

must apply for permission from the parish clerk Tina Burchill, phone or Fax on 01227 831085.

Party: The Smallest Garden Party in the World, that hardy perennial in Bridge, will be held on Saturday, August 16, at the Old Close, Union Road, by permission of Chris Hoare. There are two sessions, 12.30-2pm and 5.30-7pm. Tickets are available from her on 01227 832447 and are £3.50 per person, all proceeds going to the McMillan Nurses this year. There will also be a raffle and Traidcraft stall.

Art In Bridge: An autumn exhibition will be held from October 18-19 and anyone working in or near Bridge is invited to exhibit up to three works of art. Children and young people are especially encouraged to exhibit. "Now is the time to plan your exhibits and more details will be announced in September. If you require any further information, visit the website www.artinbridge.org.uk or contact John Corfield on 01227 830976, Pam Dobson or Emily Shirley.

Surgery: City Cllr Bill Oakey, of the North Nailbourne Ward, will hold his monthly surgery for residents of Bridge, Bishopsbourne, Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne in the Methodist Church, Patrixbourne Road, Bridge, on Saturday, August 16, between 10am and noon.

Fish news: This neighbourly help scheme's next coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, August 13, from 10-11.15am in the village hall. Everybody is welcome, those requiring a lift can phone Ann Medhurst on 01227 830762.

Vision Aid Overseas: John Hill, the local organiser, thanks all who donated old and surplus spectacles to this charity. More than 50 pairs were given and when they have been checked by a member of Canterbury Rotary Club, who is a qualified ophthalmologist, they will be sent, with the 700 pairs the club has already collected, to Vision Aid Overseas who in turn send them to Africa. This is not a one-off appeal, it is an ongoing need and he will always be happy to receive spare "specs". Phone him on 01227 830215.

Church News: The annual Friends of Kent Churches bike ride will be on Saturday, September 13. Volunteers riders and people to sit in the churches and sign in riders are needed. If you can offer your time, your muscle power or your sponsorship, contact Pauline Pritchard, Jill Gillanders or Melanie Maclean.

One of the Bridge Group of Churches, St Mary's, Lower Hardres, is launching a fund-raising appeal. It has already been promised a total of more than £25,000 from charities and other donations for essential repairs.

This has enabled the church authorities to call in the architect and begin the tendering process for work to start. They have also approached other organisations with a view to obtaining more funds and are holding village gift days on Saturday and Sunday August 30 and 31. It would be nice to see folk from neighbouring villages at St Mary's sometime over the Gift Weekend to see details of the work required, share in some of the history of the church and enjoy a relaxing cup of tea or coffee.

On Saturday, August 27, they will be holding a Canterbury Cathedral Choir Choral Evening, accompanied by organist David Flood. The choir will present a selection of music in aid of the church building fund.

Church services: Sunday, August 10, Trinity 8, 10am Matins, Chris Maclean, St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne; 11am Family Service TBA, St Peter's Church, Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge group, 8am BCP Communion, the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 9.30am Holy Communion the Rev Bretherton, St Mary's Church, Nackington; 6pm Evenson, Mrs M. Clarke, St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by Mr R. Preston.

Aug. 7th 2003

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

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

Parish council: Members do not meet in August and the next meeting will be on September 11, at 7.30pm, in the new venue of the main village hall. All villagers are welcome to attend. Should they wish to address the council, they

organised and entertaining competition.

Aug. 14 2003

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

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

Football: Bridge Football Club is in the Herne Bay and Whitstable Sunday Football League, Division 4. For the new season they are looking for players aged 16 or more. Anyone interested is asked to phone Malcolm Barnard on 01304 830023. Sponsorship and voluntary help will also be welcomed.

WI: Bridge with Patribourne branch will hold a garden meeting at 26 Western Avenue on Tuesday, August 19 at 3pm. The stall will have a garden theme and all members and friends will be welcome.

Music and verse: The parish of Patribourne with Bridge parochial church council and the Betjeman Society are presenting Harp and Verse on a Summer's Evening, on Friday August 22 at 7pm in St Mary's Church, Patribourne. Music is by Camilla Pay with poetry readings by the Betjeman Players. Tickets are limited and cost £10, £5 for children, to include a light buffet supper. They can be obtained by phoning 01227 830947 or 01227 830631.

Church services: Sunday, August 11, Trinity 9, 10am Holy Communion, Canon Packer, St Peter's Church, Bridge. No service at St Mary's Church, Patribourne. Other churches in the Bridge Group: 8am BCP Communion the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Mary's, Nackington; 10am Holy Communion, the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Peter's, Bekesbourne; 10am Family Service Mrs M. Clarke, St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by the Rev D. Marshall.

Concert: In the idyllic setting of the house and grounds of Higham Park, Bridge, and in perfect weather, 300 appreciative concert-goers were treated to a Celebration of Opera and Song over two evenings last weekend. The performances by the Kent Cameo Opera produced not only a great wealth of talent, but a wide diversity of programme from Mozart to Rossini and many more, to Noel Coward, My Fair Lady, Franz Lehar, Songs of the Auvergne and the Pirates of Penzance.

Accompanied by pianist Peter Bailey, mezzo soprano Judith Buckle, soprano Anne Hunter, tenor Michael Muckleston and baritone Matthew Cravan, who also acted as compere, all gave highly polished performances.

Their concert of Something for Christmas at the same venue on December 11 and 12 is already sold out. However their fully staged and costumed production of Bizet's opera Carmen is to be performed on Friday, October 17 at The Theatre Royal, Margate, as part of the Canterbury Festival.

Hospital fair: The Nailbourne League of Friends is reminding members that the fair is on August 16 at 1pm at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

~~Aug 21st 2003~~

CT4 5NA. 01227 830260

Fish Scheme: If you are housebound, would you welcome books delivered to you? The Fish Scheme's housebound library service is here to help. Simply phone Sheila Fenn on 01227 830284. The next coffee pop-in is in the village hall on Wednesday, September 10 from 10 to 11.15 am. Lifts are available from Ann Medhurst on 01227 830762.

Fund-Raising: The Smallest Garden Party in the World, held in the Old Close, Bridge, last Saturday, raised £272 for the Macmillan Nurses, as well as raising £125.54 for the Traidcraft stall. Christine Hoare, hostess and organiser, thanks all those who helped and supported the event.

Broadband: Anyone who has not already expressed an interest in this project and wishes to do so, will find a petition to sign on the counter at the Bridgeway Stores, High Street.

Click: A basic computer course is to be held in Bridge on Tuesdays from September 9, 6.30 to 8.30 pm, for 10 weeks. There are still a few vacancies. Contact the parish clerk, phone or fax on 01227 831085.

Church Services: Sunday August 24, Trinity 10, 8am BCP Communion, Canon John Packer, and 6pm Evensong, Canon John Packer, St Peter's Church, Bridge; 10am Holy Communion, Canon Gordon Manley, and 4pm Family Service, Martin Leggat, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne. Other Churches in the Bridge Group: 9.30 am. Holy Communion, Canon R Diss, St Mary's Church, Nackington; no services at St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres, and St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, this Sunday; 11 am Bridge Methodist Church Service led by Mr J Ellis.

Owing to the unfortunate continued indisposition of the priest-in-charge, the Rev Paul Filmer, officiating ministers are liable to last minute changes into September.

BRIDGE Aug 21 2003

BROAD OAK

correspondent above.

Aug. 28th 2002

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

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

WI: Bridge with Patribourne branch members found the weather pleasantly warm after the recent heatwave for the August garden meeting. At the meeting on Tuesday, September 16, at the usual time of 7.30pm, Peter Warr will talk on Glass Engraving and the competition is an article beginning with T.

Ramble and tea: The Nailbourne League of Friends of Canterbury Hospital, as part of the league's Golden Jubilee Year, is holding a family ramble and tea. On September 7 at 3pm, an organised country walk will take place from Bridge to Lower Hardres Village Hall for tea. Tickets cost £5 per head, or £15 for a family. Bookings or more details from Elizabeth Stewart on 01227 830344, or Kate Whitten on 01227 830749.

Lessons: Polish up your German with a lively conversation classes, at The Plough and Harrow, Bridge, Thursday lunchtimes from noon to 1.30pm and Thursdays from 7.30-9pm, starting on Thursday,

September 11. A basic knowledge of German is expected. Join any time at £27 for six lessons, or £7.50 per session. For details phone Gertie on 01227 832594.

Mobile library: The new mobile library visiting times begin on September 1 and are: Bridge, Greencourt, weekly on Thursdays, 4.30-5.15pm; Patribourne, St Mary's Road, fortnightly on Tuesdays starting on September 2, 9.30-9.50am. Details on 07740 183764.

Concert: A trip to the Royal Festival Hall on Wednesday, November 5 has been organised by D and E Travel. Coach return from Bridge, inclusive, costs £32. For bookings or more details phone 01227 831095.

History Society: The new programme for 2003/2004 has just been published by the Bridge and District History Society. The season opens with the annual meeting on Tuesday September 23 at 7.30pm in the School Hall, Bridge. Annual membership, starting then, will be £6 single, £10 double and £4 for each additional person residing at the same address. Newsletters with a record or previous meetings and advance notice of the next events will be sent out in September, November, January, March and May. For details phone the treasurer Maurice Raraty on 01227 830508.

Interesting subjects for the coming season are The Forgotten Gardens of East Kent, Nailbourne Church Trail, a visit to Bourne House, hop picking in Kent, Christmas get-together, Christopher Marlowe and Canterbury, a members evening, clocks, Belmont House, the Kent Federation conference at Sandwich, a visit to Lullingstone Castle and Shoram (Kent) and an evening mix in Fordwich.

Church service: Sunday, August 31 Trinity 11, there is only the one 10am Benefice service throughout the Bridge Group with the Rev J. Shorrocks at St Mary's Church, Patribourne; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by Mrs B. Skinner.

A fine four-fendered friend...



ONE of the world's most famous cars returned to its spiritual home at the weekend.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang drew hundreds of visitors to Higham Park at Bridge, particularly children who were thrilled to see the spectacular vehicle.

It was brought to the estate by its owner Pierre Picton, who drove the car in some of the 1960s film sequences and acquired it 30 years ago.

He said: "It is wonderful to bring the car to Higham Park where the creator of the story Ian Fleming had such close connections. It really is Chitty's

spiritual home.

"Many of the children have, of course, seen the film or read the book and it gives me a lot of pleasure to see them so excited at seeing the car."

Fleming was inspired to write the book for his son by stories about Count Louis Zborowski, a millionaire racing driver who lived at Higham Park and built racing cars from 1910 to 1924.

They included several aero-engined cars called Chitty Bang Bang, which had monster engines and he raced with great success until his death in a crash driving for Mercedes.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang is now enjoying a revival as a West End musical, which Pierre says has rekindled interest in the car that could fly.

Visitors to Higham Park at the weekend also had the chance to look around its spectacular gardens, which are open every day during the summer.

SPIRITUAL HOME: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang owner Pierre Picton lets children on board the famous car

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