

to have to investigate in
Sep. 4th 2003

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

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

Robbery: Sometime during the Bank Holiday weekend, the two heavy gates at the entrance to the Bridge Health Centre, were stolen. The gates had been locked and anyone who saw anything suspicious is asked to contact the police.

Also around this period, in the nearby recreation ground car park, a white Nissan Micra was trashed.

Courses: The Bridge branch of WEA Learning for Life has announced its two autumn courses at the Plough and Harrow, High Street, Bridge. The first is number 7354, Pick of the Pulitzer: Modern American Fiction, will introduce you to some of the best American writers of the past 50 years including Annie Proulx, Philip Roth, Tony Morrison as well as the latest Pulitzer winner, The Hours by Michael Cunningham. The course tutor is Jane Ireson, phone 01304 840721. The timetable is on Wednesdays, 10am to noon, with 20 meetings from September 24. The

course fee is £79 standard, £59 reduced, £5 minimum.

The second course, No 7626, is about philosophy. Questions such as: What is consciousness? what is it to decide or choose? what is mind? have produced different views by philosophers. Course members will try to come up with some answers of their own. No prior knowledge needed, the course tutor is Tony Skillen and the timetable is Thursdays, 10am to noon with 10 meetings from September 25. Fee £89 standard, £30 reduced, £5 minimum. For both courses phone Jane Ireson on 01304 840721.

WI: Bridge and Patribourne branch is having a recruiting drive with the slogan "There's more to WI than meets the eye." It offers friendship, fun, learning and lots more. Visit your local branch and see for yourself. Women of all ages will receive a warm welcome. For more details phone the secretary on 01227 830400, or contact the East Kent Federation WI registered office on 01227 464106.

Bike Ride: The annual Friends of Kent Churches sponsored bike ride will be on Saturday, September 13. Parishes in the Bridge group need volunteer riders and also people to sit in the churches and sign in visiting riders. If you can offer any of your time, muscle power or sponsorship phone Pauline Pritchard, Jill Gallanders or Melanie Maclean on 01227 830685.

Parish council: The first monthly meeting for many years in the main village hall will be on Thursday, September 11 at 7.30pm. All those living in the village are welcome to attend.

Fish Scheme: The next Coffee pop-in will be in the village hall on Wednesday, September 10 from 10-11.15am. All those requiring transport can phone Ann Medhurst on 01227 830762.

Church news: At the time of going to press, the Rev Paul Filmer was still in hospital. Please continue to pray for his speedy recovering and for Judy and the family.

The Health and Healing Concerns meeting this month is on Thursday, September 4 at 7pm at 7 Windmill Close. The Prayer cycle is continuous and can be added to or deleted as circumstances change, so please feel free with your petitions for sickness, bereavement, anxiety, loneliness or any other situation you are concerned over. Join in if you are able, you will receive a welcome, or phone Kath Pierce on 01227 830844.

The Caring and Sharing Group, subject Costa Rica, meets at Bridge Vicarage at 7.30pm on Monday, September 8. Contact members 830250 and 765598.

Holy Communion is at Churchill House, Bridge, at 2.30pm on Tuesday, September 9.

Church services: Sunday, September 7, Trinity 12, officiating

Ministers are liable to last minute changes: 8am BCP Communion, St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne, 9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter's Church, Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge Group 10am Family Service and Baptisms, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 11am Holy Communion, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres. No service at St Mary's Church, Nackington, on September 4. 11am Bridge Methodist Church, service led by Mr D. Bishop.

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New e-mail: The correspondent can
now be contacted by e-mail at
john.anderson74@btopenworld.co
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Local village news items for the
Kentish Gazette may now be
contributed this way.

Volunteers: The Royal British
Legion is almost entirely
dependant upon voluntary
contributions for its ever-
expanding welfare commitments.
This is now particularly urgent,
when considering the situation
with our armed forces in the
Middle East. It would be sad if they
had to reduce the wonderful
contribution which our own
generous villages have made for so
long, simply because they could
not obtain the services of a few
volunteers to give up a couple of
hours of their time and help with
the local collections. They can
contact Barry Whiting on 01227
830506 as soon as possible.

Church diary: Monday, September
15, 7.30pm Caring and Sharing
Group, coffee and a chat, 16
Riverside Close, Bridge; Tuesday,
September 16, Holy Communion,
Saxon Lodge, Bridge, 2.30pm.

Church services: Sunday,
September 14, Trinity 13, 10am
Matins St Mary's Church,
Patribourne; 11am Harvest
Family Service, St Peter's Church,
Bridge. Other churches in the
Bridge Group, 8am BCP
Communion, St Peter's Church,
Bekesbourne; 9.30am Holy
Communion, St Mary's Church,
Nackington; 6pm Evensong, St
Mary the Virgin Church, Lower
Hardres. The Rev P. Filmer is off
sick for September and officiating
ministers are liable to last minute
changes. 11am Bridge Methodist
Church, Holy Communion, service
led by the Rev D. Marshall.

Change of Hands: At the Bridge
Pharmacy and Post Office, Ian
Barrie, the pharmacist who in the
last five and a half years has given
such excellent service to the
surrounding community, is leaving
this week for fresh pastures. All
villagers wish him well for the
future.

The business is being taken over
by the Paydens Group based in
Maidstone, which already owns a
number of similar businesses
throughout Kent.

The new pharmacist is Mrs Sara
Preston, who is keen to maintain
the standards of service already
provided. There will still be
familiar faces there, however, with
Charon and Lisa in the Pharmacy
and Shona and Karen in the Post
Office.

WI: The Bridge and Patribourne
branch will hold its next meeting
on Tuesday, September 16 at
7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. The
speaker will be Peter Warr on glass
engraving. The competition is for
an article beginning with T.

Writers Group: Covering the whole
of the Elham Valley, fortnightly
classes will resume on Wednesday,
October 1, from 2-4.15pm, at St
Mary's Hall, Elham, opposite
Browns, Estate Agents. Anyone
interested in improving writing
skills, or learning the basic rules of
creative writing, is welcome to join
this friendly group. Subjects

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covered include short story, articles, essays, writing for children, poetry, autobiographical and travel writing, as well as the critical analysis of literary texts.

Tuition is free, but members share the cost of hall hire, refreshments, photocopying and overheads of £2.50 per session. Registration for the autumn/winter term begins on Monday, September 22. Phone 01303 840311 between 9am and 6pm, except Tuesday morning and Friday afternoon, or write to Marianne MacKinnon, 6 Hog Green, Elham, CT4 6TU.

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Tennis Club: After the coaching courses this season, there will be two tournaments for junior members, for 12 year-olds on Saturday September 20 from 9.30am and for under 12s on Saturday September 27 from 9.30am.

Entry cost will be £1. There will be squash and biscuits, but entrants may want to take something of your own to eat between matches, such as bananas for energy!

As well as those who have attended the coaching, Family Juniors and single junior members on Tony's list are being contacted to attend a fun morning. The numbers turning up will determine how long things will last, but it is hoped to finish by 1pm. Umpiring, line judging, organising the players, serving the squash all need help so any volunteer parents will be welcome.

Tom Morgan, juniors' representative on the committee, has suggested that a social session for junior members would be a good idea for 4-6pm on Sundays. If you are interested in playing after

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ROUNDABOUT

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finishing your homework, phone him or Hilary Whiting on 01227 830506.

Church services: Sunday September 21 Trinity 14 10am Holy Communion, St Peter's Church, Bridge. No service at St Mary's Church Patrixbourne. Other churches in the Bridge Group, 8am BCP Communion, St Mary's Church, Nackington, 10am Family Service, St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres, 10am Holy Communion, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. Officiating ministers are subject to last minute changes. 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by Mr P. Burt.

PARISH COUNCIL: Proposed work to trees in a conservation area: River House, 67 High Street, to crown thin and crown reduce three silver birch trees along rear boundary garden by 20 per cent, and crown lift to the main forks on each tree as necessary.

Willows, Patrixbourne Road, fell one common lime, pollard others to previous cutting points.

The Dacha, Patrixbourne Road, fell eucalyptus tree in front garden

Parish Plan: A public meeting has been arranged for October 23 at 7.30pm in the village hall to discuss the Parish Plan.

Annual return for audit: It was noted that the council has passed the audit this year. The completed return can be viewed at 3 Cranmer Close, Bekesbourne, until September 25.

Floral competition: The winners of the competition for commercial properties were Harrow Cottage bed and breakfast and the White Horse Inn. Although there were insufficient entries for the residential competition, the display at 33 High Street was commended.

Next meeting: The council will meet next on October 9 at 7.30pm in the village hall. The planning sub-committee will meet at 7pm.

Bring and buy: An autumn sale is being organized by the residents of Mansfield Court in the village Hall at 10am on Saturday, September 27, in aid of the Pilgrim's Hospice. There will be tea and coffee, cakes and a raffle.

Surgery. City Cllr. Bill Oakey representing the North Nailbourne Ward, will hold his monthly surgery on Saturday, September 20 in Bekesbourne Village Hall from 10am to noon. All residents of Bishopsbourne, Bridge, Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne are welcome to attend.

History Society: Members will hold the first meeting of the new season at 7.30pm in Bridge School Hall on Tuesday September 23, when a talk will be given by David Collyer entitled The Forgotten Gardens of East Kent. This is not a gardening talk but a historical tour through the lost and neglected gardens of the grand houses in East Kent. He will show what has been lost but also how much is still to be seen if you seek it out.. This meeting will be preceded by a short annual meeting, to review last year's programme and view the treasurer's report. This will also be an opportunity for you to have a say in what you would like the society to do for you.

Church diary: Monday September 22 Caring and Sharing Group "What is a Christian?" at 7.30pm, 8 Kitchener Close, Barham.

Tuesday September 23 Holy Communion Highfield House, Bekesbourne.

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Gardeners: The Nailbourne Horticultural Society has arranged an additional evening meeting to its published programme for this year.

On Tuesday October 7 at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall, Janine Doulton will give a talk, illustrated by slides, on the gardens at Sissinghurst.

Members and non-members will be welcome; there will be a small charge for refreshments.

Fish Scheme: Should you ever need a light-weight wheel chair, the Fish Scheme has one to lend. Saxon Lodge kindly stores it and can be contacted on 831737.

The next Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday October 8 and will include the annual meeting of the Scheme.

Writers Group: There are still a couple of vacancies owing to a cancellation, for the fortnightly classes of the Elham Valley Writers Group, starting on October 1. Anyone interested in improving their writing skills, or learning the basic rules of creative writing, is welcome to join this friendly group. Subjects covered include the short story, articles, essays, writing for children, poetry, autographical and travel writing, as well as the critical analysis of literary texts.

Tuition is free, but members share the cost of hall hire refreshments, photocopying, and overheads of £2.50 per session. Registration begins this week. Phone Marianne MacKinnon on 01303 840311 between 9am and 6pm except Tuesday morning and Friday afternoon.

Floral competition: The contest for commercial premises in the village was won by the Harrow bed and breakfast, Brewery Lane, and the White Horse, High Street. The competition was organized by the parish council in conjunction with the Nailbourne Horticultural Society and the winners are to be congratulated on their displays. Although there were insufficient entries for the residential competition, the display at 33 High Street was highly commended.

Church diary: Sunday September 28 Lower Hardres Church family cycle ride and fun day, Reculver Car Park 10am.

Monday September 29, Caring and Sharing Group coffee and chat, 7.30pm, 8 Riverside Close, Bridge.

Church services: Sunday September 28 Trinity 15. 8am BCP Communion and 6pm Evensong St Peter's Church, Bridge; 10am Harvest Service and 4pm Family Service St Mary's Church Patribourne. The only other service in the Bridge Group this Sunday is 9.30am Harvest Communion at St Mary's Church Nackington; 11am Bridge Methodist Church Harvest Festival led by the Rev J.Ward.