

BRIDGE

Correspondent: John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury, CT4 5NA, phone 830260.

WI: At the February meeting Mr Lloyd talked and answered questions about acupuncture.

A date for the diary is a bring and buy and coffee morning in the village hall, on Saturday, April 8. The next meeting is on Tuesday, March 21 when Ann Shirley will talk about her latest book on the North West Passage.

The competition will be for a four-legged animal ornament in any medium. The winning entry will go to the group meeting in April.

Jumble: There will be a jumble sale on Saturday, at 11am, in the village school hall, Conyngham Lane, admission 20p. For collection of jumble call 830276 or 830960 (evenings) or deliver to the school from today (Thursday).

FISH news: The next chiropody clinic will be from March 6 to 10. Contact Joan Warren (830233) for more details. The coffee pop-in is at the village hall, on Wednesday, March 8, from 10.15 to 11.45am. Transport can be arranged by phoning Ann Medhurst (830844).

Council: The parish council will meet in the Hunter Room of the village hall, on Thursday, March 9, at 7.30pm.

Gigs: At the Red Lion Bridge tomorrow (Friday) evening Ben Andrews, Delta bluesman, returns during his European tour. It may prove impractical to serve dinner on this evening due to space limitations.

On Sunday evening, Kilo, a Canterbury blues/rock outfit is back by popular demand.

Church: Tomorrow (Friday) a Women's World Day of Prayer service will be held in the Methodist Church, at 11am. It will be led by Muriel Packer and the speaker will be Anne Rooke. All are welcome.

March 2nd 2000

BEKESBOURNE

Correspondent: John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury, CT4 5NA, phone 830260.

Wisdom: A wine and wisdom in aid of the Friends of Bekesbourne Church was held in the village hall last Friday, when 74 participants not only had an enjoyable evening, but raised £284 for their funds. The organisers thank all who in any way supported the event.

Church: An 11am Matins (Nigel Hale) will be held at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne on Sunday. A reminder that during the interregnum, anyone wishing to arrange funerals, marriages or baptisms should contact the Rev John Shorrocks, on 832133.

For all other matters contact one of the churchwardens; details to be found in the parish magazine.

BISHOPSBOURNE

Correspondent: Malcolm Mitchell,
The Old Cottage, Bishopsbourne,
CT4 5HT, phone 01227 830645.

Brewery trip: About 40 regulars and villagers joined a coach trip organised by Mermaid landlord Colin Relf to Shepherd Neame's Brewery, Faversham.

The tour of the brewery – Britain's oldest – included a look at one of the original steam engines used to pump water from an artesian well to make Sheps' distinctive ales.

The tour ended with a chance to sample the beers, including a new Chinese rice beer brewed for restaurants, and the latest wheat beer.

Quiz time: A team captained by Jo Boraston won the wine and wisdom evening organised by Bishopsbourne Cricket Club on Saturday. It was the second year in succession that the team had won the quiz.

Team members were: Joe Eddington, Wendy Eddington, Richard Adam, Catherine Bagshaw, Dave Pickett and Su Pickett. Proceeds from the event, which was held in the Conrad Hall, will go to cricket club funds.

Alan Thew, from Kingston, posed the questions and John Howes, also of Kingston, kept the scores.

Parish church: The Matins service at St Mary's on Sunday was conducted by the Rector, the Rev Alan Duke, assisted by John Andrews, a member of the united parishes' mission team. Lessons were read by Pat Austin and Gill Applin.

During the service, the Rector announced that a coffee morning held the day previously at Pat Street's home had raised an amazing £1,010 for relief work in Mozambique. Collections held at the four churches in the united benefice of Bishopsbourne, Barham, Kingston and Womenswold the previous Sunday added a further £243 to the total.

The Rector also invited parishioners to attend Lent classes, called Jesus Rediscovered, which will be run on five successive Thursdays, starting today, in The Barn, Kingston, at 7.30pm.

Church council: Gill Applin presided at a meeting of the parochial church council in the Conrad Hall in the absence of the Rector, who sent his apologies.

Pat Austin reminded members of the annual meeting on April 12.

Mrs Austin reported that covenants had risen and thanked Beryl Graham for her hard work. It was reported that a coffee morning had raised more than £300.

It was decided to give donations to the Royal British Legion and the Poverty and Hope Appeal.

Estimates are to be sought for

March 16th 2000

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Correspondent: John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury, CT4 5NA, phone 830260.

WI: The March meeting will be on Tuesday, at 7.30pm in the village hall. The speaker will be Ann Shirley, the local author on her latest book *The Search for the North West Passage*.

The competition is an animal ornament in any medium, bought or made. The winner will go on to the group meeting in April.

Surgery: A surgery is to be held by Bill Oakey, the local city councillor, and John Anderson, chairman of the parish council on Saturday, at the Methodist Church Hall, Patricbourne Road, between 10am and noon (or longer if necessary).

They will be available to listen to, and discuss any complaints or issues that the villagers may have. If they are unable to resolve them there and then, they will take them up with the appropriate officers of the council.

This is the first of bi-monthly "surgeries" to be held in Bridge on

March 16th 2000

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Send your reports to: Villages, 9 St George's Place, Canterbury, CT1 1UU, by fax (01227 762415) or by e-mail kentvillages@thekmggroup.co.uk

the third Saturday of alternate months.

Meeting: The annual parish meeting, will be held on Wednesday, March 29 at 7.30pm, in the village hall..

Tories: The annual meeting of the North Nailbourne Ward Conservative Association will be held on Wednesday, March 22 at 7.30pm, in the village hall.

Music: On Sunday evening, Colin Welch will play jazz, at the Red Lion. On Friday evening, March 24, Drew & Jez are at the White Horse.

Church services: Sunday, 8am, Holy Communion (Canon Gordon Manley) St Mary's Church, Patricbourne; 9.30am Parish Communion (the Rev John Shorrocks) St Peter's Bridge; 11am, Bridge Methodist Church service led by the Rev Howard Skinner.

A reminder that during the interregnum, anyone wishing to arrange funerals, marriages or baptisms should contact Mr Shorrocks on 832133. For all other matters contact the churchwarden John Anderson, on 830260.

PARISH COUNCIL

Parish meeting: Residents are reminded that the annual assembly will take place on Wednesday, March 29 at 7.30pm in the village hall. Rupert Williamson, chief officer of the Canterbury and Thanet Community Health Council, has agreed to give an update on the current proposals relating to the changes in health care provision for east Kent.

Precept and grants: The parish council has been able to maintain the precept at the level set last year thus eliminating any increase on this portion of the council tax.

The sum applied for from Canterbury council in order to fulfil concurrent functions, which includes maintenance of the recreation ground, bus shelters and lighting columns as well as the lighting charge has been awarded in full. In a change to procedure this year, sums for capital projects were applied for and allocated under a three-year programme.

For the current year, £800 has been awarded for electrical upgrading in the village hall. No amount has been awarded for 2001/02 and a sum of £2,800 allocated for 2002/03 to cover the cost of replacement swings and an upgrade of the heating and provision of a toilet for the disabled in the village hall.

Street lighting: As a result of the decision by Canterbury council not to allocate any funds for additional street lighting columns, the parish council has decided that it cannot go ahead with the column which was requested in Conyngham Lane, at the present time. When funds become available the column will be installed.

On the grounds of health and safety, column 21 in Western Avenue has been cut down and an estimate is awaited for its replacement. All lighting columns have now been upgraded with photo-electric cells which, in the event of a power cut, should allow the time switches to automatically re-set.

Any reports of lighting failures should be telephoned to the clerk on 832219. If leaving a message on the answer phone please give name and phone number so that the clerk can return call.

Re-siting of benches: Several suggestions have been made by parishioners for suitable locations for the two benches currently in storage. A suitable site is being investigated for one to be replaced near the shops in the centre of the village and the possibility of siting the second one at the junction of Bridge Hill and Beech Hill is also being considered.

Extension to village hall: After discussions with the owner of 26 High Street a price has been agreed for the purchase by the parish council, of the shop section of the property. It is anticipated that in the future this will allow the provision of a toilet for the disabled, a large entrance hall, storage space and a parish office.

The purchase is subject to several conditions and successful planning applications. Quotations are to be sought for essential work and sources of finance actively pursued.

Planning applications: The following applications had been received and no objection made:

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Meeting: The annual parish meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday, March 29 in the village hall. All parishioners are welcome.

Concert: A first-ever by Canzonet (but hopefully the first of many) will be given in St Peter's Church, at 8pm on Wednesday, April 5. Thirteen voices, soloists included, directed by Peter Giles will be singing a selection of secular and sacred music from Purcell, Bach, Downland, Pergolesi and others, and also madrigals.

Tickets, £4 including refreshments, are now available from John Anderson on 01227 830260, Andrea Nicholson 01227 830947, or The Canterbury Tourist and Information Office, St Margaret's Street, Canterbury.

Saxon Lodge: The residential home at 30 Western Avenue, Bridge announces that to celebrate the 12th anniversary of its opening and also the Millennium, it will be holding a party and buffet open to all in the village, on Saturday, April 8, between 2 and 6pm.

Outing: A coach outing to Winchelsea and Rye is being organised by the Bridge & District History Society, on Saturday, April 29. This includes a guided tour of Winchelsea, free time at Rye and a cream tea. Members pay £12, non-members £14, children (under 14) £8. Booking closes April 15.

Gigs: On Sunday evening, Mac & Roger (rhythm and blues) will be at the Red Lion.

On Wednesday, March 29 Ben Andrews, Delta bluesman, returns to the Red Lion during his European tour. It may prove impractical to serve dinner on this evening owing to space limitations.

Church services: Sunday, 8am Holy Communion and 6.30pm Evensong, St Peter's Church Bridge; 9.30am Parish Communion, St Mary's Church Patrixbourne; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by Ron Chadwick.

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BRIDGE

Correspondent: John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury, CT4 5NA, phone 830260.

WI: Four visitors joined members at this month's meeting, to hear local author Ann Shirley's account of attempts to find the North West Passage. Ann who writes under the name of Ann Savours, is an authority on marine history having been Savours, is an authority on marine history having been at one time a curator at the Greenwich Maritime Museum.

When commencing her research on this particular book, she was able to carry this out at the reasonably short distance to Somerset House where the records were then stored. However during this period they were transferred to Canada, requiring a considerable longer journey.

The competition for March was won by Mrs Watson, and her animal ornament will go to the group meeting in April. There will be a bring and buy, coffee morning, on Saturday, April 8 in the village hall at 10am.

Next month the speaker will be Mrs Collins whose subject will be the Bayeux Tapestry and the competition will be a cross stitch

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Send your reports to: Villages, 9 St
George's Place, Canterbury, CT1 1UU,
by fax (01227 762415) or by e-mail
kentvillages@thekmgroupp.co.uk

card maximum size 4in by 3in.

Sale: A jumble sale will be held by Bridge Tennis Club, on Saturday, at 2pm in the village hall. Please take any unwanted toys, bric-a-brac, clothing and household goods (but not large pieces of furniture) on the morning between 10 and noon for sorting.

Show: The spring show of the Nailbourne Horticultural Society will be held in the village hall on Tuesday. The hall will be open at 6pm for members to have their exhibits staged by 7.15pm for judging.

There are 20 classes and schedules are available from Joan Stingemore show secretary on 830763 or Billie Anderson on 830260.

An all-day coach outing to Stowe, Bucks has been organised for Sunday, April 9, details from Ethel Cartwright on 831095.

A combined outing, open to members of both the Nailbourne and Barham and District Horticultural Societies, to Beth Chatto's Garden, Essex will take place on Saturday, May 20; pick up Bridge at 9am, coffee stop, take a picnic lunch; depart 4.30pm, back in Bridge 6.30pm.

Price per person is £15 including entry to the gardens; contact Liz Oakey on 832397 evenings and weekends.

Concert: There are still a few tickets left for the versatile Canzonet programme at St Peter's Church, Bridge at 8pm, on Wednesday, April 5. Tickets are £4, including refreshment, and are available from John Anderson 830260, Andrea Nicholson 830947 and the Canterbury Tourist and Information Office.

Gig: On Sunday evening Berkeley Square (The lighter side of jazz) are at the Red Lion Bridge.

Services: Sunday, 9.30am, Benefice Eucharist, St Peter's Church, Bridge. 11am, Mothering Sunday service at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. 11am, Bridge Methodist Church Service led by the Rev George Baugh.

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BEKESBOURNE

Correspondent: John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury, CT4 5NA, phone 830260.

Parish meeting: The annual parish meeting of Bekesbourne with Patricxbourne will be held in the village hall at 7.30pm, on Monday, April 10.

The speaker will be Ruth Goudie of the highways department, Canterbury council who will talk about traffic management in the villages.

There will be reports from the chairman of the parish council and from village groups, an opportunity to ask questions and discuss parish matters and refreshments afterwards. All parishioners are invited.