

Apr 19 2000

BRIDGE

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

Coffee: The fair and coffee morning held in aid of the Parish of Patricxbourne with Bridge last Saturday in the village hall, raised £400, in spite of the bad weather. The organisers thank all who helped and supported the event.

Pudding evening: This event, also in aid of the parish, is at 7pm on Saturday, May 6 in the Bridge Village Hall for an evening devoted to Puddings Old and New.

Cheese and biscuits will be served first, followed by a variety of puddings to sample. Coffee or tea will be served afterwards. Quizzes and raffles will also be held.

Tables of eight are planned; take own plates, cutlery, glasses, drinks and most importantly pudding bowls and spoons. Tickets at £5 are available from Pat Dunderdale, Sheila Fenn or Andrea Nicholson. If you have a favourite pudding that you can take contact Pat and let her know, on 830668.

Gigs: On Friday, Acoustic Grooves are at the White Horse Inn, Bridge, from 8pm. On Sunday evening Carousel K, Brian's free-for-all request show, is at the Red Lion, Bridge.

Church services: Easter Day, 8am Holy Communion and 11am Parish Communion, St Peter's Church, Bridge; 9.30am Parish Communion, St Mary's Church Patricxbourne; 11am Parish Communion St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 11am Bridge Methodist Church, Holy Communion, with the Rev George Baugh.

PARISH COUNCIL

Village seats: The seat situated outside the post office has again

been uprooted by vandals and has had to be removed for reasons of safety. A contractor has been appointed to re-install the seat most securely and the work is expected to be done within a few days.

A quotation is awaited for the installation of a second seat at the junction of Beech Hill and Bridge Hill and the third seat is to be returned to Green Court.

Local plan review: As a result of the local plan review, FPD Savills have notified the parish council that they have responded as representatives of Cantley Estates. Their response is to offer to make available land between the recreation ground and the by-pass in Patricxbourne Road, for housing and small, light industrial units.

The parish council has replied, reminding Savills that previously villagers were against such expansion outside the confines of the village and that there was no evidence of a change of opinion, in fact, quite the reverse. All responses to the local plan review will be made available for comment at the beginning of next year.

Cricket club: The parish council is pleased to welcome Exiles Cricket Club to the recreation ground for the forthcoming season. It is hoped that the club's association with the village will be a long and successful one.

Street lighting: There has been a spate of vandalism in the village recently resulting in damage to lighting columns. Each column costs in the region of £65 to repair and some repairs are being repeated within two months. Such incidents of vandalism are to be reported to the police in future.

District/parish surgeries: The chairman of the parish council was pleased to join Cllr Bill Oakey at his surgery, held at the Methodist Church Hall in March. These are to be a regular feature of village life, taking place at the above venue on the third Saturday of alternate months. A parish councillor will join Cllr Oakey on each occasion.

Planning applications: The following applications had been received and commented upon by the planning sub-committee: Re-locatable office at Corralls, Union Road. There were objections on the grounds that too many employees already park in Union Road causing inconvenience to residents many of whom do not have drives or garages, and that temporary buildings are unsuitable placed so close to conservation areas.

Single storey rear and two-storey side extensions, and dormer windows to front and rear of 44 Western Avenue. There were objections on the grounds that such a large extension was not in keeping with the surrounding properties.

April 19th 2000

BISHOPSBOURNE

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

Parish meeting: Concerns about low flying aircraft from increased use of Manston airport were expressed at the annual parish meeting last Wednesday.

It was claimed that the Nailbourne Valley, in which the village lies, could become a flight path under certain weather conditions, with planes flying as low as 1,500 ft.

Several villagers were worried about any increase in noise pollution from the airport's expansion.

The chairman Cllr Malcolm Mitchell, said the council, along with its neighbours and the city and county councils, would be keeping a close watch on the developing situation.

Two villagers were worried about the "fall-out" from burning plastic rubbish at Highland Court fruit packing centre. They were asked to keep a log and gather evidence so that the council could take action if necessary.

The chairman said, in response to another complaint, that the council would continue to press with vigour the illegal occupation of a mobile home at Bourne Park. It will try to hasten the service of an enforcement notice by the city council.

In his annual report, the chairman outlined the principal matters which had occupied the council during the year.

These mainly concerned the playing field, which had been offered as a gift to the village by Richard Neame. Negotiations were continuing and the matter would be on the agenda for the council's annual meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 7.30pm in the village hall.

Also on the agenda would be Mr Neame's second offer of a piece of land at the entrance to St Mary's

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Also on the agenda would be Mr Neame's second offer of a piece of land at the entrance to St Mary's Church.

Emergency repairs were being carried out to the children's slide at a cost of £250 (plus VAT), towards which the village hall trustees had offered to pay £100.

The city council had agreed to make a grant of £15,000 to completely replace all the equipment on the playing field and provide a safety surface in the year 2002/3 and a working party would be set up in due course to decide on the equipment to be purchased.

Cllr Mitchell invited the public to inspect plans for the new playing equipment and let the council have their views.

Lesley Sinnock reported on courses she had attended in connection with her post of pond warden and described what the position involved. Mrs Sinnock introduced Paul Mount, whom it is proposed should become pond warden for Bishopsbourne.

Finally, Cllr Mitchell paid tribute to the work done by his predecessor, Cllr John Graham, who was also parish clerk for some years, and presented him with a bottle of fine wine.

Treasurer: The Conrad Hall management committee is seeking a new treasurer. Anyone wishing to take over the post should phone the retiring treasurer, Colin Baker, on 01227 830715 or attend the hall trustees' annual meeting in the village hall on Wednesday, May 3, at 7.30pm.

Easter services: There will be only one service at St Mary's during Easter Communion at 8am on Easter Day.

Otherwise, parishioners are invited to attend services in any of the three other parishes in the united benefice: Communion, 7.30pm, tomorrow (Thursday), St John's, Barham. Friday, 11am, An Hour Before the Cross, Barham; 7.30pm, Anthology for Good Friday, St

KG April 19th 2000

Giles', Kingston.

Easter Day: 9.30am Communion, Womenswold; 11am Family Service followed by Communion, Barham; 6pm, Communion, Kingston.

On Sunday, April 30, at 11am there will be a joint Eucharist for the whole benefice at Bishopsbourne. A half-hour's prayer time of intercession for God's help in selecting a new Rector to succeed the Rev Alan Duke, will be held from 7.45pm, on Thursday, May 11.

The prayer group will be leading similar sessions in all three other parishes.

BRIDGE

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

Gardeners: Nailbourne Horticultural Society's meeting will be on Thursday, May 4 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church, when the speaker, William Friend from Thanet will talk about Mediterranean plants for the garden. As always, non-members are also welcome.

Fun race night: See Bekesbourne news.

Gig: Tomorrow (Friday) evening Bootleg Blooze are at the Red Lion, Bridge.

Church news: On Sunday, benefice Eucharist only is at 10.30am, at St Mary's, Patricbourne. The 11am Bridge Methodist Church service will be led by Alan Thorn.

The way of The Cross walk from St Peter's, Bridge to St Peter's, Bekesbourne via St Mary's, Patricbourne was well attended. The reciting of one of the three main Passions in each church made it a moving experience for all who attended.

The licensing of the new Priest-in-Charge, the Rev Paul James Filmer, for the benefice of the parishes of Patricbourne with Bridge, Bekesbourne, Lower Hardres and Nackington will be conducted by the Bishop of Dover, on Tuesday, May 2, at St Peter's, Bridge. Admission is strictly by ticket only and the list is now closed.

WI: At the April meeting, Mrs Collins recounted the story depicted on the Bayeux Tapestry, illustrated by slides. The competition for a cross-stitch card was won by Jean Foster.

The resolutions meeting is on Tuesday, May 16 when the speaker is Tweedie Hills, and her subject My Life with Auntie. The competition is a bloom from the garden.

April 27th 2000

BEKESBOURNE

Correspondent: John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury CT4 5NA, phone 01227 830260.

Parish meeting: At the annual parish meeting of Bekesbourne with Patribourne, the guest speaker was Ruth Goudie, area traffic engineer with the highways department, Canterbury council. Mrs Goudie gave a talk on cycling in the Canterbury district and answered questions on traffic management in the parish.

The discussion which ensued was lively and at times heated, with many of the parishioners expressing strong views about the speed and quantity of traffic through the parish.

Mrs Goudie outlined the proposal to impose a 40mph speed limit on Bekesbourne Lane and Station Road in addition to the existing 30mph stretch at Patribourne.

The chairman Cllr John Ash, explained that the parish council had been in discussion with the city council and had drawn up a traffic management plan, but it seems likely that KCC budgetary constraints would mean that only some of the proposals would be implemented in the coming year.

The meeting resolved "that Canterbury City Council should take note of the parish council's representations".

There were reports from the following village groups: Bekesbourne Aerodrome Residents' Association, Bekesbourne Sports Club, Neighbourhood Watch, the Friends of Bekesbourne Church, the two parochial church councils, the management committees for both the village hall and the recreation ground and from the Millennium committee.

Cllr Bill Oakey gave a report as city councillor and Cllr Martin Vye sent a county councillor's report.

In his chairman's report, Cllr Ash said the parish council had a capital sum resulting from the sale of the land at Cranmer Close which was available to spend on a "good capital project". He also reported that the parish had been granted a Millennium award to fund the photographic exhibition and the installation of two heritage boards and a footpath map.

Recreation ground: The annual meeting of the management committee will take place on Tuesday, May 2, at 7.30pm in the sports pavilion.

Parish photograph: The village fun day to be held at the recreation ground on Saturday, June 17 will start with a Millennium photograph at 1pm. All parishioners are invited to participate.

Exhibition: Images of the Parish Past and Present will be held in the village hall on Saturday and Sunday, from 10.30am to 4pm. Entry is free and refreshments provided by the Friends of Bekesbourne Church, will be available.

Race night: A fun race night will be held at the village hall on Saturday, May 13, 7 for 7.30pm, first race 7.40pm. Tickets are £5 (to include race programme and "bookmaker's" supper). Please take own drinks and glasses.

The event is sponsored by the CCCA North Nailbourne ward.

For further details or to book tickets phone either 831009 or 832397.

Service: A benefice Eucharist will be held at St Mary's, Patricbourne at 10.30am on Sunday.

April 27th 2000

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BISHOPSBOURNE

Correspondent: Malcolm Mitchell,
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Parish church: Many members of the congregation will be attending the united benefice's farewell to the Rector Canon Alan Duke, and his wife Mary, in The Barn, Kingston, tomorrow (Friday), at 7.30pm.

After eight years in the parish (also as Rector of Barham, Kingston and Womenswold), Mr Duke becomes chaplain to the Bishop of Canterbury the Rt Rev Stephen Venner, a post he takes up on Tuesday.

While the search goes on for a successor, services in the four parishes will be conducted by a team of local, mainly retired, clergy and the readers, Mary Ambrose and Lizzie Hopthrow.

For parish matters, arrangements for visits, weddings, baptisms and funerals, the churchwardens should be contacted. In Bishopsbourne they are Lora Kenyon (phone 830950) and Gill Applin (700693).

On Sunday the Rector will conduct his last service in the four parishes - joint Eucharist at St Mary's, Bishopsbourne, at 11am.

Village hall: The annual meeting of the Conrad Hall management

committee will be held in the hall at 8pm on Wednesday, May 3. The trustees are appealing for someone to take the post of treasurer which is being relinquished by Colin Baker.

Cricket: Bishopsbourne Cricket club, which this year celebrates its 21st birthday is appealing for new playing members. Anyone interested is urged to attend the regular nets held on Thursday evenings from 6 at the Charlton Park ground.

Alternatively contact any of the following: Geoff Street (01227 830822), chairman John Braithwaite (721968), fixtures secretary Adrian Gilson (01304 840062); secretary Steve Clerk (01227 732389) or the treasurer, Colin Relf, at the Mermaid Inn (01227 830581).

The club plays about 20 home matches a season, mainly on Sundays. First match this season is at home to Elham Valley on Bank Holiday Monday, at 2pm.

The 21st anniversary will be celebrated with a four-day festival from Thursday, July 27, to Sunday, July 30, when there will be an Old v New Bishopsbourne match (27th); plus opposition provided by St Lawrence and Highland Court (28th), Welford (29th) and Nelson (30th).

Walk: A bluebell walk is being held on Sunday, leaving Reeds Mill, Kingston, at 2.30pm. The walk will be led by Charles Fagg.

Sunshine: Villagers are invited to a coffee morning in aid of Operation Sunshine (sending relief containers overseas) at 42 Heathfield Way, Barham, from 10 to noon, with a bring and buy, cakes and toiletries. Raffle prizes are requested.

DELETED April 27th