

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

**Correspondent: J Anderson, 7
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Bridge in Bloom: Judging of the baskets and tubs by Margaret Jones, Kathy Walder and Ann Edmonds, took place at the end of July. They congratulate parishioners on the high standard of the many beautiful exhibits.

Results were: Large businesses, joint 1 th the Plough and Harrow and the White Horse Inn; smaller businesses, 1 Harrow Cottage bed and breakfast; private households, 1 33 High Street, 2 56 Riverside Close, joint 3 22 The Close and Coppice, Bridge Hill. First prize winners will be notified of the presentation date in due course.

Concert: Concerts are held biannually for the Friends of Higham Park and the latest was another great success and subscribed. Held in the lavish surroundings of the restored mansion, on Friday and Saturday last week, Cameo Opera presented a programme of Memorable Moments of Opera and Song. Singers were Judith Buckle, Clair Williamson, Michael Mucklestone and Matthew Craven, accompanied by pianist Peter Bailey.

This talented Kent group are well known locally and are doing a variety of performances in the next three months both at the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury and the Theatre Royal, Margate. Being a beautiful summer's evening the audience were able to enjoy their refreshments during the interval, on the surrounding lawns with the superb views over the Nailbourne Aalley.

Cameo Opera's next appearance at Higham Park will be on Friday and Saturday December 10 and 11 with a programme of Something for Christmas.

All tickets are now sold for these evenings but there is a waiting list you could join.

WI: Bridge and Patribourne branch August meeting is by tradition a garden meeting and will be held on Tuesday August 17 at 2.30pm at 8 Bridgedown by permission of Mrs Pat Hulyer. In the event of rain, the meeting will take place at the usual time of 7.30pm in the village hall. On Tuesday September 31 at the same time and venue, Peter Clarke will be giving a talk on the Bronze Age Boat of Dover. The competition for this month will be an article beginning with the letter H.

Garden party: The Smallest Garden Party in the World will be held by permission of Christine Hoare at 25 The Close on Saturday August 21 from 12.30-2pm and 5.30-7pm. Proceeds to the Royal National Institute for Deaf People (Roper House Garden Fund) and The Jubilee Sailing Trust. Tickets at £3.50 each from 01227 832447 or 01227 830313.

There will also be a Traidcraft stall.

Church services: Sunday August 15, Trinity 10, 10am Holy Communion, Canon G. Manley, St. Peter's Church, Bridge; 6pm Prayer and Praise, the Rev P. Filmer, St Mary's Church, Patribourne. Other churches in the Bridge Group: 8am BCP Communion, Mr Filmer, St Mary's Church, Nackington; 10am Holy Communion, Mr Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 10am Family Service, Mrs. M. Clarke, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by the Rev David Marshall.

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Folk in the Barn: The next event will be held in the Canterbury Cathedral International Study Centre on Thursday September 2. Doors open at 7pm, the concert starting at 8pm.

Three Generations of West Country Songwriters is a unique combination of artists touring together for the first time. Despite their diverse backgrounds all three share a love of songwriting and performing and a deep affinity for their West Country roots.

Steve Knightley is a prolific and highly respected songwriter, singer and a virtuoso multi-instrumentalist; Seth Lakeman is a talented fiddler, guitarist and singer who has just released his second solo album; Jenna is only 16, but has been playing piano and writing songs for six years. She has a startlingly mature voice and in her songs she captures the rugged beauty of her native North Devonshire coastline.

Tickets at £10 or £8 cons are available from Debs Earl on 01227 831493 or 0779 979 0738.

Street Wise: Maurice Smith has agreed to continue as Street Monitor on the behalf of the parish council, reporting matters to it, SERCO direct, and the City Council for action.

It would be a great help if in addition to his own observations, residents would inform him when they see matters that need attention under the following headings: dumped rubbish, fences hedges and walls, fly posting, graffiti, litter, pavements, potholes (over 2mm depth), litter bins, street furniture, street lights, trees and verges and vandalism.

Contact him on molesmith@tiscali.co.uk Phone 01227 831075 or drop a note through his door at 18 The Close, Union Road. He would make a further plea for all of us to pick up litter, particularly that near our own property. He hopes that this request will not go unheeded.

Twinning: The Elham Valley Twinning Association are holding an informal Boules and Barbecue Buffet at the top end of the valley at The Unicorn, Bekesbourne on Saturday August 28 starting at noon. This is an opportunity for members and non-members to get together for a chat over a friendly game of boules or just catch up with friends old and new.

To give ideas of numbers for catering and for more details phone Tony or Kathy Walder on 01227 830057(evenings).

Health for All: Health for All, the registered charity of the Bridge Health Centre supporting one of the poorest areas of India in and around the Bihar region, has just published its fifth annual report for 2004. In it Dr Mark Jones reports on the advances that have been made

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in continuing to consolidate the work of providing self-help groups and nurse clinics to the area and providing some food to avoid malnutrition among the children.

Close ties are now being made with the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, initially a small community hospital and now grown to become a Centre of Excellence for community medicine in India. The report also contains a narration from Sue Blacker who visited the village of Kanjar and with reference to some of the schools and supporters locally. The group is grateful for all donations. Many supporters give regularly by standing order which is particularly helpful with the ongoing running costs. The group is able to re-claim tax on all personal donations made by the taxpayers and completion of a simple declaration enables it to add a further 28p to each £1 donated

For further details or copies of the report contact Sue Blacker or Sharon Ashmore at the Bridge Health Centre phone 01227 832901.

Church services: Sunday August 22
Trinity 11. 8am BCP Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St Peter's Church, Bridge; 10am Extended Holy Communion, St Mary's Church Patrixbourne. Other service in the Bridge Group, 9.30am Holy Communion, St Mary's Church, Nackington; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by Mr.J.Ellis.

26.8.2004

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Church: The two new children's groups that started in May will be resuming in September. The Works now happens at the village hall from 9.45-11.15am every fourth Sunday in the month and organisers are delighted to see so many children. They built towers out of cardboard boxes, made clay statues and decorated gingerbread men, made stone animals and lion masks. They have puppets, have heard exciting stories, played games and learned action songs. There's room for a few more children who are welcome to give it a try. The next session will be on September 26. Sessions have been free so far, but from September they will be asking for a contribution of 50p per child or £1 per family to cover the cost of art materials.

The Upper Room has also been a success. It meets in the upstairs room of the Plough and Harrow, thanks to Chris and Melonie Maclean, but there is not room for many more! They meet at 9.15am on the first Sunday in the month, next session on September 5. They try to fit in a craft activity, story, memory verse, song and games before joining the adults in church for communion. None of this would have happened without the brilliant family services that are already established the Rev Paul Filmer's work in the school. Thanks also go to the team of leaders who have been helping. Ruth Washington thanks villagers for all their prayers and support. If you have any enquiries phone her on 01227 831156.

Thursday September 2, 7.30pm
Health and Healing Group, 7
Windmill Close, Bridge; 7pm Adult
Confirmation Group, The Vicarage.

Garden Party: The Smallest Garden Party in the World, held last Saturday at the home of Christine Hoare in the Close, Union Road, was an outstanding success. The total raised from both the morning and evening sessions was £250 for the Traidcraft Stall and a further £300 to be divided between the two charities selected this year, The Royal National Institute for Deaf People (the Roper House Garden Fund) and the Jubilee Sailing Trust, whose representative announced that any figure donated

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would be matched by an anonymous donor. Christine thanks all who helped with and supported the event.

Accident: Just after 11pm last Saturday night, an accident involving three vehicles occurred on Bridge Hill between the Bourne Park Road turning and the junction of Patricxbourne Road. Two people had to be released by the Fire and Rescue service and one of the cars was a write-off but there were no serious injuries. Fifteen feet of the flint stone wall of St. Peter's Churchyard was destroyed and the flagpole knocked down. All this took place within the 30mph limit.

The incident emphasizes the need for motorists to take extra care in this area until the Highways Department can complete the traffic calming work on the south side of the village.

Canterbury Orchestra: Musical director John Myhill is planning exciting programmes for four or five public concerts each year. The next will be on November 20 with works by Prokofiev, Borodin and Mahler. Rehearsals are on Friday evenings during term-time in Canterbury.

He has vacancies for all string and brass players (except cellos), and occasional vacancies in all sections. Players should be about grade 6 to 7 or above. There are no formal auditions but regular commitment is expected. Students, 14 or over, enjoy free membership. If you are interested phone Nicky Pound on 01304 812755 or Barbara Armstrong on 01227 738243.

School library: The Bridge and Patricxbourne School library is being opened up for pre-school children to share with the pupils. Toddlers are welcome to visit and listen to stories, browse through books, take part in activities or borrow a book to take home. Starting on September 7 it will be open during term time on Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 1.45-3.15. Children are welcome to attend for part or all the sessions but an adult must accompany them at all times. Sarah Moore and Di Oxenham look forward to seeing you.

Services: Sunday September 29, Trinity 12, one Benefice service for the whole of the Bridge Group of Parishes, 10am Benefice Holy Communion, the Rev P. Filmer, St. Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by Miss J. Hall.

Aug. 26th 2004

LITTLEBOURNE

Correspondent: N File, Northorp, 3 Church Road, Littlebourne

Whist: The monthly whist drive at Ellen Court, Nargate Street, had Mrs B. Clapton as MC.

Winners were Mrs K. Ridgwell, Mrs M. Fenn, Mrs H. Terry, Mrs E. Wigg, R. Freelove, Mrs J. Hopkins, Mrs J. Needham and Mrs E. Hayward.

Raffle winners were Mrs O. Qusted, J. Knight, E. Dockrell, R. Hopkins and Mrs J. Dockrell.

The next whist drive at Ellen Court, will be on Monday September 13 at 7.15pm, one week earlier than usual.

Chapel refurbishment: The Chapel in Nargate Street is undergoing refurbishment with grants, including one from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. This will lead to new family activities in October.

Anti-bypass group: The Stop the Littlebourne Bypass group is seeking support. It opposes the parish council's support for a bypass, claiming that a bypass would "wipe out a large swathe of irreplaceable attractive countryside" and be detrimental to local businesses. They advocate a weight restriction on the A257 bridge, traffic lights at the A257, Nargate Street and Bekesbourne Lane junction, speed cameras and a pinch point on The Hill. Further information on the campaign can be obtained by phoning 07759661699.

Art project: The children's workshops at the Barn have produced some excellent work and Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Jutish poles have been produced. Workshops continue on Saturday afternoons until Heritage weekend on September 11 and 12. Work will include creating a hop-picking pole.

Photographs or items of interest that could be copied are being sought. Photographs can be lent, with a name and address for return, by posting in the post box on the back of Tudor Cottage or at the workshops at The Barn.

Barn Produce: The second Littlebourne Barn produce show will be held on Monday August 30 from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Produce will be auctioned at 3pm. There will be jam, honey and art and craft stalls. Admission is free and schedules are obtainable from Tony Blofield on 01227 721918, Jackie Payne 721716, Mike Burns-Stark 721467, John Pollard 728216 and from the King William and Anchor public houses.