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Harrietsham's
Village Magazine



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June 2012

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Harrietsham Network

Harrietsham Fish Scheme Who's Who

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The deadline for advertisements for the July issue will be MID-DAY on **FRIDAY 8th June 2012**. Please send your contributions to the advertising manager's address above.

The deadline for editorial for the July issue will be MID-DAY on **FRIDAY 15th June 2012**. Please send your contributions to harrietsham.fish@tesco.net. or direct to the editor, Rosi Taylor, at the address above. You may also leave them at "Little Hatch", Ashford Road (next-but-one to the shop) - please mark them for The Editor. Thank you.

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From the Editor

June promises to be a busy month, kicking off with the Jubilee celebrations - diamond jubilees are really quite rare so I think they're worth marking, and marking well, so hopefully as many of you as are able will be at the Glebe Field on Monday 4th June, and will stay to watch the lighting of the beacon on top of the church tower at about 10.15pm. In the July issue we will have a photo feature of the day so if you have any photos which capture the spirit of the day please let us see them and we'll select a few to use.



Another cause for celebration this month is that this smart young man celebrates his birthday - still smart, though not *quite* so young! Can you guess who he is? (Answer on p. 50).

There is a lot going on at the Harrietsham Club in June: not only do they have their open day on June 16th, but earlier in the month they are hosting an attempt on the World Record for a Snooker Marathon! Details are on p. 38. I'm sure Gary and Martin can do with all the encouragement they can get, so why not drop in and give them your support - and, as it's for charity, some sponsorship too?

James has surpassed himself this month with his 'Hidden Harrietsham' feature which, appropriately enough, looks at what the village was like 60 years ago (pp. 29 - 31); if you recognise yourself or anyone else in any of the photos we'd love to hear from you!

Please note that the copy deadlines for the July magazine have been pushed a week later than usual, because there is so much going on in the first week of June; this means that it is possible you won't receive your July magazine by the first of the month - so details of the church services for 1st July have been included in this magazine.

I'm off now to pray for a sunny day on June 4th...


Rosi Taylor

Front cover credits

Very many thanks to Suzie Holland for this month's fun cover.

Owing to a misunderstanding last month's cover was wrongly attributed to Peter Brown; the photographer was actually John Young. Many apologies for this, we like to give credit where credit is due!

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Editorial: Friday 15 June 2012

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Monday 4th June



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Glebe Field 3pm to Dusk:

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Strawberries
Local bands

St John's Church; Flower Festival, children singing, tower open

St John's Church Harrietsham



Britain has a long history of beacon lighting spanning many hundreds of years. We have celebrated Royal Weddings, Jubilees and Coronations by lighting beacons on village greens, castle battlements, church towers, farms, beaches, front gardens, car parks and mountain tops!

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One of these Beacons will be lit on the top of the tower of St John's Church Harrietsham, where it will be visible from across much of the village. The Harrietsham Beacon will be lit at around 22.15. The Queen will light the National Beacon in London at around 22.30. This will be the last beacon in the UK chain.

Wrap up warm (it is only June after all) bring along your torches and lanterns (it will be after dark) and come and join us on the Glebe Field in front of the Church to watch the Beacon lit.

Tony Taylor

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Harrietsham History Society

By the time that you read this the first meeting of the Society will have taken place on the 21st of May at St. John's Church. A report on this meeting will appear in next month's Network but can also be found on the village web site (www.harrietshamvillage.org.uk) together with further information on the History Society. Details may also be obtained by contacting Peter Brown on 01622 850175.

On Wednesday 27th June the Society will be joining with the Lenham Archaeological Society for a walk in Harrietsham which will start from our village hall car park, 7.00 pm for a 7.15 pm start. Further information on this can also be found on the village web site.

Peter Brown

The following tale from the early 20th Century was sent to me by Mrs. Rhoda Windiate-Blackmore and it seemed appropriate to include it with information about Harrietsham History Society. If anyone can shed any light on the people involved or the exact location please let the Editor know.

A Brave Deed at Harrietsham

'HARRIETSHAM: A BRAVE DEED. On Thursday last, a little boy, aged about three, belonging to a fruit picker, fell into the large pond adjoining. His little sister, a year or two older, in trying to get him out, also fell in. Mr. W. [William] Betts, hearing the screams, at once ran to the pond and rescued the girl, who was floating to the centre of the pond, but the little boy was nowhere to be seen. After a short time, however, Mr. Betts felt the little fellow on the bottom of the pond, in deep water, and rescued him likewise. The boy was quite unconscious, but professional aid was forthcoming from Miss Clark and Dr. Grey (Lenham) was also in attendance. The little boy is slowly recovering.'

Congratulations...

..to Lou Murphy of Chippendayle Drive who completed the London Marathon in under 5 hours!

Donation thanks

We extend our grateful thanks to Mrs. Patricia B. Mackenzie for her kind donation to The Fish Scheme.

Michael Gear, Hon. Treasurer

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June 2012

Harrietsham Jazz Al Fresco

Saturday 30th June 2012 - in the Church Field

Don't miss this wonderful open air community event with great live music, great food (bring a picnic or enjoy barbecue food) and good company. The Harrietsham School Choir will also be performing and there will be a raffle and face painting.

A real family occasion and a chance to catch up with the neighbours and meet new people from 4.00pm onwards till the sun starts to set!

For more information and tickets contact Stuart Bligh on 01622 850490 or Ginny in Country Styles Hairdressers 01622 858276 . Tickets are £6 for adults, £4 for under 16s (under 5s are free) and £15 for a family ticket (2 adults + 2 children).

All proceeds go towards the upkeep of St John's, our wonderful historic church....

Stuart Bligh

Valuation Day - Advance Notice

A valuations day is being held at St John's Church, Harrietsham, on Thursday 12th July 2012 from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Professional valuers will be at the church to value any item you bring along. Cost per item is £2. Book this in your diary, and sort out any items, big or small, that you wish to have valued.

Frank Long, 01622 850863

Kent Police Male Voice Choir

The Church was packed on Saturday 12th May for the Concert by the Kent Police Choir. The programme was very varied and according to the comments made it was enjoyed by all.

My grateful thanks to all those who supported it.

Frank Long

Pepusch Consort Concert

The Friends of St. John the Baptist have arranged this concert to be held at St John's Church, Harrietsham, at 7.30pm on Saturday 8th September.

Local Churches

Parish Church of St John the Baptist

Rector: Rev'd Dr Richard Venn
The Vicarage, Old Ashford Road
Lenham, ME17 2PX 858195.
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Anglican Services

3rd June – Trinity

8am	Lenham	BCP Holy Communion
8am	Harrietsham	BCP Holy Communion
9.30am	Harrietsham	Family Worship
9.30am	Boughton Malherbe	Holy Communion
11am	Lenham	Holy Communion
11.15am	Ulcombe	Family Worship
4pm	Lenham	Songs of Praise

10th June – 1st Sunday after Trinity

8am	Lenham	BCP Holy Communion
9.30am	Harrietsham	Family Holy Communion
11am	Lenham	Morning Worship
11.15am	Ulcombe	Family Holy Communion
6.30pm	Boughton Malherbe	Choral Evensong

17th June – 2nd Sunday after Trinity

8am	Lenham	BCP Holy Communion
9.30am	Harrietsham	Morning Worship
9.30am	Boughton Malherbe	Holy Communion
11am	Lenham	Holy Communion
11.15am	Ulcombe	Morning Worship

24th June – St. John the Baptist

8am	Lenham	BCP Holy Communion
9.30am	Harrietsham	Holy Communion
9.30am	Boughton Malherbe	Family Worship
11am	Lenham	Family Worship with Baptism
11.15am	Ulcombe	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Harrietsham	Informal Service (<i>see p. 17</i>)

1st July - 4th Sunday after Trinity

8am	Lenham	BCP Holy Communion
8am	Harrietsham	BCP Holy Communion
9.30am	Harrietsham	Family Worship
9.30am	Boughton Malherbe	Holy Communion
11am	Lenham	Holy Communion
11.15am	Ulcombe	Family Worship
4pm	Lenham	Songs of Praise

Michelle Saunders

Christian Message

Hosepipe Ban

Shortage of water. Hosepipe ban. Gardens dried up. Lawns looking like the desert. Vegetables and flowers not flourishing. 'A drop of rain will make all the difference,' says the gardener.

Broken families. Rebellious children. Violence in the streets. Obscene wealth and life-sapping poverty living side by side. A lack of harmony in society. The world not a place of peace and joy as its creator had hoped.

'Water from me will make all the difference', says Jesus.

In the public mind Christians are seen as people bickering over differences, maintaining ancient buildings and rituals equally old, some wearing strange clothes and generally doing things which mystify onlookers.

That's not how Jesus intends his followers to be. His followers, those described in Dick Venn's article last month, are quite different.

On a great public occasion in the temple in Jerusalem Jesus stood up and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, rivers of living water will flow from within them." (John 7:37)

Christians are to be like rivers of living water in their communities. They are to be messengers of God's forgiveness and his healing power. They are called to bring comfort to the distressed and reconciliation in disputes. They are to be welcoming, loving, sharing and praying wherever greed and selfishness reign.

A good shower refreshes and revives the garden. The prior activity of Christians is to love God and in so doing to refresh their communities by acts of love and life giving words.

The hosepipe ban does not apply to Christians. Through the power of the Holy Spirit living water is freely available to transform communities. God has not announced a hosepipe ban. Streams of living water are available.

Joan Drury

Thanks

I would like to thank everyone in Harrietsham and elsewhere for the many cards, letters, telephone calls and visits which I have received over the last months. In particular I am so grateful for the prayers which people have offered up on my behalf.

All these things have helped to sustain me over a very difficult period.

Ann Putland

Informal Services

The next informal service is at St John's Church, Harrietsham, at 6.30pm on Sunday 24th June, when we will be enjoying worship and praise together. Unfortunately, Rev'd Eric Delve will not be able to join us now but we will still be considering the fourth of the Beatitudes:

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Refreshments are served after every service and we look forward to seeing you there.

At each informal service in 2012 we are looking at the Sermon on the Mount in St Matthew's Gospel. During the following months we will be considering:

July Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

August No service

September Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

October Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

November Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven, and we will reflect on the Beatitudes

December No service.

Please do look out for posters and magazine entries for more details as the year goes on but if you need any more information, or a lift to the service, please ring 859442.

Pamela Cuerden

Messy Church



**Saturday
9th June**

**Picnic at
Glebe Field
Harrietsham**

4 - 6pm

Harrietsham Network

60+ Young at Heart

This month's party will be on Thursday 21st June and as usual between 2pm and 4pm. We shall be playing a card game. We had a most enjoyable time with our beetle drive in April.

If you need a lift please contact Jenny on 01622 859208. We look forward to seeing you all again.

Wendy, Jenny, Olive and Maureen

Harrietsham Wives Group

18 members attended our May meeting. Dr. John Ray gave an interesting insight into 'The Changing Role of Women'. On Wednesday 6th June the group will visit Tram Hatch Gardens at Charing Heath: members please meet in the Village Hall car park at 6.45pm to leave at 7pm, sharing cars to the venue. The next hall meeting is on Wednesday 4th July when Helen Jenkins will tell us about Osteopathy.

We extend our best wishes to those members who are not well at present.

Any enquiries please to Audrey Joy (Chair) on 850806 or Rosi Taylor (Secretary) on 851701.

Audrey Joy

WI

Members were sad to hear of the death of Jessie Gilham. Jessie was well known for her talent in handicraft, especially lace making, many items of which she donated to charity and raffles. She was a valued member for many years and will be greatly missed. Our condolences go out to her family.

Our April meeting included a display of members' handicrafts and a floral competition. On May 4th we hosted a district evening. We heard reports from the four WI groups: Kingswood, Otterden, Lenham and Harrietsham. Business was followed by a very interesting talk on the history of walled gardens and a raffle. A very nice evening. On May 10th we had our Annual Meeting.

The June meeting will be on Thursday 14th when members will display their mementos and share memories of past royal occasions.

Chris Bone

Remembering Jessie Gilham

I shall always remember Jessie as she was a good friend to me. She was an accomplished needlewoman, with knitting, sewing, crochet and beautiful bobbin lace - I shall always treasure the lace book mark that she made for me. She helped me out many times when I had a problem with crochet. She also loved her garden when she was able to keep it tidy. Her lovely cakes were always the first to go at bring and buy mornings and she also made them for coffee mornings and WI teas.

She joined the WI when she retired and enjoyed the speakers and other activities, then she went each week to the Friday coffee mornings.

Any organisation that had a raffle it was Jessie who sold the tickets, she did it for years and then when it got too much for her I got roped in. Her advice to me was always to have different coloured tickets, then you tell people how much they are a strip and say we have four colours then they will have one of each and she was right as most people did.

She always made a cushion for all the raffles, I am sure most houses in the village must have one. I have some; they were crocheted squares joined together - very colourful and useful.

Jessie was a clever lady and a dear friend. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Bertha Rose

Mr. R. Parsons

We are sorry to record the death of Ron Parsons who has died in his 95th year. He was born in West Street, Harrietsham, and lived there until five years ago when infirmity made it necessary for him to move to a Maidstone care home.

Ron's father was Steward of Harrietsham Working Men's Club (now the Harrietsham Club) and Ron continued to live in what had been the Steward's house. He spent his working life as a painter and decorator in the area.

He played cricket for Harrietsham for many years and followed the game with a passion all his life.

Our sympathies to his daughter Janet, son-in-law Keith and their children.

Helen Hubble

Harrietsham Network

Short Mat Bowls

26th April: a late-arranged friendly against Hornhill - they brought a strong team of 18 players to us but couldn't get used to our mats, we won by 70-39 points.

28th April and our annual visit to Joydens Wood (near Swanley). Memories of our last year's defeat by one point in our minds - could we win this time? Well no, we lost again by ONE POINT! Nevertheless we enjoyed the day.

10th May and a team of Barbara and David French and Brian Rust entered a Charity Triples at Ditton. Against 28 teams we came third - not too bad but we were a little slow off the blocks in our first game otherwise the result would have been better.

To come: Marden away, Hempsted Valley home and away, and our Annual Dinner on the 10th June. We never stop!.

Brian Rust (Hon. Sec)

Harrietsham Whist Club

The winners of the Whist Drive held on 11th May 2012 were Denise Williams and Jean Collier. Once again we had a lovely evening with nine full tables. We welcomed two new members and they certainly seemed to enjoy themselves.

The next Whist Drive will be on 1st June 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Do come along to see us and join in the fun.

George Booth

Harrietsham Cricket Club 100 Club

May winners

First Prize	£50	Share No 114	Mr P Wallace
Second Prize	£28	Share No 90	Mrs M Bottle
Third Prize	£18.50	Share No 109	Mr T Jones
Fourth Prize	£10	Share No 123	Mr K Morris

Bill Hubble

Tesco Schools Vouchers

Harrietsham C of E Primary School would be very grateful for any of these vouchers; please deliver them to the school before the end of June. The school can also accept empty ink and toner cartridges, which they can then recycle to raise funds.

Gardening Society

The Society's meeting on 17th April saw a visit from Steve Bradley, the well-known writer and regular speaker on Radio Kent's Sunday morning gardening programme; 46 members and 9 visitors enjoyed his amusing and informative presentation which was illustrated with some excellent slides. Stephen Morris thanked him for his talk and then invited members of the audience to take the opportunity of raising their gardening questions which Steve was very happy to answer. The members' competition for the evening for a bunch of 5 different spring flowers was judged by Steve Bradley who awarded first place to Gio Clements (12 points), 2nd to Pip Burch (10 points) and 3rd to Elizabeth Welchman (8 points); eight other members submitted entries and were each awarded 4 points. Peter Brown spoke again about a possible outing to France in 2013 and invited anyone who was interested to let him know.

The next meeting of the Society is the Summer Show on Tuesday 19th June, copies of the schedule are available on the Harrietsham village web site www.harrietshamvillage.org.uk, as are copies of the Annual Show schedule.

The Society still has plenty of room for new people to join us, if anyone is interested in joining the Society contact details can be found on our notice board in the village hall or on the village web site.

Peter Brown

Borde Hill Outing

What a wonderful day out we had in May! After what seemed like weeks of rain the sun shone on us and encouraged our full coach-load of members and friends to visit this comprehensive garden. We saw a great display of Rhododendrons and Azaleas and over 200 acres of parkland and woodlands set in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. So vast an area that some of the more adventurous of us ended up getting lost in the woodlands! We saw contemporary hand carved Zimbabwean stone sculptures gracing the gardens, and a very large lake. We ended up finding a large garden centre for a short spending spree and a good day was had by all. Many thanks to our members for their continuing support of our garden outings.

Marjorie Darby

Harrietsham Network

Gardening Tips for June

Following on from the cold May it should now be safe to put out those tender bedding plants. It has been testing with the very cold wet weather, the plants are similar to Marmite they either loved it or hated it. Begonias and Pelargoniums have been particularly tricky to get going but with the better weather on the horizon, well, at the time of writing this, they should now get going.

Vegetable seed has also been difficult to get good germination but with perseverance and repeated sowings you will start to get results. Don't forget to net soft fruit; birds will be looking for food as soon as the buds set. Tie in climbing roses and clematis and dead head Rhododendrons ready for next year. Start feeding Tomatoes and Cucumbers and anything else that has been grown in multipurpose compost as these plants will have already used up the 6 weeks of feed. Even if the compost states it has 4 months feed it might still require additional liquid feed for fruiting.

You will have noticed an explosion in the slug population so now is the time to get to grips with the problem before they commence on their path of deforestation. Besides the commercial slug pellets, you can try mulching with grit or crushed shell, applying garlic gel, or wrapping copper tape around pots or containers. Beer traps might be a solution or just drink the beer and enjoy the garden.

Stephen Morris

Harrietsham in Bloom Volunteers

Thank you to everyone who supported the Heart of Kent Hospice / HIB Quiz Night on 14th April; £600 was raised to be shared between the two organisations.

Work has started on planting the summer bedding, our thanks to Stephen Morris for supplying and planting the displays.

Our thanks to those who responded to our plea for disposing of the tractor tyres from the two planters.

A date for your diaries: on Sunday 30th September there will be a fund-raising event in the village in aid of HIB.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing support. Any enquiries to Andrew Rogers (Chair) on 859352.

Bellringers

The ringers at Harrietsham strive to ring bells for all services and weddings when required. During the last year the number of ringers in the village on whom we can call for Sunday service ringing has fallen to about eight. Given that number, it is still surprising that on most Sundays we struggle to ring more than four or five, although it is a real pleasure when we can occasionally ring all eight.

We continue to be very grateful to our committed Sunday morning regulars including especially Ken Leach, Jim Peckett, Mike Cuerden, Jenny Odam, who rings with us most Sundays and Tuesdays despite being nominally an Ulcombe ringer, and of course John Betts who still leads the ringing with great enthusiasm. We're also grateful for the support of our other members – Paul Hicks, Peter Saunders, Graham and Elizabeth Cuthbert and Jon and Suzie Holland – when they are able to make it. However, the difficulty in gathering a full band for Sunday mornings still emphasises our need to find new recruits. If you've ever had the slightest inclination to give ringing a try, it really is the time! Bellringing is a very rewarding hobby and although it takes some time to learn it is an inexpensive pastime, you can easily make new friends. Learnt in the past? Please come and join us at 8pm, Tuesday evenings.

Our Tuesday evening practices continue to be well supported and have allowed some of us to develop our skills further. We're particularly grateful for the support of ringers from other towers including, in particular, Christine Fairfax from Boxley, Malcolm Hitchcock (who, though a Harrietsham resident, is a long term member at Hollingbourne), David Earl from Barming, Fred Asprey from Lenham and Bernard Williamson who lives in Sittingbourne.

During the year we rang for four weddings, but we didn't ring out the Old and ring in the New Year as there was a midnight service. We entertained a number of visiting bands, and joined in with Barming to make a joint outing which was very well attended. We rang at Chartham, Chilham, Charing and Pluckley with a lunch stop at The White Horse in Chilham. Some of the Charing bells proved to be quite tricky to ring and were too much of a challenge for some ringers, even John Betts commented on them.

A small group of enthusiasts led by David Smith has continued to meet on a fortnightly basis to ring the tower's set of handbells. The group needed an F sharp for tune ringing and borrowed one from John Betts so to en-

Harrietsham Network

able the return of the bell to John. The tower has recently purchased a new one, cast by Mears and Stainbank at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. The Whitechapel Bell Foundry has made many thousands of bells and is famous for making Big Ben and the Liberty Bell, it is Britain's oldest manufacturing company, founded in 1570 in the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1st and has been in continuous business since that date.

Did you know that several of Harrietsham's bells were cast in 1742? In some churches around Kent some of the bells were cast as far back as the fourteenth century, the oldest in Kent being the 5th at St Dunstan's Church in Canterbury which was cast in 1325 (by William de Belyetere) although it was re-tuned by Whitechapel in 1936. The fourth at St Margaret's at Bethersden was cast in 1335 (by Peter de Weston) and has never been re-tuned. Where else can you go and have the opportunity to use an object of that age for the purpose that it was made for, and most have been in continuous use ever since?

*Graham Cuthbert, joint Tower Captain
01795 886365*

Lenham Valley Business Association

LVBA makes networking easy and different. Some networking groups insist on restricting membership to one person per trade, they enforce attendance every week (you can only miss 3 meetings per year), you must bring business in for other members not just yourself, you cannot belong to any other networking group and membership is close to 4 figures a year! Others take a base level cost and meet in a bar for a drink. If you are looking for variety then welcome to the world of networking! The reality is there's no right or wrong, what's right for one person isn't always right for another.

Lenham Valley Business Association believes variety is the spice of life. A variety of different venues, speakers on a variety of subjects, changes in attendees, a chance to meet new people at every meeting, different strokes for different folks . . .

Sole traders only pay £65 per year - see the web site for membership benefits. New attendees and non members welcome but please, to avoid delay on entrance, register online. For more information enter www.lenhambusiness.co.uk or call 01622 820841.

Success comes from working together.

More from LVBA on p. 40

Harrietsham day by day

(T = termtime only)

SUNDAY

Short Mat Bowls (Oct-May)	2.30pm - 5.30pm	Ambrose Hall
Tennis Club (May-Sept)	2.30pm	Booth Field

MONDAY

Pre School Group	9am - 2pm	Primary School	T
Short Mat Bowls	2pm - 5pm	Ambrose Hall	
St. John Ambulance:			
Badgers (6-10 yrs)	4.30pm - 6pm	HQ, Ham Lane, Lenham	T
Brigade	7.15pm - 9.30pm	HQ, Ham Lane, Lenham	T
Brownie Guides	5.45pm - 7.15pm	Booth Hall	T
Remix Project	7.30pm - 9pm	Ambrose Hall	

TUESDAY

Pre School Group	9am - 2pm	Primary School	T
Art Class (Adult Education)	2pm - 4.30pm	Booth Hall	T
Rainbows	5.45pm - 6.45pm	Booth Hall	T
Cub Scouts	6.30pm - 8pm	Lenham Primary School	T
Mini Remix	5.45pm - 6.45pm	Ambrose Hall	T
Tennis Club (May-Sept)	6.30pm	Booth Field	
Gardening Society (3rd Tues)	7.30pm	Ambrose Hall	
Guides	6.45pm - 8.30pm	Booth Hall	T
Lenham Youth Centre (14+ group)	7pm - 9.30pm	Swadelands School	T
Bell Ringing Practice	7.30pm - 9pm	Bell Tower	

WEDNESDAY

Pre School Group	9am - noon	Primary School	T
Mobile Library	10.35am	P.O. West Street	
	11.05am	Church Lane	
	11.25am	Almshouses	
Remix Project	5.45pm - 7pm	Booth Hall	
Karate Club	6pm - 7.30pm	Ambrose Hall	
St. J. A. Cadets (10-18 yrs)	6pm - 8pm	HQ, Ham Lane, Lenham	T
Lenham Youth Centre	7pm - 9.30pm	Swadelands School	
Wives Group (1st Wed)	8pm - 10pm	See magazine entry	
Badminton Club (Sept-May)	8pm - 11pm	Ambrose Hall	
Parish Council (last Wed)	7.30pm	Booth Hall	

THURSDAY

Pre School Group	9am - 2pm	Primary School	T
Mother & Toddler Group	9.30am - 11.30am	Ambrose Hall	T
Women's Institute (2nd Thurs)	2pm - 4pm	Booth Hall	
Tennis Club (May-Sept)	6.30pm	Booth Field	
Explorers (Scouts)	7pm - 9pm	Scout HQ, Station Road	
Remix Warhammer Club	7pm - 9pm	Booth Hall	
Short Mat Bowls	7.15pm - 10.15pm	Ambrose Hall	
Choir Practice	6.15pm	Parish Church	
Pub Quiz	8.30pm	Roebuck	

FRIDAY

Pre School Group	9am - 2pm	Primary School	T
Coffee Morning	10am - noon	Booth Hall	
Beavers	4.30pm - 6pm	Scout HQ, Station Road	
Scouts	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Scout HQ, Station Road	
Lenham Youth Centre	7.30pm - 10pm	Swadelands	

SATURDAY

Football coaching (U5s)	9.30 - 10.30am	Harrietsham School Field	T
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Local Directory

Art Group

Adult Education Mrs. S. McNally 0845 6065606

Badminton

Secretary Mrs. G.Thurgood 859482

Beaver Scouts

Leader Mr. D. Keenan 07768 926654

Bell Ringers

Ringin master Mr. J. Betts 859266

Steeple keeper Mr. K. Leach 851173

Bible Reading Fellowship

Co-ordinator Mrs. J. Bevan 859310

Booth and Baldwin Charity

Secretary email boothandbaldwin@hotmail.com

British Legion Poppy Appeal

Organiser Mr. M. Bishop 850921

Brownie Guides

Brown Owl Mrs. J. Burr 859494

Conservative Association

Lenham office 850574

Cricket Club

Chairman Mr. A. Hubble 859692

Cub Scouts

Leader Mrs. A. Seales 859829

Disability Group

Chairman Mrs. S. Crouch 859613

Explorer Scouts

Leader Mr C. Doll 859829

Family History

Enquiries Mr. F. Long 850863

Fish Scheme

Organising secretary Ms. M. Darby 850657

Flower Guild

Parish Church Mrs. R. Long 850863

Friends of Harrietsham School

Chairman Mrs. J. Bishop 850921

Friends of St. John The Baptist Church

Chairman Mr. R. Hilton 859559

Secretary Mr. P. Wallace 859693

Gardening Society Secretary

Secretary Mrs. D. Dynes 859489

Girl Guides

Leader Mrs. S. Morris 850948

Golf - Bill's Round for Charity

Secretary Mr. R. Bevan 859310

Harrietsham in Bloom

Chairman Mr. A. Rogers 859352

Harrietsham Club

Secretary Mr. J. Stone 850893

Harrietsham Harriers FC

Chairman Mr. R. Dayes 850203

Harrietsham History Society

Chairman Mr. P. Brown 851075

Harrietsham Pre-School

Manager Sam Bragg 851819

Chairperson Mr. R. Wickenden 07809 434049

Helpers

Chairman Mr.T. Sams 859412

Karate Club

Organiser Mr P. Larsen 727318

Kent Messenger roundabout pages

Village correspondent Miss R. Sams 859412

Lenham Youth Centre Ms. Nicki Folland-Smith 859171

Liberal Democrat Association

Mr. S. Morris 850948

Mother and Toddler Group

Mrs. A. Pilcher 859622

Network Magazine

Editor Mrs. R. Taylor 851701

Parish Council

Clerk Mrs. A. Broadhurst 850089

Rainbows

Leader Ms. A. Thompson 850935

Remix Project

Co-ordinator Mr.T. Sams 859412

Rural Community Warden

Mr. M. Sherwood 07977 981993

St John Ambulance

Mrs. D. Bond 205452

Scouts

Group leader Mr. E. Seales 859829

Leader Mr. N. Still 859789

Short Mat Bowls

Secretary Mr. B. Rust 859556

Swadelands School

Head Mr. R. Baddeley 858267

Tennis Club

Chairman Mr. A. Rogers 859352

Village halls

Bookings Mrs. S. Carey 07500 548806

Whist Club

Mr. G. Booth 859255

Wives Group

Leader Ms. A. Joy 850806

Women's Institute

Secretary Mrs. J. Tabrett 859224

Medical directory

Doctors
 Glebe Medical Centre 859204 or 858341
 Health Visitor
 Glebe Medical Centre 859204
 1st Tues.1.30pm - 3.30pm
 Dentist Lenham 858204
 Dentaline Out of hours emergency treatment
 01634 8903000

Hospitals
 Maidstone General and Ophthalmic
 729000
 Ashford William Harvey General
 01233 633331

Councils

Member of Parliament
 Mr. H. Robertson 851616
 Kent County Council
 County Hall 08458 247247

Maidstone Borough Council
 All addresses 602000

Emergencies

Police Emergencies only 999
 Maidstone HQ 690690
 Maidstone Palace Ave 690055
 Samaritans 48 Grecian Street
 674444,
 674445
 or 0845 909090
 Citizens Advice Bureau
 2 Bower Terrace, Maidstone
 752420
 Age Concern 753618
 N.S.P.C.C. 0808 800 5000
 Social Services (Enquiries)
 Maidstone Area Office 691640
 R.S.P.C.A. 24 hours 08705 555999

June Diary

Fri 1	7.30pm	Whist Drive, Village Hall
Mon 4		Bank Holiday - Surgery closed Jubilee celebrations - see p. 9
Tue 5		Bank Holiday - Surgery closed World Record attempt begins (until Fri 8)
Wed 6	6.45pm	Harrietsham Wives meet at VH car park
Fri 8	12 noon	Advertising deadline for July Network Lenham Festival
Sat 9	4 - 6pm	Messy Church picnic at Harrietsham Lenham Festival
Sun 10		Sole Mates Walk (see pp. 40, 42) Lenham Festival
Thur 14	2.00pm	Women's Institute, Booth Hall
Fri 15	12 noon	Editorial deadline for July Network Four Film Friday: see p. 32 for details
Sat 16	1 - 9pm	Harrietsham Club Open Day
Tue 19	7.30pm	Gardening Society Summer Show
Thur 21	2 - 4pm	60+ Young at Heart, Lenham Community Centre
Tue 26		Neighbourhood Plan Design Forum, Village Hall
Wed 27	7.00pm	Neighbourhood Plan Design Forum, Village Hall History Society Walk from Village Hall car park
Thur 28		Neighbourhood Plan Design Forum, Village Hall
Sat 30	3.30pm 7.30pm	Jazz al Fresco, Church Field Lady Gaga Tribute Night, Village Hall
JULY		
Sun 1		North Downs Walk, from Village Hall
Tue 3	5.45pm	LVBA meet at The Oak, Charing

1952 Revisited

As this month's edition of our village magazine drops on your doormats, The Diamond Jubilee celebrations are almost upon us. Indeed, this year marks the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne. At 10:45pm on Feb 6th 1952 King George V1 died and Princess Elizabeth learned in far-off Kenya that she was Queen.

As for wider news from 1952, America elected their new President, Dwight Eisenhower, in a landslide victory; London suffered badly from smog; Lynmouth was nearly destroyed by floods; as the Korean war intensified, Britain tested its first atomic bomb; the big movie of the year was High Noon (starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly); Wimbledon welcomed 'Little Mo' Connolly; the New Musical Express launched Britain's first Pop Chart – the first number one being Al Martino's 'Here in my Heart'.

Some local people have retained their fond memories of this time and not just of the day when the 25-year-old Princess became Queen but of Harrietsham itself. So, your feature writer endeavoured to find out what life would have been like way back in 1952.

To begin with, 60 years ago Harrietsham was classified as a Civil Parish within the Rural District of Hollingborne. Census data at parish level is very limited, but I did manage to find out that we had a population of 1,115 people and there was a total of 338 houses. We now have over 1000 houses. I scouted around to see if anyone had any photographs of the village from the early 1950s and struck lucky with Jean Tabrett, Secretary of The Women's Institute. Jean invited me to browse through her fascinating scrapbook and kindly allowed me to borrow a few photographs from it.



The first one that caught my eye was taken from outside what is now the Mace store looking up West Street towards The Roebuck.

Hidden Harrietsham

As I was able to establish in our magazine last year, during the 1950s the Mace store was then O'Nashes, confectioner and tobacconist. Further along, two ladies ran a little shop doing alterations to clothes and then next door to that was a saddlery. As you can see, in those days The Roebuck didn't have a conservatory. However, local resident John Morgan remembers it being a very busy pub, especially on Sundays when the old (much larger) car park was always packed with coaches that stopped-off for a break on their way to and from Margate and perhaps other Kent coast destinations. John recalls that it was not unknown for outbreaks of fisticuffs needing to be broken-up by the police. Thankfully, there's no such shenanigans at the pub these days and it's pleasing to see it has remained a hub of the community.

This photograph shows a view up West Street from the other end.



Mrs Sutton's grocers shop was immediately opposite where the Post Office is now. Apparently, it was quite 'upmarket' and sold such splendid provisions as butter, cold meats and cheeses. Meat and dairy products continued to be rationed in 1952, but tea was not rationed any more. Next to Mrs Sutton's shop was the bakers. This is where the new-build houses have just been completed. John Morgan remembers the bakers well and said they baked bread and cakes to supply other shops. They had vans that went around the local villages also delivering to peoples' homes. Indeed, John had an uncle who used to work for them delivering bread and often went on his rounds with him. Some of you may also remember the baker's nickname was 'Weasel' – as he was tall and thin.

I think my favourite picture of all those I saw is this fascinating shot (opposite) of Harrietsham Primary School in those days.

Of course, the school was then on its original site at the corner of Church Road and the A20. I am told school life then was very different to what



it is now. Boys always wore a tie and would never have been allowed to wear their shirts outside their trousers. The children would have known the National Anthem by heart and at morning break would have been treated to the customary third-of-a-pint bottle of un-chilled (sometimes very much so) milk.

Tong's the Village Butcher, supplied the school with the meat for school dinners. A typical school meal would consist of lumpy mashed potato, peas, beans or cabbage with a slice of minced beef pie, cottage pie or stew. For pudding there would be such delights such as tapioca (nicknamed 'frog spawn') or prunes and custard. These days most people would turn up their noses at such a far-from-luxurious menu. However, it has to be said that such a diet ensured low quantities of fats and sugars and it is widely acknowledged that children's nutrition was generally better in the 1950s than it is now. So there's progress for you.

Another thing people told me about was that children were much fitter then. You would not have had a lift from mum or dad for 'the school run'. In fact, most families didn't even have a car then and primary school children were expected to walk to and from school by themselves, often for miles and in all weathers. Today's pressurised parents may care to relate this to their young ones next time they demand mum's taxi service!

So, as the Country celebrates our Queen's 60-year reign, I hope these timeless pictures and these recollections serve as a fascinating glimpse of what life in our village (and further afield) was like then. With thanks to John, Jean and Ella for their time sharing their memories.

James Hailes - Feature Writer

Harrietsham Network

Surgery Closures

Both Lenham and The Glebe practices will be closed on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th June, re-opening at 8.30am on Wednesday 6th June.

Patients who require urgent assistance whilst we're closed should call South East Health on 03000 242424.

Save the Children

- The recent house-to-house collection in Harrietsham raised £74.41 for Save the Children - many thanks to all who gave so generously.

- For more information about this charity visit www.savethechildren.org.uk or give me a ring on 01622 851701.

Rosi Taylor

Remix Friday Film Club

Many apologies that we were unable to show the advertised afternoon film in May, due to a delay in its release on DVD. We hope to show the Best Exotic Marigold Hotel later in the year.

The films on in Harrietsham Village Hall on Friday 15th June are:

2pm Matinee (run by Harrietsham Fish Scheme organisers) - "Iron Lady", Cert 12 A. Oscar winning film starring Meryl Streep, Jim Broadbent and Richard E Grant.

4.30pm Junior session - "Scooby-Doo The movie", Cert U for primary school age children. Entrance £2.

6.00pm Teen show - "The Land of the Lost" starring Will Ferrell, Cert 12. Entrance £2.

New members will need to complete parental consent forms, available on door.

8pm Senior film - multi-award-winning film "The Artist", Cert PG. Silent movie star George Valentin bemoans the coming era of talking pictures and fades into oblivion and self-destruction, but finds sparks with Peppy Miller, a young dancer lighting up talkies like no one else. Entrance £3

Normal Remix rules apply. For more information contact me on 859412.

Janetta Sams, Film Co-ordinator

Remix Club is supported by Harrietsham Parish Council.

Len Valley Practice

TRYING TO REDUCE YOUR TIME IN A&E



CONTACT DOCTORS & NURSES at both LENHAM & HARRIETSHAM SURGERIES

via
Telephone
(01622) 858 341
Or Walk In

Opening hours:
Mon-Fri
8.30am-1.00pm
2.00pm-6.30pm

Further details on urgent appointments can be found at www.lenvalleypractice.co.uk, our written information booklet or via the reception team.

Len Valley Practice is trying to reduce our patients having to attend the local A&E departments for ailments and conditions that could be better dealt with by us.

- Did you know it costs between £96 to £147 for every attendance?
- This can run into thousands if you are kept in overnight.
- In A&E, you'll often see a junior doctor who will not have access to your records
- During 'out of office hours' you can be redirected to the GPs on call who are often better at dealing with your primary care problems
- You can always speak to a GP here if you feel you have an urgent problem between 8am and 6pm
- We do offer a minor injury service at Len Valley, and are able to redirect you appropriately to A&E if need be.
- We can deal with sprains, suspected fractures, cuts and lacerations that may need stitches, burns and scalds, head injuries
- If you feel that you may need to go a A&E during 8am & 6pm, please ring the surgery first to discuss with the on-call Doctor.

NB See details of Bank Holiday closures on p. 32.

Parish Council News

Harrietsham Neighbourhood Plan Update Harrietsham 2022 – Have Your Say!

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the residents who took the time to get involved in the Neighbourhood Plan Workshop Event during the Annual Parish Meeting on the 25th April; your input was greatly appreciated. Following on from the preliminary work undertaken, the Parish Council will be inviting Residents, Community Groups and Local Businesses to get involved in a three day workshop commencing on Tuesday 26th June until Thursday 28th. This is your chance to “have your say” on how the proposed future development will shape our village and also identify what additional facilities will be required. We will also be inviting all the stake holders including Developers, Service Providers and Land-owners to allow us to both meet them in person, and provide them a chance to exhibit their wares.

If you, your community group or business would require a slot to speak or would like to attend and participate in the 3 day workshop then please contact Amanda on 01622 850089 or via email at harrietshampc@aol.com. This Neighbourhood Plan, once adopted, will be valid for 10 years and will be one of the reference documents which will be consulted as future planning applications are submitted. We will be providing updates and exact timings on the Parish Notice Boards and the Harrietsham website and it is also our intention to set up a Facebook page so the community can follow progress.

This is the “Big Society” in action and the chance for Harrietsham residents to develop a local plan before Maidstone Borough Council decides what should be placed where!

Olympic Torchbearer’s Event

As mentioned last month, Harrietsham is the only Parish in Maidstone to have a nominated Torchbearer who will run through the village with the Olympic Torch. This will take place on Thursday 19th July from 18.11 – 18.30. The run will begin at Downlands and end at Lenmead. The arrangements for the event are well underway and we are hoping to have a bbq, refreshments and entertainment.

If you are able to offer any assistance with the event, especially Marshalling, please could you let me know in the Parish Office please?

*Amanda Broadhurst
Clerk to the Parish Council
01622 850089 / harrietshampc@aol.com*

Planning (from the April meeting)

Planning Decisions – Outstanding with MBC

MA/09/0450 – Mill House, Fairbourne Lane

Listed buildings consent for the erection of a single storey rear extension to provide a conservatory and lobby area and relocation of existing internal staircase to original position.

HPC Recommendation: *Approval*

MA/11/1377 – Harperley Cottage, Ashford Road

Outline planning permission for the construction of a new dwelling with access to be considered at this stage and all other matters reserved for future consideration

HPC Recommendation: *Refusal*

MA/11/1393 – Station Yard, Station Road

An application for discharge of conditions relating to MA/08/0497 (Change of use of existing tram shed to light industrial (B1) with first floor extension and new roof and erection of two light industrial (B1) units) being details of condition 3 – boundary treatments and condition 4 - landscaping

HPC Recommendation: *Refusal*

MA/11/2154 – A20 Northside, Ashford Road

Application for the erection of 10 houses with access road and parking facilities (revision to the design of approved application MA/06/2057)

HPC Recommendation: *Currently with Planning Committee*

MA/12/0342 – Holm Mill Cottage, Holm Mill Lane

Erection of a two storey side extension

HPC Recommendation: *Approval*

MA/12/0408 – Unit 1A, Fairbourne Lane

Amendment to previous approval MA/09/1673 (Erection of 4 (no) three bedroom detached houses) being alterations to design of property to be sited on plot 1a.

HPC Recommendation: *Currently with Planning Committee*

MA/12/0137 – Land in the grounds of Tynning, adj. The Firs, Ashford Road

Outline planning permission for the erection of a detached dwelling and garage with access to be considered at this stage and all other matters reserved for future consideration

HPC Recommendation: *Refusal*

Planning Decisions – Approved by MBC

MA/12/0313 – 30 Chippendayle Drive

Extensions to side of property to extend the garage and third bedroom; and conversion of the resulting roof space to additional accommodation

Parish Council News

Neighbourhood Plan - Harrietsham 2022

Why do a plan? - We must act, and act now!

We all complain about the state of our village, the parking along West Street, the style of new houses, the lack of facilities for both adults and children, the lack of shops and the difficulty of obtaining school places for children who live in the village. These have all been a result of building policy and the Maidstone Borough plan over the last 20 years. We are now given the chance to develop our own plan on how we, the community, would see the shape of our village in 2022, as the resulting plan, once adopted, will be valid for 10 years.

If we do nothing then the Borough Planners will do this for you, and with the town centre, the urban circle and 40 other areas with Parish Councils you can soon work out how much time would be individually spent on Harrietsham. If there was then something we totally disagreed with from the resulting Maidstone Borough-wide plan e.g. 700 more homes in Harrietsham and 5 ha of industrial land, then we would not be in a position to defend this as this could be approved by the rest of the Borough.

Speed is of the essence as we are between the old Borough Plan and a new development plan being drawn up by the Borough Council so therefore, with recent legislation, there is a small window of opportunity for Harrietsham residents to greatly influence the shape of our village. I must stress this is not the path to say no to everything as we have been given a framework by Maidstone Borough Council who have to approve the end plan but the resulting picture of our village is left to us. This project will help shape and influence the design, planning and protection of our village and the surrounding countryside.

What next?

To progress the Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council is holding a three day workshop in Harrietsham Village Hall commencing on Tuesday 26th June running until a public presentation in the evening of Thursday 28th June. We are inviting all residents, clubs and societies, and local businesses to get involved and there will also be an opportunity for developers and local landowners to show their vision for the future of Harrietsham. Throughout the three days there will be an opportunity to share ideas, test new concepts and debate the challenges faced by Harrietsham. Exact timings will be published together with further information on both the Parish Notice Boards and on the Parish Council page of the village website.

I urge all of you to make a contribution into this project as once the plan is produced you will have to vote, as a community, at the ballot box to say that we are going to adopt the plan. Failure for us to adopt a local plan would mean that the Borough-wide Plan would be consulted on all future planning applications.

Stephen Morris

Council Corner

I have been experiencing problems with my council computer which has left me without connection for long periods. I am sorry for any inconvenience caused.

I am pleased that the Neighbourhood Plan, organised by the Parish Council, is evolving and hope that as many residents see it as a positive way forward for the village and want to be involved with the process. I shall endeavour to publicise the event because without doubt this will give us an opportunity to shape our village, and have some control in what the village will be 10 years from now.

The Borough Council has had its elections, politically it remains in control by the ruling Conservative group, but I was encouraged by an increase in Independents by one to 5 councillors.

Tom Sams

Lenham Festival: June 8th, 9th & 10th

This exciting new venture, a first for Lenham, is a weekend of entertainment that is open to all. All participants will be performing free of charge and all monies raised will go to our three chosen charities: Alzheimer's Society; Cancer Research UK; and Demelza Hospice Care for Children. The events will be spread over the different venues and advertised widely. It will culminate on the Sunday with an event in Lenham Square 3 - 7pm featuring amongst others the finalists of the Lenham Promotes Talent event. For those wishing to enter email wealdofguitar@hotmail.co.uk. The auditions will take place in Lenham Community Centre on June 9th. For more details of the event ring 01622 859412.

PTFA NEWS

**Lady Ga Ga Tribute Night
Saturday 30th June
in the Village Hall**

**Doors open 7.30pm for an 8pm start
Bar available to purchase drinks. £22 adult**

For further details please contact Jill Bishop 850921

Harrietsham Network

World Record Attempt

**Official World Record Snooker Marathon match attempt
Tues 5 June to Fri 8 June
Harrietsham Social Club, West Street, Harrietsham
In aid of Heart of Kent Hospice**

Sue Lux was a loving wife, mother and grandmother who was struck by cancer at a relatively early age. She bravely endured her illness until she passed away peacefully in August 2011, leaving behind happy memories she shared with family and friends, but also a huge sense of loss. In some of her worst moments, Sue was cared for at the Heart of Kent Hospice, and everyone connected to the Lux family have nothing but complete admiration for the work the hospice does for those living with cancer.

With this in mind, we (Sue's son Gary Lux and his friend Martin O'Neill) have pledged to raise money for the Heart of Kent Hospice to ensure that other people can in future have the benefit of such care in their hour of need.

We didn't need to look far for our fundraising idea. In 1993, we undertook a 48-hour snooker marathon for Cancer Research. This entailed playing each other non-stop for the whole 48 hours. Little did we know that at that time we had probably broken the world record for longest snooker match between two players. At present, the Guinness World Record stands at 54hours. We are determined to beat that record, and aim to extend it to 72 hours.

We will undertake this task from 8am on Tuesday 5th June 2012 through to 8am on Friday 8th June 2012. We have kindly been given the opportunity to attempt this record at Harrietsham Social Club (above the Post Office), and members of the club have offered to assist in the general running of the event and to provide support as we go along. Indeed, we would not be able to even attempt this without the support of the social club members, so our thanks already go out to them. If anyone is interested, they can pop along to support us as we go along, and there is a small bar with reasonable prices!!

Whether we make the record or not, we think this is a cause worth supporting, and we would ask that you pledge a little of your money to such a worthy cause, and one that is very close to our hearts.
<http://www.justgiving.com/martin-oneill3737>

Gary Lux and Martin O'Neill

Harrietsham Club Open Day

After the success of last year's open day this year we are having two! The club's first Open Day is on Saturday 16th June at 34 West Street (above the Post Office).

The club is more than just pool and snooker (although we have superb tables for these). It is about providing a friendly and sociable atmosphere – with drinks at rock bottom prices!

On the Open day we invite you to:

Play free pool

Play free snooker (on our two tables)

Enjoy a free barbecue* (from 4.30 - 6.00pm)

*free for all members and locals trying out the Club

We welcome you to have some fun at your local Club on the 16th June (1.00 till 9.00pm). Children are very welcome if accompanied by an adult.

Jed Stone

Rita's Notes

An old college friend of mine rang me recently and told me a very funny story which I think you will all like. Her granddaughter, 5 year-old Emily, said to her, "Granny you are older than me, aren't you?" My friend said, "Yes, I am."

"You are a lot older than me, aren't you?"

"Yes."

"You are much older than me but you haven't got any eyes!"

"Well Emily, I don't really know what you mean that I haven't got any eyes."

The answer:- Well, Granny: an Ipod, an Ipad or Iphone!!

I told this story to my hairdresser, Steph; she had another story. A customer's husband was telling their grandson about Christmas when he was a boy. He said, "For Christmas I used to have a stocking with an apple and an orange in it."

Grandson said, "You were lucky Grandad to have both." He meant an Apple Ipod and an Orange phone!

I hope these two stories made you laugh as much as we did. By the way, my friend has now got 1 eye: an Ipod, and needs her granddaughter like the rest of us to show her how to use it!

Rita Norris

Harrietsham Network

Lenham Valley Business Association

Why on earth would anyone go LVBA networking?

If you are in business you would have noticed by now it is a bit of a struggle making the ends meet. Many companies (big and small) have already disappeared, either sold up, folded up or just shut up! As always in business it is about investing in the right things to secure incoming sales. Sure, cut back overheads, re-evaluate costs, make sure the quality to sales level is right for your business and move forward ('the cheapest' isn't always right). Sit there and do nothing at your peril! But where can you go to find out more? Who can you ask? Where might you find more customers? Less expensive suppliers? Find better advice? Like minded people?

Well, everywhere if you know where to look! So why on earth would anyone go networking? Because it is right on your doorstep! It's just after work. It's easy access to seasoned and experienced professionals. It's not costly.

Details about the monthly networking events can be found on the networking page of our web site. We meet the first Tuesday every month (apart from June). It costs nothing to find out more (first 2 meetings are free too) and we can provide with you with some good networking opportunities - remember why - to get more business/information/help/advice/money?!

Check out www.lenhambusiness.co.uk or phone 01622 820841. The next meeting of the LVBA is on Tuesday 3rd July at 5.45pm at The Oak, Charing.

Alan Reading

Sole Mates

Sole Mates is a newly-formed social walking group which meets monthly. Personal trainer Vivien Elcomb, from Lenham, and walking guide author Dawn Kingsford, from Bredgar, formed the Sole Mates walking group in February, for those looking to explore new routes with fellow walking fans.

Viv, who is also a Pilates instructor, said: "Walking is one of the most enjoyable ways to keep fit and healthy, but often you find yourself walking the same old routes. We decided it would be a great idea to get out and about and come up with some fresh and interesting places to explore every month. The great thing about joining our group is there's no need to worry about getting lost and there's always someone new to chat with along the way."

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Harrietsham Network

Cont. from p. 40

Monthly walks include professional warm up and cooling down sessions and last an hour and a half - leaving plenty of time for those other weekend commitments. Along the way, you'll also receive a commentary about the places of interest you pass. Membership is free.

Walks, which are on Sundays, set out at 10.30am, and have, so far, taken in picturesque Doddington and Newnham, Teynham, Conyer and the Swale Estuary. So, if you fancy stepping out this spring, email vivienelcomb@yahoo.co.uk for details and prices. Details of each walk are sent direct to walkers, by email, each month.

The next walk is on the second Sunday in the month - June 10 - to avoid the Bank Holiday, but walks are usually held on the first Sunday of the month.



Registered Charity No.: 1021287
Ofsted URN No.: EY340143

Email: harrietsham.preschool@yahoo.co.uk
Website: www.harrietsham-preschool.co.uk



New Chairperson

It is with much regret that Sam Oliver recently resigned as Chairperson to Harrietsham Pre-School due to her many other commitments.

We would like to thank Sam Oliver for her dedication and loyalty to Harrietsham Pre-School over the past 5 Years and wish her the very best.

However, we are pleased to welcome Rob Wickenden as our new Chairperson and thank him for agreeing to take on this important and time consuming role. Rob is an existing Committee Member and brings with him previous Committee experience and the enthusiasm and commitment we have always had the benefit of from Sam.

We look forward to supporting Rob in his new role.

A.D. Pink

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Harrietsham Network

Doddington Place Gardens

Celebrate a Regal Summer at Doddington Place Gardens

A patriotic theme will be in full swing at Doddington Place Gardens this June, beginning with our Farmers' Market on June 3rd, and Royal Fundays at the gardens on 3rd, 4th and 5th June to celebrate our Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Farmers' Market (Sunday only - no charge for admittance) celebrating Kentish produce and craftsmen will be open from 11am – 2pm, and on each day of the Jubilee celebrations the gardens will be packed with lots of activities for all ages, including falconry demonstrations, archery, face painting, creepy crawlies, fun stalls and a Jubilee Jewels Treasure Hunt with a free chocolate for all children taking part.

Following all the regal excitement, our archery friends return for visitors to have a go themselves on 17th June, when as well as the falconry, Doddington Place's Mrs Amicia Oldfield will be giving one of her popular talks on "Doddington Life".

To round off a thoroughly exciting month, 24th June sees the arrival of our acclaimed jazz quartet, some of whom boast a lineage from Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club in London. Relax and enjoy the mellow strains of jazz across the gardens on a summer's afternoon!

The tea room offers delicious homemade light lunches, homemade cakes and afternoon teas using Kentish produce – the perfect place to enjoy a cream tea and spend a perfect day out.

Doddington Place Gardens are open from 11am to 5pm every Sunday, Wednesday and Bank Holiday Monday, and tickets are £5 per adult and £2 per child. For more information call 01795 886101 or visit www.doddington-placegardens.co.uk

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Add a pinch of love;
Add a frying pan of respect;

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and you have a friend.

Sophie Bishop



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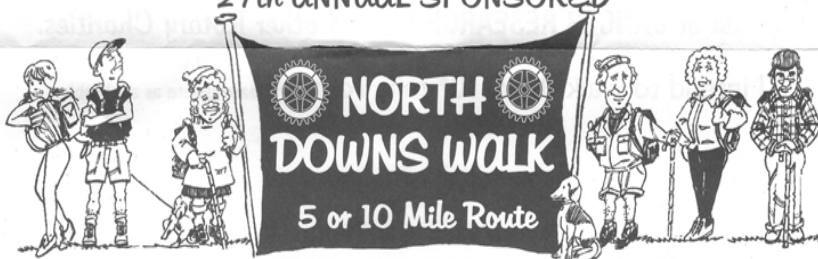
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Harrietsham Network

Cheese and Tuna Jacket Potatoes

I thought it might be a change to put in a recipe using the microwave.

4 large baking potatoes, washed and dried
7ozs (200grms) canned tuna in oil or water, drained
5 ozs (150grms) cottage cheese with chives
1/2 teaspoon salt
a little pepper
1 tablespoon Mayonnaise
2ozs (60grms) mature Cheddar cheese, grated
pinch of paprika pepper

Method

Prick the potatoes all over and place in the microwave on High for 15 minutes, turning after 7 minutes. Remove when soft.

Slice off the top of each potato and set aside.

Scoop out the flesh of the potato and put into a bowl reserving the shells.

Mash the potatoes with the tuna, cottage cheese, salt and pepper and mayonnaise until well mixed.

Fill the potato shells with the mixture then sprinkle with Cheddar cheese and paprika.

Replace the tops then arrange the potatoes in a shallow microwave-safe dish.

Cook on High for 3 minutes until the filling has heated through and the cheese melted.

Serves 4.

Vi Booth

*ANSWER to question on p. 7:
Happy Birthday to Rod Martenslyn!*

Whilst every effort is made to include as wide a variety of information as possible each month, the editor reserves the right not to publish, or to edit, any item.

Letters sent anonymously will not be considered.

Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the officers or committee of the Fish Scheme.

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