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Harrietsham's
Village Magazine

March 2019



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For 2019 both deadlines every month will be the first Friday of the month

Network Magazine April 2019 deadline:

The deadline for **both** advertisements and editorial copy in the next issue will be MID-DAY on **FRIDAY 1st March 2019**.

- Please send advertising contributions to advertising manager's address above.
- Please send editorial copy to: editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org (preferred please) or drop your copy in at Salon 62 in West Street - please mark them for The Editor. Thank You.

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From the Editor

Welcome to the March 2019 issue of Network magazine.

The front cover this month is, as you can see, a plea for help. After last month's issue we have got some offers to assist, all of which we are very grateful for. Laying out the pages of the magazine is where we really need some assistance and some of you have asked if we can give more detail on this. I go into this in more depth on pages 15 - 17 so please have a read and see how you feel about it. If you have any questions please give us a call.

Part of the problem with editing is that some copy you receive can't be placed because there's not enough space. There was an article from Len Valley Walks that I really wanted to fit in. I'm a keen walker myself and knowing it's a healthy and rewarding pastime I thought I'd at least put in the contact details, so please call **Jan Enever on 01622 851623** for details.

Sorry to say, this will be the last issue I do for the foreseeable future - work commitments among other things mean I won't have the time to spend on Network, so good luck to the new editors, whoever they may be and the rest of the team.

Anthony Wiffen

Please remember to email any photographs, articles of interest about Harrietsham, or recipes etc. that could be considered for inclusion to:

E-mail: editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org

Visit our website: www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

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.

Responsibility for the information and views set out in articles and notices in this publication lies entirely with the authors.

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.

The publication of an advertisement does not constitute an endorsement. No reproduction allowed in any form without written consent. No flyers or inserts to be sent to the printers for inclusion in the magazine direct or without the editor's prior consent.

Harrietsham Village Hall Trust



Harrietsham Village Hall is a registered charity and run by a dedicated group of voluntary trustees and committee members.

The annual AGM will be held on Wednesday 8th May at 7.30pm. Please come along to talk to existing trustees and committee members about what being part of the VHT entails.

A number of key committee members are standing down due to work commitments and health concerns and the Trust is therefore looking for new members. We are especially interested in younger members of the community to join so that the committee represents the whole village. With new blood this hopefully brings new ideas, new enthusiasm to perhaps drive projects forward that will help the younger generation in our village

As everyone is aware there are not many clubs or societies that cater for this group and we believe with the right members on board this could so easily be changed. It is hard but

very rewarding work that requires constant support for the various projects and fund raising events the Trust organises.

To give you an example of what we have achieved over the last 3 years of the present committee, we have listed some of those below: -

- Obtaining funding and installation of Solar Panels, not only reducing costs but also provide funds for other improvements.
- Purchasing round tables and new chairs for banquets and new crockery and cutlery for 150 place settings.*
- New surround sound system and microphones.*
- Obtaining funding from BFI for upgrading the projector.
- Installation of Blackout Blinds in the Ambrose Hall.*
- New external and internal notice boards.*
- Refitted kitchen for disabled use.
- Powered doors for disabled access
- Security access control on building
- Improvements to CCTV

- Security shutters which are electrically operated for disabled use.
- The installation of the bar (this delivers a huge profit when booked by hall hirers)
- Roller Disco for children (recently suspended due to lack of support)
- Children's and adult monthly film clubs.

Projects indicated* were funded with the profits made from events organised by the Trust Entertainments Group along with profits from the bar run by trustees. It should be remembered we offer a special rate for children's parties. We also offer a special rate to village

organisations using the Ambrose Hall on weekday evenings. An amazing fact is that hire rates for villagers have not increased over the past 3 years.

Projects in the pipeline

Planning to improve the hall lighting by upgrading to LED fittings and obtaining funding for this.

Possible extension of the village hall to meet current and future increased demand. We have obtained funding for the production of draft plans, and have taken pre-planning advice from MBC and are now looking at how this could be funded in consultation with 'Funding for All.'

Gardening Society AGM

The A.G.M took place on 15th January

The following were elected: Chairman, David Oversby; Secretary Shirl Wood; Committee members, Angela Gatland, Kevin Harlock, George Evans.

Further to the AGM we have some volunteers to join the committee.

Thank you. You are very welcome and hope you enjoy the experience It was recommended by the committee that subscription should remain at £10, however the members decided on £12.

Show Committee: The present incumbents will continue plus Jill and George Evans and Joyce Jordan

The meeting thanked STEPHEN MORRIS for all his work with the Society and made a presentation of everything to do with tea!

Our best wishes to you

"Blooming Green" about hand-sown, hand-grown, hand-picked flowers was an entertaining talk on the business of growing flowers and marketing them.

Angela Gatland

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Parish Council News

We do apologise. We have had significant problems with our phone and this has led to a number of temporary numbers which has been extremely disruptive. We hope to have this rectified very soon.

We have met with residents and the manager from the Co-op, Carol, about the parking outside and its impact upon neighbouring properties. We hope that the situation is improving, but recognise that we will need to work with everyone to monitor the situation. We do not want shoppers parking across residents drives causing obstructions.

We have written to the planning inspectorate with regard to 2 planning appeals in the village.

We have attended meetings, the last being a closed meeting with residents from Pilgrims Retreat, the Park home park in Hogbarn Lane. It is complex and may take a while to reach a conclusion and we reiterate our support for the residents. We thank in particular James Bailey from Maidstone Borough Council for attending the last meeting and informing those attending of the council position and the reasons behind decisions being made. Any highway concerns still get reported to KCC highways "report a fault" website.

Speedwatch. We attended a training session organised by Platts Heath volunteers with Alan from Maidstone Speedwatch. The 2 sites in the village will need to be risk re-assessed due to the road improvements on the A20 and when this is ok'd we can begin. If you wish to become a volunteer please get in touch.

Tom and Janetta Sams

Harrietsham Bowls Club

We've been busy at the Bowls Club with our home and away matches, also David and Barbara French played in a doubles competition at Boughton Monchelsea and had a great win. There's a group of our members going to Warners at Lakeside later this month to play in their competition, hopefully they will come back with a few trophies, good luck to them all. We are planning our In-House Singles competition within the next few weeks which should be great fun.

Steve



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Fish Scheme AGM

**The Annual General Meeting of the Fish Scheme
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All Welcome





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Publishing Network: Why not give it a go?

After our appeal for volunteers in last month's issue, we have been asked to offer more detail regarding the process of laying out the magazine pages, so here goes:

Network is an A5 sized magazine and is produced using software from Adobe, specifically *Indesign* and *Photoshop*. The FISH scheme possesses a laptop which serves as the platform to run this software and generate the magazine every month. The magazine is usually sized from 36 up to 48 pages. The laptop would be in your possession for the duration of the production cycle.

Depending upon size, Network usually takes 1-2 days to lay out, on-and-off, but this can be spread over a two week period. From the time the first emailed copy starts to arrive, to the time our delivery guys are dropping issues through letter boxes, is about three weeks.

Editorial

Editorial copy, events, articles etc. usually come in three forms; email text, emailed Word document and occasionally hand written paper copy that will need to be typeset.

The operation of laying out the magazine is probably quite difficult to visualise from this description but if you've had experience with Microsoft Word, Excel or Publisher these operations are very similar.

The text is simply cut-and-pasted across onto the Indesign document and styled according to what is, a very simple, house style. The Indesign document 'holds' all 40 pages (in the case of this issue), so the text/articles can be moved simply from page to page until a best fit is found.

It's rare for an editorial entry to fill pages exactly. If it doesn't fill the whole page, a shorter entry may well have been supplied that can be placed underneath to take up the space or a 'filler-graphic' could be used to take up the space, for instance, the praying hands graphic at the bottom of the Christian Message.

Adverts

You'll notice that Network is well populated with adverts. Brian, our ad setter, makes this operation simple for us. He does a great job of designing the adverts and then making page pdfs, so, the good news for the person laying out the mag is that all you need to do is drag-and-drop the completed advert page pdfs onto the Indesign document. There's usually about 16 pages so that's a large chunk of the magazine completed in only a few minutes.

The other bit of good news is that the directory/local churches and day by day pages are usually repeated

continued on p.17



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continued from p.15

every month and amended as necessary, so that's another four pages easily completed.

Once finished, Network is proof-read, corrected and sent to the printer as single pdf.

There are more details I could go into but if you've read this far perhaps now is the time to give us a call and we'll answer any questions and arrange a time when you could try it out and see how you feel about it. I've explained it as simply as I can but please understand, this will

require some comitment from you.

Here's what might appeal to some of you - Adobe Indesign and Photoshop is the publishing industry standard software package. I'm not saying this could be the start of a new career but to have experience of using this software would look good on your CV.

Thanks for reading and please give this your consideration.

Anthony Wiffen

Tel: 850063

Harrietsham History Society

Our first meeting of the year on the 21st January lived up to my expectations, with our speaker Ian Porter giving his talk on the lives of the 'Kray Twins'. Ronnie and Reggie Kray were the foremost perpetrators of organised crime in the East End of London during the 1950s and 60s, their gang known as "The Firm" was involved in murder, armed robbery, protection and most other crimes you could imagine. They were arrested and convicted of their crimes in May 1968 and both sentenced to life imprisonment. Ronnie died of a heart attack in Broadmoor Hospital on the 17th March 1995. Reggie was released from prison in August 2000 and died just eight and a half weeks later from bladder cancer. Although they enjoyed a period of celebrity status in the 'swinging sixties' they were two of the worst and most vicious gangland criminals of our times. At our next meeting on Monday 18th March our speaker Frank Turner will be giving a talk on 'Chatham Submarines' Our meetings are always open to visitors so please come along as I am sure this will be a very interesting talk.

Peter Brown

Diary Date – Monday 18th March 7.30pm Village Hall

Local Churches

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For details of services see p 19

United Reformed Church

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Mass every Sunday at 8.45am and
Wednesday at 10.00am

Holydays Mass 7pm

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church

Button Lane, Bearsted
736100

Confessions, Saturday 5 - 5.30pm

Saturday Evening Mass 6pm

Sunday Mass 10.30am

Weekday Mass generally

Monday and Tuesday 7pm and
Friday 10am

Holydays Mass 10am and 8pm

Pathways Church, Maidstone

1st and 3rd Sundays of each month
at 10.30am in Lenham Community
Centre. Wednesday and Thursday
evenings in homes in Lenham and
Harrietsham.

Church leaders: Johnny and Estelle
McCabe www.pathwayschurch.org.uk

Pathways Church is supported by
Jubilee Church, Maidstone

Bearsted and Thurnham Methodist Church, Bearsted (next to Station)

Minister: Revd Bonni-Belle Pickard

45 St. Lukes Avenue,
Maidstone ME14 5AN

Tel 752895

Sunday Service at 10.30am

Len Valley Benefice Service Times



Everyone is always welcome to any of our services or events

Friday 1st March

10.30 am Lenham: World Day of Prayer Service

7.00 pm Ulcombe: World Day of Prayer Service

Sunday 3rd March

9.30 am Lenham: Breakfast service followed by informal Holy Communion

9.30 am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

11.00 am Ulcombe: Family Worship

11.00 am Lenham: Holy Communion

3.30 pm Harrietsham: GIFT family worship (followed by optional Holy Communion)

Wednesday 6th March

9.30 am Lenham: Holy Communion with Ashing

7.00 pm Ulcombe: Service of Ashing

Sunday 10th March

8.00 am Lenham: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30 am Lenham: Breakfast Service

9.30 am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

11.00 am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

11.00 am Lenham: Morning Worship

3.30 pm Boughton Malherbe: Evensong

Sunday 17th March

9.30 am Lenham: Breakfast Service

9.30 am Harrietsham: Morning Worship

9.30 am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

11.00 am Ulcombe: Morning Worship

11.00 am Lenham: Holy Communion

5.00 pm Harrietsham: Taize Service

Wednesday 20th March

11.00 am Chippendayle Lodge

Sunday 24th March

8.00 am Lenham: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30 am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30 am Boughton Malherbe: An Informal Service

9.30 am Lenham: The Big Breakfast Service

11.00 am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

6.00 pm Harrietsham: Confirmation Service

Sunday 31st March

10.00 am Ulcombe: Joint Len Valley Celebration Service

Countryways Quilters and Stitchers

Hello everyone. We started in February with our first big project for 2019, a crib size quilt. The Seagull Quilt is in blues and white with seagulls flying over the ocean. Ideal for a child's room or a lap quilt, even a wall hanging.

We are well under way with the quilt top of assorted blue squares and are working on attaching all the appliqued seagulls. We will continue through March to get all the layers pinned together and will machine quilt it all in place. The late starters will hopefully catch up this month and we will all get the binding attached to finish off our quilts.

We meet in the Osbourne room at the Lenham Community Centre on Tues. March 5th and Wed. the 20th, from 1:30 to 4:30.

If you would like more information on our group or would like a copy of our 2019 Program please contact me, Pamela Gillard at 01233-879507 or e-mail moonbeamspinner@gmail.com

Charing Farmers Market

The Market meets every Thursday 9:30 to 11:30, with our usual stalls of plants, produce, and preserves (the three p's). And of course our Butcher stall and baked goods stall for your weekly staples. And to keep it interesting we have alternating craft stalls filled with knitted things, textile crafts, paper crafts like cards and tags, and hand spun yarn for knitting your own scarves and pom-pom hats with patterns and needles included. There are even knitting bags and baskets to keep it all in, the perfect pastime for these cold winter days in front of the fire.

Come check it out.

I will be spinning on March. 7th and 21st along with my handspun yarn and textiles.

We are all in the Church Barn. To find us, come park by the church in Market Square, then take the footpath along the left to the barn.

See you soon?
Pamela Gillard

Harrietsham day by day

(T = term time only)

SUNDAY

Tennis Club (May-Sept) 2.00pm Booth Field

MONDAY

Pre School Group 8.30am - 3.30pm Primary School T
 Yoga Classes 9.30am - 11am Ambrose Hall T
 Short Mat Bowls 1.45pm - 4.30pm Ambrose Hall
 Brownie Guides 5.45pm - 7.15pm Booth Hall T
 History Society (3rd Mon) 7.30pm Village Hall

TUESDAY

Pre School Group 8.30am - 3.30pm Primary School T
 Art Classes (Improvers) 2.00pm - 4.30pm Booth Hall T
 Beavers (age 6 - 8) 5.45pm - 7.15pm Scout HQ, Station Road
 Cub Scouts 6.30pm - 8pm Lenham Primary School T
 Tennis Club (May-Sept) 6.30pm Booth Field
 Gardening Society (3rd Tues) 7.30pm Ambrose Hall
 Guides 7.00pm - 8.45pm Booth Hall T
 Lenham Youth Centre 7 - 9pm Swadelands T
 Bell Ringing Practice 7.30pm - 9pm Bell Tower

WEDNESDAY

Pre School Group 8.30am - 3.30pm Primary School T
 Elevenses (2nd Wed) 10.30am - noon Booth Hall
 Mobile Library (fortnightly) 1.40pm - 2.10pm P.O. West Street
 Tai Chi class 2.00pm - 3.00pm Ambrose Hall
 Ballet Academy 4.00 - 4.40pm Village Hall T
 Karate Club 6pm - 7.30pm Ambrose Hall
 Wives Group (1st Wed) 8pm - 10pm See magazine entry
 Parish Council (last Wed) 7.30pm Booth Hall

THURSDAY

Pre School Group 8.30am - 3.30pm Primary School T
 Baby, Toddler & Parent Group 9.30am - 11.30am Ambrose Hall T
 Women's Institute (2nd Thurs) 2.00pm Booth Hall
 Tennis Club (May-Sept) 6.30pm Booth Field
 Explorers (Scouts) 7.15pm - 9.30pm Kingswood Scout HQ
 Short Mat Bowls 6.30 pm - 10pm Ambrose Hall
 Choir Practice 6.15pm Parish Church
 Lenham Youth Centre 7 - 9pm Swadelands T
 Pub Quiz 8.30pm Roebuck

FRIDAY

Pre School Group 8.30am - 3.30pm Primary School T
 Coffee Morning 10am - noon Booth Hall
 Scouts 7.30pm - 9.30pm Scout HQ, Station Road

SATURDAY

Rainbows 10am - 11.30am Booth Hall T

Local Directory

Art Classes (Drawing/Painting Improvers)

Tutor Helen Easter 03000 412222/www.helenbeeken.co.uk

Beaver Scouts

Leader Duncan Keenan 07768 926654

Bell Ringers

Ringmaster 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.co.uk

British Legion Poppy Appeal

Organiser Mr. M. Bishop 850921

Brownie Guides

Brown Owl Mrs. J. Burr 859494

Community Support

PCSO John Boyd 101

Conservative Association

Faversham office 01622 758053

Countryways Quilters

& Stitchers Pamela Gillard 01233 879507

Craft & Chat/Crafternoon

Hazel Roots 01622 851885

Cricket Club

Chairman Mr. A. Hubble 859692

Cub Scouts

Leader Mrs. A. Seales 859829

Explorer Scouts

Leader Mark Horlock 07789 226516

Family History

Enquiries Mr. F. Long 850863

Flower Guild

Parish Church Mrs. R. Long 850863

Friends of St. John The Baptist Church

Chairperson Audrey Joy 850806

Gardening Society

Chairman Mr David Oversby 859674

Girl Guides

Leader Kate Davies 07971 254029/beaukate@btinternet.com

Golf - Bill's Round for Charity

Secretary Mr. R. Bevan 859310

Harrietsham Academy of Ballet

Organiser Deborah Nankivell 07775 716714

Harrietsham in Bloom

Chairman Mr. A. Rogers 859352

Harrietsham Social Club

Secretary Jed Stone 077598771198 / whipacres2@gmail.com

Harrietsham History Society

Chairman Mr. P. Brown 851075

Harrietsham Pre-School

Manager Susan Snoad harrietshampreschool.manager@gmail.com
01622 851819

Health Walks

Organiser Ms. M. Darby 850657

Helpers

Chairman Mr.T. Sams 859412

Karate Club

Organiser Mr Lewin Tuckwell 07812 089304

Kent Messenger "Your Local" pages

Village correspondent Margo McFarlane 01622 859682

Lenham Youth Centre

Contact Toni Chincharo 07966 966090

Liberal Democrat Association

Mr. David Naghi 07970 626829

PTFA (Harrietsham School)

Chairman Tina Humphreys harrietshamptfa@gmail.com

Rainbows

Leader Ms. A. Thompson 850935

Royal British Legion

Branch Chairman Mr. Barry Wood 850702 / barry.wood1112@outlook.com

Rural Community Warden

Mr. M. Sherwood 07977 981993

Safari Supper

Organiser Mr. R. Bevan 859310

Scouts

Group leader Mr. E. Seales 859829

Leader Mr. N. Still 859789

Short Mat Bowls

Secretary Mr. S. Brown 858147

Tai Chi Class

Angela Akast 07754 454030/ akast.a@btopenworld.com

Tennis Club

Chairman Mr. A. Rogers 859352

Secretary Mrs. K. Daking 850652

The Lenham School

Head of School Mr. Chris Foreman 858267

Ulcombe Pre-school

Chairperson Helen Leat 07511 658728 / ulcombepreschool@live.co.uk

Village Hall

Chairman Mr. C. Jack chairman@harrietshamvillagehall.co.uk

Whist Club

Miss Denise Williams 859410

Wives Group

Leader Katherin Daking 850652

Women's Institute

Secretary Mrs. J. Tabrett 859224

Public Services and Emergencies

Doctors' Surgery (for either Lenham or Harrietsham) 01622 859204 or 858341

Dentist, Lenham 01622 858204

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Saxon Warrior Pharmacy 01622 858287

Hospitals:

Maidstone, ME16 9QQ 01622 729000

The Tunbridge Wells Hospital, Pembury TN2 4QJ 01892 823535

William Harvey Hospital, Ashford TN24 0LZ 01233 633331

Councils:

MP - Helen Whately 01622 758053

Kent County Council 03000 41 41 41

Maidstone Borough Council - all departments 01622 602000

Harrietsham Parish Council - Parish Clerk 01622 850089

Police: Emergencies only 999 Non-emergencies 101

Samaritans, 48 Grecian Street, Maidstone 01622 674444

Citizens Advice Bureau, 2 Bower Terrace, M/stone 01622 752420

Childline 0800 11 11

KCC Children's Social Services 03000 41 11 11

KCC Adults Social Services 03000 41 61 61

March Diary

Fri 1 March 12 noon Advertising deadline for April Network

Fri 1 March 12 noon Editorial deadline for April Network

Sat 2 1 - 4 pm Craft & Chat, Harrietsham Village Hall

Tues 5 1.30 - 4:30pm Countryways Quilters and Stitchers
Osbourne Room, Lenham Community Centre

Wed 6 8-10 Wives Group, Booth Hall

Sat 9 12 - 2pm Soup Saturday, St John the Baptist Church

Fri 15 1.45pm Film Club, Harrietsham Village Hall

Mon 18 7.30 Harrietsham History Society,
Harrietsham Village Hall

Tues 19 7.30 Gardening Society, Ambrose Hall

Wed 20 1.30 - 4:30pm Countryways Quilters and Stitchers
Osborne Room, Lenham Community Centre

Wed 20 7.00 for 7.30pm Fish Scheme AGM, Booth Hall, HVH

Thurs 21 2-4pm Crafternoon, Harrietsham Village Hall

Thurs 21 2-4pm Young at Heart 60+
Lenham Community Centre

Sat 30 7pm Friends of St John's, AGM,
Harrietsham Church

Village Events Diary - for Your use!

Did you know? A voluntary system of a diary is available in the Post Office for **“groups or individuals to enter”** event dates and information that would be helpful to other villagers.

Harrietsham in Bloom

Events are very quiet at present. We are waiting to see what blooms have survived the roadworks.

Thank you to Tony Bell for repairing the broken planter outside Kent Cosmetics on the A20.

Our thanks also go to Harrietsham Parish Council for their grant towards our funds.

Our annual quiz will take place on Saturday 13th April in the village hall at 7.30pm. Further details in April. Thank you for your continued support. Any enquiries to Andrew Rogers (Chair) 859352.

Audrey Joy



Ploughmans and Pimms

As soon as we get snow, it reminds me that I should be thinking about Ploughmans and Pimms 2019.

This will be on Thursday May 16th, so please put it on your calendars. The same details as usual apply and will follow in the next magazines.

FISH Scheme AGM

I would like to urge our faithful deliverers to attend the AGM on March 20th. I believe it is a good time to meet up and air any concerns you may have, as well as receive a resounding thank-you for all you do year round.

FISH Scheme S.O.S.

We are experiencing difficulties finding volunteers to deliver the magazine at Pilgrims Retreat.

At present we send 140 copies, but not everybody is receiving one.

If you can help please contact your fellow resident Nicole Keehen, who is endeavouring to manage this task on her own. More hands will make light work. Thank you in anticipation.

Jackie Bevan - Distribution Manager

Christian Message

March 2019 by Rev Millie Hart

There are many joys in being a parent, and for me in recent years, a grandparent! When I consider what brings purpose and meaning to my life I have found that it is the privilege of being able to comfort one of my children when they are in distress.

One moment there is a sobbing, hysterical child in front of you but a few moments later that same child is laughing and smiling again. This is simply because of a mother or father's words of reassurance. We say, "let's kiss it better" and it works!

We have a God who loves us more than the most devoted parent. Our God grieves when we grieve and suffers when we suffer.

As we hold on to that picture of a child embraced by that parent, I pray that we may know the embrace of the God who just longs to encircle us in his arms. Whatever we face he promises always to be there to bring us comfort. The world experiences so much pain. There are hurts, troubles, anxieties, fears all around us, both our own and the pain of the world.

We might be struggling with sorrow and suffering, we might be experiencing hopes dashed, dreams broken, we might have been let down, betrayed, abused or battling with depression and illness, we might be mourning the loss of a loved one but we can ask God to "kiss it better ."

My prayer is that you may know that God is always there to bring you comfort. In the words of the Apostle Paul, *Glory be to the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our suffering so that we can comfort those experiencing any kind of suffering with the comfort God has given us. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).*

Gracious God, when tears are my food and when my heart is breaking. Let me know your assurance and your love as you reach out to me. Help me to know that joy can come again. Amen.



Lenham Family Festival 2019

Thursday 6 June to Sunday 9 June

Family Day Saturday 8 June

Committee members have been busy contacting stallholders, food vendors, musicians, dancers and entertainers for our Family Day on Saturday 8 June. Don't forget, if you are a local musician or band and would like to play at the Festival, you can contact **Dave at dandj@needhamd.plus.com** and if you would like to book a stall at the Family Day please contact **Jill on 07856 204648** for more information.

This year, in addition to all our usual favourites, we will also have a fun photo booth with a variety of props so you can come and have your photo taken with your friends and family and take away a permanent memento of the day! Remember there is no charge to attend the Family Day or watch the entertainment and we aim to keep prices on our stalls as low as possible so that they are affordable for families and no one has to miss out.

As mentioned in previous months, monies raised from the Festival in 2019 will be shared between the Lenham Meadows Trust, Carer's Relief Service and Platts Heath Primary School. The school has recently let us know that they would love to use any monies raised towards an interactive whiteboard and also a "speech to print" kit that will help the children with creative writing and linguistic development. The children of Platts Heath Primary School will also be supporting the Festival by performing on the Saturday (further details to follow).

Remember we're always keen to welcome new members to our friendly committee. We meet on the first Monday of each month at Lenham Community Centre at 7.15pm. If you would like to join us, you can contact **Tom and Janetta on 01622 859412.**

More news to follow in next month's article and remember to put the Lenham Family Festival in your diaries and on your calendars so you don't miss out on all the fun.

Gail Robinson on behalf of the Lenham Family Festival Committee

HARRIETSHAM VILLAGE HALL FILM CLUB

FISH SCHEME AFTERNOON FILM

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH DOORS OPEN 1.45PM FILM AT 2.15PM



King of Thieves (15)

KING OF THIEVES is the incredible true story of the spectacular Hatton Garden diamond heist, the biggest and most daring in British history, humorously told through career best performances from a stellar cast; Sir Michael Caine, Jim Broadbent, Ray Winstone, Michael Gambon, Tom Courtenay and Charlie Cox. KING OF THIEVES is written by Joe Penhall, directed by Academy Award winner James Marsh and produced by BAFTA winning and Academy Award nominees Tim Bevan and Eric Fellner, alongside Ali Jaafar and Michelle Wright.

Coming in April— Mary Poppins Returns

(subject to it being released in March as estimated)

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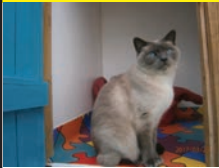
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R.baker4567@gmail.com
@zumbawithmerosieb



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HAMS Productions - Dick Whittington



At the time of writing we have just finished the performances of Dick Whittington at Lenham Community Centre. Over the course of the 3 performances we played to 570 people and the feedback was superb. My thanks go to the production team and cast who work tirelessly to put on this great show. A special thank you must go to the directing team of Kim Frazer and Margaret Fitzgerald who worked really hard to bring this all together. We had some great feedback from the audiences on social media as well as at the performances. I also want to thank all those that attended the show, you were a fantastic audience and you all really got into the panto spirit, oh yes you did. We will get some photos together for the next issue.

We raised money for the Lenham Community Centre and £288 for Demelza, our chosen charity for this year.

To keep up to date with what HAMS Productions are doing you can follow us on Facebook @hamspanto or by looking at our website **www.hamsproductions.org**

During 2019 we are seeking new members in all roles within HAMS Productions so if you want to get involved either in the cast, backstage or front of house get in touch by phone or email: **07731 455 677 chair@hamsproductions.org**

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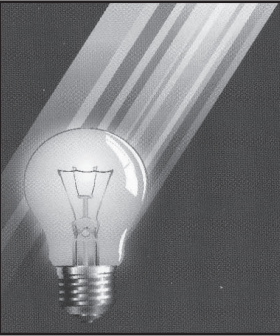
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Tom & Janetta Sams

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stanintheterminus@hotmail.com

Harrietsham Wives Group

The New Year started with our AGM although we were disappointed with the numbers attending. We looked back at the meetings we had held in the previous year and we had had our usual mix which had been thoroughly enjoyed by our members. The one disappointment was our outing although this seemed to be more to do with the lack of cake – this would appear to be a vital component for any of our outings! The committee have organised a varied programme for 2019 and they were re-elected for the coming year.

One of the huge successes of 2018 was the money we were able to raise during the year. Our annual auction money (£246) had already been donated to GamBLE as they had been one of our speakers earlier in the year. We made the decision to split the remaining money between the Kenward Trust (who work with recovering addicts) and Crossroads (who offer support to carers). The Wives also organise and run (with the help of others) the Friday morning Coffee Break and half of the money made at this (£500) was given to St John's Church to help with the maintenance of the building.

Our meeting in February will be our annual Auction and then in March we will welcome Barbara Stevens who will give us a talk entitled 'Shopping Trip in a Bygone era'. We welcome any new members to our meetings which are held in the Booth Hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 8pm.

Katherin Daking

Friends of St. John the Baptist's Church

*Registered Charity No 1090622
Val Brown, Secretary, 01622 858147*



The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St John the Baptist church

is to be held at Harrietsham Church on Saturday, 30th March 2019
commencing at 7.00pm
All welcome to attend

HARRIETSHAM IN BLOOM

? **QUIZ** **?**
NIGHT

Harrietsham Village Hall

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL 2019

7.30pm Start

£7 per person

Price includes soft drinks and nibbles

*Please bring your own food and
wine/beer to enjoy during the break*

Max. 8 persons per table

To book your place/table please contact
Andrew Tel: 859352 or Barbara Tel: 853754

Craft and Chat

Members really enjoyed making their paperback book vases and learning how to make the various paper flowers to fill it with at our January meeting and, at the time of writing, we are looking forward to making knotted necklaces, using a selection of beads, with Anna at our February meeting.

March's meeting will take place on Saturday 2nd March between 1-4pm at Harrietsham Village Hall and the project will be a chocolate bouquet in a basket. The origami basket is made from a single sheet of paper and then handmade paper flowers

are added to the basket plus organza wrapped chocolate 'flowers'. These chocolate bouquet baskets make lovely gifts for any occasion and the chocolates in the bouquet can easily be replaced once eaten so that the display can continue! Supplies needed will be emailed to members nearer the time. If you are not a member but are interested in coming along, please do get in touch with me at the phone number below. You can also check out what we are doing at any time on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/harrietshamcraftandchat/>

Crafternoon

At March's meeting of Crafternoon on Thursday 21st March between 2-4pm at Harrietsham Village Hall the plan had been to have a catch up so that members can bring along any project and work on it and get help if needed. However, there will also be the opportunity to make a German/Austrian star button for anyone interested. Over the years that Craft and Chat/Crafternoon have been meeting we have created several types of traditional button. We started with Dorset buttons and variations on them. Then we went on to look at some historical German/Austrian buttons known as Zwirnknöpfe and we made Austrian shirtlace buttons. This time, we will be looking at another style of Zwirnknöpfe and making star buttons. The Zwirnknöpfes differ from the Dorset buttons in that, with the Dorset button the outside of

the ring is blanket stitched initially (casting) before being slicked (meaning the ridge of the buttonhole stitch is turned to the middle of the back of the ring so it can't be seen from the front) and then the maker wraps around the ring to make the spokes (laying) and weaves starting from the middle (rounding). With the Zwirnknöpfes, the maker first makes the spokes around the outside of the ring and then completes the centre before, finally, doing the blanket stitch around the ring to complete the button. This way of working lends itself to many beautiful designs – much more so than the way of working the Dorset button does. A selection of different types of both Dorset and Zwirnknöpfe buttons as well as other traditional handmade buttons will be on display for anyone interested. Again, any supplies

Harrietsham Network

that members need to bring will be emailed to them nearer the time and will be shown on our Facebook page.

Anyone can also bring their own project to work on at any of our meetings if they wish and for those who have not been before, there is no membership fee as such, but everyone pays between £3 or £4 per meeting (depending on the duration of the meeting and

the number of members present) towards the cost of the hall hire and refreshments. Tea, coffee and cake are always served. If you've been sitting on the fence, why not give us a try. We are always very happy to welcome new members. Any queries on either Craft & Chat or Crafternoon, please contact **01622 851885**

Hazel Roots

Harrietsham C of E Primary School

The Christmas term ended with all the children making Christingle oranges and taking them to the church for a special service. The teachers made sure that this was done safely and the church was beautifully lit by 200 candles.

Once again this term has been very busy with the children working hard and enjoying a variety of activities. All of the KS2 children are attending a Proms Praise for Schools in the Royal Albert Hall and in order to prepare for this they had an Exodus day in school where they focused on the bible story of Moses. The children were encouraged to come in wearing either Egyptian or Israelite headdresses. Years 1 & 2 have attended a Multi Skills competition at a local school against other schools in the area. They acquitted themselves very well, since this was the first time they had been involved in such an event, coming 8th and 12th out of 16 schools. The skills included co-ordination, balance, speed and agility.

All the year groups have held creativity afternoons and parents were encouraged to come into the school and share activities with their children. The school also held a Book Week just before half term with one of the most popular activities being 'Book at Bedtime' when the children came in after school wearing their pyjamas. They also enjoy many After School clubs during the term including golf, gymnastics and choir.

Finally, at the beginning of the new term we were told that the headteacher would be resigning and leaving the school at the end of the summer term. Ms Oliver has been at the school for four years and during that time has had both SIAMS & Ofsted inspections with very good results. The Governors have begun the task of finding someone to succeed Ms Oliver in September in order that the academic success of the school can carry on and also see the proposed extension come to fruition.

Katherin Daking

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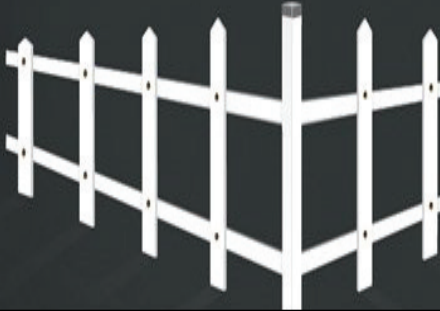
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100 Club Lottery Draw

Result of the Twenty-sixth draw of the Friends of St John 100 Club
Drawn on 12 January 2019 at the Soup Saturday lunch event under the supervision of Michael Gear (Independent Adjudicator)

102 numbers were included in the draw giving a prize fund of £102

First prize £51.00 – number 18 - Frank Long

Second prize £30.60 – number 23 - Carole Bell

Third prize £20.40 – number 2 - Sally Tong

For further information and details of how to become a member - contact the Administrator, Chris Roots on 01622 851 885

Soup Saturday

The next Soup Saturday will be held in the church on Saturday, 9th March 12 noon – 2 pm. Everyone welcome to come along and enjoy a bowl of Helen's Hearty Homemade Soup with crusty bread. Tea/coffee and biscuits also available.



Full English

St Mary's Church Lenham will host a full English breakfast on Saturday March 30th from 10am to 1pm. A continental breakfast will also be available. Dick Russell, chef of the Fish Restaurant has kindly agreed to be responsible for the cooking. The object of the event is to raise money for the work of CHRISTIAN AID. Come along and enjoy the food and please make a donation.


Gifts of food – sausages/eggs/tomatoes/fruit juice would be appreciated. Jan Smith and her friends are masterminding this event. Contact Jan by email ling.50@live.com for more information.

Tough Times

Helen Cooke will tackle the problem of tough times at the next Focus on Faith event in Ryarsh Village Hall on Wednesday March 20th from 9.15am to 2.15pm. Ring Joan Drury on 01622 853766 to find out more and/or arrange to attend.

'Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.' Albert Einstein

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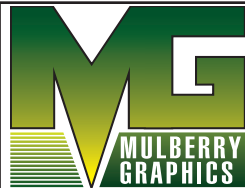
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