the Sheep)

Quite some time ago a white sheep turned up at school. All the children were asked to create a design to brighten him up and represent our school. As you can see the designs became reality and 'Hop' our sheep was ready for the Heart of Kent Hospice Shaun the Sheep Trail in Maidstone. Our Head Boy and Girl plus our school council representatives attended workshops at the Corn Exchange, Maidstone to promote the trail and find out more. Thank you to the Heart of Kent Hospice and to TPS, a logistics company, who sponsored us so we could join in with this local event.



## SAVE THE DATE! Hunton Harvest Supper: Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October

A heads up to put the date in your diary - Friends of St Mary's will be hosting the ever-popular Harvest Supper on Saturday 19th October in Hunton Village Hall. A fabulous evening, suitable for all the family, with delicious food and bar. See next month's Herald for further details.

## The Box Tree Caterpillar

The box tree moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*) is now considered a common resident in the UK and is particularly prevalent in the south-east. It was reported as being established in continental Europe at least 10 years ago, so it was only a matter of time before it naturally reached the UK.

Our box hedge succumbed to the caterpillar but I left it hoping the birds would reduce the population of caterpillar, thinking nature would create its own balance as we have so many nesting blue tits in the garden. Little did I know that these caterpillars, whilst devouring the box extremely quickly, take in the poisons from the plant that makes them apparently toxic for wildlife and birds to eat. Though this is now in some debate as birds have been seen to be eating them...maybe when they are still small and have not themselves consumed too much box. So, in the main, these caterpillars it seems have few natural predators. This means left untreated they will kill the plant.

My half dead box did start to sprout some new green shoots early this year, but in no time at all the whole lot succumbed to the caterpillar. It all looked completely dead and I decided to remove it completely. Having cut it right down I found it has started to sprout at the base. I shall leave it and see what happens, not least because attempting to remove the roots is likely to demolish the dry-stone wall it is growing on top of!

We will treat this autumn to ensure nothing overwinters and hope for the best next year, bearing in mind that we may need to treat the plant early enough to attack the first generation of moth at around the beginning of April and again at the end of the month. There is a bio pesticide that uses a bacterium that infects the caterpillar and kills it. This can only be applied by someone who has the PA1 and PA6 certificate. The alternatives are other pesticides, obtainable from garden centres.

I have started off some plants of both *Ilex Crenata* and *Euonymus Japonica* to form into balls instead.

Sue Heaton



## Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wednesdays 8 – 11pm; Fridays 6.30 – 10.30pm; Sundays 8 – 10.30pm

### Bells and Berries

The bells were ringing and the sun was shining (well, a bit of the time), when many locals made their way through the immaculate and very beautiful Churchyard to St. Mary's Church for a feast for both the stomach and the ears. A delicious cream tea was provided, with cakes and Prosecco as well, while the bells were ringing, and while they rested, our highly proficient, resident organist, Marion Greensill, entertained us by playing a seasonal selection of music on the superb Willis organ. The bell ringers explained how ringing works. A camera had been erected up by the bells and a screen in the church so that we could see the bells in action. I had no idea it was so much more brain than brawn! Small bells, tubular bells and hand bells were in the vestry for visitors to try. I honestly cannot think of a more pleasant way to spend an afternoon, with friends and families in abundance. And making money for the Church building as well, over £500! Well done to the volunteers, including the organisers, the flower providers, the scones, cakes and savoury makers and all who made the Church so welcoming.



*Bell Ringers in Action*

### Date Change: Green Hop Weekend moved to 25, 26, 27<sup>th</sup> October

The Green Hop weekend will now be on Friday 25<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October. This Club event will have some Green Hop Beers to try along with other beers. More information in future Heralds.

### Hunton Watch Update

Following a meet and greet with Kent Police at Yalding Library we have now made contact and established a communication path with our beat police officer. We are receiving twice weekly emails from Kent Neighbourhood Watch in the form of an electronic newsletter (e-watch) produced in conjunction with Kent Police. This will allow us to inform Members of crimes committed in the local area and other items of potential interest (e.g.: scams, product recalls, missing persons etc). We have already circulated advice on how to recognise and deal with phishing emails and texts.

We have completed our mid-summer Membership audit and although most Members responded confirming whether they still wished to receive our emails or not, about 15% did not respond. As we advised in the emails we sent out, anyone who did not reply has now been removed from our mailing list. If you are new to the village or if you did not receive our emails and wish to become or remain Members please email us on [huntonwatch@gmail.com](mailto:huntonwatch@gmail.com)

*Steve & Sue, Hunton Neighbourhood Watch*

### Hunton Run Club & Hunton Backyard Ultra

Next month, Hunton Run Club are hosting the 'Hunton Backyard Ultra 2024'. On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September, starting at 9am, a group will be running 5km (3.1 miles) every hour, on the hour for as long as possible! Whether you run 5km, 50km or anything in between; it's a great challenge to push yourself to run further than you've ever run before.

If this isn't quite your cup of tea, but you're keen on running or want to get back into it, then why not join us on Tuesday evenings! We meet outside the Village Club at 18:30 every Tuesday, for a relaxed and social 5km loop around the village.

For more information on Hunton Run Club and / or the Hunton Backyard Ultra, please call or text Adam Moore on: 07766 566 449.

### Peter Griffiths – 'Sextant to Sat Nav, 45 Years in Aviation'

Hunton Village Club will be welcoming Peter Griffiths on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September who will deliver his extremely interesting talk on aviation. Peter's career spanned the time from "steam driven" aircraft, navigated by map, compass, sextant and a certain amount of hope, to the highly sophisticated aircraft of today.

This is an open meeting and all are welcome whether club members or not. Save the date and watch this space for further details.

#### Benefice Service Rota – August 2024

Church	4th	11th	18th	25th
Coxheath 11:00 am				
East Farleigh 10:30 am	Holy Communion			
West Farleigh 10:30 am		Holy Communion		
Hunton 10:30 am			Holy Communion	
Linton 10:30 am				Holy Communion

#### Midweek Services

Coxheath - Every Thursday; Holy Communion, 10:00 am; Linton - Holy Communion last Wednesday of each month, 12.00, followed by lunch

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