

to turn up and pay.  
Jan 16th 2003

## BRIDGE

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

**PARISH COUNCIL:** At the January meeting of Bridge Parish Council.

**Parish Community Wardens Project:** Mark Richardson gave a presentation on the Parish Community Warden's Project. It would cost £10,000 per annum for wardens to cover four star four-hour shifts per week in the village. It was agreed that Bridge Parish Council should share the cost of financing the scheme with Littlebourne Parish Council for a year's trial.

**Christmas Trees:** There had been several compliments on the Christmas Tree display in the village.

**Flooding:** District Cllr Oakey reported that a Nailbourne newsletter concerning flooding is due to be distributed to homes along the Nailbourne on January 11. There are high bore holes readings for water along the Nailbourne comparable with October 2001. However the level of the Nailbourne is not as high as for 2001 and there are now new surface water drains.

**Planning applications received:** The following planning applications are under consideration: Ca/02/01567/Bri, one 18 metres high telecommunications monopole with three antennae, two dishes and associated equipment cabinet at Renville Farm, New Dover Road, High Street, Bridge. Ca/02/01559/Bri, two storey front extension and single-storey side extension to 14 Conyngham Lane, Bridge.

**Planning applications granted:** Cal02/00148/Bri, re-siting of satellite dish at 21 The Close, Union Road, Bridge. PAU/DS/CA/02/1409, new fencing and gates at Bridge and Patrixbourne Primary School.

**Applications rejected:** Ca/02/01239/Bri, bungalow next to trees at Bridge Hill, Bridge.

**WI:** Bridge and Patrixbourne Branch will be held in the Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday, January 21, at 7.30pm. The guest speaker will be Barry Whiting who will give a talk entitled Emergency Response. The competition is any object beginning with F. Members and visitors will be made very welcome.

**Wardens:** The parish council is to investigate joining the Parish Community Warden Project for a year's trial, to be funded by raising a precept to cover the cost of £5,000,

achieved by sharing the cost of £10,000 with another parish council locally. Currently the team is working in three City Council electoral wards and have had a positive impact on tackling issues such as Crime, Fear of Crime and anti social behaviour. They will be dressed in distinctive purple uniforms. They will be equipped with mobile phones and two way radios linked with the police control centre.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** A car was stolen from the Kent & Canterbury Hospital car park last week. Be aware thieves are about and lock up carefully. A steering wheel immobiliser is a good and visible deterrent. As ever, check your household security. burglars like the long, dark evenings.

**Art: Painting and Drawing Classes 2003.** Local artist Julia Rowntree will be running a series of classes from her studio in Bridge. Drawing Classes January 22, 23 and 24. Beginners One Day Class, on March 11. Watercolour Painting March 5, 6 and 7, for details phone Julia on 01227 830556.

**Floodwatch:** All residents in Bridge whose properties are at risk of flooding have by now personally received the Nailbourne and Little Stour newsletter dated January 10. This contains answers to their questions, and informs them of what action need be taken in case of any emergency. The Parish Council would like to thank Ted Edwards of the City Council for preparing the document and Cllr Bill Oakey for personally delivering them.

**Surgery:** City Cllr Bill Oakey, representing the North Nailbourne Ward, will be holding his surgery in Bekesbourne Village Hall on Saturday, January 18, from 10am to noon. No appointment is required.

**Church Diary:** Monday, January 20, 7.30pm. Caring and Sharing Group Coffee and Chat, 20 Riverside Close, Bridge.

Tuesday, January 21, 8pm. After Eights Group, 10 Union Road Bridge.

Thursday, January 23, 7.30pm, visit to talk on Palestine. Ash Village Hall.

**Church Services:** Sunday 19th Epiphany 2. 10am Holy Communion Canon Gordon Manley St Peter's Church Bridge. No Service at St Mary's Church Patrixbourne. 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 Rev P. Filmer St Peter's Church Bekesbourne. 11am Bridge Methodist Church Service led by the Rev D. Marshall.



informal music evening is welcome.  
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## BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

**Correspondent: J Anderson, 7  
Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury,  
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**Talk:** At the January meeting of the Bridge and District History Society a large audience of more than 75 members and friends packed the village hall to hear Paul Tritton's illustrated talk on the film A Canterbury Tale. It was made by Bekesbourne-born Michael Powell and starred actors that became household names, Sheila Sims, Dennis Price and Eric Portman. This was shot locally and shows many aspects of wartime Canterbury and district. Also in the film were a number of local extras, including the late Jimmy Tamsitt, of Bridge, a founder-member of the society. The shots of the rural locations were identified by the speaker, as were many of the buildings shown in the film. The chairman, John Bishop, thanked Mr Tritton for his fascinating presentation, after which refreshments were served.

The next meeting of the society will be on Tuesday, February 11, at 7.30pm at the White Horse, when Martin Lloyd will be giving a talk entitled Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies. The cost, including refreshments, will be members £6, non-members £8.

**League of Friends:** The League of Friends of Canterbury Hospital, Bridge and district branch, meets on Friday, January 31 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Dr Tony Beaumont will be giving a talk on The History and Constitution of Sark, his family home. A light supper

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# ROUNDA

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with wine will be served, also a raffle. For tickets, please phone Elizabeth Stewart on 01227 830344 or Rosy Green on 01227 830204, £7.50 for a single, or £14 for a double.

**Gardeners:** The Nailbourne Horticultural Society starts its 2003 programme on Tuesday, January 28 at 7.30pm in the Bridge Village Hall. The evening will commence with a short annual meeting when members will have the opportunity to renew their subscriptions. £2.50 for single membership, £4 for a family and to be entered into the draw for tickets to the Chelsea Flower Show in May. This is to be followed by local artist Julia Rowntree talking on the art of painting flowers. They look forward to seeing existing and new members. If anyone has any ideas for the society's evening meetings, or is interested in joining the committee, please come forward at the meeting or contact the secretary, Kathy Walder, on 01227 830057. They are again arranging a short programme of events for this year.

Dates for the diary include Spring Show, Tuesday, April 8 in the Bridge Village Hall, show schedules available later, evening outing to be arranged May/June, Summer show, Saturday, July 26 at Bridge Primary School, social evening on Tuesday, December 2 in the Bridge Village Hall. The next annual meeting will be on Tuesday, January 27, 2004 at Bridge Village



**Art in Bridge:** Three

workshops/talks by local artists are to take place in the Plough and Harrow public house meeting room in the High Street, Bridge.

1. Julia Rowntree, Drawing for All, with hands-on experience.

Saturday, January 25, 10am to 1pm. Julia, a successful Bridge artist, will introduce you to different papers and mediums and help you look and investigate various ways of drawing. Booking charge is £4.

2. Wendy Blanchet, Recent Work, Saturday, February 22, 10.30am to noon. Wendy, an artist from Littlebourne, will talk about her work at art college and more recently and illustrate it with slides. Booking charge is £3.

3. Elisa Darcy Mortimer, Celebrating Nature, Paintings Inspired by the Sea. Saturday, March 22, 10.30am to 12.30pm. Elisa, a successful Bridge artist, will talk about and demonstrate aspects of her art. Booking charge is £3.50.

Booking is essential as numbers are strictly limited. To book a place and for further information please contact Pam Dobson on 01227 832369. To receive information on future Art in Bridge activities, please contact John Corfield on 01227 830976 or e-mail [info@artinbridge.org.uk](mailto:info@artinbridge.org.uk) or look on the website, [www.artinbridge.org.uk](http://www.artinbridge.org.uk)

**Gig:** Saturday night, January 25, The A la mode Band, 8pm at the Red Lion, High Street, Bridge.

**Flood Watch:** At the time of writing, water levels and speed increase in the flow of the Nailbourne river has become more critical, The Ford in Mill Lane is closed to traffic and a supply of sandbags will now be readily available if an emergency should arise. Please contact one of the flood wardens published last week, or Cllr Bill Oakey on 01227 832397 if further information is required.

**Church diary:** Saturday, January 25, 10am, St Peter's, Bekesbourne Jumble Sale, Bekesbourne Village Hall. On Monday, January 27, 7.30pm Caring and Sharing Group, coffee and chat, Fairview, Bekesbourne Lane. On Tuesday, January 28, 8pm After Eights Group, Fairview, Bekesbourne Lane.

**Church services:** On Sunday, January 26, Epiphany 3, 8am BCP Communion with the Rev P. Filmer at St Peter's Church, Bridge. At

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10am Holy Communion with the Rev P. Filmer and 5pm Family Service with Rev P. Filmer in St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne. Other churches in the Bridge Group, 9.30am Holy Communion with Canon R. Diss at St Mary's Church, Nackington. At 3pm Evensong with Rev P. Filmer and Mrs M. Clarke at St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres. No service at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. At 11am at Bridge Methodist Church the service is led by Mr J. Ellis.



# Campaigner with a kind word for all

FORMER campaigner and councillor Laurence Shirley has died at the age of 67 from cancer caused by exposure to asbestos.

Mr Shirley was sub-postmaster at Bridge for 32 years until he retired in 1998, having taken over from his father.

He immersed himself in village life and became chairman of the village hall committee and was elected on to the old Bridge-Blean Rural District Council.

He then joined Canterbury council and was the first chairman of the city's Oxfam group.

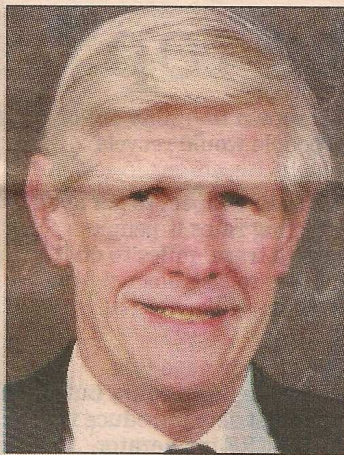
During this time he also chaired Bridge Parish Council and the village school's parent/teacher association.

He campaigned to replace the old school built about 1870 with one built in 1971. He was also prominent in the Bridge bypass campaign and for several years was president of Bridge and District Horticultural Society.

Mr Shirley, who died at home last Tuesday, studied building at Farnborough Technical College.

In 1960, he went to India to start the building of a hospice for Leonard Cheshire in the foothills of the Himalayas. The hospice now cares for lepers and other sufferers.

After finishing his voluntary



**LAURENCE SHIRLEY:**  
Devoted to village life

work in India he went to Australia and travelled home on a cargo passenger ship. During the nine-week voyage he met and became engaged to his wife Ann.

Back in England he continued building work in Cambridgeshire where he and his wife had two sons, John and Nicholas, before moving to Bridge in 1966 to take over the sub-post office.

Mr Shirley was elected as a Conservative member of Kent County Council and became involved in many campaigns and chaired several committees, including one which was responsible for negotiations

between local and gipsy communities.

Throughout his years in the sub-post office he never lost his building skills and with his sons converted the derelict Great Pett Oast into two homes for them and their families. He also had a great passion for traditional jazz.

He was a volunteer driver for Kent Ambulance Service and a voluntary escort driver for the county council's social services.

He joined Canterbury Victim Support group and at the time of his death was chairman of the Canterbury branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

In October Mr Shirley was diagnosed with malignant mesothelioma, a chest cancer caused by exposure to asbestos. He was treated at Kent and Canterbury Hospital and the city's Pilgrims Hospice.

A New Orleans-style cortege will leave on foot on Sunday at 1.30pm from Dering Road for the funeral service at St Peter's Church, Bridge. Afterwards everyone is welcome to join the cortege for burial at Patricbourne Church, followed by a reception in the Plough & Harrow pub, Bridge.

The family has requested no flowers and has asked for donations, preferably with gift aid declaration, to the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation, 82 Queen's Road, Brighton, BN1 3XE to be transmitted to Raphael, Dehra Dun, Uttar Pradesh, India.

His son Nicholas said his father always favoured the underdog so that those who could only sign an X for their pension or UB40 were not humiliated.

"Every customer who stepped into the post office and approached the counter was given recognition, a joke, a kind word and a question about their health and recent activities," he said.

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> 2003



## BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

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Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury,  
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**WI:** At the January meeting of the Bridge and Patribourne Institute Barry Whiting, assisted by two volunteer members, gave a talk and demonstration on first aid.

Winner of a competition for an object beginning with F, was a fan entered by Dorothy King. Next month's competition will be an object beginning with E.

On Tuesday, February 18, at 7.30pm in the village hall, the speaker will be Pauline Greenman, who will explain the work of the Association of Country Women of the World. New members and visitors will be made welcome.

**Annual meeting:** The annual meeting of the Bridge Village Hall Management Committee, will be held in the Hunter Room of the village hall on Thursday, February 6, at 7.30pm. All those living in the village are welcome.

**Laurence Shirley:** Many living in the Bridge district were saddened to hear of the death of Laurence Shirley. He was a parish, city and Kent county councillor and also village postmaster for many years. No one could have served our community better and he will be remembered for his zest for living, his good humour, love of jazz and all the unsung voluntary work he undertook. I'm sure we would all like to convey our sincere condolences to his widow Ann, and her family at this time.

The funeral arrangements are that a New Orleans-style cortege will proceed on foot on February 2 at 1.30pm from Dering Road to the service at 2pm at St Peter's Church. Thereafter all are welcome to join the cortege for the burial at Patribourne Church.

The family would like to extend an invitation to those who attend the funeral to a reception in the Plough and Harrow.

No flowers by request, any donations preferably with Giftaid declaration to the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation c/o WJ Farrier and Son Funeral Directors, 161 London Road, Dover CT17 0TG.

Parking will be available all day at Bridge Place Country Club, entry from Bishopsbourne Road.

**Children's Society:** During 2002 contributions were received in the Bridge area from: Contents of home and shop boxes £587.17, sales of goods at table fair £48, donations £50, Christingle service £412.20 giving a grand total of £1,097.37. Kathy Eynon, local secretary, would like to thank all those whose efforts helped to raise such a good amount. Please continue your support for this charity, sadly the need for funding the work increases each year. Kathy would also like to thank everyone who raised money by saving coins in Smartie tubes and bringing them to the Christmas service, raising more than £500. More tubes have been given out ready for the Easter charity collection this year.

**Church news:** Entries for inclusion in On the Nail parish magazine for Bridge, Patribourne and Bekebourne should reach the editor, Lawrence Dunderdale, by the 15th of the previous month at 37 High Street, Bridge, phone 01227 830260.

**Confirmation:** Anyone young or old wishing to find out more about details of confirmation, and possibly the spring course, please



the village bowls club's race night at Boughton Golf Club on Saturday, February 22, 6.45 for 7pm. Tickets cost £4.50, to include light supper. To book, or for further details, phone Emily Clayson on 01227 751206.

**Panto time:** Tickets are still available for Boughton Players' Sinbad the Sailor, a pantomime in two acts, at the village hall on Friday and Saturday, February 14 and 15 at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £5, under 16s £3, and are available from Jenny Haynes on 01227 751702, or Judy Collins on 01227 751742 or from the Post Office. Dress rehearsals will be on Sunday, February 9, from 2-5pm in the village hall.

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