

14.07.2005
BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

Correspondent: J Anderson,
7 Dering Road, Bridge,
Canterbury, CT4 5NA. 01227
830260
john.anderson74@btopenworld.com

Affordable housing: The parish council wants to know, with the help of the Rural Housing Enabler, if there is a need for affordable housing in Bridge. Householders should have received a form, to be returned by July 22 in the prepaid envelope. Villagers are asked to take a few minutes to complete the survey, which will help the council to understand the housing needs of the whole parish. Anyone who has not received a copy can phone Cllr Pam Dobson on 01227 832369.

WI: At the Bridge with Patribourne meeting on Tuesday July 19 at 7.30pm in Bridge village hall, Mrs Bosworth will give a talk entitled Life of Hats. The competition is for an article beginning with the letter T.

Mission Plan: Bishops Stephen and Graham invite parishioners meet them to discuss the Deanery Mission plan on Tuesday July 19 at 6.30pm at Wingham School. Phone the Rev Paul Filmer on 01227 830250 if you would like to go but have no transport.

Church services: Sunday July 17, Trinity VIII, 10am Holy Communion, Canon G Manley, St Peter's, Bridge; 6pm Prayer and Praise, Mrs M Clarke, St Mary's, Patribourne.

Housing complaints: A number of residents have complained to their local city councillor about an anonymous notice, pinned up on the village hall notice board, advising villagers to vote against affordable housing in Bridge and giving a number of incorrect statements concerning this project. To clarify the situation, the idea of affordable housing is to allow those long-standing families, who have children brought up in the village, to either buy or rent affordable priced property, to live in the vicinity in which they were born. As property prices, particularly in this area,

have become inflated, it would be impossible for them to get their foot on the rung of the property ladder here. This scheme allows them to either rent or buy until such a time as either they wish to leave, or possibly move into their original family home. These premises will be tied to a certain level of re-mortgaging or re-letting at the percentage market price at the time they were in occupancy. The property then must be let or sold to people in the same situation in Bridge or the vicinity, thereby always having a pool of housing which can become available to those less well off.

These affordable houses will normally be built on special designated sites, usually somewhere on the outskirts of the village. Two classic examples can be found, one on Station Road, Bekesbourne, developed by the parish council, and the other at Adisham. Bishopsbourne is also looking into the availability of affordable housing.

It is emphasised that affordable housing does not now exist in the village. The parish council is trying to develop the scheme for the future of the population of the area. Anyone experiencing problems should phone 01227 762055.

Gardeners' show: The Nailbourne Horticultural Society's summer show will be held on Saturday July 23 in Bridge School Hall, Cunningham Lane at 2pm. The exhibitors can arrange their displays from 8-11am. Show schedules are available now and entries should be submitted by Thursday July 21.

All items other than garden entries should be in by Friday 15th July 15.

Church Diary: Friday July 15, Confirmation Group, St Peter's Church, Bridge 7pm. Sunday Benefice summer barbecue, Riverside Cottage, noon. Monday July 18, Caring and Sharing Group, 8a Conyngham Lane, 7.30pm. Tuesday July 19, Holy Communion, Saxon Lodge, 3pm. Saturday July 23, Bekesbourne boot fair, Parsonage Farm, Bekesbourne, 9am.

Other churches: Churches in the Bridge group: 8am BCP Communion, the Rev P Filmer, St Mary's, Nackington; 10am Family Service, Mrs M Clarke, St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres; 10am Holy Communion, Mr Filmer, St Peter's, Bekesbourne; 11am, Bridge Methodist Church service led by John Ellis.

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d.com**

Horticultural Society: On Saturday July 23 at 2pm, the annual summer show will be held at the village school.

Celebration party: Bridge's contribution to the nation's Day of Commemoration for the 60th anniversary of the ending of the Second World War was a successful party in the village hall, attended by between 80-90 guests. Grenville Hammer played the keyboard for community singing, led by local soprano Betina Farley. 'Professor Reg E Mental' provided magical entertainment and Chris Maclean photographed the guests for the village records.

Tea was arranged by Ann Medhurst and with a raffle there was a donation of £240 to the Royal British Legion. Barry Whiting thanks everybbody who attended, donated raffle prizes and contributed to a successful party.

British Legion: Sixteen members were at the district branch July meeting at the Recreation Club, Littlebourne with Doug Fenn in the chair. Members were sorry to hear that Jim Mount had met with another accident and wish him well.

The branch won the quiz at the recent Group 4 meeting, with three Canterbury members in the team.

Members attended the Battle of Waterloo anniversary service at Ickham in June and a Second World War 60th anniversary service at Canterbury Cathedral. Also a trip to Etaples was enjoyed by several members and friends.

A "Meet the Legion" coffee morning is on Saturday September 17 at 10am in the Littlebourne Hall. The next two monthly meetings will be on Tuesdays, August 9 and September 13, both at the Recreation Club, Littlebourne at 8pm.

Boot fair: There will be a boot fair on Saturday July 23 at 9am at Parsonage Farm, Bekesbourne, proceeds going to St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, funds. For pre-booked pitches at £7, phone 01227 831029 or 01227 832134. Nippers, Chalk Farm, Bekesbourne sponsors the fair.

Church diary: Tuesday July 26, Holy Communion, Highfield House, Bekesbourne, 2.30pm; After Eights Group, 58 Western Avenue, Bridge, 8pm; Sunday July 24, Trinity XI, 8am BCP Communion, Canon J Packer; 6pm Evensong, Mrs M Clarke, St Peter's Church, Bridge; 10am Holy Communion, the Rev P Filmer, St Mary's Church Patrixbourne; St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, Joint Service at St Mary's Church Patrixbourne.

Other churches in Bridge Group: 9.30am Holy Communion, Canon R Diss, St Mary's, Nackington; St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres, joint service at Nackington; 11am, Bridge Methodist Church, Holy Communion, the Rev David Marshall.

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WI: At the July meeting of Bridge and Patribourne branch, Mrs Bosworth spoke of her hats that she brought with her, from school, Guides, to Special Constable and for many weddings. Avril Austin won the competition. The next meeting on Wednesday August 17 will be at the Methodist Chapel at 2pm where there will be a demonstration of Encaustic Art by Mrs J Preston. Refreshments will follow and there will be no competition.

Open Gardens: The parish of Patribourne and Bridge is hoping to have a fund-raising open gardens event in Bridge during the first weekend of June 2006. If you would be interested in opening your garden, however big or small, phone Pat Dunderdale on 01227 830668 or Evelyn Andrews on 01227 830960 for more details.

Church: Sunday July 31, Trinity ten, 10am Benefice Communion, the Rev John Shorrock, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by the Rev Donald Lugg. Deanery Service, 6pm St Nicholas Church, Ash.

Summer show: Nailbourne Gardening Society's summer show last Saturday at Bridge School was a great success with 128 entries, and 18 entries in the Chairman's Challenge. Prizes: Royal Horticultural Society Certificates of Merit, John Barley and Roger Austin; Cottage Garden Challenge Cup, T Walder; Silver Rose Bowl for flowers, John Barley; Hawkins Cup for first time winner for flowers and Anderson Cup for first time winner for vegetables, John Round; Floral Art Cup; Audrey Kallhoff; Fremlin's Cookery Cup, Jane Lovelock; Society Rose Bowl (husband and wife combined points), Tony and Kathy Walder; Silver Salver for best small garden, John Barley; Silver Salver for handicrafts, Brenda Langley and Una Smith; Chairman's Challenge, Audrey Kallhoff; Blee Cup for most points in show, Audrey Kallhoff.

The chairman, Roger Austin, thanked all who had supported the show and said he was very pleased with the standard of the entries. The president, Cllr John Anderson presented the awards and thanked the chairman for his many years of service to the society. He also thanked the committee members for their hard work and all who entered to make the show such a great success.

Betty Cope and helpers served home-made cakes with tea throughout the afternoon.