

May 2nd 2002

BRIDGE

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

Treasure Hunt: A contest in aid of the parish of Patricxbourne with Bridge will start from Bridge Village Hall at 4.45pm on Saturday, May 11. Tickets at £2.50 for adults, £1 for children, to include a ploughman's supper after the competition, are available from Pat Dunderdale phone 01227 830668 or Ros Beeching, 831027. For those entering with children, there is a separate set of questions suitable

for the younger entries to run concurrently with the main set of clues.

Parish council: The next meeting will be in the Hunter Room of the village hall on Thursday, May 9 at 7.30pm. All parishioners are welcome.

Church news: After four and a half years of planning, preparation by the churchwardens, PCC secretaries and with the blessing of the incumbents, delicate negotiations not only between the Diocese, Diocesan architects, English Heritage, and the Friends of Victorian Churches for suitable plans to enable them to raise funds for the maintenance and re-ordering of St Peter's Church, Bridge, are at last beginning to bear fruit. It is rewarding for all who have been involved to hear that they have now received two generous donations towards this project.

Dates: Tuesday, May 7 After Eights Group meet at 10 Union Road at 8pm; Wednesday May 8 NADFAS at Bridge Church 10am; Ears and Beers at the Plough and Harrow, Bridge, during the evening; Thursday, May 9, Junior Confirmation at the Vicarage 5.30pm.

Neighbourhood Watch: It has been reported that companies selling alarm systems and environmental controls are making unsolicited calls on householders and suggesting that their products are endorsed by the police or by Neighbourhood Watch. Please be aware that Neighbourhood Watch, the police and the council do not endorse any company or service. Police and Trading Standards advise that you should never buy from doorstep callers. Always get three quotes for any work you wish to have done.

Fish news: The Cornelia Slawin Blossom Tour, organised by the Fish Scheme, will take place on Thursday, May 9, inquiries to Mavis Parsons on 01227 832042. The fund-raising coffee morning and bring and buy will be on Saturday, May 18 from 10am in the village hall. This is a great opportunity for gardeners to bring their surplus plants and buy other people's. There will also be a cake stall. This year instead of the usual June coffee pop-in, members are planning a Jubilee lunch on Wednesday June 12 from 12.30 to 2.15pm in the village hall. There will be more details at the May Coffee Pop-In. The next Chiropody Clinic runs from June 3 to 5, phone Mrs Warren on 01227 830233 for more details.

Award: Billie Anderson, a long-term inhabitant of the village, was presented at the Tower House ceremony last Thursday with a

Lord Mayor's Award Scheme certificate in recognition of her good work in the local community. Shortly to be 80, she has been involved with nursing from 1939 to 1998. Starting her pre-nursing training at the Hostel of God Clapham Common (now known as the Trinity Hospice), she trained in London at the Royal Northern Holloway Road during the Blitz, before moving back to East Kent after the war, where she worked at various times in The Old Close, Bridge, and later in Canterbury at Nunnery Fields and the Kent and Canterbury hospitals. After reaching NHS retirement age she started a new full-time career at the Chaucer Hospital, finally retiring on a part-time basis in 1998. In spite of this she has found the time to serve 12 years on the parish council, and will by next year, have completed 12 years as a school governor at Bridge Primary School.

At other times she has served on the Parochial Church Council and the Deanery Synod, and is still an active committee member of The Nailbourne Horticultural Society. It has also been known for her to unobtrusively render advice and care to some of the more elderly and infirm of the area, in some cases younger than herself.

Christian Aid: During the week May 12-19, red envelopes will be dropping on to the doormat once again as time for the house to house collection comes round. Last year more than £1,200 was raised and organisers hope that you will be able to support the work just as generously this year. If you are a tax payer and indicate this on the envelope, an extra sum can be claimed from the tax man with no further effort on your part! The work of Christian Aid is needed just as desperately this year and for a variety of projects to enable many people to live a basic existence with enough to eat and clean water to drink. If you would like to join the growing band of collectors, even if you can only deliver and collect a few envelopes, your help will be much appreciated. Phone Chris Hoare on 832447.

First Aid: Barry Whiting's evening demonstration of emergency first aid in the village hall was much appreciated. With two other important meetings in the village on the same night, however, many who wanted to attend were unable to do so. It is therefore proposed to repeat the demonstration at a later date.

Fair profit: The Book, Puzzle and Video fair in the village hall raised £285. The organisers thank all who supported it.

Fund-raising: An event for CHEK supporting the Kent and

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Canterbury Hospital is to be held at the Red Lion Inn, Bridge, on Friday evening May 10. There will be live music with Little Rock.

Surgery: Country Cllr Martin Vye will be at the village hall from 10am-noon on Saturday, May 4. All those within his area who wish to discuss any queries or problems are welcome.

Church Services: Sunday, May 5
Easter 6, 8am BCP Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Mary's Church, Patixbourne; 10am Holy Communion, the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Peter's Church, Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge Group, 10am Holy Communion, Mr Filmer, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres. No service at St Mary's Church, Nackington. Rogation Walk, Bekesbourne; 11am Bridge Methodist Church, service led by Miss J. Hall.

BROAD OAK

Correspondent: Dianne Stingemore, 10 Pleydell Crescent, Sturry. 01227 710851

Jumble: Contributions are being sought for a jumble sale being held by Broad Oak Women's Institute from 2pm on Saturday, May 11, in the Village Hall.

To arrange collection or find out more phone 01227 711402 or 01227 711200. Admission is 10p.

May 9th 2002

BRIDGE

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

Jubilee mugs: The manufacturers of the Golden Jubilee mugs have told the parish council that, owing to the level of demand, they will not be able to supply the village order until the middle of July and apologise for any inconvenience. An announcement will be made as soon as they are available.

Safari supper: As part of the Jubilee celebrations, a Safari Supper within the village is planned for June 15. A few spaces are still available so it is not too late to join in.

Everyone taking part will meet for drinks at the beginning of the evening and then for coffee at the end. In between, each pair will host one of three courses in their home and go to two other homes for the other two courses! Each supper party will consist of six people, and these will change for each course. To book a place on the evening or to find out more about it, phone Lesley Forwood, on 01227 832175 after 6pm or at weekends.

FISH Scheme: A fund-raising coffee morning will be held in the village hall on Saturday, May 18, from 10-11.30am.

Bring and buy: A sale will be held in Mansfield Court on Saturday, May 11, at 10.30am in aid of CHEK (Concern for Health in East Kent), which has Julian Brazier, MP for Canterbury as patron. The organisers thank all who have donated gifts in support of the event including Bridgeway Stores, Laurie Wakeham Butchers, White Horse Inn, Bridge Bakery, Post Office, Nick James Hairdresser and Mrs Penny Spencer.

Surgery: City Cllr Bill Oakey will be available to discuss any queries or problems that parishioners of Bridge or Bishopsbourne might have. There will also be a Bridge parish councillor available. They will be in the Methodist Church, Patrixbourne Road, on Saturday,

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May 18, from 10-11.45am.

Barn Dance: A dance in aid of CHEK (Concern for health in East Kent) will be held in the hall of the Primary School on Friday, May 17, at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5, take your own refreshments. For more details phone 01795 536635 or 01227 832058. Tickets are also available from the Bridgeway Stores. The funds raised will help to continue the fight to maintain a full range of services, including A&E, at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

Reminder: A fund-raiser evening for CHEK will also be held at the Red Lion Inn, with live music, on Friday, May 10.

Church news: Bridge Caring and Sharing Group meets on Monday, May 13, for a make-up evening at 62 Strangers Lane, Canterbury; senior confirmation at the Vicarage at 8pm on Monday, May 13; Deanery Confirmation service, Wingham 7.30pm; Junior Confirmation at the Vicarage, 5.30pm, Thursday, May 9.

Church Services: Sunday, May 12, Easter 7: 10am St Mary's Church, Patricbourne, Matins Mrs M. Clarke, Mr R. Steadman; 11am St Peter's Church, Bridge, Family Service the Rev P. Filmer and 6pm Evensong, Mrs M. Clarke and Mr Filmer. Other churches in the Bridge group 8am BCP Communion, Mr Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bekebsourne; 9.30am Holy Communion, Mr Filmer, St Mary's Church, Nackington. No service at Lower Hardres. 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by the Rev P. Cornish.

May 16th 2002
BRIDGE

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

WI: Bridge with Patrixbourne branch will meet in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday, May 21, at 7.30pm, when the resolutions will be discussed. There will be no speaker and the competition will be for a bloom from your garden.

Woodpeckers: The pre-school group will hold its spring fair on Saturday, May 25, from 11.30am to 2.30pm at the Bridge and Patrixbourne School, Conyngham Lane, Bridge. There will be lots of stalls, barbecue, tombola, raffle, cakes and refreshments.

FISH scheme: The annual fund-raising coffee morning will be held in the village hall on Saturday, May 18, from 10-11.30am. All are welcome.

Boules: Elham Valley's Whit Sunday melee is at 11am at the Petanque Terrain, The Green, Elham. All are welcome.

Church News: Monday, May 20, Senior Confirmation at the Vicarage 8pm; Tuesday, May 21, After Eights Group at 10 Union Road, 8pm; Wednesday, May 22, NADFAS at Bridge Church, 10am; Thursday, May 23, Junior Confirmation at the Vicarage, 5.30pm.

PARISH COUNCIL: At the May meeting Cllrs Anderson and Beer were re-elected as chairman and vice-chairman, and the appointment of sub-committees was also agreed.

Sandbag Store:

It was agreed to accept the City Council's offer to replace the vandalised metal sandbag shed with a concrete shed. It was also agreed to investigate the possibility of painting the flat roof with a vandal-proof coating.

Footbridge at Mill Lane:

Kent County Council had confirmed its agreement for the date stone to be installed by its contractor at Bridge's expense. The clerk was asked to look into the matter further.

Beech tree:

Cllr Dobson reported that after a recent meeting with representatives from the parish council, the Kent Community Housing Trust, the City Council, and Cllr Bill Oakey, the Housing Trust had agreed not to fell the tree at the New Close residential home until consultations had been completed.

Drainage:

Kent Highways said planned improvements to the surface water drainage system were due to begin on May 27, and would take about eight to 12 weeks.

Planning:

The following planning applications are under consideration:

CA/02/0405/BRI, two-storey

extension to front of 1 High Street; CA/02/0508/BRI, two and single-storey extension to care home including alterations to existing building at Saxon Lodge, 30/32 Western Avenue.

The following applications have been notified as granted:

CA/02/0267/BRI, single-storey extension to front of Coppice, Bridge Hill; CA/02/0280/BRI, change of use from doctors' surgery to dwelling at 2 Green Court; CA/02/0278/BRI, change of use of ground floor lock-up shop from retail to estate agents at 88 High Street.

The following notice of proposed work to trees has been received: Fell two conifers in back garden and reduce by six-eight foot four Leylandi trees at White Gates, Bekesbourne Road; fell decayed ash tree from side of Bridge Ford House, Brewery Lane; clean out crown of cedar of Lebanon, fell cherry tree, reduce cypress elder and sycamore trees back to hedge on boundary to Bridge Down and trees with stem diameter less than 75mm at 1.5m high and all shrubs may be removed from garden at the side of 6 Bridge Hill House, Higham Lane.

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BISHOPSBOURNE

Correspondent: Malcolm Mitchell, The Old Cottage, , Bishopsbourne, CT4 5HT

Parish Church: The Rector, the Rev David Roper, celebrated Holy Communion at St Mary the Virgin Church on Sunday, May 12. Lessons were read by Lorna Kenyon and Gill Applin.

To celebrate Rogation Sunday, the Rector and the curate, the Rev Lindsay Llewellyn, led parishioners from Bishopsbourne, Barham, Kingston and Womenswold on a six mile walk through fields and woodland, blessing crops and livestock, and those who are involved in working on the land.

The walk, organised by Nancy Ball, started from Bishopsbourne church and went to Kingston before circling back to Bishopsbourne, where tea, sandwiches and cakes, made by parishioners, rewarded those who had taken part.

Tea was followed by a Rogation Sunday Evensong in St Mary's, which was also attended by family pets which had accompanied the walkers on their trek round the parishes.

The service was conducted by the Rector and the Curate, who preached the sermon. Lessons were read by Mrs Kenyon and by the Rector's wife Chris Roper, with assistance from the family pet Labrador Cannon.

On Sunday, May 19, there will be no services at Bishopsbourne, but parishioners are invited to attend any of the following services being held in churches within the Barham Downs united benefice, of which Bishopsbourne is part: Holy Communion, 8am, St John the Baptist, Barham; the Eucharist, St Giles's Church, Kingston; healing service, 6pm, St John's, Barham. There will also be a morning service at 10am at the Methodist Chapel, Barham.

On Tuesday, May 14, Bishopsbourne churchwardens Sheila Castle and Gill Applin were among those "sworn in" at Canterbury Cathedral during the Archdeacon's visitation.

As part of the flower festival at Barham from June 1 to 4, the Rector is organising an informal concert in his garden on Saturday, June 1. Writing in his Pew Sheet he said: "If you would like to come and sing, play, dance, read, etc, please let me know as soon as possible."

During the festival, being held to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee under the title A Right Royal Festival, the church will be open from 11am to 6pm each day, when

there will be refreshments, cakes and plants for sale. There will also be a programme of evening events.

Bishopsbourne folk are also invited to Music for a Summer Afternoon being held at St Margaret's Church, Womenswold, on Sunday, May 19, starting at 3pm.

A programme of music will be given by Mike Lewis's family and friends and should include something to suit most tastes. The concert will be in aid of the church organ restoration fund, and entry will be £5, to include refreshments.

There will be another concert, at 7.30pm on Saturday, June 15, by the Shepway Singers. Tickets are again £5. For bookings or more details about either concert phone Gaby McGuire on 01227 831 or Marylin Lewis on 01227 831206.557.

For more news about any of the church events in the Barham Downs benefice contact any of the following clergy: The Rector, the Rev David Roper, on 01227 831340 or e-mail him on david.roper@clara.co.uk;

the curate, the Rev Lindsay Llewellyn, phone 01227 454704, or e-mail her on lindsay@hercomputer.fsworld.co.uk

or the reader, Miss Mary Ambrose on 01227 830856.

Open gardens: There was a steady stream of visitors to two gardens opened to the public on Sunday, May 12, Oswalds, once the home of author Joseph Conrad, and now owned by Wolfgang and Dominique Kerck, and Flint Cottage, home of Peter and Lesley Sinnock.

Oswalds, which houses the national photinia collection, was opened in aid of the British Red Cross Society and Flint Cottage, which boasts pretty water features, was opened in aid of the National Gardens Scheme.

Womenswold will join in the National Gardens Scheme over the weekend of June 29 and 30. A number of gardens, most within walking distance of each other, will be open. Plants and home-made cakes will be for sale with an exhibition of photographs of the village in St Margaret's Church.

Anyone with interesting pictures of the village which can be scanned and exhibited is asked to contact Maggie McKenzie on 01227 831414.

Wine and wisdom: A quiz night in aid of Bishopsbourne Cricket Club was well supported at the Conrad Hall on Saturday, May 11, with nine tables of members and friends. Alan Thew set and asked the questions and John Howes was scorekeeper.

At the end of 10 rounds two teams were tied and it was decided to have a sudden death finish, the

first team answering the question to be the winners. The result was a triumph for the Mermaid Inn team whose member Claire Stevens speedily replied that an old threepenny piece had 12 sides. Other team members were Colin and Bunty Relf, John and Laurey Charles, Jan Knott and Gary Barker.

On Sunday, May 19, the club will be at home to Chilham, the match starting at the Charlton Park ground at 2.30pm.

Fly tipping: The Bridge Hill picnic site has again fallen victim to fly tippers. So much builder's rubble, plastic bags and empty beer bottles has been dumped there that it is now impossible for anyone to enter the site overlooking Bourne Park.

The parish council is asking the City Council's fly-tipping hit squad to remove the obstruction as soon as possible.

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BRIDGE

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

Fair day: The Woodpecker' spring fair is at the Primary School on Saturday, May 25 from 11.30am to 2.30pm.

Church News: The Works at Bridge After-School Club, Primary School, Sunday, May 26, 10am.

Caring and Sharing Group,
Monday, May 27, Woman to
Woman, That's Life, Love, The Best
Gift, at Lanfranc, Harbledown, at
7.30pm. Also at the Vicarage, Adult
Confirmation at 8pm and on
Thursday, May 30, Junior

availability of locally produced

Confirmation at 5.30pm.

Church services: Sunday, May 26, Trinity. 8am BCP Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bridge; 10am Holy Communion, Mr Filmer, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne. Only other service in the Bridge Group is a 6pm Evensong, Mr Filmer and Mrs M. Clarke, at St Mary The Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church Service led by the Rev B. Heather.

Neighbourhood Watch: Owners of horse trailers beware. Over the last three months 15 trailers, mostly Williams, have been stolen, even though they were wheel-clamped. Review your security now. Police suggest that you use anti-crop chains and closed shackled padlocks to secure your trailers and that you record serial numbers.

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BRIDGE

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

Festival: The Queen's Golden Jubilee celebrations are to be held on and around Saturday, June 23. The festival committee chaired by Alan Walton, landlord of the White Horse Inn, is still busy with plans to make this happy and memorable and a number of fund-raising events will occur in the week leading up to Festival Day.

On Friday, June 14, there will be a Barn Dance at the school hall at 7.30pm, music from Camime, licensed bar, take your own food, £5 per person.

On Tuesday, June 18, at 7pm guided history tours of Bridge start from the White Horse at £2 per person.

On Thursday, June 20, at 7pm a supper quiz in the village hall will be hosted by Bridge and District History Society. Teams of eight, ploughman's supper, take your own drinks, plate, cutlery and glass, £5 per person. Bookings for these events can be made at the White Horse, phone 01227 830249.

The programme for Festival Day is still being formalised. The following are already confirmed: pig roast and barbecue, tennis club LTA Play Tennis 2002 event, live music from the Odd Couple, Celtic music from Camime, at least three Morris sides, Jitterbug and Jiving Dance from Marsh Lindyhoppers, Canterbury Clerkes performing in St Peter's Church, duck race (Nailbourne permitting), tug of war contest, a steam traction engine. Organisers are still hoping that there will be displays of living history, classic cars and motor cycles, but these and some other events are still under discussion.

The village fete will provide all the usual entertainments and side shows, including a children's fancy dress parade.

Also at the Red Lion on June 22, there will be a talent competition and a gymnastic display, pie eating and yard of ale competitions, and live music from 8.30pm.

On Coronation Day, June 2, there will be bar extensions and The Red Lion will have live music with Mac and Roger.

Safari Supper: Arranged for Saturday, June 15, this has limited places available, so book now to avoid disappointment. Inquiries and bookings to Lesley Forward, on 01227 832175 after six or at weekends.

Church News: To mark the beginning of the jubilee celebrations St Peter's Church will host a Benefice Choral Evensong on Sunday, June 2, at 6pm.

Guest preacher will be The Ven Patrick Evans, Archdeacon of Canterbury. Anyone interested in joining the choir for the evening can phone either Emma Medhurst on 01227 830762 or Bill Rose 830560.

Neighbourhood Watch: A group of dodgy tradesmen may be heading our way, warns Kent Trading Standards. Their trading method is to tell householders that they are working for the council and offer to carry out tarmac work for £3 per square foot. They start working before the householder realises what is going on, and hand out VAT receipts but these are worthless.

The advice to consumers is not to agree to have any work done. Police and Trading Standards advise that you should never buy from doorstep callers and always get three quotes for any work you wish to have done.