

NOV. 13th 2001

BRIDGE

Correspondent: J Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, CT4 5NA

Fair: The autumn fair held in the village hall last Saturday raised £475 for the parish of Patricbourne with Bridge.

This was a much appreciated increase on the previous two years.

The churchwardens and fund-raising committee thank all who gave their time to help, and also those who attended the event.

Wisdom: A wine and wisdom evening is to be organised by the parish in Bridge Village Hall, on Saturday, November 10, at 7pm.

The cost will be £5 per person or £40 for a table of eight.

A light supper will be provided but participants are asked to bring their own plates, cutlery, drinks and glasses.

Book tickets by phoning Pat Dunderdale on 830668, or Andrea Nicholson 830947.

School: After months of waiting, the new building at the school is finally in use.

The children have settled in quickly and are enjoying the light airy accommodation.

Work on extensions to the main building is still going on, but should be completed in the next few weeks.

The annual meeting of the Parents' and Friends' Association was held recently. Mrs C. Hewitt (chairman), Mrs A. Carmichael (vice-chairman), and Mrs R. Beeching (secretary) have now left the committee and together with other retiring members, were thanked for their hard work.

A new committee was formed and officers elected for the coming year.

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The most recent event organised by the PFA was a successful family walk, and a programme for the coming year was discussed.

After the meeting, parents were taken on a tour of the new building.

National Poetry Day was marked by children throughout the school listening to and composing poems which they shared with others.

Years five and six enjoyed workshops with poet Michael Curtis writing on a theme of Opposites.

These were organised in conjunction with, and funded by, the Canterbury Festival.

In a poetry competition, held as part of the festival, prizes were won by Bronte Denning, Beatrice Perks and Alistair McKeever.

A book week was held just before half term.

Children took part in a variety of activities and competitions and were able to buy books from a scholastic book fair.

They enjoyed listening to a storyteller and an author.

The week concluded with a props day and a whole school assembly at which the week's work was celebrated.

Youth group: The parish council is interested in exploring the possibility of launching a youth group for young adults in the village.

This has been discussed for sometime by other organisations locally.

Young people are asked to say what they would like to have in the village and whether they would be interested in attending an open meeting on the subject.

Contact Pam Dobson on 832369 or Paul Filmer on 830250 with thoughts and views.

Morris dancers: The Oyster Group is holding basic practice sessions for men every Monday at The Mill Centre, Mill Lane, Bridge, from 8.30pm to 10pm.

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The ladies meet in Canterbury. For further information ring 01227 722332.

Coach outings: The 2002 programme for coach outings from Bridge is now available.

Covering a wide range of interests, many of the more popular events are soon fully booked.

For prices and further details ring D&E Travel, on 01227 830195.

Neighbourhood watch: Bogus electricity meter readers are in the area. All genuine ones will know the number on the front of your meter without being let in.

Gig: On Friday evening, November 2, jazz duo Hardy and Guntrip are at the White Horse, Bridge.

Bike ride: The ride sponsored for the Friends of Kent Churches and St Mary's Patrixbourne raised £319.

Pauline Pritchard thanks riders Marian Harlow, Chris and Rosemary Hoare, David Morgan and Viv Pritchard and those who helped to keep a warm welcome in spite of adverse conditions created by flooding around the church.

Remembrance Sunday: This year the Bridge group will hold acts of Remembrance at both Bridge and Lower Hardres.

The St Peter's Church family service, will commence round the Bridge War Memorial at 10.50am.

At Lower Hardres a short service will be held at the war memorial immediately following the 9.30am service at St Mary's Church, Nackington.

All are welcome to attend the memorials regardless of attendance at the associated church services.

Church services: Sunday, November 4: 8am, BCP communion, the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Mary's Church Patrixbourne.

10am communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bridge.

Other services in the Bridge Group: 10am, family service, Mrs P. Kusel, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.

10am communion, the Rev R. Humphries, St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres.

11am Bridge Methodist Church ser-

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Council: The parish council will meet at 7.30pm on Thursday, November 8, in the Hunter Room of the village hall.

Legion: The next meeting of the Royal British Legion branch will be at 8pm, on Tuesday, November 13, at the Plough and Harrow Bridge.

The branch remembrance parade and service will be held at Ickham Church on Sunday, November 11.

The parade will assemble at 10.45am outside the lychgate.

FISH: The next coffee pop-in will be on Wednesday, November 14, from 10am to 11.15am.

Children: A coffee morning, bring and buy, cake stall and raffle will be held at Mansfield Court, Riverside Close, at 10.30am on Friday, November 16, for Children in Need.

Cards delivery: The Nailbourne Scout Group is organising a Christmas card delivery again this year, but for Bridge village only.

Special stamps priced at 10p, and decorated Christmas posting boxes will be at the following locations from December 6 to 20: Laurie Wakeham (butcher), Bridge News (newsagent), Plough and Harrow, White Horse, Nicholas James (hairdresser), Bridgeway Stores.

The boxes will be emptied regularly and all stamped mail clearly and correctly addressed will be delivered before Christmas.

The Scouts regret that they are unable to deliver any cards taken to their post boxes after December 20.

Parish plan: It is now some six years since the last village appraisal took place and parishes are now being encouraged to produce parish plans to look to the needs of their community in the future.

The plan would address issues such as housing, services, the village hall, transport, businesses, recycling and should include an action plan that not only identifies local need but proposes a way to address it.

The parish council is beginning to find out how to approach such a plan, but to set out a vision for Bridge, to guide its future development, everyone needs to have an opportunity to contribute.

It will be a long-term project and

ing for it in a variety of ways in the coming year.

The publishing of a parish newsletter, the village directory, the development of open meetings, allows the council to begin a dialogue with residents and hopefully foster links for the future.

History society: The September talk on Unknown Canterbury was followed by a guided walk around Canterbury when members sought out some of the intriguing and unnoticed things pointed out to them in Dereck Butler's slide lecture.

They also visited the Eastbridge Hospital, the Greyfriars and the Heritage Museum, a full but enjoyable programme.

On Tuesday, November 27, Anthea Bryant will be giving a talk on Nelson, including some of his associations in Kent.

This will be at 7.30pm in the village hall, followed by tea and biscuits. New members would be welcomed.

Gig: On Friday evening, November 9, Magenta, a mainstream jazz band with a female vocalist, perform at the White Horse.

Wisdom: There will be a wine and wisdom evening, organised by the parish of Patricxbourne with Bridge, at 7pm on Saturday, November 10, in Bridge Village Hall.

There are still a few tables of eight left at £40 (or £5 per head) both inclusive of a light supper.

Bookings are through Pat Dunderdale, on 01227 830668 or Andrea Nicholson, 01227 830947.

Neighbourhood watch: Each week there are reports of burglaries in villages around Canterbury. The long dark evenings increase the risk.

Residents can reduce the risk by having security lights and electric timers to switch lights on and off when the building is unoccupied.

They can also buy electric light fittings which switch lights on automatically as it gets dark. They fit into existing fittings and are available at DIY stores.

Outings: For D&E Travel coach outings from Bridge, the inquiries and booking number is 01227 831095 and not as given wrongly last week.

Church: Health and healing, 7 Windmill Close, Bridge, 7pm Thursday, November 8.

Caring and sharing ladies group coffee and chat, Bridge Vicarage, 7.30pm, Monday, November 12.

After Eights Group, 10 Union Road, Bridge, 8pm Tuesday, November 13.

Wednesday, November 14.

Services: November 11, remembrance Sunday: 10am matins, Dr A. Nicholson, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne.

10.50am, war memorial and family service, the Rev P. Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bridge.

Other churches in the Bridge Group: 9am BCP communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.

9.30am, communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Mary's Church, Nackington.

10.50am, remembrance at the Lower Hardres war memorial, Mrs M. Clarke.

11am Bridge Methodist Church Service led by Mrs B. Skinner.

Nov. 17th 2001**BRIDGE**

Correspondent: J Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, CT4 5NA

Playgroup: The village playgroup has a Christmas fair in the village hall on Saturday, November 17, from 10am to 12.30pm.

There will be stalls, Christmas gifts, cakes, tombola, lucky dip and a raffle. Refreshments will be available.

Parish council: FPD Savills has advised that the allotments have not yet been cleared and are not likely to be ready in the near future due to lack of funding.

It was agreed that the clerk should write to FPD Savills stating the interest expressed by a number of villagers who wish to have allotments, and asking for the matter to be given a high priority.

It was agreed that the clerk should write to the City Council to request more parking attendants' presence in the village, as cars were still being parked on the hatched area of the pedestrian crossing.

Kent Highways had advised that the anti-skid surfacing should be completed in the next few weeks and that it was reluctant to erect priority signs, as the normal convention of motoring is that the motorist with the obstruction on his side of the road gives way.

Kent Highways said a large number of complaints about the scheme had been received but it was not yet finished and it would prefer to wait to review the scheme in its entirety.

The initial findings were that traffic speeds had reduced considerably on the southbound approach to Conyngham Lane but this will have to be measured again once the scheme is completed.

Cllr Monk reported that the additional trees requested should arrive shortly.

It was agreed that one of the new ash trees should be used to replace a cherry tree in the recreation ground which needs to be removed, as it is dead.

The clerk was requested to write to the Women's Institute who provided the tree originally to advise them that it was to be removed to avoid it infecting other cherry trees around it and that it would be replaced with the ash.

It was agreed that work should be carried out on a sycamore tree and the cherry tree in the recreation ground and a horsechestnut tree in Western Avenue.

Cllr Walder reported that there were a total of 25 requests for Christmas trees this year and that £185 in donations had been received.

The trees had been ordered and it was proposed to plant them on the last Saturday in November.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks would be sent to everyone who had made donations.

It was reported that the art exhibition held in the village hall in aid of the Disabled Access Fund had been a success and was greatly enjoyed.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Cllr Corfield and his team for all their efforts in organising the event.

As part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations in 2002, it was confirmed that the combined church and school fete is to be held on June 22, 2002.

It was unanimously agreed to cover any losses up to £750.

The following new applications have been received and are being considered: Ca/01/Temp/L, replacement building, Bridge After School Club and Woodpecker Nursery, Conyngham Lane, Bridge; Cal01/0136/Bri, demolition of internal wall, Flat 4, Bridge Hill House, Higham Lane, Bridge; Ca/01/1116/Bri, change of use to garden and formation of new vehicular access land adjacent to Field House, Station Road, Bridge.

WI: The annual meeting of the Nailbourne WI branch will be held in the village hall on Tuesday, November 20, at 7.30pm, followed by a quiz. There will be no competition.

Jubilee: An inaugural meeting to form a committee, and also, to plan for celebrations in Bridge to mark this special occasion next year, is to be held in the upstairs room of the Plough and Harrow, High Street, Bridge on Tuesday, November 20, at 8pm.

It is to be hoped that every organisation in the village will send a representative to this important meeting, plus, any other interested parties who would like to become involved.

For any inquiries contact Tony Walder on 830057.

Wisdom: The quiz to raise funds for the parish of Patribourne with Bridge in the village hall on Saturday, November 10, raised more than £440. The churchwardens and their helpers thank all who supported the event.

Watch: There have been reports of two burglaries in Bridge this week.

In one, thieves gained access through an insecure window. Remember to lock all doors and windows when you go out.

Also the police are on the look-out for a white Transit van, registration S196XHE.

If you see it or know its location, please let the police know on 762055.

Gig: On Friday evening, November 16, the Colin Welch Super Jazz will play at the White Horse, Bridge.

Church services: Sunday, November 18, second before advent, 10am choral eucharist, the Rev Gordon Manley, St Peter's Church, Bridge. There is no service at St Mary's Church, Patribourne, this Sunday.

Other Churches in the Bridge Group: 8am BCP communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Mary's Church, Nackington; 10am family service Mrs M. Clarke, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 10am Holy Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 11am Bridge Methodist Church, service led by the Rev P. Cornish.

NOV. 22nd 2001

BRIDGE

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Poppy Appeal: The organiser for Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bishopsbourne would like to record his sincere thanks to those who donated a total of £1,481 towards this year's appeal. The Royal British Legion is grateful to all who gave time and money to the cause.

Coffee morning: The coffee morning in aid of Children in Need held at Mansfield Court last week raised £88. Kate would like to thank all who helped and supported it.

Red Lion: There are encouraging signs after a disastrous start for new landlord John Lemming, who took over the pub from Andrew Hills early last January. The building was almost immediately made completely untenable, due to the flooding of the Nailbourne river, further complicated by the emission of raw sewage.

The premises were unsuitable to continue trading, and have stood derelict in the centre of the village throughout the year, while negotiations were conducted for reconstruction, it being one of the oldest buildings in Bridge.

Suddenly last week, a great hive of activity began to restore the inn, much to the relief of those in the village who are not only looking for the return of an alternative watering hole, but also to an additional dining facility, as well as giving the benefit of removing what has recently become a village eyesore. The work is estimated to be completed in six weeks by December 21, although, at present it is not clear whether it will be open for Christmas or early in the New Year.

Gig: On Friday evening, November 23, the John Doe Band will play at the White Horse, Bridge.

Church news: The Works is a group of young people aged from five upwards from across the

Bridge group of parishes. They meet on the fourth Sunday of every month and spend time together doing craft, drama, music, outings, enjoying each other's company and having fun!

Each week they have a number of activities to do, and can choose which ones they take part in. They would like to hear if anyone has any ideas. They are sometimes invited by the churches to share some of their activities in the family services. The next date is in Bridge Church on Sunday, November 25, at 10am to 11.15am for drama, Christmas crafts and singing. For details contact Martin and Sue Leggatt on 830251 or Emma Medhurst on 830762.

Caring and Sharing: The Women's Group meets at Bridge Vicarage at 7.30pm on Monday, November 26. After Eights meet at 10 Union Road, Bridge, on Tuesday, November 27 at 8pm, NADFAS at Bridge Church at 10am on Wednesday, November 28.

Church services: Sunday, November 25, Christ the King. 8am BCP Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bridge; 10am Holy Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne. Other churches in the Bridge Group, 9.30am Holy Communion the Rev R. Diss St Mary's Church Nackington; 3pm Evensong Mrs M. Clarke and Rev P. Filmer, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church Service, led by Ms J. Hall.

Nelson: The next meeting of Bridge and District History Society will be at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday, November 27, when Anthea Bryant, a previous speaker to the society, will give a talk on Nelson and his association with Kent and this area in particular. The great sailor and Admiral was a frequent visitor to this part of the world, calling on his many friends in the great houses of the district. Members £1, non-members £3, including refreshments.

FISH news: The Christmas coffee pop-in in Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday, December 12 from 10 to 11.15am. Also the local chiropody clinic will run between December 3 and 5. Lifts can be arranged by phoning Ann Medhurst on 830762. For those who have difficulty getting out to shop, The Ultimate Plum Pudding Company makes beautifully presented puddings which are sold to raise funds for L'Arche homes for the disabled. Puddings of 1lb are £4.50 and 2lb are £8. Phone

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

Closure: A length of the High Street from below Station Road to above Union Road will be closed overnight on Sunday, December 2, for a new anti-skid surface to be put down.

Senior citizens: An invitation has been made to an afternoon of entertainment on Friday, December 14, from 1.45 to 3.15pm at Bridge and Patricbourne CEP School. Refreshments will be served. Contact Mrs E. Andrews on 830276 if you wish to attend or need transport.

Gardeners: Nailbourne Horticultural Society's annual social will be on Tuesday, December 4, at 7.30pm, in the village hall. Mrs J. Snashell will demonstrate seasonal arrangements and help members make their own. She has suggested that they take the following: favourite Christmas container or other container, Oasis (already soaked), foliage suitable for Christmas (fresh or silk), candle(s), pine cones, any other decoration they may wish to use, wires, oasis

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tape, and she will have a selection of ribbons. The society will have holly, ivy and pine cones for those who cannot take their own.

There will be a charge of £2 per person for the evening, which will include seasonal refreshments. Members, friends and non-members are all welcome.

Post: Nailbourne Scout Group is operating its Christmas card delivery service again this year for Bridge village only, from December 6 to 20. Special stamps (at 10p) and decorated Christmas boxes are available at: Laurie Wakeham (Butcher), Bridge Newsagent, Plough and Harrow Inn, White Horse Inn, Nicholas James (Hairdresser) and Bridgeway Stores. The boxes will be emptied regularly and all stamped mail clearly and correctly addressed will be delivered before Christmas. They regret that they will be unable to deliver any cards taken to the boxes after December 20.

Decorations: The now annual illuminated Christmas trees have been erected down both sides of the High Street.

Cllr's Mervyn Gulvin and Tony Walder and their team of volunteers organised and completed the installation.

WI: At the November meeting of the Bridge with Patricxbourne group, Wendy Durrell explained the method of parchment craft which she learned at her recent visit to Denman College, and showed examples of her work.

Evelyn Oxlade was re-elected president and Beryl Heap and Eileen Davis continued as secretary and treasurer respectively. On the earlier date of Tuesday, December 11, at 7.30pm in the village hall Mr C. Wade will speak on the Smugglers of Kent. The competition is for a Christmas table decoration. Members are asked to take a plate of food and a glass, as well as a raffle prize.

Gig: On Friday evening, November 30, Keith James, vocalist and guitarist, will be at the White Horse, Bridge.

Carols: The Primary School invites everyone to an evening of Christmas carols with the Salvation Army Band, on Monday, December 3, at 7.30pm in the school hall. Refreshments will be served. Admission by ticket £1 available from the school office, phone 01227 830276.

Appeal: An appeal for a sponsor by the parish council to plant up and maintain the second traffic calming area at the north end of the village has so far fallen on stony ground! (in fact the soil is quite good with a little help). The cost of plants will be contributed by the parish if necessary.

Now would be the time for someone to make a name for themselves, particularly as, after the winter flowering, it is hoped to plant a good patriotic display for the jubilee year.

Contact the parish clerk, Mrs McCombe, on 01303 862814 or any member of the parish council, who would also like to thank Cllr Bill Oakey and his wife Liz for all their enthusiastic work in planting up

the second bed.

Celebrations: An inaugural meeting to discuss setting up a committee for the election of officers and members to a Village Golden Jubilee celebration next year was held at the Plough and Harrow. It was decided that the format might be very similar to the events held for the Millennium Year. These were built around the Parish/PFA fete at the school, and were successful in providing a great variety of entertainment to suit every taste, throughout the day.

There were also other activities on the Friday and Sunday surrounding that date, which next year will be on Saturday, June 22. Alan Walton of the White Horse Inn, who chaired the previous committee, was unanimously elected chairman. As it is imperative that as many organisations in the village should be represented, it was decided to call a further meeting at the White Horse on Tuesday, December 4, at 8pm, for the election of officers and to receive ideas, offers of help and generally plan the event.

Neighbourhood Watch: Villagers are warned to be careful if using the car park at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. There has been a number of cars broken into recently.

Church services: Sunday, December 2 Advent One, 8am BCP Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne. 10am Holy Communion, the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Peter's Church, Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge Group: 11am Family Service, Mrs P. Kusel St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, 10am Holy Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres. 11am Bridge Methodist Church (Toy Service) led by the Rev D. Lugg.