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BRIDGE

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Gardeners: For the summer show of the Nailbourne Horticultural Society in the Bridge Primary School Hall last Saturday, some regular exhibitors were unable to enter owing to a variety of reasons, so numbers were down on the previous year. What the show lacked in quantity however, it more than made up for in quality, both in produce and artistic presentation.

John Anderson, the president, welcomed all to the show and thanked the committee for its work in setting it up. He had heard a rumour that the society was winding down, but in fact the opposite was true. It was intended to hold a recruiting drive before next summer, to encourage many of the talented gardeners of all ages in the area to join the society to their mutual advantage, giving as much or little time as they can afford in today's busy world, for what can be a rewarding hobby.

Chairman Roger Austin added that, in the course of visiting gardens entering competitions, he passed many gardens that contained a wealth of horticultural treasures if the owners could be induced to show them.

Bob Hopkins won the Champion Cottage Garden Cup and the Blee Cup for the most points over all. Kathy Walder won the Anderson Cup for new winners in the vegetable class and John Barley the tankard for the collection of vegetables. Liz Oakey won the Silver Rose Trophy for most points with her flowers and Ailsa Williamson The Hawkins Cup won the Floral Art Cup, Joyce Hopkins the Remlins Cookery Cup and D. Chandler the Handicraft Salver.

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There were no garden or children's entries this year.

Winners: J. Atkins one first-two seconds-one third, R. Austin 2-3-1, J. Anderson 1-0-0, B. Anderson 2-2-0, D. Chandler 1-0-1, E. Cartwright 1-0-0, B. Cope 3-2-4, K. Cryer 1-3-0, J. Barley 1-2-4, A. Edmonds 1-0-0, J. Forster 2-1-0, B. Hopkins 5-2-2, J. Hopkins 2-2-2, D. King 3-2-1, B. Oakey 2-5-2, Liz Oakey 4-4-0, B. Stewart 0-0-2, K. Walder 4-1-1, A. Williamson 1-0-1. There was also a plant stall and raffle and teas were served throughout.

Thanksgiving: A service for the life of the late Joyce Heather Rose, long associated with many aspects of village life had a large congregation. The full choir, conducted by Emma Medhurst, sang not only out of respect for Joyce, but for her widower Bill, who still sings with the choir in his 90th year. The service was conducted by the Rev Paul Filmer, assisted by Mrs Margaret Clarke, Parish Lay Reader. The Sleeping Servant was read by Joyce's son Jonathan and tributes were given by Joyce's son Graham and granddaughter Emily, followed by a close family friend Mrs Muriel Packer, the wife of Canon John Packer, and the mother of Rt Rev John Packer, Bishop of Ripon and Leeds. On behalf of the village she said it was a great privilege to pay tribute to Joyce on behalf of her village, her church and many friends of whom she named two especially, Joan (Hill) and Kath (Pierce).

She described Joyce as: "The provider of refreshment of all kinds, material or spiritual, to anyone in need. I doubt if anyone left Joyce and Bill's home without feeling strengthened and reassured by a kindly act or a thoughtful word. Thank you, Joyce, on behalf of us all for your unfailing, humble response to that challenge given by St Teresa that yours should be the feet that went around doing good, yours the eyes through which looked out Christ's compassion on the world, yours the hands which Christ has blessed so many in this village and beyond."

There was a further tribute from Mr Filmer, who also gave the blessing. Memorial donations can be made to The Friends of Kent and Canterbury Hospital c/o C.W. Lyons & Son Ltd, Funeral Directors.

Floral Competition: Sponsored by Bridge Parish Council for business premises in the village, the contest was judged on July 24, by Mrs Margaret Jones and Mrs Ann Edmonds. They were impressed by the high standard of the displays in the village centre, and were pleased to note that more businesses than last year had put on displays. These included the Post Office/Chemist,

Equestrian Elite, Bridgeway Stores, The Dental Surgery, Skippers, Colebrook and Sturrock, Harrow Cottage (B&B) and all three pubs.

It was decided that this year there would be two categories - one for businesses with large frontages and one for businesses with small frontages, judged on the criteria of health/quality of the plants, colour, coverage of containers, dead heading, and overall appearance.

Although a close thing, the results were as follows: Winner of the large frontage, the White Horse; winner of the small frontage businesses, Colebrook and Sturrock.

The parish council will present the sups later on in the summer. Members thank all the businesses for a splendid show that, combined with those who sponsored the extended curbs at the entrance to the village, make Bridge now one of the most attractive places in the area.

WI: Bridge and Patricbourne branch is holding a coffee morning at 26 Western Avenue on Wednesday, August 7, from 10am-noon. There will be a bring and buy, plant and cake stall, plus a raffle. All are welcome.

Saxon Lodge: Mrs Betty Richards, proprietor, thanks all who supported her application for planning permission to extend and fulfill the criteria in the care of the elderly at her home. She has been greatly encouraged by the response she received.

Woodpeckers Nursery: The last day of term was great fun for the children, who had a morning of party games, magic provided by Geoff Lucas, a picnic and prize giving. Not only was it a new start for the 36 children leaving to go to school but also a new start for those staying. In the holiday the mobile that is shared with Bridge After School Club and Play Scheme will be knocked down and a new larger building will replace it in time for the new term.

The combined committee has secured grants and donations from the National Lottery and other sources. Mrs Sheppard thanked all the parents for their good wishes, cards and presents and wished all the children leaving good luck in their new schools. New term starts Monday, September 9.

Church News: The Rev Paul Filmer has changed his day off from Friday to Thursday. If he is not available, you can always leave a message on his answer phone, and

he will reply as soon as possible.

The Prayer Group will not meet in August. The cycle of prayer continues as it has always done, because members continue to pray for loved ones and situations all through the month until the next prayer meeting. Feel free to phone Kath Pierce on 01227 830844 with your requests and she will make sure they are passed on to all who are concerned with the prayer group.

Hymns n Things, a quiz sheet that tests your knowledge of hymns, is available at the back of each of the churches. Each sheet cost a £1 and all funds raised will be used for work within the Benefice.

The next collection of Smartie tubes will be at the Harvest Festival services across the Benefice. If you haven't got a tube, you can buy one for 30p, treat yourself to the contents and then fill it with loose change. All the money collected will go to the chosen harvest charities. On Saturday, August 3, there is an evening concert by Just Four Men at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, tickets 768925/832134; on Wednesday, August 7, 6pm Ears and Beers, Plough and Harrow, Bridge.

Church Services: Sunday, August 4, Trinity 10, 8am BCP Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Mary's Church, Patricbourne; 10am Holy Communion, Mr Filmer and 6pm Evensong, Mr Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge Group: 10am Holy Communion, the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 10am Family Service, Mrs P. Kusel, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by the Rev B. Heather.

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

Fish Scheme: A coffee pop-in will be held on August 14, in the village hall from 10-11.15am. If you would like to attend and need transport, phone Ann Medhurst on 01227 830762.

Leavers: End of term at Bridge and Patricxbourne School was time to say goodbye and good luck to those going on to senior schools.

The Leaver's Assembly was held in the school hall with many parents present. The pupils had arranged the format, giving impressions of their first day as infants, through what they gathered through their years at the school. Also included were their favourite hymns.

Mrs Newton, head teacher, said this group had been a joy and pleasure to teach, and made the annual presentation of cups and awards.

The last part was a tribute to Alex Murrell, who starts as deputy head teacher at Sholden School in September. He was presented with various presents. Mr Murrell, who made a big contribution with his expertise while at Bridge, said he also remembered his first day at the school, which was the same day that the leavers had started, and he had been there with them for the same seven years.

Blind: The Smallest Garden Party in the World will be held at the usual venue of 25 The Close, Union Road, Bridge on Saturday, August 17, with a choice of two sessions, 12.30-2pm or 5.30-7pm. Proceeds go to the Kent Association for the Blind. Tickets are £3 each from Chris Hoare phone 01227 832447. There will also be a raffle and traidcraft stall.

Church News: The Bridge Group of Churches Caring and Sharing Group, has had four interesting visits. The first was a make-up evening when Wendy taught them how to make the best use of their God-given assets. The second visit was to a gipsy caravan in the home of Don and Poppy Derling, where they were given a tour of an authentic Romany caravan, lovingly restored. The evening ended with a surprise jubilee quiz.

Members also invited the Rapid Response Centre, where David (a paramedic) showed them the ambulances, rapid response cars and motorcycle used in emergencies. They saw the medical equipment and learnt about the great work that they do. Finally Rita kindly gave them a

demonstration of how sugar craft flowers are made.

The programme for next term's Caring and Sharing evenings has been arranged and they will be discussing a number of topical Christian issues. They will meet weekly, one week for discussion the next for coffee and chat, at a variety of venues. The full programme is available from Judy phone 01227 830250 or Margaret 765598. They would be pleased to welcome new members at any of the meetings.

Choir: On Saturday, August 17, Lower Hardres Junior Choir is at St Mary's The Virgin Church, Lower Hardres, at 10.15am.

Church Services: Sunday, August 11, Trinity 11, 10am matins Chris Maclean, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne; 11am Family Service and Baptism the Rev P. Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge Group: 8am BCP Communion, Mr Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 9.30am Holy Communion Mr Filmer, St Mary's Church, Nackington; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by the Rev D. Marshall.

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questions about the flood warning scheme that will be operating in the Nailbourne and Little Stour area.

City Councillor Harry Cragg, chairman of the City Council's flood scrutiny committee and Cllr Bill Oakey will be there to answer any questions from residents in the affected areas.

Path work: The footpath to the Primary School from Riverside Close is to be upgraded and widened, starting this week in time for the new school year in September. This will provide safer access for mothers with pushchairs and the children.

WI: Bridge with Patricxbourne members meet on Tuesday, August 20, in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. Hidden Secrets of Handwriting will be revealed by Mr N. Sweeting and the competition is for a pill box.

Royal British Legion: 20 members attended the July meeting of the area branch with Doug Fenn in the chair. He welcomed Alfred Buckmaster, a new member from Bridge. Good wishes went to Geoff Welch, who has been in hospital having a knee operation.

The secretary said the branch team came second in the Group 4 Quiz at Herne Bay in July. Tickets for the branch dinner at Littlebourne Hall on Friday, September 27 will be on sale soon. The beef pudding supper on Tuesday, November 19 at the Unicorn, Bekesbourne, is now fully booked.

The annual Poppy draw will be held at the branch annual meeting on November 5 and tickets will be on sale in September.

The next meeting will be on September 10 at the Recreation Club, Littlebourne.

CLIC Cycle Ride: In the middle of November, Martin South, a dental surgeon in Bridge, will be cycling

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Flooding: A flood fair has been arranged by the flood warning officer of the Environment Agency on Barham Village Green on Saturday, August 31 from 10am to

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250 miles off road in Kenya to raise money for Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood. CLIC is the leading children's charity providing home nurses, nursing homes, hospital accommodation and general help of both patients and families of children with these diseases.

He will be cycling with two local friends and they have set themselves a target of raising £2,500 each which they will need before they go. This will all go to CLIC to enable the charity to continue its work. These cyclists have already participated in a previous ride in Israel for CLIC two years ago and between six people raised £36,000.

They are all keen cyclists but will need to train hard as they will be cycling on rough terrain from the slopes of Mount Kenya to Lake Victoria via savanna and rain forest.

If you are able to sponsor them or donate money, phone the Bridge Dental Surgery on 01227 831110 or at 78 High Street, Bridge, Canterbury, Kent CT4 5LA, where there is a collection pot. If you want to write a cheque make it payable to CLIC. It is a registered charity, number 802396.

Surgery: City Cllr Bill Oakey, representing the North Nailbourne Ward, will hold his surgery this month at Bekesbourne Village Hall on Saturday, August 17 from 10am to noon.

Church services: Sunday, August 18, Trinity 13: 10am Holy Communion, Canon Gordon Manley, St Peter's Church, Bridge. No service at St Mary's Church, Patricbourne, this week. Other services in the Bridge group: 8am BCP Communion the Rev J. Thackray, St Mary's Church, Nackington; 10am, Holy Communion, the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 10am Family service, Mrs M. Clarke, St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by the Rev G. Baugh.

Neighbourhood Watch: A motor cycle (later recovered) was stolen from Union Road. At least two youths in a small blue car were reported at the scene. Last weekend at least 10 cars in the Canterbury and surrounding areas were broken into. Police warn motorists not to leave valuables on show in cars.

try to make it look occupied to deter burglars. Ask a neighbour to go in regularly to clear post and circulars and open/close curtains. Perhaps they could park their car in your drive from time to time. You can always return the favour when they go away.

Coffee morning: The coffee morning held last month at 55 Union Road, Bridge, by Win Tamsitt and Gladys Lemar raised funds for cancer research. They handed over £109 to Surian Tamsitt and Diane Horne, the two teachers who are going to walk the Great Wall of China next year to raise more money for cancer research. They thank everyone who helped.

Skateboards: It has been reported to the Parish Council that children have been using their skateboards on the slide at the children's play area on the village recreation ground with the knowledge of their parents or guardians. This is not only a very dangerous activity but is likely to damage the equipment as well as injure the offenders. Those using the area are reminded that the riding of bicycles or the use of skateboards is forbidden.

Workshop: A workshop for those interested in literature, literary criticism and creative writing will be available to anyone living in the Nailbourne Valley. Marianne Mackinnon, the award-winning author of novels, critical essays and autobiographies, who has lectured on and taught creative writing for many years, hopes to form a small, friendly workshop. Meetings would initially be at 6 Hog Green, Elham, twice a month from approximately 2-4pm (evenings considered). Numbers are limited to 10. Subjects to be dealt with include a discussion of literary texts, the most effective use of language in narrative, basic rules for writing short stories, articles and autobiographical accounts, writing exercises. Refreshment will be provided. It is hoped to start the workshop on either Wednesday, or Thursday, October 2 or 3. Contact Ms Mackinnon on 01303 840311 before 6pm after September 2.

Joyce Rose: Bill Rose would like to thank all those who have written to him or sent tributes, and for the kind donations to The League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals

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BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

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Neighbourhood Watch: A house in Bekesbourne was burgled while the owners were away on holiday. If you are planning to be away from your house for any length of time,

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which will be used especially for the McMaster's Ward where the staff gave so much care to Joyce while she was there.

Church News: After Eights Group meets on Tuesday, September 3, 8pm at 10 Union Road, Bridge.

Health and Healing Concerns will meet on Thursday, September 5, 7pm at 7 Windmill Close. If you are unable to attend yourself, please let Kath Pierce know on 830844, your requests so they can be included in their prayers.

Church Services: Sunday, September 1, Trinity 14, 8am BCP Communion, Rev P. Filmer, St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne; 10am Holy Communion, Rev P. Filmer and 6pm Evensong with Rev P. Filmer and Mrs M. Clarke at St Peter's Church, Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge Group, 10am Holy Communion, Canon R. Humphries at St Mary the Virgin at Lower Hardres. No services at St Mary's Church at Nackington this week or at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. There is however a combined Family Service to be held at St Peter's Church, Molash where all members of the Benefice are cordially invited to attend. For details phone Pat Kusel on 01227 830272. On Saturday, August 30, 11am Bridge Methodist Church, Holy Communion with the Rev D. Marshall.