



Above: Andrew Crutwell (right) and Elizabeth Redfern who were first and second in Bridge Parent-Teacher Association's under-11 pancake race on Tuesday. Below, left: Lesley Owens makes a determined effort. Below, right: Mrs Gwen Davis (right) and Mrs Bridget Hawkins, first and second in the ladies' race.



Write the address in large BLOCK letters in the panel below.
The address must NOT be typewritten.



TO:- MASTER. G. FARRETT.
1. BEANS. COTTAGES.
HIGH. STREET.
BRIDGE.
NR CANTERBURY. KENT ENGLAND.



202516

Write the message very plainly below this line.

Sender's Address 10567549. PTE FARRETT. R.F. 581 LofC. S.C.V R.A.O.C B.N.A.F



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM
THE MEDITERRANEAN

To Geoffrey and Angela from Daddy
xxxxxxxxxx

CORRESPONDENCE



BURITON MANOR, NEAR PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE

See letter: *The Ghost of Buriton Manor*

T TO SAVE OLD
TONBRIDGE

I was delighted to read in a recent edition of *COUNTRY LIFE* attempts being made to save the old buildings and the north side of Tonbridge Street, at the eastern end of the town. This should not be overlooked in two or three years, at the time the new Tonbridge bypass has been opened. This will have proved in the adjacent Sevenoaks substantially to north-south flow of traffic, usually eliminating the delays caused by traffic on the east-west

By the county council can be relieved these ancient buildings, of which so few now remain standing, until the effects of the bypass have been measured. To do this, three years is but an eyeblink in the history of these buildings, which once destroyed, can never be replaced. The fine Ferox Hall at Tonbridge and the attractive weathered houses opposite complement the old buildings, and their removal would detract from what little

charm is left to this once attractive town.—W. J. BREEN, *Redwood, Penshurst, Kent.*

THE GHOST OF BURITON
MANOR

SIR.—The anniversary of the death of Edward Gibbon on January 16 recalls Buriton Manor, near Petersfield, to which he fell heir in 1777 on the death of his improvident father, and which, intent on proceeding with his prodigious *Decline and Fall*, he sold two years later in order to settle in London on what he had managed to save of his depleted patrimony.

In June, 1857, an estate agent in Petersfield appeared at a valuation court there on behalf of this manor's owner, who sought a reduction in the manor's assessment because of the ghost haunting it. It had become better known because of its ghost than because of its connection with the Gibbon family.

The ghost would appear to have been a relevant factor in assessing its rateable value that year, since the panel reduced the assessment to £135 gross value, and £109 rateable. In other words the appeal resulted in the owner paying £13 less in rates, an achievement that brought from the late Gilbert Harding the comment

that he would sooner have a pale ghost as a guest (with no overheads) than be haunted by the only too real rating officer.—ALASDAIR ALVIN MACGREGOR, *The King's Barn, Oditham, Hampshire.*

HISTORY OF A KENTISH
HOUSE

SIR.—With reference to Doris Ker's inquiry (*Correspondence*, January 30), the house called Bifrons was situated in a large park near Patricbourne, in Kent, three miles from Canterbury. The house was built in the early 17th century by John Bargrave, of Patricbourne. His brother, Isaac, was Dean of Canterbury in 1625 and receives mention in *The Dictionary of National Biography*. Two generations later, in 1694, Bifrons was sold to John Taylor, whose descendants held it for more than a century.

The house was rebuilt in 1770 by the Rev. Edward Taylor, vicar of Patricbourne, who had carved upon the front of it a Latin inscription in commendation of his wife. Two of his sons, Lt.-Gen. Sir Herbert Taylor and Sir Brook Taylor, also have notices in the *DNB*.

Jane Austen, in a letter to her sister from Rauling in 1796, wrote: "We went to Bifrons, and I contemplated with melancholy pleasure the abode of him on whom I once fondly doted". Lord Brabourne, who edited the letters, states in his introduction that Bifrons was at that time in the possession of the Taylor family, from whom it afterwards passed to the Conynghams.

The 1st Marquis Conyngham who, through his wife's friendship with George IV, had great influence at Court, would undoubtedly have known Lt.-Gen. Sir Herbert Taylor, who was a confidential friend of the Duke of York; and it could have been through this contact that the Conynghams purchased Bifrons. The Marquis died in 1832 and was buried at Patricbourne. The Marchioness held the estate until her death in 1861 (a portrait of George IV by Lawrence hung in the drawing-room), and her descendants retained it until 1839. The house was pulled down somewhere between 1845 and 1850.

The enclosed photograph, taken in 1951, shows the topiary that remained in the gardens of Bifrons after the house was demolished.—J. W. BURCH, *7 Milwood Road, Horsham, Sussex.*

A MOTORWAY THROUGH
GREENWICH PARK?

SIR.—Mrs. Platts is right when she suggests (*Correspondence*, January 30) that the planners should start again with their road planning through Greenwich and Blackheath. To Mr. Vigars (January 23) Greenwich Park seems to be nothing more than an inconvenient barrier which prevents traffic from flowing about this historic area. By "free movement" he means free movement for cars. Why put cars before human beings?

How can anyone be foolish enough to contemplate spending £1,000 million on the destruction of large parts of Greater London when a fraction of the money would improve public transport to the point where motorways are unnecessary; and when this ugly, aggressive, malodorous and lethal steel box on wheels called a car will probably be obsolete in another 20-30 years?—ALEX SYKES, *Flat 4, 2 Mount Villas, Lausdow Hill, London, SE27.*

SURVIVING ANCIENT
SIGNPOST

SIR.—Near the Roman fort of Chesterholm (Wintholanda), in Northumberland, stands the Roman milestone shown in my photograph. It is a fine column about 6 ft. high; if there ever was an inscription on it, time and weather have rendered it illegible. The Roman road named Stonewate ran past this stone.

When one reads of Roman relics having been torn down for building material in the past, it is gratifying to see this milestone *in situ* instead of being split in two and used for gateposts, which was the usual fate of these milestones.—TERENCE J. QUINN, *70 Pendower Way, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.*

WHEN MIDDLESEX WAS
RURAL

SIR.—As a somewhat old-fashioned countryman, rather town-bound by occupation, I should like to express my enjoyment and appreciation of D. Macer Wright's charming and expressive word picture of London's

ROMAN MILESTONE NEAR
THE ROMAN FORT OF CHESTER

poses are conventional, the painting shows the artist's ability to group his sitters easily, and his disinclination to idealise features is reflected in the plain, jowly faces.

The portrait of Henry Purcell of around 1695, is also lost, but a drawing from life (Fig 2), previously attributed to Kneller, gives an impression of the artist's competence as a draughtsman. Other famous men represented here include John Dryden—whose long nose, hooded eyes and unsmiling face show Lely's influence—and Christopher Wren. The portrait of Wren (Fig 3), presented to the Royal Society in 1750 and still in its possession, is characteristic of the painter's earlier work: not adventurous, but dignified, informative and appropriate. Wren's fame as a mathematician is commemorated by the drawing he holds; his architectural achievement by his most famous building. The painting dates from the mid-1690s, while St Paul's was still being built. The parts of the Cathedral which were not complete—the west end, with the towers on either side of the portico, and the dome—differ interestingly from what was eventually executed.

As Closterman's reputation grew he was given commissions for increasingly elaborate portraits, and his talent as an organiser of figures into coherent groups emerged. His portrait *The Children of John Taylor of Bifrons Park, Kent* (Fig 4), another recent acquisition by the National Portrait Gallery, is a fine example of his abilities. The picture presents an ambitious allegory, a play on the Taylor family motto: *Fama candida rosa dulcior* (Fame is sweeter than a white rose). One girl distributes roses, while two of the sisters hold the wreath of fame over the head of the eldest brother, Brook, at the age of 11 when he was already celebrated as a musician (he was later to become a well-known mathematician). The artist avoids pomposity by establishing a sense of contact between spectator and sitters, and shows sensitivity in conveying

the relative status of the children and in the light touch with which the allegory is handled.

In 1698 Closterman set out on a European tour, under the patronage of two young noblemen. One of these was James Stanhope, whose father was English Resident in Madrid, and it was to Spain, then seldom visited from England, that the artist went first. The exhibition includes a striking but stiff and strange portrait of Stanhope senior (lent from the family house, Chevening) which was intended to impress the Spanish Court with Closterman's abilities.

The resulting studies of the King and Queen are, unfortunately, lost. From Madrid Closterman travelled to Rome, where he spent two years, and apart from his study of Italian painting gained experience for his later activities

as an art-dealer. He was back in England by July 1700. The artist's second sponsor on his travels had been the brilliant young politician and philosophical writer Anthony Ashley, 3rd Earl of Shaftesbury, and it was in this nobleman that he found his most important patron on his return to England. He executed a number of works for Shaftesbury, of which three or four paintings are included in this display. Lady Ashe (Fig 5), the sister of one of Closterman's closest friends, is painted in a grand manner new to the artist: she is presented as Cecilia, patron saint of music, in an acidly-coloured version of the Bolognese style.

The very picture of the Earl and his brother Maurice Ashley (Fig 6) reflects the patron's interest in planning the work. The two young men, both of them classical scholars, are depicted wearing something like Greek dress and standing in something like classical poses, in front of the Temple of Apollo. Intended as a statement of the neo-Platonic doctrine of the relationship between nature and the divine, the picture has a striking landscape background, and it is interesting that in his *Second Characters* Shaftesbury refers to discussions about nature with Closterman in St Giles' woods. All the same, the picture cannot be accounted a total success. Bold it may be, but it is also slightly absurd.

Less is known about Closterman's later years. He achieved great prosperity—though hardly, one feels, from such works as his lumpish portrait of Queen Anne—and died in 1711. Though some of his works are recorded in country houses and public collections, others remain to be rediscovered. This exhibition should encourage further research, and the



4—THE CHILDREN OF JOHN TAYLOR, OF BIFRONS PARK



5—LADY ASHE, THE SISTER OF ONE OF CLOSTERMAN'S CLOSEST FRIENDS. She is presented as Cecilia, patron saint of music





N LAST YEAR

face against time. The
ue with its remarkable
diversity of plant life,
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riceless asset to Texas,
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ho have wreaked such
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thousands of animals,
ousands of birds, rare
ner natural wonders of
th the layman and the
pass out of human ken
for ever.—JOHN V.
Red House, Box 57A
14512, New York, U.S.A.

records were destroyed in an air raid, and they are unable to trace who they sold it to. Professor Ellis Waterhouse lists the portrait as No. 466 in his comprehensive work on Gainsborough but does not know its present whereabouts.

However, a photograph was made of the painting in 1897, and I enclose a recent photographic copy of this, in the hope that one of your readers will recognise it and tell me where it is.—GERVASE W. MARKHAM (Rev.), *Morland, Penrith, Cumberland*.

THE YEAR OF THE YUCCA

SIR,—During the summer of 1968 reports came in from all over the country of yuccas suddenly going to blossom. My photograph shows one in the London area. Could it be that the temperatures of 1968 were just right?—W. LESTER, 22 *Burleigh House, Beaufort Street, Chelsea, SW3*.

FINE WOODS USED BY CABINET-MAKERS

SIR,—Looking through the London sale-room notices one sees references to purplewood, tulipwood, satinwood, harewood and other fine woods used in cabinet-making. Can you describe the origin of some of them?—JOHN S. PEACOCK, 23 *Chadbrook Crest, Brook Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15*.

[Purplewood comes from *Peltogyne pubescens*, a native of Brazil, is similar in appearance to rosewood and was imported from the late 18th century onwards. Tulipwood, also Brazilian, and imported in the same period, was the name given to several ornamental woods, especially the striped and rose-coloured wood of *Physocalymma floribunda*. Satinwood is the name of several woods of satin-like appearance, especially that of a large Indian tree *Chloroxylon swietenia*. It was imported from the West Indies from about 1760 and later in the century from the East Indies. Harewood is sycamore stained by oxide of iron to a greyish green. Kingwood is from species of dalbergia, probably *D. nigra* and is

beautifully streaked with violet. It was particularly in favour in 18th-century France and is said to have been named after Louis XV as a compliment.—ED.]

BYRONIC LINK WITH A CANTERBURY HOUSE

SIR,—Who owned the property called Bifrons, near Canterbury, during the period 1793–1820, and what was, or is, the exact location of this house? It is of interest to note that this house was later bought by Annabella Millbanke, Lord Byron's wife, and lent by her to Augusta Leigh's eldest daughter and her husband, Georgiana and Henry Trevanion, in 1829 after their marriage.

I should be most grateful for any information on this subject.—DORIS KER, 30 *Sandersfield Road, Banstead, Surrey*.

THE OLDEST YEW

SIR,—I was most interested to read the recent correspondence in *COUNTRY LIFE* about ancient churchyard yews in Surrey and Herefordshire. Readers may be interested to learn of the yew at Fortingall, in Perthshire, which is 3,000 years old and reputed to be the oldest piece of vegetation in Europe.—JACQUELINE PROVE, *The House in the Wood, Ashley Green, Chesham, Buckinghamshire*.

EGG'S GUN SHOP

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Edwards's comments (*Correspondence*, December 19) on Fig. 1 in Stella Margetson's article *London Tradesmen of the Regency*, your readers may like to know that this actually shows the shop of Durs Egg's nephew Joseph at No. 1 Piccadilly. It appeared originally in 1830 as Plate 32 of Thomas H. Shepherd's *London and its Environs in the 19th Century*.—C. BLAIR, 90 *Links Road, Ashted, Surrey*.

PEWTER CIGAR-HOLDER

SIR,—I was interested to read your explanation of the pewter vessel illustrated in *Collector's Questions* of January 2. We possess a





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28 June 1994

DATE

OUR REF

YOUR REF

CONTACT

R J Franklin
20 Windmill Close
Bridge
Canterbury
Kent
CT4 5LY

Dear Mr Franklin

Thank you for your letter of 1 June 1994. I am sorry it has taken so long to reply to you.

I have copied some information from one of our reference books: "Life in Brighton" by Clifford Musgrave, which refers to Lady Conyngham.

If you need any further information, the historians at the Royal Pavilion may be able to help you. I suggest you write to: Public Services, The Royal Pavilion, Brighton, or telephone them on (0273) 603005.

I hope we have been of assistance to you in this matter.

Yours sincerely

PP
Mrs S Jeal
Visitor Services Manager

another, 'he wore a huge cocked hat with gold tassels. He was surrounded with company, who expressed their surprise at the size of his hat: when he answered that he was then performing a different character from that of the previous day. He is the gaze of Brighton.' A fourth commentator remarked: 'He appears about thirty years of age, his name is said to be Cope, and with all his eccentricity of appearance, looks like a gentleman; he is always alone; walks slow; and stops and looks at every lady as he passes. We cannot call him the courteous stranger as he never honours us even with a smile. If notoriety be his object he has fully succeeded, as the windows are filled with ladies whenever he passes. Even Mr. Townsend [the Bow-street runner] does not know what to make of him.'

A doggerel jingle about him even appeared in the Press. Alas, after he had diverted the Brighton public for some three months with his 'innocent absurdities', it became clear that his eccentricities went deeper than the usual fashionable extravagances of behaviour. One day in October he sprang out of the window of his house and leaped over the cliff. It seems he had imagined from some cries he had heard that there was a riot, and that his presence was required to quell the disturbance. Although badly bruised and shaken, he suffered no serious hurt, and friends in London arranged for him to be cared for. In the 1950s a young man in Brighton who habitually wore a suit of bright yellow satin and a gilt paper crown excited much less remark, while in the late 1960s every conceivable aberration of dress seemed acceptable.

Also in October 1806 amongst the names of the fashionable company in Brighton appears for the first time that of Lady Conyngham. It has hitherto been imagined that the Prince did not meet the last in the succession of his lady companions until about 1819, but it is hard to imagine that she was not received by him at the Pavilion amongst most other members of the nobility at the time of that first visit. Indeed, it is very probable that they met as early as 1802, for in that year the name of Lady Conyngham as a stall-holder at Drury Lane Theatre appeared on a fan, which was no doubt intended to be sold at the Theatre, and which was printed with the seating plan of the stalls and the names of all the seat-holders for that season. Lady Conyngham's seat was then almost immediately behind those of the Prince and Mrs. Fitzherbert.

The Princess Charlotte was twelve years old when she came to Brighton for the first time. Early in her life she had been removed from the care of her mother, the Princess Caroline, and taken into the charge of the Royal Family. One Sunday evening in July 1807 she was driven past the Pavilion in her carriage on her way to stay at Worthing. The crowds of people who lined the route were delighted by her lively ways and charming appearance with her slender figure, blonde hair, and penetrating blue eyes, and they commented upon her resemblance to her father. Although she

did not stop at the Pavilion this time, a few days later she drove over from Worthing to attend the grand Review on the Downs and the sham naval battle that were now indispensable and riotous features of the Prince's birthday festivities every year. At the Pavilion she was warmly greeted by her father the Prince and her uncles the five Royal Dukes, who showed her the fantastic wonders of the Chinese rooms, which she passed through entranced with amazement, and which must have far exceeded the most astonishing scenes in any of her books of fairy-tales. After watching the Review on the Race Hill, the party returned to the Pavilion, where the Prince's band was playing and refreshments awaited them. Later the Princess was seen dancing on the lawn with the Duke of Cambridge, and at six o'clock she drove away in her carriage for Worthing.

The Prince's birthday celebrations were even more magnificent the following year. Amongst the guests at the Pavilion the young Lord Byron was present. Then only twenty and in his second year at Cambridge, he was spending the summer week-ends in Brighton accompanied by 'Gentleman Jack' the champion boxer, and by a girl of very great charm and beauty who dressed in a boy's jacket and trousers, but who deceived no one by this stratagem, especially when she was heard to speak in a penetrating cockney voice and to call Byron her 'bruvver'. He was staying at a house on the Marine Parade where the Albemarle Hotel stood in later years, and spent his time with his friends swimming, boating and riding on the Downs, at night playing hazard until four o'clock in the morning.⁷ The Prince was probably intrigued to meet the young man around whom so many romantic rumours had already been woven, especially of fantastic parties and of drinking from skulls at Newstead Abbey. Byron did not record his impressions of the Prince on this visit, but in 1812 he met him again at a ball at Carlton House, and after a long conversation with him wrote to Sir Walter Scott, as we have already noted, that the Prince's language had given him 'a very high idea of his abilities and accomplishments, which I had hitherto considered confined to manners, certainly superior to those of any living gentleman'.

In the pages of *Don Juan* he was to write, not long before his death in 1823:

*Shut up—no, not the King, but the Pavilion,
Or else t'will cost us all another million.*

The news which came to the Pavilion in July 1809, of another great victory of the Napoleonic wars, was, in fact, the first announcement of the event made in this country, when dispatches from Sir Arthur Wellesley arrived for the Prince at Brighton while his guests were seated at dinner, informing him of the victory of Talavera in the Spanish peninsula, when nearly 50,000 French troops were defeated by an English force of hardly

Princess's child was born dead after a long-drawn-out labour, and she herself died soon afterwards from exhaustion. They were both victims of the orthodox medical system of the time, by which the prospective mother's 'excessive animal spirits' were reduced by a starvation diet and bleeding so that she was drained of all the vitality she needed for her ordeal. Furthermore the Princess was denied the physical help she should have been given, because of the inability of her surgeon, Sir Richard Croft, to overcome his fear of touching the body of a Royal personage. Soon after the tragedy Croft shot himself.*

The whole nation was stunned with shock at the loss of one of the most popular Royal figures in English history. The Prince Regent was heart-broken and was copiously bled in the course of the day. After the funeral he retired into seclusion at Brighton, all those who attended upon him shocked by his sorrow-ravaged face. Queen Charlotte wrote of her son's behaviour towards the Princess: 'He granted and accomplished her Wish to marry the man She chose herself, and gave Her the place to reside at she was always partial to . . . God be praised that the Prince can have nothing to reproach himself with, but can say with truth "I made her happy."⁴

The alterations at the Pavilion had now been resumed, and may have afforded the Prince some distraction, as possibly did also the arrival in the spring of rooks in the grounds for the first time since 1802. The local newspaper reported:⁵ 'The black gentry, yecept rooks, are now busily employed, about the towering trees of the Pavilion Grounds, framing their nests for the pleasure of incubations, and the multiplying their sooty species'—surely one of the earliest examples of the 'plashy' school of nature-writing!

By December 1817 the Regent had so far recovered his customary high spirits that he gave a supper to the servants in the new Kitchen of the Pavilion. 'A scarlet cloth was thrown over the pavement: a splendid repast was provided, and the good-humoured Prince sat down, with a select party of his friends and spent a joyous hour. The whole of the servants, particularly the female portion, are delighted at this mark of Royal condescension.' But as with many other innocent and well-intentioned incidents of the Prince's life, the occurrence was made the subject of yet another of those innumerable attacks aimed to discredit him politically, on this occasion in the form of a caricature by Cruikshank entitled 'High Life Below Stairs', in which the Prince is shown drunkenly carousing with his cronies, and watched by contemptuous servants. The rather stiff formalities of Court life at the Pavilion in those years are more reliably described by John Wilson Croker in his *Journal* for 1818. In December he wrote:

'The etiquette is, that before dinner when he comes in, he *finds* all the

men standing, and the women rise; he speaks to everybody, shakes hands with new comers or particular friends, then desires the ladies to be seated. When dinner is announced, he leads out a lady of the highest rank or when the ranks are nearly equal, or when the nominal rank interferes a little with the real rank, as yesterday, with Lady Liddell and Mrs. Pelham, he took one on each arm. After dinner the new dining-room was lighted and he took the ladies to see it. It is really beautiful, and I liked it better than the other, if I can venture to say that I prefer either. Everybody was comparing them, and the praise of one was always, as is usual in such cases, expressed by its superiority over the other. I ventured to say that this was not a fair way of judging them; that though different they were, perhaps, both equally beautiful in their respective kinds, like a "handsome man and handsome woman". This poor little phrase had great success. The ceilings of both rooms are spherical and yet there is no echo. Nash says he has avoided it by some new theory of sound, which he endeavoured to explain, and which I did not understand, nor I believe he neither. The rooms are as full of lamps as Hancock's shop.

'After dinner there was music as usual. . . . The supper is only a tray with sandwiches and wines and water handed about. The Prince played a hand or two at Patience, and I was rather amused to hear him exclaim loudly when one of the Kings had turned up vexatiously, "Damn the King!"'

When the Pavilion was in the last stages of its completion the Regent stayed during his visits in 1819 and 1820 in one or other of the houses in Marlborough Row, which ran southwards from Church Street in the northern part of the Pavilion grounds. Only one of these houses remains today, known as North Gate House. Colonel Bloomfield, the Prince of Wales's Secretary, had lived there at one time, and after 1820 it became the residence of Lady Conyngham, Lady Steward of the Royal Household. Today it houses the Administrative Offices of the Art Gallery and Museum.

Long after the closing of the Castle Hotel the brilliant tradition of the great balls was continued at the Old Ship Hotel. They were organized by a committee of lady patronesses, with Mrs. Fitzherbert at their head. All the fashionable residents and visitors thronged to these private subscription dances, which were said to be arranged 'on the model of the London Almack's', an allusion to the dances held at the famous assembly rooms of that name in St. James's. Here Lady Jersey, Lady Castlereagh, the Princess Esterhazy and the Princess Lieven were among the lady patronesses who wielded despotic power in granting admission to what Captain Gronow described in 1814 as 'the seventh heaven of the fashionable world. Of the three hundred officers of the Foot Guards not more than half-a-dozen

of the above intrepid aeronaut as a remuneration for the danger and loss he has sustained, to gratify the public'.

By the time of his accession to the throne the King had broken off his friendship with Lady Hertford. For over fifteen years she had been the King's principal confidante and adviser. Lady Hertford herself maintained their association had never been other than platonic, and the political influence she wielded through this attachment was undoubtedly sweeter to her than any other delights the King was able to offer. The King was now completely under the spell of the Marchioness of Conyngham, continually fondling and kissing her hand, and gazing upon her even in public with abject adoration. Lady Conyngham possessed the ample proportions that the King seemed so often to require in all his intimate companions, but unlike the frigid Lady Hertford and the vixenish Lady Jersey, she had a warm-hearted, relaxed temperament that the King found soothing and restful. The post of Lady Steward was created for her, while other appointments in the Royal Household were given to her husband and two of her sons, and the end house in Marlborough Row (now North Gate House) was set aside for her use. The King's willingness to leave all his domestic affairs in her hands, and his generous presents to her, naturally caused intense animosity to be aroused amongst her acquaintances. 'All the members of her family are continually there,' wrote Greville in May, 'and are supplied with horses, carriages, etc, from the King's stables. She rides out with her daughter, but never with the King, who always rides with one of his gentlemen. They never appear in public together. She dines there every day. Before the King comes into the room she and Lady Elizabeth [Conyngham] join him in another room and he always walks in with one on each arm. She comports herself entirely as mistress of the house, but never suffers her daughter to leave her. She has received magnificent presents and Lady Elizabeth the same; particularly the mother has strings of pearls of enormous value. . . . The other night Lady Bath was coming to the Pavilion. After dinner Lady Conyngham called to Sir William Keppel and said "Sir William, do desire them to light up the saloon as Lady Bath is coming this evening." The King seized her arm and said with the greatest tenderness: "Thank you, thank you, my dear; you always do what is right, you cannot please me so much as by doing everything you please, everything to show you are mistress here." ' Those who have 'the Royal ear' are not infrequently envied, feared and even hated, but Lady Conyngham seems to have been ridiculed and vilified to a far greater extent than almost any other person associated with the King, and this campaign of slander has continued even into our own day. Creevey wrote in his diary in December 1822: 'Brougham says *many of the best informed* people in London, such as Dog Dent and others, are perfectly convinced of the truth of the report that dear Prinny is really to marry Ly. Elizabeth

Conyngham; on which event the Earl here humorously observes that the least the King can do for the Queen's family is to make Denison "Great Infant of England".' A footnote in Sir Herbert Maxwell's edition of the Creevey papers (1903) mentions that Lord Albert Denison Conyngham, third son of Elizabeth Denison, first Marchioness of Conyngham, was born in 1805 'and was supposed to be the son of the Prince of Wales (George IV)'. This belief, widely held at the time, was quite conceivably not incorrect. It has already been shown that the King and Lady Conyngham could have known each other as early as 1802. Also, in 1805 she was among the fashionable visitors to Brighton and it seems most improbable that the Prince did not meet her then.*

Lady Conyngham was accused of being 'avaricious and insatiable in her lust after anything of the least value she could seize', persuading the King to lavish upon her jewellery of enormous value, including even some articles of the Crown jewels which the King had been compelled to recover from Prince Leopold after the death of Princess Charlotte. It can quite convincingly be argued that the wealthiest people are often the meanest, especially in small matters, but the accusation of avariciousness seems very much out of place in connection with the Conynghams, who were one of the richest families in England. She herself was the daughter and heiress of a wealthy London banker, Joseph Denison, and the sister of a multimillionaire. Sir Thomas Lawrence's dramatic portrait of her, painted in 1802, shows a handsome woman of queenly build, and a portrait in enamel by Charles Muss,⁵ while throwing a cast of beauty over her ample form, conveys an impression of a woman of great shrewdness as well as charm of character. The greatest tribute to her ability was made by the Duke of Wellington, who confessed that he invariably consulted her and asked her advice in public matters, and stated that no decision of importance in affairs of state during the years of her ascendancy was made without her opinion being sought. The picture of a selfish, grasping woman, using her influence with the King solely for her own personal ends, changes when one considers the tradition in the Londesborough family to the effect that she prevailed upon the King to abolish the flogging of women prisoners. The author was informed of this tradition by the late Dame Edith Sitwell, a descendant of Lady Conyngham's on her mother's side. 'What an atmosphere the King lives in!' wrote Lady Anne Becket to the monarch's biographer Croker. 'He never, since he has been at Brighton, has left his own room, except to walk *across* at half-past three or four to Lady C's house, and at six to walk back, he then dresses and comes down to dinner, and that is the whole of his air and exercise. Bye the bye, all the world, if they chose, might see this daily visit; for the King goes out at the south* gate of the inclosure and has a few yards of the common street to walk to reach the steps of Lady C's house.' This house, now North Gate House, has since

1935 been the administrative offices of the Royal Pavilion, Museums and Libraries, and the room where the King and Lady Conyngham sat conversing and drinking tea every afternoon was for nearly thirty years the present writer's office.

Dinner would be served at the Pavilion at six-thirty. The King sat on one side of the table, with Lady Conyngham on his right, and her daughter, Lady Elizabeth, on his left. At one end of the table sat Lord Conyngham, with his son Lord Francis Conyngham at the other. Opposite the King was his Private Secretary, Sir Francis Bloomfield. On one occasion reported by Croker the party retired after dinner to the Music-room, where the King sang some Italian trios with the two pretty Miss Liddells, daughters of Lord Ravensworth, who Lady Conyngham suspected were trying to insinuate themselves into the King's favour. He also sang *Life's a Bumper* and *A Friar of Orders Gray*. After a minor uproar over the King's snuff box, which had become mislaid, but which was eventually found reposing safely in his pocket, at eleven-thirty the King retired to bed. The next night after dinner he sang again, this time with two young choristers from the Chapel Royal. There were some glees, *Glorious Apollo*, and *Lord Mornington's Waterfall*—so popular was the latter that he had to repeat the performance—and *Non Nobis Domine*. 'His voice, a bass', remarked Croker, 'is not good, and he does not sing so much from the notes as from recollection. He is, therefore, as a musician merely, far from good, but he gave, I think, the force, gaiety and spirit of the glee in a superior style to the professional men.' Croker also noted that 'Lady Conyngham and Lady Elizabeth did not conceal their dissatisfaction to all this music, and particularly at the Liddells.' The King had never enjoyed music so much as in this new Music-room he had devised, and he told Lady Granville that he cried for joy whenever he reflected on the delights of the Pavilion.

During his first visit to England, Rossini was invited to the Royal Pavilion on 29th December 1823. A grand concert was held in the Music-room at which the overture to *La Gazza Ladra* and a selection from *Il Barbiere* were played by the King's band, and the composer himself sang two songs from his own operas. When the Coronation anthem was played the *maestro* had not the slightest hesitation in taking a seat, uninvited, by the King's side, an act of familiarity that greatly displeased Lady Granville and other guests, although the King willingly overlooked it in an artist for whom he himself had so much respect.

The glories and extravagances of the Pavilion excited the Princess Lieven's customary shrewish disapproval, accompanied by her usual inaccurate estimate of the cost of things. 'I do not believe that, since the days of Heliogabalus, there has been such magnificence and such luxury. There is something effeminate in it which is disgusting. One spends the

evening half-lying on cushions; the lights are dazzling; there are perfumes, music, liqueurs. . . . Here is one single detail about the establishment. To light the three rooms, used when the family is alone, costs 150 guineas an evening; when the apartment is fully opened up, it is double that.'

The King's Band now numbered seventy performers, and was costing him between £6,000 and £7,000 a year. Even so the musicians complained bitterly about the inadequacy of their pay, and it was worked out that the least a man with a wife and three children could live on was £2 9s 6d a week, the cost of lodging, furniture, the schooling of children and clothing not being included. Most of them got no more than about £2 6s 0d, and as a result the wages were increased by about 7s a week for each man. Their difficulties were further alleviated by allowing some of their musically inclined sons also to be 'put on the strength and allowed to draw wages'.⁶

It was about this time that the King made the munificent gift to the nation of the great library which had been formed by his father, and which included many important manuscripts and early printed books. The gift was conveyed to the Prime Minister in a letter written from the Pavilion by the King while in the midst of great pain during a severe illness.⁷ £40,000 was voted by Parliament for the building of a new wing at the British Museum, and it is there that the King's Library is housed to this day. It has been said that the Emperor of Russia had offered £100,000 for the collection, and that King George IV was compensated for the loss of this sum by a grant of the amount from the Admiralty Prize Fund.*

George IV was genuinely interested in literature. He was an avid reader of the works of Sir Walter Scott, who became a close friend and whose baronetcy was the first conferred by the King upon his accession. He was an admirer, too, of the novels of Jane Austen, and when at his suggestion she dedicated *Mansfield Park* to him he invited her to visit Carlton House in order to inspect his own library there. His admiration and respect for writers is shown by the subscriptions of 1,000 guineas a year which he made to the Literary Fund of the Royal Society of Literature, by means of which pensions were paid to ten men-of-letters. He also subscribed heavily towards the cost of a new headquarters for the Society. One of the pensions was paid to the poet Coleridge, whose poem *Xanadu* had seemed to speak of the Pavilion—'In Xanadu did Kubla Khan A stately pleasure-dome decree'. Now in his old age, afflicted by sickness and fits of insanity, Coleridge had been kept from misery since 1825 by the King's generosity, but after the death of George IV the new King declined to continue the pensions, on the advice of the Whig Ministers Grey and Brougham.

The generosity and sympathy of King George IV were no less powerful when they were exercised on behalf of the very humblest people, even if the fact was not likely to become known. The King's Ministers were accustomed to his frequent exercise of the Royal prerogative of mercy—a

MARQUIS SELLS UP LOVELIEST VILLAGE

Express Staff Reporter

FOR a little over £3,000, the 28 thatched cottages of Patricbourne—"loveliest village in Kent"—have been sold by the Marquis Conyngham.

And his 40-room mansion, built in the reign of Charles II., has been pulled down.

The 60-year-old Irish marquis has done this, his sub-agent, Mr. Charles Apps, said yesterday, "because the low rents—which are still the same as pre-war—do not pay for repairs."

Rents for the cottages—up to 300 years old—average 5s. a week. Some are 3s. 9d.

Nearly all the 118 villagers once worked at the mansion—Bifrons, which stands in a 230-acre park. Last week they saw workmen demolish the last stone.

Said Mr. Apps: "No one would buy it. During the war the Forces used it. But now no one wants it. The council considered it for a hostel, but it was unsuitable."

"The rates were terribly high, and the only answer was to pull it down."

No shops

The marquis lives at Slane Castle, Co. Meath.

Nineteen cottages were bought by Mr. Edwin Gardener, a Canterbury auctioneer, for £2,100. Seven were sold to a Canterbury solicitor, Mr. Wilfred Mowll, coroner for East Kent.

The village has no shops, no public houses, no street lights and one pillar box.

The only building not sold is the 12th century church of St. Mary. The vicar, the Rev. W. H. Gregory, said: "Villagers are really upset that the modern century has caught up with them at last."

Two men buy Kent picture village

By Daily Mail Reporter

IRISH Marquess Conyngham has sold Patricbourne, a thatched village near Canterbury, "as part of an economy drive."

The village is one of Kent's loveliest, but it is off the beaten track, and little known even to tourists.

It has been sold following the demolition of Lord Conyngham's 40-roomed country seat, dating back to the days of Charles II.

The Conynghams have not lived there for half a century. They found it uneconomical to reconstruct the mansion for any other purpose.

A Canterbury solicitor and an auctioneer have bought up most property in the village, which has no shop or public-house. The 12th-century church has not been sold.

The Children of John Taylor of Bifrons Park (1696 ?) John Closterman

The portrait shows eight of the children of John Taylor, a wealthy Kent landowner and his wife Clivia. Second from the left is Brook Taylor (1685-1731), their eldest son, later a celebrated mathematician, the inventor of Taylor's Theorem. According to a memoir of Taylor published by his grandson in 1793, the portrait shows him aged thirteen; that is, on or after 18 August 1698. There are two objections to this. First, Closterman was in Madrid by November of that year, allowing very little time for so ambitious a commission. Secondly, one son, Bridges (1695-1727), would be missing. A date of 1696 for the portrait, when Brook was eleven, fits the circumstances better. The children would then be (left to right): Olive (b.1681), Brook, Margaret (b.1683), Mary (b.1680), Upton (b.1696), Nathaniel (b.1687), John (b.1687) and Bridges (rather than Herbert, b.May 1698).

Closterman is known to have painted two other family groups - The Seymour Children (Syon House) and The Marlborough Family (Blenheim Palace) - but this highly finished group, with its assured, rhythmic composition, sumptuous colouring and Frenchified elegance, is arguably his masterpiece. It is contrived as a play on the motto of the Taylor family, 'Fama candida rosa dulcior' (fame is sweeter than a white rose) (information from Professor J. Douglas Stewart). Olive and Margaret hold the traditional allegorical attributes of Fame: two trumpets and a wreath with which they crown Brook, who was evidently something of a child prodigy and an accomplished musician. The wreath appears to be of orange blossom rather than the more usual bay. Mary, seated at the centre of the group, dispenses from her cornucopia, symbol of the benefits of good fortune, a white rose. It is possible that the exquisite flowers were painted by a specialist flower painter, rather than by Closterman himself.

Provenance: almost certainly painted for John Taylor (1665-1729); by descent to H.M.C.Trench: his sale, Sotheby's, 9 July 1980; bought by the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery, London, November 1980. On view in the N.P.G. Collection at Beningbrough Hall, Yorkshire.

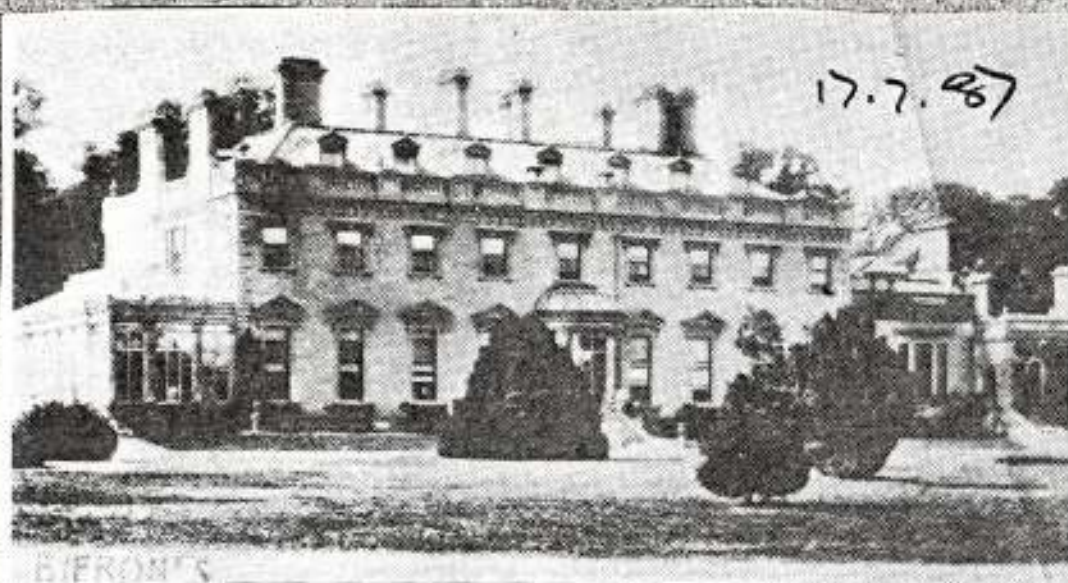
Higham Place - Highland Court

- 1320 First mention of a house of the site
- 1543 House on the site owned by THOMAS CULPPER eventually passed on to ANTHONY ARCHER.
- 1726 THOMAS CORBETT (married sister of Archer)
- 1768 Present house built by IGNATIUS GEOGHOGEN who married 4th daughter of Corbett.
- 1781 JAMES HALLETT son of a wealthy sea captain from Little Dunmow, Essex bought the house. He bequeathed it
- 1823 Rev. CHARLES HUGHES-HALLETT who had taken the chaplaincy of Bridge and the Vicarage of Patricbourne in 1813. He died
- 1846 Rev. JAMES HUGHES-HALLETT eldest son inherited. He was Vicar at Petham with Waltham and originally lived at Bridge Place. Died in 1901 and bequeathed house to nephew who lived in Scotland. The house was sold
- 1901 WILLIAM GAY London Banker responsible for the walled garden and an orchid specialist. Sold the house
- 1910 COUNTESS ZBROWSKI who had lived for a while at Bridge Hill House and was the grand daughter of wealthy William Astor. She started to alter and redecorate the house but died 1911 without living in the house. Inherited by
- 1911 COUNT LOUIS VOROW ZBROWSKI (Born 1895) at the age of 16 together with £3 million from his mother and £8 million from his father. [see other boards] Died in a motor racing crash 1924 and it took four years for the administrator to sort out the estate. The house was put up for sale London Auction Market, Victoria Street by J.D. Wood and Co and bought for £17,500 by
- 1928 WALTER KENNEDY WHIGHAM of Highland Investment Co Ltd, Crosby Sq, London. He changed the name to HIGHLAND COURT.
- 1936 The cricket ground was added
- 1948 Walter K Whigham died and the house was offered to the REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD as an annex to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital of which WK Whigham had been President for 13 years.
- 1951 Formally opened by Mr K.I. Julian CBE Chairman of the S.E. Metropolitan Regional Board.
- 1968 Closed due to financial restraints

1972 Reopened as home for Mentally Handicapped

1987 Sold by the S.E. Thames Regional Health Authority for
£1.5 million to TILLER INTERNATIONAL

Since then we believe it changed hands once more and
is currently FOR SALE



Bifrons House, Patrixbourne, now demolished. Was it ever painted by Ernest Taylor?

Help me find paintings

Sir,

Re: Ernest Taylor 1856-1940. This was a descendant of the Taylor family, owners of Bifrons House and estate at Patrixbourne. The house is now demolished.

Ernest Taylor sometimes lived at Bourne House, Bushey, Herts, but died while resident at the Leas Hotel, Folkestone. He is buried in Hawkinge Cemetery. He had no children.

Although he did not need to earn his living, he was a watercolour landscape painter of some repute. I have no knowledge of any of his paintings having survived.

I am particularly interested to know if he ever painted Bifrons or any scenes around Canterbury.

Can any reader help?

IAN D. TAYLOR

**3 Whitelocks Close,
Kingston.**

Shame of o impassable footpaths

Sir,

I am writing to complain about the Kent County Council and/or Bekesbourne Parish Council.

I am a serving member of HM Forces in the Royal Navy.

I recently spent a weekend at home with my parents in Bekesbourne after a three-month tour with my ship.

I am writing to complain about the state of the public footpath from the station to Littlebourne Road.

It was overgrown with weeds, stinging nettles and elderberry trees which overhung the pathway to about four-ft from the ground and it was practicably impassable in places.

It is very disappointing to see this sad state of affairs after seeing clean streets and paths abroad.

My parents both pensioners in their 70s, had written to Cllr Johnston of Bekesbourne Parish Council informing him of the state of the path.

Cllr Johnston referred to the County Council, saying it was his responsibility.

My parents then wrote to the County Council who said the path was the responsibility of Bekesbourne Parish Council.

My parents then wrote to Cllr Johnston who failed to reply to their letter.

As I was so disgusted with the state of the path and considering the state of health of my father, I decided to walk up that way to the station. I spent 3½ hours one Sunday cutting down the overgrowth and clearing it to enable folk to use the public footpath.

Hopefully the people concerned will read this letter and maybe the footpath clear in future.

JOHN A

**2J2 Mess,
HMS Illustrious,
RPO China**

1930 - 31

1911 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost

B.JONES
Milkman

F.HOGBEN
Sadler

F.DOWNS
Cycle Shop

A.VINTEN
BBRD Council

S.GILBERT
Blacksmith
2nd Officer

A.TAYLOR
Candlemaker

H.PRICE
Grocer

Plough Landlord

H.T.PRICE
Engineer
Haulage Contractor
C & G Yeoman

C.WILLS
Chief Engineer
Retired Baker

J.FRIEND
Engineer
Retired Publican
Red Lion

Canterbury, 1862-1914; terriers, 1863; school attendance committee minutes, 1877-1921; infant life protection registers, and reports, 1896-1922; rural sanitary authority by-laws, 1892; vaccination registers, Sturry, 1901-14, Whitstable, 1913-16.

BRIDGE UNION

G/Br

ADMINISTRATION: minutes, 1835-1930, committee minutes, 1915-17; in-letters, 1850-1917, letter books, 1843-65; ledgers, etc., 1835-1930; lunatic returns, 1913-26; service registers, 1896-1929; settlement case papers, 1832-1926; register of apprentices, 1865-1911; registers of infants and children boarded out, etc., 1894-1926; registers of children sent to training homes, 1916-24; reports, 1885-1931; statistical returns, 1839-52, 1913-30; Guardians' declarations, lists, etc., 1840-1921; bastardy papers, 1842-1922.

FINANCE: collectors' books, 1907-30; treasurers' books, 1912-25.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER: report book, 1901-18.

RELIEVING OFFICER: application and report books, 1890-1912; weekly relief for Adisham, Barham, Beakesbourne, Bishopsbourne, Bridge, Chartham, Fordwich, Harbledown, Upper and Lower Hardres, Ickham, Kingston, Littlebourne, Nackington, Patrixbourne, Petham, Stodmarsh, Thanington, Waltham, Westgate, Wickhambreaux and Womenswold, 1835; outdoor relief books, 1897-1929; lunatic reception, 1873-1929.

WORKHOUSE ADMINISTRATION: casuals' admission and discharge, 1907-31; accounts, 1886-1935; admission and discharge books, 1835-1934, birth register, 1915-20, lunacy, 1870-1919, indoor relief lists, 1836-1933; chaplains' reports, 1909-23, masters' reports, 1912-30, workhouse medical relief, 1912-14, porters' books, 1914-30, visitors' books, 1907-34; inventories, 1848-1932, contracts, etc., 1913.

NON POOR-LAW DUTIES: assessment committee minutes, 1862-1927, appeals, 1866-1922; rates for Adisham, 1914-26, Barham, 1911-26, Beakesbourne, 1886-1926, Bishopsbourne, 1912-26, Bridge, 1877-1926, Chartham, 1906-26, Fordwich, 1914-26, Harbledown, 1901-26, Lower and Upper Hardres, 1926, Ickham and Well, 1871-1926, Kingston, 1910-26, Littlebourne, 1914-26, Milton-next-Canterbury, 1889-1926, Nackington, 1925-6, Patrixbourne, 1877-1926, Petham, 1848-1926, Stodmarsh, 1915-26, Thanington, 1880-1926, Waltham, 1905-26, Wickhambreaux, 1926, Womenswold, 1905-26; valuation lists for above parishes and St. Nicholas Hospital, Canterbury, 1862-1906; overseers' accounts for all parishes, 1868-1927; school attendance committee minutes, 1877-1909; infant life protection registers, 1908-29;

Several representatives asked questions to which answers were given and the meeting finally agreed in the best interests of economy and efficiency to transfer the older children from Bishopbourne C.E.School to Bridge C.E.School leaving Bishopbourne as a C.E.School open for infants and juniors. It is understood that the existence of Bishopbourne School is not to be allowed to be imperilled by these changes and also that if the Bridge C.E.School becomes overcrowded some or all of the Bishopbourne children may return to their own Parish school. The proposal is to be open to such revision as may be found necessary and the K.M.C. representatives undertook to submit the proposals formally to each body of Managers for their formal acceptance.

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH PATRIBOURNE PARISH

Hon. Secretary:

Mrs. M.E. Jones,
18, Conyngham Lane,
Bridge.

March 1977.

To: The Citizens of Bridge.

The Jubilee Celebrations in Bridge will take place on Jubilee Day,
Tuesday 7th June 1977.

To mark the occasion the Committee would like to see the Village decorated; accordingly we ask the Householders and Shopkeepers in the High Street, and elsewhere, to decorate their premises with Bunting, Flags, Flower-baskets and whatever, and at dusk to switch on coloured lights in the front window. (The Xmas Tree lights perhaps!)

The day will start with a short Service of Thanksgiving at St. Peter's Church at 10.15am. – quite informal, and all will be welcome; thereafter the day's events will get under way.

The timetable for the events and the locations will be publicised when arrangements are finalised, meanwhile think about taking part instead of just watching – there will be plenty of opportunity.

Already organised we have:–

Jubilee Reception for the Senior Citizens.

A Marching display by Whitstable A.T.C. Band and the "Majorettes".

'Tug of War' over the River. (Teams from local organisations)

Exhibition of Handicrafts – theme: The past 25 years in the Village.
Location: Methodist Chapel.

Punch and Judy Show. 2pm. Recreation Ground. (Village Hall if wet)

Obstacle Course and other Children's attractions.

Sideshow.

Disco for the 'Young Generation'.
(Village Hall, Monday evening, 6th June 1977.)

Bar-B-Q and Dance.
(Licenced Bar) Location: Bridge Place Country Club Grounds.

Jubilee Mugs will be distributed to all Children up to the age of ELEVEN years, and the Children in the age group ELEVEN to SIXTEEN years will each receive a Jubilee Pen.

For this purpose we wish to list the Children in 3 Categories:-

- No. 1. Children attending Bridge Primary School.
- No. 2. All Infants and Children, UP to the age ELEVEN, who do NOT attend Bridge Primary School.
- No. 3. Children aged ELEVEN to SIXTEEN.

To enable the Committee to order Stock, make arrangements and thereafter ensure fair distribution of the Mugs and Pens, and also gauge support for some of the other functions, Parents and others concerned are asked to complete the attached "tear-off" section and place it in one of the Collecting Boxes located in the Village Shops - AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Please note these Fund Raising events to be held soon:-

Wednesday 23rd March 1977, 10.30am. to Noon.
A "Jubilee Do" or Bring and Buy Coffee Morning at Riverdale House,
High Street, Bridge.
By kind permission of Mr & Mrs. E.A. Hawkins.

Easter Monday, 11th April 1977 at 11am. Bridge High Street.
Sponsored Pram Races - so prepare your 'Machine', get into training and gather your sponsors!!
Easter Bonnet Parade, Adults and Children.
Easter Eggs for the winners.

Finally, the Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 17th March 1977 at 7.30pm., this will be your last opportunity to submit ideas for the Celebrations and Fund raising.

H.P.M. Lawrence, Chairman, Jubilee Celebrations Committee.
J.E. Anderson, Vice Chairman.

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

Please submit the following information, as applicable,
by Thursday 31st March 1977.

Name (Block letters please)

Address

Children's Mugs and Pencils:

- Category No. 1. - No further action required. Bridge Primary School will provide Committee with the necessary details.
- Category No. 2. - Number of Babies/Infants below School age
Number attending other Primary Schools
- Category No. 3. - Number attending Grammar/Secondary School in the age group 11 - 16 years

DECLARATION: I certify that the above information regarding Children living at the above address is correct.

Signed Date

N.B. Parents/Guardians must sign the Declaration and return it to the Committee by 31st March 1977.
Mugs and/or Pens for Children in Categories 2 and 3 will only be issued to those listed above.
The Committee regrets that it cannot be held responsible for claims received after 31st March 1977.
Stocks of Mugs and Pens will be ordered as per the information supplied above.

DISCO FOR 'YOUNG GENERATION'

(up to age 16) on Monday 6th June 1977.

Please indicate approx. number from your address whom we may expect to attend this function at the Village Hall.

P.T.O.

Jubilee Photocall



Decorated
Wheels Comp.
1st. Katrina
Johnstone,
2nd. Gary
Fisher (left)
3rd. Mark
Fisher (right)



Bekesbourne Fancy-Dress Parade



Adult Fancy
Dress Comp.
1st. Mr. Ian
Johnston
2nd. Mrs. Pam
Farbrace 3rd.
Mr. Francis
Whigham (on
the right).



Children's Fancy Dress Comp. Joint 1st.
Crispin Warner, Ian Hodges; 2nd Zoe Gabbe
(on right) 3rd Lynn Wheeler (on the left).



The Martial Art of TAEK-WONDO was demonstrated between the showers at Bridge, and this colourful display helped to combat the extreme dampness that nearly everyone in the parish suffered. It took us back to Coronation Day said all those who remembered that June Day!

One thing not in short supply was food – a grand tea was laid on at Bekesbourne.



Throwing the Wellington Boot was a popular side show with all – but Mr. Tim Hoare having been felled by a flying boot for a moment, wisely went for a check-up at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. "It couldn't have happened to a nicer chap" was the general comment.





THE ENGINE OF BRIDGE FIRE BRIGADE, used as a hearse at the funeral on Wednesday, of Mr. Jack Friend, a member of the Brigade for many years.

LOSS TO VILLAGE OF BRIDGE

DEATH OF MR. JOHN FRIEND

BRIDGE has lost one of its most prominent villagers, and the "Kent Messenger" a valued contributor, by the death which occurred suddenly on Saturday, of Mr. John Friend, of Bridge Street.

Educated at Simon Langton School, Canterbury, Mr. Friend, who was 48 years of age, was the only son of Mr. Richard Friend and late Mrs. Friend, of Bridge. On leaving school he assisted his father in his business as a coal merchant. He married in 1909 Miss Louie Brice, and from 1912 to 1918 was licensee of the "Red Lion," Bridge.

In recent years he has taken a keen interest in local government. He was elected to the old Bridge R.D.C. in 1930 and had continued to represent the parish since the formation of the Bridge-Blean R.D.C.

He was chairman of the Folkestone and District Public Assistance Committee, Div. 23 and 24, a member of the Folkestone and District Guardians' Committee, of the Bridge Parish Council, and the Parochial Church Council, and of the local Old Age Pensions Committee.

A member of the Bridge Fire Brigade for 29 years, he had for a long time been Second Officer.



MR. J. FRIEND.



A mixture of expressions as the Bonanza procession passes by.



This fancy dress competition winner drew special applause as she walked the length of the High Street on stilts.



One of the delightfully dressed entrants in the fancy contest.



Best dressed tramps at the Red Lion, Bridge, were Alison Gompertz (left) and Mike Mullens (second right), pictured with the landlord, Mr Fred Wells, and his wife, Iris.

Gentlemen and women of the road

Nearly 50 regulars at the Red Lion, Bridge, celebrated the by-pass opening with a tramps' supper.

Money had been collected during the past two months to pay for the food and drink and

The best — or rather worst — dressed tramps were Alison Gompertz and Mike Mullens, who won £5 each.

Margate. The evening was organised by the licensee of the Red Lion, Mr Fred Wells and his wife, Iris.

Mr Wells said: "It really good evening

Count's mansion ready for rebirth

MAT 9TH 1996 K.G.
by Amanda McDine

PLANS are being drawn up for the restoration of an imposing near-derelict mansion which has stood empty for nine years.

The scheme to refurbish Highland Court at Bridge to its former glory also involves building 10 four and five-bedroom luxury homes in the old walled garden.

Highland Court, which overlooks the A2 Bridge bypass and was once home of the eccentric Count Louis Zborowski, creator of the Chitty Bang Bang series of racing cars, has fallen into disrepair.

A grade two listed building, it was last used as a home for the mentally handicapped and has stood empty since July, 1987, when the last patients left to live in the community.

It was then marketed by the local health authority with a \$1 million price tag.

The new owners, an East Kent family,

plan to completely restore the Palladian-style mansion.

"In order to fund the restoration of the house they had to sell a small part of the land and they want us to build a very select and upmarket development there," said Gwen Jex, sales director for the developers, Sussex-based Rydon Homes.

A bungalow, built with money raised from an appeal held by BBC TV's *Blue Peter*, will have to be demolished to make way for the homes.

The bungalow, which stands in the walled garden, was built in 1980 to provide a home for mentally and physically handicapped children. They moved to new accommodation in Harbledown when

Highland Court Hospital closed.

The planning application for the 10 houses is unlikely to be discussed by Canterbury council before June.

Meanwhile the new owners are looking forward to what will be a tremendous challenge.

"The family bought the house because they fell in love with it. They have a love of fine architecture and just wanted the challenge of restoring it," said Mrs Jex.

All the main rooms, including the ballroom, the dining room and the billiard room, will be restored.

The new owners also plan to carry out major works in the garden, including restoring the Venetian water garden and the sunken rose garden, and replacing the 60 or so trees lost in the Great Storm nine years ago.

Although not derelict, the house is in a poor state and the restoration work will be a long-term project, said Mrs Jex.

She added: "The owners are hoping to open it up on certain occasions."



saw world g

A COUPLE from Patricbourne are hoping Memories readers will help them uncover information about the old tollgate cottage that once stood opposite the Gate Inn in New Dover Road, Canterbury.

Pensioners Reginald and Gwendolyn Brickenden, who live at Bifrons Gardens, remember that the building — known affectionately as the bungalow — was standing at the beginning of this century, but think it must have been demolished some time before World War II.

Mr Brickenden's parents lived there for many years before they moved over the road to take over the Gate Inn.

An industrious couple, Charles and May Brickenden ran the busy pub, kept pigs and chickens and brought up a family of 16 children. And Mr Brickenden still managed to make and sell wattle hurdles.

The old gentleman is pictured standing beside his hurdles stacked in front of the stable, while his wife is in the pub doorway.

The couple retired from The Gate in 1927 after running it for 42 years and spent their latter years in the house shown next door — then 60 Old Dover Road.

As the youngest of the 16 children, Reginald was born at The Gate Inn, but can remember at least three other families living in the tollgate cottage before it was pulled down.

Gate Inn
has already been
I will have
found



Bokesbourne Church 'May Fayre' will be held this year on Saturday, May 1st.

SOME VILLAGE NOTES

II. Bridge. In 1793 Zechariah Cozens wrote: "The parish of Bridge is but small and the soil in general is but chalky and barren producing at several places heath and coppice wood and from the hills surrounding the village we have a most delightful view of the vales which are thickset with villages and the neighbouring heights which are adorned with many Gentlemen's seats and other picturesque objects."

A few years later in 1815 Dr. Haddy James Assistant Surgeon to the first Life Guards and one of the first Presidents of the British Medical Association wrote on return from the Battle of Waterloo "It was three in the afternoon when we quit Dover and we then faced a cold march of fiveteen miles to Canterbury and stopping at Bridge I was much impressed by the mode of agriculture and the excellence of their hospitality." *

The 'Gentlemen's Seats' must have indeed been an impressive sight. There was Bifrons not yet occupied by the Conynghams until 1820 but lived in by the Brock Taylors, the father of the family who had been vicar of

(6)

Patricxbourne from 1734 to 1739 and the former residence of the Bargrave family. Here was Bridge Place the former home of Sir Arnold Braemes who had so astutely manipulated the harbour rights at Dover in his favour and built the largest country house in Kent at the end of the seventeenth century, much of it constructed in Dutch brick, with its aviary and deer park; further down the valley was Howletts the home of Sir Edward Palmer, Comptroller of the Navy; another house was Higham, now Highland Court and Renville shortly to be bought by the Crippen family; nearer Bishopsbourne was Charlton Park and at Littlebourne Lee Priory recently modelled on Walpole's 'Strawberry Hill' at Twickenham.

* Quoted from "Surgeon James Journal" edited by Joan Vansittart. A portrait of Dr. James may be seen in the main hall of Exeter General Hospital.

BIBLE READING AND DISCUSSION GROUP

The meeting on March 4th at 8 p.m. will be held at the home of Mrs. Meigh, 37 Haywards Cott. Union Road and the meeting on March 18th at 8 p.m. will be held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Rose, Church Cottage, High St., Bridge. We are continuing our study of St. John's Gospel and anyone interested will be most welcome.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Some surnames repeat themselves frequently especially the following which are all Kentish names:

May, Goldfinch, Fourd, Macted, Hogbin, Dadds, Denne, Stringer, Goldup, Philpot, Fagg, Ovenden, Backman and Maple. There is also the occasional Huguenot name such as Chapeau, Mousquetier and Martel and the Old Testament is frequently used for Christian names such as Abel, Abigail, Rebekkah, Abraham, Hannah and Ambrose.

The Church collections are also carefully recorded and funds were often used for the rebuilding of other churches and cathedrals as wide apart as St. Albans and Blandford in Dorset. In 1678 there was a collection after the Great Fire of London towards the rebuilding of St. Paul's cathedral. In 1681 there was a collection for the relief of French Protestants and in 1671 a collection was ordered by His Majesties Privy Council towards the raising of £3,000 for "the redemption of a great number of our Christian countrymen from that miserable Turkish infidel whose inhuman slavery and bondage they now groan under.

Sir Arnold Braenes and his lady	£1.10.0d.
Daniel Ovenden and his wife	£0. 0.4d.
Thomas Denne	£0. 0.3d.

All the rest of the householders gave 2d. each!

John Williamson.

THANK YOU

I am sure I speak for many Bridge and surrounding village parents when I send a grateful 'thank you' to those concerned with the founding and running of Bridge Youth Club, It is good to know that our youngsters are meeting and enjoying themselves under adult supervision and that there is no likelihood, only too common these days, of uncivilised behaviour spoiling the evenings. The 'Discos' are looked forward to with great excitement and I also feel that the club is generating a spirit of unity amongst the youth of Bridge. Anything we parents can do to help raise

SOME VILLAGE NOTES XII
The Bridge Parish Register 1579 -

There are over three thousand names recorded in the Bridge Church Register during this period and the deciphering depends very much on the calligraph of the particular Vicar the Elizabethans are the best, the Stuarts the worst, but each period gives some insight into how life was led at that time; the earliest record is to Anne Ryall buried 12th day of September Anno Supra 1579 and the last to the baptism of the son of Mary and George Kendall (his reputed father) 20th April 1760. Some typical recordings during the Seventeenth Century are as follows:-

1661 Christopher Carger an aged man buried 13th August.

1663 James Jorden the Clerk of Bridge buried 21st December.

1667 Macobus Kasey, later of Pembroke College Oxford Vicar of Patricxbourne with Bridge died aged 32 years 7 weeks and 4 days and is buried in ye north chancel of Bridge Chappel.

1668 Died: John Herring a poor householder of Bridge Hill House and Richard Adams a poore servant of John Fowler a Butcher at Bridge.

1669 Joan Briggs a servant maid brought from Canterbury died October 1st.

1672 Samuel Mazbrook, a stranger was buried in woolen (as the affidavit doth appoint)

1681 Sir Arnold Braenes born in Dover in 1602 was buried on 20th November near the tomb of his two deceased ladies.

1686 John Taylor of Tower Hill London was killed by a fall from a horse on Barham Downs on March 17th between 3 and 4 in ye afternoon and was buried behind the pulpit at Bridge.

During the 18th Century there were often military encampments at Barham Downs. For example in 1748 there is recorded that John Levingston a private soldier in Major General Jeffereys regiment was accidentally killed by a bread and forage waggon belonging to the camp at Barham Downs going over his body whereby he was crushed to death.

BRIDGE & PATRIBOURNE CHURCHES

Summer Fête 9th June 1973

RECEIPTS

	£	£
Teas and Cakes	20.00	
Donation	<u>5.00</u>	25.00
Mothers' Union - Groceries		20.26
Garden Produce		26.34
White Elephant		4.00
Raffle	52.62	
LESS Tickets and Premium Bond	<u>8.72</u>	43.90
Bottle Stall	52.88	
LESS Expenses	<u>3.41</u>	49.47
<u>SIDESHOWS</u>		
Young Wives		17.37
Mr. and Mrs. Pratt, Wheel of Fortune		7.19
Mrs. Pomroy		5.01
Mr. and Mrs. Milton		7.31
Mrs. Rampe		3.43
Mrs. Carpenter		3.62
Mrs. Pierce		4.38
Miss Fuggel, Pony Rides		3.04
Scouts		3.68
Cubs		1.16
Guides		1.62

Bridge Youth Group		10.11
Donation from Churchill House		<u>1.00</u>
		237.89

EXPENSES

Hire of School	4.00	
Printing	6.00	
Canterbury City Band	20.00	
Public Address System	2.00	
Hire of Tables	1.20	
Competition Prizes	<u>1.95</u>	35.15

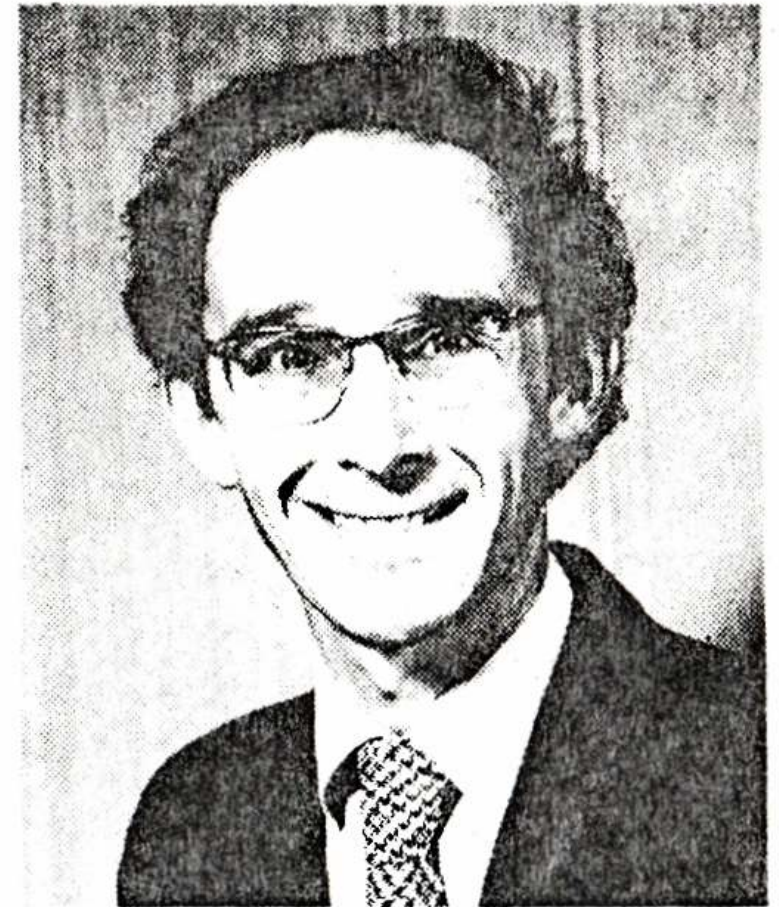
PROFIT

£202.74

The New Head

By now it is widely known that Bridge Primary School's next Headteacher will be Mr. Brian Farley, and *On The Nail* welcomes him to his new post, which he takes up in January.

Mr. Farley comes to us from Abbey Primary School, Bexley, where he is currently the Deputy Headteacher. He is a family man with two children, all of whom are looking forward to living in this area after their move from Dartford where they live at present. Our new head is also a committed churchman, being actively involved in the work of his local Baptist Church, and is very keen to continue the excellent link between church and school that his predecessors forged.



DEATH OF MR. HERBERT A. S. BLUNT

MANY YEARS STEWARD OF CONYNGHAM ESTATE.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Herbert Arthur Scawen Blunt, which occurred at his residence, the "Old Parsonage," Ospringe, on March 23rd, from the effects of a chill which he caught at White Hill Woods, Nackington, the previous Friday, death following from pneumonia. The deceased gentleman had been steward for the Conyngham estate for 34 years, and since taking up his residence at Ospringe a few years ago had been in the habit of travelling to Canterbury daily. He was well-known in the district, and for many years took a keen interest in the business and social life of East Kent, and he was at one time a member of the Bridge Rural District Council.

FUNERAL AT PATRIBOURNE.

The funeral took place at Patribourne on Saturday, the church being filled with the relatives and friends wishing to pay their last tributes of respect. The officiating clergy were the Rev. Hubert Knight (Vicar of Patribourne and Bridge) and the Rev. C. F. Hodges (Vicar of Ospringe), while Mr. S. W. Mount presided at the organ, and the Bridge choir were present. The coffin had been borne by road from Ospringe the same morning, reaching Patribourne about noon, when it was placed in the church to await the service. The organist played "O rest in the Lord" (Meiser), and the service opened with the psalm, "O God, our help in ages past," followed by the chanting of the 23rd Psalm. The lesson, from Revelations xxi., was read by the Vicar of Ospringe, and the service concluded with the hymn "On the Resurrection Morning," and the Nunc Dimittis. The mortal remains were then borne to the south portion of the churchyard and interred near the Conyngham vaults, the grave having been lined with ivy and daffodils by Mr. A. Kett (head gardener at Bifrons).

The principal mourners were Mrs. Blunt (widow), Miss Blunt (sister), Colonel Blunt (brother), Colonel and Miss Sheepshank, Colonel and Mrs. Fair, Colonel Gogarty, Mrs. Kenrick, Mrs. Jupp, Lady Shiffner and Mr. Bleckow. Among the large gathering in the church or at the graveside were noticed the Hon. Mrs. Talbot and Mr. A. Kett (churchwardens), Colonel the Hon. M. G. Talbot, Major and Mrs. Gordon Home, Mrs. Penn, Mrs. Ronald, Mr. H. T. and Miss Bensted, the Rev. S. C. Woods, the Rev. R. U. Potts, Dr. A. T. Wilson, Messrs. T. Louis Collard, H. Wye, C. Wills, C. West, R. Friend, J. Friend, A. Wilson, S. Gilbert, G. Stone, B. W. Edwards, G. Russ, W. Colthup, Lewis H. Finn, E. Byron Kelsey, E. W. Baker, J. W. Robinson, T. S. Coleman, Arthur Marchant, W. F. Crawford, T. Hume, H. T. Willett, C. Dunkin, Guy Petley, F. de B. Collard, F. Spanton, W. H. Court, A. H. Amey, Holman Teal, Holness, J. C. Hollands, G. Setterfield, R. Doel, J. Silby (representing Lloyds Bank, Canterbury), A. H. Field (representing Messrs. Saltwell and Co., solicitors).

Many wreaths and floral tributes were sent. These included the widow's beautiful full-length cross of daffodils and red carnations; and others sent by the Dowager Marchioness Conyngham; employees of Bifrons Estate; Ellen and Betty; staff at Ospringe Parsonage; Elsie; Arthur H. Field; Mr. and Mrs. W. Chapman; Major and Mrs. Gordon Home; Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Bensted; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Johnson; Mr. and Mrs. Creed; Mr. A. H. Whiting; Mrs. H. H. J. Fawcett; Colonel and Mrs. James G. Fair; the Vicar of Ospringe; Mr. and Mrs. Herdman Porter and family; Major E. Frounce de Laune; Mrs. Almack; Mr. and Mrs. Lewis H. Finn; Mr. and Mrs. Ruck; Mrs. Geoffrey Corbett; Mr. and Mrs. Lowton; Captain and Mrs. George Whaler; Mr. and Mrs. Tassell; women of Ospringe; C. Whiting and S. A. Pepper; Bokesbourne Football Club; Bess and Gerald; Arthur S. Saltwell; Mrs. Elsie; Mrs. Bessie; Miss Bessie;

EXTRACT TAKEN FROM

KELLY'S DIRECTORY OF KENT - 1927

(LONDON and EAST KENT)

BRIDGE

Bridge is a parish and head of a union, giving its name to a rural deanery; it derives its name from its situation in a valley on the Roman and modern road to Dover, at a bridge over a feeder of the Stour, with a station on the Canterbury and Folkestone line of the Southern railway, and is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south from Bekebourne station on the same system, and 3 south-east from Canterbury, in the Canterbury division of the county, lathe of St. Augustine, hundred of Bridge and Petham, petty sessional division of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, county court district of Canterbury, rural deanery of East Bridge and archdeaconry and diocese of Canterbury. The village is lighted with gas by a local limited company. The church of St. Peter is of flint, in the Norman style, with some additions of the Early English period, and has a tower with spire, containing a clock and 4 bells; the windows are stained; within a recess is a recumbent effigy of a man in robes, in low relief; the church was repaired and partly rebuilt about 1860, and affords 350 sittings, 80 being free. The register dates from the year 1565. The living is a vicarage, annexed to the vicarage of Patricbourne, joint net yearly value £330, with 38 acres of glebe and residence, in the gift of the Marquess Conyngham, and held since 1897 by the Rev. Hubert Knight M.A. of Christ's College, Cambridge, who resides at Patricbourne. A war memorial was erected in 1920 by public subscription in the north-east of the churchyard, to the memory of 13 men of the parish who fell in the Great War, 1914-18. The Wesleyan chapel, built in 1894, is of corrugated iron and wood, and seats 150 persons. The principal landowners are the Marquess Conyngham, who is lord of the manor, Earl Sondes and the Hon. Mrs. Matthew Bell. The soil is chalky; subsoil, chalk. The chief crops are wheat, barley, oats and hops. The area is 1,171 acres; rateable value, £3,585; the population in 1921 was 699.

Post, M.O., T. & T.E.D. Office. - Richard Castle, sub-postmaster. Letters through Canterbury.

Bridge Fire Brigade: engine house, Plough & Harrow P.H.; consists of a motor engine & trailer & about 1,200 feet of hose; Charles Wills, lt. & sec; number of men 10.

Assistant Overseer & Clerk to the Parish Council, Ernest G. Wood A.L.A.A. 21 Burgate street, Canterbury.

BRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The parishes in the District are the same as form the Union Council meets at the Guardians' Board room, Bridge, the third thursday in each month at 11 o'clock.

Chairman, Spencer William Mount, Patricbourne.

Officials

Clerk, Lionel James Williams, Bridge

Treasurer, Richard Henry Newman, Lloyds Bank Ltd. (C. & C. branch Canterbury.

Medical Officer of Health, James John Day O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., 52 Whitstable road, Canterbury.

Building Surveyor, Herbert Keswick Blundell, Bridge.

Highway Surveyor, Septimus Sladden, Littlebourne.

Sanitary Inspector, Herbert Keswick Blundell, Bridge.

BRIDGE UNION

Board day, the third thurs. in each month at the Board room at the Poor Law Institution, Bridge, at 12 noon.

The Assessment Committee meets on the first saturday in each month at 21 Burgate street, Canterbury, at 2 p.m.

The Union comprises the following parishes, viz:-

Adisham, Barham, Bekesbourne, Bishopsbourne, Bridge, Chartham, Fordwich, Harbledown, Ickham, Kingston, Littlebourne, Lower Hardres, Milton, Nackington, Patricxbourne, Petham, St. Nicholas hospital, Stodmarsh, Thanington Without, Upper Hardres, Waltham, Wickhambreaux & Womenswold.

The area of the union is 41,796 acres; rateable value, £76,012; the population in 1911 was 11,194 & in 1921 was 11,236.

Chairman of the Board of Guardians, Spencer William Mount.

Clerk to the Guardians, Lionel Jas. Williams, Bridge.

Treasurer, Richard Henry Newman, Lloyds Bank Ltd. (C. & C. Branch) Canterbury.

Collector to the Guardians & Relieving Officer, William Hutchings Wass, Bridge.

Vaccination Officer, William Hutchings Wass, Bridge district.

Medical Officers & Public Vaccinators, No. 1 district, Henry Octavius Preston L.R.C.P.Edin., M.R.C.S.Eng., Lower Bridge street, Canterbury (public vaccinator); No. 2 district, Hugh George Rashleigh L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng. Chartham; No. 3 district, Henry Octavius Preston L.R.C.P.Edin., Lower Bridge street, Canterbury; No. 4 district, E.B. Mercer M.B., Ch.B.Edin., Littlebourne; No. 5 district, David Ivor Rees, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., Elham.

The Poor Law Institution is a structure of red brick, built in 1835, to hold 200 inmates; Percy William Honney, master; Rev. Hubert Knight M.A., chaplain; Arthur Thomas Wilson M.B., B.Ch. medical officer; Mrs. Honney, matron.

BRIDGE REGISTRATION DISTRICT

Superintendent Registrar, Lionel James Williams, Bridge; deputy, Herbert Keswick Blundell, Bridge.

Registrar of Births & Deaths, Bridge district, William Hutchings Wass, Bridge; deputy, Percy Wm. Honney.

Registrar of Marriages, Percy William Honney, Bridge; deputy, W.J. Martin, Chartham.

Public Elementary School (mixed & infants), for the joint parishes of Bridge & Patricxbourne, for 110 boys & girls & 86 infants; William John Billing, master; Miss M. Bell, infants' mistress.

The school is under the control of the Kent Education Committee.

Carriers to Canterbury pass through daily.

Conveyance - There is a frequent service of motor omnibuses, which run through from Canterbury to Dover & Folkestone.

Railway Station (Southern R), Peter William Pettyfer, station master.

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

Anderson, George Knox D.L., J.P. Bridge Hill house
Berry, Francis R.W., Bourne Lodge
Blundell, Herbert, Ivy house
Collard, Thos. Louis, Little Bridge pl
Cowell, George, Vine cottages
Croft, Mrs.E., 1 Sefton villas
Holness, Frederick Robert, Great Pett
Hordern, Miss, River house
Jones, Mrs. Rosedale villa
Mummery, Frank, 4 The Terrace
Newman, Miss C.A., Alexander house
Penn, Mrs. Ethel, Bridge place
Ramsay, Misses, East Bridge House
Sargeaunt, Norman, Lynton house
Sperling, Misses, Rose Bank
Tassell, James, Weston villa
Tassell, Miss, Wych Elm
Wills, Charles, The Terrace
Wilson, Arthur Thomas, M.B.,
Wilson, Mrs., High Street
Worrell, Charles Henry, The Terrace

COMMERCIAL

Ballards, hairdressrs.
Blundell, Herbt. Keswick, building surveyor & sanitary inspector
to the Rural District Council
Brice, Hannah Lydia (Mrs.) Plough & Harrow P.H.
Bridge Gas, Coke & Coal Co. Limited (Charles Wills. sec)
Bridgland, Albt., builder, Portland ter.
Castle, Arthur James, baker
Churchyard, Henry, boot & shoe dealr.
Collard, Thos. Louis, clerk to the Bridge sub-committee of the
Kent Local Pension committee & Old Age Pensions Committee
Decent, Walter, grocer
Down, Frank, cycle dealer
Edwards, Bertram Willie, butcher
Fairbrass, Charles, shopkeeper
Fenn, John, plumber
File, Norman, farmer, Little Pett frm
Gilbert, Sidney, blacksmith
Hatcher, Hy.Edwin, farmer, Middle Pett farm
Hawkins, Geo., draper
Hogben, Frederick John, saddler
Holland, Chas., contrctr. Mill ho
Honney, Percy Wm. deputy registrar of births & deaths &
registrar of marriages for Bridge district
Jones, Albert Edward, Brick maker
Mummery, Frank, agricltr. engr., Laundry la.
Nelson, Thomas, laundry
Price, Henry George, grocer
Prickett, George, beer retailer
Reading Room (Mrs. Cowell, caretkr)
Richards, Phillip, grocer
Rogers, Archbld. Wm., motor engr

COMMERCIAL (Contd)

Sidders, Wm. Chas., plumber, Vine cotts.
Sneller, Aubrey James, motor garage
Stockwell, Victor G., M.P.S., chemist
Stone, George, dairyman
Sutton, Jane (Mrs.), Woodman's Arms P.H., Pett Bottom (letters
through Lower Hardres, Canterbury)
Taylor, Henry & Son, coal merchants
Tutt, Eliz. (Miss), dressma
Uden, William, farm bailiff to F.R. Holness esq. Great Pett
Farm
Wass, William Hutchings, collector to the guardians, relieving
& vaccination officer & registrar of births & deaths for
Bridge district, Fairview
Watson, John Thomas, Red Lion P.H.
Wentzell, Geo. Rt., White Horse P.H.
West, Charles, butcher
Williams, Lionel Jas., clerk to the Bridge board of guardians
& assessment committee of Bridge union & Bridge Rural
District Council & supt. registrar
Wilson, Arth. Thos., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. Dub. medical officer
Bridge Union & medical officer of Bokesbourne Sanatorium
Wood, Ernest, Fishmng.
Wye, Robert, house & insurance agent

ORGANISATION AND FORMAT

PART I: THE PARISHES OF ENGLAND

This part is arranged alphabetically by ancient counties, and within each by its constituent parishes in alphabetical order. To the extent allowed by the nature of each parish, a variety of information is presented.

Information:

Creation, Abolition.

For each civil parish (CP) and ecclesiastical parish (EP), the date of creation, the names of other parishes from which it was formed and a footnote reference to the authority for the creation. For each ancient parish (AP), CP and EP, the date of the abolition (if any), the names of the parishes into which its territory was dispersed and a footnote reference to the authority for the abolition. It is possible for a parish to be abolished for one purpose and continue to exist for the other, e.g., an AP which loses its civil identity to an expanding nearby town while remaining ecclesiastically separate.

Alterations of Boundaries.

For all parishes, the dates when boundaries were altered, for any purpose, with a footnote reference to the authority for the change. The names of other parishes affected are not generally cited for economy of space, except when the change resulted in the creation of a new parish, when another parish was gained in its entirety, when the boundary of a county was altered (changes in APs, CPs) or when the boundary of a diocese was affected (APs, EPs).

Civil Organisation.

For APs and CPs, to the extent that the parish was in existence at any time, inclusion in hundreds (late 16th cent-1889), boroughs (at any time), poor law unions (1830s-1930), sanitary districts (1875-94) and administrative county units (1894-1974).

Parliamentary Organisation.

For APs and CPs, to the extent that the parish was in existence at any time, inclusion in parliamentary boroughs (at any time) and divisions or county constituencies (after 1832).

Ecclesiastical Organisation.

For APs and EPs, the rural deaneries in which the parish was organised. A reference to the entries at the beginning of the county's section will indicate how the rural deaneries were organised in dioceses and archdeaconries.

Sample Entries:

For the instances below and for all entries, reference must be made both to the General Abbreviations (below in this section), applicable throughout the *Guide*, and to the abbreviations particular to each county, found at the beginning of its entries in Part I.

EXAMPLE A: HILDERSHAM
Camb AP LG Seq 5, Parl Seq 1, Eccl Seq 1.

EXAMPLE B: TORTWORTH
Glos AP LG Seq 18. Transf 1974 to Avon.⁴ Parl W^{rn} Dv (1832-85), Mid Dv (1885-1918), Thornb. Dv (1918-48), Stroud & Thornb. CC (1948-55), S Glos CC (1955-*). Eccl Seq 21.

EXAMPLE C: PENZANCE
Cornw Bor and chap in Madron AP, sep EP 1741 as 'Penzance St Mary',⁷⁹ qv, sep CP 1866.⁸ LG Penw. Hd, Penz. PLU, pt Penz. USD, pt Madron USD, Penz. MB. Civ bdry: 1894 (the pt in Madron USD or Penzance in Madron CP),¹⁷ 1934.⁶ Parl West Dv (1867-1918), St Ives CC (1918-*).

F. Youngs Guide to the
Admin Units of England
I South I RHS 1975
DAGood cat.

- Ecc* Seq 9. *Ecc* bdry: 1956 (gains Bircholt AP).⁹²
- BRASTED**
APLG Orig pt Westerham Hd, pt Brasted Ville, by 19th cent pt Codsh. Hd, pt Westerham Hd,⁴³ Seven. PLU, RSD, RD. Civ bdry: 1934.¹⁹ *Parl* Seq 20. *Ecc* Seq 38. *Ecc* bdry: 1880 (help cr Four Elms EP).¹⁰⁸ 1907.¹⁰⁹
- BREDGAR**
APLG Seq 29. *Parl* Seq 4. *Ecc* Seq 16.
- BREDHURST**
Chap in Hollingbourne AP, sep civ identity early, curacy & self-styled vicarage, *ecc* sep status sustained.¹¹⁰ LG Seq 1. Civ bdry: 1934.¹⁹ *Parl* Seq 9. *Ecc* Exempt from Archdeacon (until 1845), Sutton RDn (until 1938), Roch. RDn (1938-54), Gill. RDn (1954-72). *Ecc* bdry: 1884,¹¹² 1938,¹²¹ 1943,¹¹¹ 1963.²¹ Abol *ecc* 1972 to help cr South Gillingham EP.¹¹³
- BRENCHLEY**
APLG Orig pt Bren. & Horsm. Hd, pt Twyford Hd (also pt in town Aylesford), ent Bren. & Horsm. Hd by 19th cent,⁴⁴ Tonbr. PLU, RSD, RD. Civ bdry: 1934.¹⁹ 1955 (cr Paddock Wood CP).¹¹⁴ *Parl* Seq 16. *Ecc* Seq 27. *Ecc* bdry: 1860 (help cr Paddock Wood EP),¹¹⁵ 1875 (cr Matfield EP).¹¹¹
- THE BRENTS**
EP Cr 1881 from Preston next Faversham EP, Faversham AP.¹¹⁶ Ospr. RDn. Bdry: 1947.¹¹⁷ Abol *ecc* 1966 to help cr The Brents and Davington EP.¹¹⁸
- THE BRENTS AND DAVINGTON**
EP Cr 1966 by union The Brents EP, Davington AP.¹¹⁸ Ospr. RDn.
- BRENZETT**
APLG Orig Alosb. Hd, by 19th cent pt Alosb. Hd, pt Rom. Marsh Lbty, pt Cq Pt of New Rom. and Lbties New Rom.,⁴⁴ Rom. Marsh PLU, RSD, RD. Civ bdry: 1934.¹⁹ *Parl* Seq 6. *Ecc* Seq 12. *Ecc* bdry: 1962.²⁴
- BRIDGE**
Chap in Patricbourne AP, sep civ identity early, no sep *ecc* identity. LG Seq 16. *Parl* Seq 1.
- BROADSTAIRS**
EP Cr 1850 from St Peter in Thanet AP.¹¹⁹ Westb. RDn (1850-1930), Thanet RDn (1930-*)
- BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S**
CP Cr 1935 by union pts Garlinge CP, Ramsgate CP, St Peter CP.⁶ LG Broadstairs and St Peter's UD. *Parl* Isle of Thanet CC (1948-70), Thanet East BC (1970-*)
- BROADWATER**
EP Cr 1867 from Frant AP (Sussex, Kent), Eridge Green EP (Sussex),⁵⁵ to be in Chich dioc. See entry in Sussex. Bdry: 1889 (help cr Tunbridge Wells King Charles the Martyr EP),² 1921.⁹⁶
- BROADWATER DOWN**
CP Cr 1894 from the Kent pt of Frant AP (Sussex, Kent) in Tunbr. Wells MB.¹²² LG Ticehurst PLU, Tunbr. Wells MB. Bdry: 1900 (gains pt Frant AP, E Sussex).¹⁴⁷ Abol 1934 ent to Tunbridge Wells MB and CP.¹⁹ *Parl* Tonbr. Dv (1918-48).
- BROCKLEY**
EP Cr 1901 from Lewisham AP.¹²³ Lewisham RDn. Abol 1960 pt to help cr Crofton Park St Hilda with St Cyprian EP, pt to Deptford St Peter EP, pt to Lewisham AP.¹²⁴
- BROCKLEY HILL**
EP Cr 1867 from Forest Hill Christ Church EP.¹¹⁸ [London dioc 1867-68], Greenw. RDn (1867-86), Lewisham RDn (1886-*). Bdry: 1900 (help cr Crofton Park EP).¹⁰⁰
- BROMLEY**
The following have 'Bromley' in their names. Insofar as any existed at a given time: LG Brom. & Beck. Hd, Brom. PLU, USD, UD (1894-1903), MB (1903-65). Transf 1965 to Gtr London (Brom. LB).⁵¹ *Parl* W'm Dv (1832-67), West Dv (1867-85), W'm Dv (1885-1918), Brom. Pari Bor/BC (1918-70), Gtr London thereafter. *Ecc* Dartf. RDn (until 1864), W Dartf. RDn (1864-1909), Brom. RDn (1909-*)
- AP1-BROMLEY [ST PETER AND ST PAUL]** - Civ bdry: 1902,⁵⁰ 1934 (incl help cr Chislehurst and Sidcup CP).¹⁹ *Ecc* bdry: 1842 (cr EP2, refounded 1843).¹²⁵ 1863 (cr Plaistow EP, refounded 1864).¹²⁶ 1866 (cr Bickley EP).⁶⁰ 1880 (help cr EP4).¹²⁷ 1887,¹²⁸ 1906,¹²⁹ 1907,⁸² 1938 (help cr West Wickham St Mary of Nazareth EP).⁶³ 1938,⁸³ 1948 (cr EP5).¹³⁰ 1955 (help cr EP1).¹³¹ 1966.¹³²
- EP1-BROMLEY CHRIST CHURCH**-Cr 1955 from AP1, Plaistow EP.¹³¹ Bdry: 1963.⁵³
- EP2-BROMLEY HOLY TRINITY**-Cr 1842, refounded 1843 from AP1.¹²⁵ Bdry: 1889 (cr EP7).² 1934 (help cr EP6).⁸¹ 1957.⁸⁴ Sometimes called 'Bromley Common Holy Trinity'.
- EP3-BROMLEY ST ANDREW**-Cr 1927 from Plaistow EP.¹³³ Bdry: 1938.⁸³
- EP4-BROMLEY ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST**-Cr 1880 from AP1, Plaistow EP.¹²⁷ Bdry: 1907,⁸² 1938.⁸³
- EP5-BROMLEY ST MARK**-Cr 1948 from AP1.¹³⁰ Bdry: 1957.⁸⁴
- BROMLEY COMMON HOLY TRINITY**-See EP2.
- EP6-BROMLEY COMMON ST AUGUSTINE**-Cr 1934 from EP7, EP2, Bickley EP.⁸¹ Bdry: 1957.⁸⁴
- EP7-BROMLEY COMMON ST LUKE**-Cr 1889 from EP2.² Bdry: 1907,⁸² 1934 (help cr EP6).⁸¹
- BROMPTON**
EP Cr 1847 from Chatham AP, Gillingham AP.¹³⁴ Roch. RDn (1847-1954), Gill. RDn (1954-56). Abol 1956 to help cr Gillingham St Mark EP.¹³⁵
- NEW BROMPTON ST LUKE**
EP Cr 1909 from New Brompton St Mark EP, Gillingham AP.¹³⁶ Roch. RDn (1909-54), Gill. RDn (1954-*). Now called 'Gillingham St

Abol civ 1934 ent to Burmarsh AP.¹⁹ *Parl E'rn Dv* (1832-85), *S'rn Dv* (1885-1918), *Ashf. Dv* (1918-48). *Ecccl Lym. RDn* (until 1873), *S Lym. RDn* (1873-1963). Abol *ecccl* 1963 ent to Burmarsh AP.¹⁰²

ORLESTONE

APLG Perhaps orig ent Ham Hd,³⁵⁸ probably pt Ham Hd, pt Rom. Marsh Lbty as later, E Ashf. PLU (1836-1930), RSD, RD. Civ bdy: 1883,⁸ 1935.⁶ *Parl Seq 5. Ecccl Seq 10. Ecccl bdy: 1962.²⁴*

ORPINGTON

AP Incl chap Downe (sep civ identity early, sep EP 1861¹⁷⁷), chap St Mary Cray (sep civ identity early, sep EP 1867²²⁸). *LG Ruxley Hd, Brom. PLU, RSD, RD* (1894-1935), *Orp. UD* (1935-65). Addtl civ bdy alt: 1934 (incl help cr Chislehurst and Sidcup CP).¹⁹ *Transf* 1965 to Gtr London (Brom. LB).⁵¹ *Parl W'rn Dv* (1832-67), *West Dv* (1867-85), *N-W'rn Dv* (1885-1918), *Chisl. Dv* (1918-48), *Orp. CC* (1948-70), *Gtr London thereafter. Ecccl Shor. RDn* (until 1864), *W Dartf. RDn* (1864-1909), *Brom. RDn* (1909-54), *Orp. RDn* (1954-*). Addtl *ecccl bdy alt: 1852* (from area chap St Mary Cray, cr Crooken Hill EP),²²⁹ 1934 (cr Orpington St Andrew EP),⁴⁰⁵ 1935 (help cr Pettis Wood EP),³² 1938,³⁰³ 1940 (help cr Orpington Christ Church EP),²⁰² 1959 (cr Crofton St Paul EP).²³³

ORPINGTON CHRIST CHURCH

EP Cr 1940 from Chelsfield AP, Orpington AP.²⁰² *Brom. RDn* (1940-54), *Orp. RDn* (1954-*).

ORPINGTON ST ANDREW

EP Cr 1934 from Orpington AP.⁴⁰⁵ *Brom. RDn* (1934-54), *Orp. RDn* (1954-*).

OSPRINGE

APLG Fav. Hd, PLU, pt Fav. Bor/MB (until 1883), *pt Fav. corporate mbr Cq Pt of Dover, pt Fav. USD* (1875-83), *Fav. RSD* (pt 1875-83, ent 1883-94), *Fav. RD* (1894-1934), *Swale RD* (1934-74). Civ bdy: 1883,⁸ 1935 (incl help cr Faversham CP).⁶ *Parl Seq 4. Ecccl Seq 13. Ecccl bdy: 1930.²⁹³ 1947.¹¹⁷*

OTFORD

*Chap in Shoreham AP, sep civ identity early, sep EP 1723.¹⁹⁹ *LG Seq 40. Civ bdy: 1908* (cr Dunton Green CP).²³⁸ *Parl Seq 20. Ecccl Shor. RDn. Ecccl bdy: 1890* (cr Dunton Green EP).²⁴²*

OTHAM

APLG Seq 2. Parl Seq 9. Ecccl Seq 17. Ecccl bdy: 1971.⁴⁸ 1972.⁴⁹

OTTEDEN

APLG Orig ent Eythorne Hd, by 19th cent pt Eythorne Hd, pt Fav. Hd.⁴⁴ *Hollingb. PLU, RSD, RD. Civ bdy: 1883.³⁴³ *Parl Pt E'rn Dv* (1832-85), *pt W'rn Dv* (1832-67), *Mid Dv* (pt 1867-85, ent 1885-1918), *Maid. Dv/CC* (1918-*). *Ecccl Seq 13.**

OXNEY

Chap in Eythorne AP, sep civ identity early, no sep ecccl identity. LG Corn. Hd, River PLU (re-

named Dover in 1840s), *Dover RSD, RD. Abol civ 1934* pt to East Langdon AP, pt to St Margaret's at Cliffe AP.¹⁹ *Parl E'rn Dv* (1832-1918), *Dover Dv* (1918-48).

PADDLESWORTH

APLG Seq 36. Parl Seq 2. Ecccl Exempt from Archdeacon (until 1845), *Seq 8.*

PADDLESWORTH

AP Orig AP, destroyed church, civ incl early in Snodland AP (Larkf. Hd); *ecccl in Mall. RDn*, deemed as ex-par after destruction, *abol ecccl 1934* to help cr Snodland with Paddlesworth EP.⁸¹

PADDOCK WOOD

EP Cr 1860 from Brenchley AP, Yalding AP, Nettleshead AP, Collier Street EP.¹¹⁵ *Mall. RDn* (1860-64), *S Mall. RDn* (1864-1906), *Tunbr. Wells RDn* (1906-09), *Tonbr. RDn* (1909-*). *CP Cr* 1955 from Brenchley AP.¹¹⁴ *LG Tonbr. RD. Parl Royal Tunbr. Wells CC* (1970-*).

PATRIBOURNE

AP Incl chap Bridge (sep civ identity early, no sep ecccl identity hence this par ecccl 'Patribourne with Bridge', qv). *LG Bridge & Petham Hd, pt Canterb. Bor/MB/CB, Bridge PLU, pt Canterb. USD, pt Bridge RSD, Bridge RD. Civ bdy: 1894* (loses the pt in the CB to Canterbury St Paul AP).⁴² *Parl Pt Canterb. Parl Bor* (until 1918), remainder and later, *Seq 1.*

PATRIBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

AP Usual ecccl spelling; for civ and civ sep chap Bridge, see prev entry. *Ecccl Seq 1.*

EAST PECKHAM

APLG Orig pt Twyford Hd, pt Littlef. Hd, ent Twyford Hd by 19th cent.⁴⁴ *Seq 11 thereafter. Civ bdy: 1883.⁸ 1888,⁷ 1934.¹⁹ *Parl Seq 15. Ecccl Seq 25. Dedication changed 1972* from St Michael to Holy Trinity.³⁷² *Ecccl bdy: 1843* (cr East Peckham Holy Trinity EP),²⁹⁴ 1947 (gains back East Peckham Holy Trinity EP).³⁴¹*

EAST PECKHAM HOLY TRINITY

EP Cr 1843 from East Peckham AP.²⁹⁴ *Shor. RDn* (1843-64), *N Mall. RDn* (1864-1906), *Mall. RDn* (1906-47). *Abol ecccl 1947* ent to East Peckham AP.³⁴¹

WEST PECKHAM

APLG Orig pt Hoo Hd, pt Littlef. Hd, ent Littlef. Hd by 19th cent.⁴⁴ *Seq 5 thereafter. Civ bdy: 1888.⁹ *Parl Seq 10. Ecccl Seq 24.**

PEMBURY

APLG Orig pt Twyford Hd, pt Washl. Hd, ent Washl. Hd by 19th cent.⁴⁴ *Seq 12 thereafter. Civ bdy: 1883.⁸ 1934.¹⁹ *Parl Seq 16. Ecccl Seq 27. Ecccl bdy: 1962.⁴⁰⁹**

PENGE

CP Transf 1899 from Surrey to Kent.¹⁹⁰ *LG Penge UD. Transf* 1965 to Gtr London (Brom. LB).⁵¹ *Parl Surrey* until 1918, *Brom. Parl Bor* (1918-48), *Beck. BC* (1948-70), *Gtr London thereafter.*

PENGE LANE

EP Cr 1878 from Beckenham AP.⁵⁶ *W Dartf. RDn* (1878-1909), *Beck. RDn* (1909-*). *Bdy:*

Committee have suggested that we have a prayer at future meetings.

We would very much welcome any new members.

K. Lawrence (Hon. Sec.)

SOME VILLAGE NOTES XII - Bridge Parish
Registers 1813 - 1881

The marriage register for this period is interesting because it gives a list of the different trades and professions of the time;
(Contd. on page 10)

- 7 -

many of these are extinct like tollkeeper, ginger beer maker, basketmaker and Collar maker; others continue from one generation to another like Farrier, Surgeon and Policeman. As in the 18th century the same names repeat themselves in the village like Hogben, Denne and Collard; another great influence was the presence of the army both at Canterbury and at the annual camps on Barham Downs. The Adjutant of the East Kent Militia, the Staff Sergeant of the 4th Depot and a Private in the 1st Life Guards were all married in Bridge Church. There were also several who came to the village to get married: a clerk in the East India Docks in 1862, a Warder at Millbank Prison, a Clerk in the Bank of England, a pilot from Dover 1878 and in 1839 a horse trainer. Besides the resident vicar there was help from the Vicar of Patricxbourne who was also domestic chaplain to the Conyngham family and help from a visiting parson. In 1860 Mr. Keeney Chaplain at the King's School officiated at a wedding - also the Reverend Methuen (of the publishing family) and the Rev. A.M.V. Mallett from the British chapel at Bruges, whose son lived at Highland Court. His grandson was in charge of the Dieppe landings in 1942 and was subsequently Conservative M.P. for S. Croydon. Others mentioned are the Rev. C.J. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain in Hong Kong and the Rev. J. Lombard from Queenstown in Ireland. One of the most interesting entries is that of the Watchmaker Mr. Hardeman in 1818: his watches are now very valuable and one reached £320 last year at Christie's the London auctioneers. In none of the cases is the wife's profession listed except as spinster or domestic servant and all were married before the passing of the Married Women's Property Act in 1885.

J. J. WILLIAMSON

* * * * *

- 10 -

50 years

Irony

To add to the excitement of the floods at Bridge, a fire call was received on Sunday, a stack being alight at Pett Farm, Bridge. The firemen promptly turned out in spite of having to wade through 12 inches of water to reach their station. On arrival, the Brigade found that nothing could be done owing to the absence of water in the vicinity. Residents in the area would have been only too glad to help had they been living close enough for the water in their own houses to be pumped out

to help.
(Kentish Gazette, March 27, 1937)

25 years

Nailbourne

East Kent's mystery stream, the Nailbourne, is flowing again — for the second time this year. The Nailbourne, according to local superstition, is supposed only to flow every seven years, otherwise it heralds a national disaster.

People in the Nailbourne valley say it is the first time the river has flowed in November in living memory.

Local geological experts, however, believe the Nailbourne rises when an underground reservoir overflows. It is not unnatural that it should do so at the present time because of the heavy rainfall in past weeks, they say.

(Kentish Gazette, October 18, 1966)

Burnes

HOW many of the villagers who object to their parish of Bishopscourne being merged with neighbouring Bridge know that it was "anciently called Burnes from the bourne or stream which rises in it, being the head of the Lesser Stour and had the name Bishopscourne from its belonging to the archbishop and to distinguish it from the several other parishes of the same name in this neighbourhood"?

The "head" of the Lesser Stour was given, in the same record, as being to the westward of the church in the grounds of Bourne Place, and a further note states that the bourne upwards is dry except after great rains and thaws of snow when the Nailbourne springs at "Lyminge" and Elham occasionally overflow and directing their course upwards, descend from Bourne Place and flow through the parish and bend their waters westward. "The Little Stour" intersects Kingston but the bed of the river is overgrown with grass. Evidently, when those words were written, the seven-year spate of the Nailbourne was almost due.

It is interesting to note that this historian knew nothing of

The Nailbourne

WITH the Nailbourne flowing again, a reader who is interested in place-names has asked me whether I know of a backwater of the stream, on the Bishopscourne side of Bourne Park lake, which is known as "Cold Bath" or even "Romans' Cold Bath," and whether there is any evidence that this pool was used by Roman soldiers during the occupation.

I have checked with a local resident, at least as far as the name is concerned, and have been told that this backwater has "always" been called Cold Bath.

Finding evidence that it was used by Romans is a very different matter and the nearest I can get to producing it is in a description of Bourne Place.

"In front of the mansion is a fine sheet of water: in digging to form this sheet, which is artificial, several ancient coins and a glass vessel 12 inches high and nine inches in diameter were found."

Whether the coins were Roman or not is not stated, nor is any clue given of their fate.

The same man remembers when the lake was cleaned rather more than 50 years ago "during a dry spell." He does not remember that any coins or other treasures were found, but recalls, very clearly, a "mass of wriggling, knotted eels."

If there is any evidence that the backwater was a Roman Cold Bath he, and I, would be glad to hear about it.

The Mermaid

BISHOPSCOURNE may be a small parish, but the merest mention of the name appears to make readers reach for their pens. During the week I received a letter from a man who revisited the village last summer, after an absence of many years, and he asked whether I could explain why the pub was now called the "Mermaid." He had made enquiries in the village, without success.

The public house now known as the Mermaid was built when the Bell family owned Bourne Place and almost all the parish, and the original name given to it was the Bell Arms. The sign-board showed those arms, which consisted of a lion's head, and it was not long before the pub itself became known as — The Lion's Head. When the property was acquired by the late Sir John Prestige he decided on a change, and substituted the mermaid, which formed part of his own "arms," for the lion's head of the Bells.

The source of my information was the late Sir John Prestige himself.

25 years

Rain

Bridge had its heaviest rainfall for three years on Wednesday when .12in fell in just under five minutes. It was recorded by Mr Brian Lewis, of Weston Villas, whose spare-time hobby is meteorology.
(Kentish Gazette, May 7, 1965)

"Whoa, Water!"

DEC
9TH
1966.

To the Editor,—

Your excellent pictures of the Nailbourne in flood, and "Gazetteer's" report of his chats with Barham locals, are most interesting.

The real reason, if the less romantic one, for the Nailbourne, in this age, being "not there" for years at a time is due to the huge extractions of water, for industrial and domestic usage, from the underground lakes and springs which years ago fed a permanent stream through the Elham Valley (starting, I believe, from the high land above Lyminge).

Years ago, many of the present pumping stations either did not exist, and those that did needed to draw up far less water through the chalk strata than they do now. The Nailbourne, and other Kentish "bournes" or chalk feeder streams of the main Kentish Stour (one flowed through Petham, for instance) were in full flow at all times. The crystal-clear, abundant alkaline water supported fat trout; as "Gazetteer" says (and as older folk have themselves told me) trout were once plentiful well up to Barham and beyond.

And was there not once a trout hatchery at Patricksbourne? A certain indication that, years ago, there was a plentiful and permanent flow of water in the Nailbourne.

Chalk streams and "bournes" throughout the South of England have all suffered to a greater or lesser extent from abstraction during the last half century. The Kentish Stour and its feeder streams have suffered markedly.

However, with the Nailbourne water lapping at one's kitchen door, it is understandable that local people should cry: "Whoa, water!"

DONALD DOUGALL,
Knowler Farm,
Stelling Minnis.

50 years

Nailbourne

Early last week the Elham Valley Nailbourne issued from its source and was seen going strong through Barham.

By the end of the week it had gone through Bourne Park and Bridge to its junction with the Lesser Stour at Littlebourne.

This is rather late in the year for the intermittent stream to flow; if it is going to flow it generally starts with the year. Last year it ran through January and early summer.

In the good old days it would run for several seasons and then be dry for several seasons, but in more recent years, since the Great War especially, it has run for just a few months in the early part of the year.

At the moment the Nailbourne is fairly full at Bridge, though the experts expect that it will be even higher before long. Our Bridge friends expect some excellent trout fishing before the stream completes its run for the season.

(Kentish Gazette,
April 9, 1966)

Former inn is restored

A recently-restored Bridge house which dates back to the 18th Century has been made an official historic building of Kent by the County Council.

The house is The Ship, in the High Street, home of Mr Walter Turner. He bought the house five years ago and is still making improvements. He had a £2,000 County Council grant for the work and has also spent much of his own money — although he is unsure of the amount.

A conservation order was put on the house and Mr Turner asked the County Council to consider making it an historic building. Last week he heard the council had agreed and soon the red diamond-shaped plaque, will be put up outside.

Explaining the building's history, Mr Turner said it was originally a yeoman's house built about 1630. In Elizabethan times a cottage was added on one end and in Georgian times it was a public house — The Ship — and was later converted to four homes.

Mr Turner has restored it to its original form and name. He has done much of the work himself and of the award of the plaque he said: "I am awfully proud."

One of the unusual features of the house is an oast which cannot be seen from the front of the building.

Rose's Cottage

A 90-year-old reader in London, who tells me that she once lived in one of the "twins" round bungalows which used to stand along the Dover Road at the ends of the lanes leading uphill from Bishopscourne, has explained how the one nearer to Charlton Park was demolished, while the other, nearer Bridge, has survived.

"It was when the soldiers had it," she writes, "They set fire to it and, as it was thatched, there was no hope of saving it."

She adds that the lane leading to it was always known, in her time, as Rose's Lane and that the same name was given to the cottage, the explanation being that for many, many years it was occupied by an old lady named Rose. The other twin, she tells me, was called Golf Cottage, yet another reminder of Bishopscourne's past, for it is a long, long time since the "gentry" and officers from Canterbury barracks—played golf on the Downs.

25 years Houses

Mr A. Taylor again went into action on behalf of the village of Bridge at Wednesday's meeting of the Bridge-Blean RDC. His objection was again houses for a parish that has been left out in the cold since the war.

(Kentish Gazette, January 29, 1959).

Missing horse troff

Mr. Editor Sir.—

Once more I have to rite to you about a very serious matter what has come to my notice.

To wit, our horse troff has gone!

Horse got it, where is it? Somebody must no. Stands to reason that a thing that size can't just disappear. It as stood of the top of Canterbury hill for doublets years so to speak and now it ain there no more. Rite next to where it was they have put up a notice side of the road witch says GIVE WAY. Looks no if that's what they done.

Who took it nobody seems to no. I been on to Bridge blean but they dont no neither. I shall have to get on to them chaps at Mridstan.

I found out a funny thing, we elects all these fellers for these jobs and every time you fones up the place is run by gals.

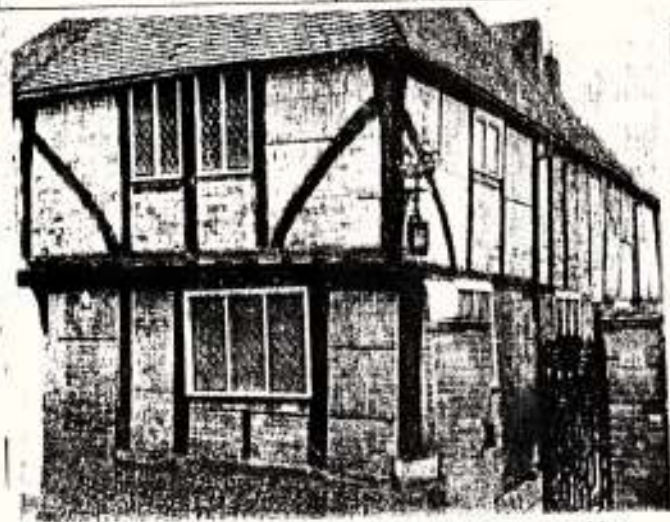
Course you can make any nence of them they ain never heard of it or where it was. The gals in my time new where it was. We used to take them up their courting. Makes the time I got me arse wet sitting to near the age of it.

If any of your readers knose where it is perhaps they wood let me no. Maybe I shall come across it in somebodys garden full of jeraniums if so I shall no it as it had writ on the side "All ye who come from far and near
Drink of my warters cool and clear."

Yours respectfully
THE LOCAL YOKEL.
Patrixbourne.

DEC 240 BRIDGE. 1922

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—A splendid entertainment, with an address by Mrs. Monina, Diocesan President of the Girls' Friendly Society, was held in the Reading Room on November 22nd, in aid of the funds of the local branch of the G.F.S. and Girl Guides. The room was filled with a large and appreciative audience. The entertainment opened with a pianoforte solo by Miss Pettman, followed with songs by Miss Tomlin and Mr. W. Hinds. Miss Maed Tassell, in a few well-chosen words, introduced Mrs. Monink, who spoke of the great good the G.F.S. was doing all over the county, and the special need for all young girls to become members of such. She also thought it a splendid idea for the Girl Guides to work in conjunction with the G.F.S., which connection "must undoubtedly lead to a better and happier social life. Norah Tuckey (the youngest candidate) then presented Mrs. Monina with a spray of carnations. Miss Budd then gave "Mrs. Giggles' Hat," provoking roars of laughter. Songs were also sung by Miss R. Hawkins, Mr. McDougall, Mr. J. Burchett, Brownie and Girl Guides, and a recitation was given by Freda Taylor (the youngest Brownie). Miss Vera McDougall, Miss R. Decent, Miss Pettman, and Miss Sharp acted as accompanists. Refreshments were served at the interval, and at the conclusion Mrs. Knight thanked Mrs. Monina for her splendid address and her kindness in coming from London to speak to them, and she also thanked all those who had helped to make the entertainment such a success, and also Mr. Honey, who kindly lent chrysanthemums, etc., for the decoration of the stage. As the result of the entertainment Miss Tassell has been able to forward £4 15s. to the "White Horse" Social Centre, Waterloo, and £2 to the new Lodge at Herne Bay.



Historic building of Kent: The Ship, High Street, Bridge.

Recreational facilities and organisations existed or developed to meet the interests of most villagers. A Women's Institute was established in 1919, (24) while a cricket club had existed intermittently since 1748. (25) The Horticultural Society was reformed in 1920, (26) while for younger generations a scout troop met behind the Red Lion Public house, followed later by a boy's club. The British Legion organised railway outings until the closure of the Elham Valley line during the Second World War.

One organisation of vital importance was the Bridge Volunteer Fire Brigade, whose equipment in 1918 included a Merry-Weather manual engine and about 1,200 feet of hose. The Fire engine was horsedrawn, being pulled by the same horses as were used for funerals and for delivering coal. The firemen were mostly local tradesmen and at one time included two grocers, the cycle agent, a publican, the draper, two gardeners, the coal merchant and the blacksmith. The men were summoned by a maroon flare, and Mr. Hawkins recollects that a man was killed around 1920 when looking over the flare, supposing it to have gone out. There were 12 sets of helmets, tunics and axes, and if a tall man left the force to be replaced by a short man, the latter had to endure an ill fitting uniform. The force entered the motorised age when Count Zborowski donated a motor appliance, registration number CE 1037. It was kept running largely through donations from insurance companies, whose outgoings would have soared but for the Volunteer Brigade's existence and devotion to duty. Mr. Hawkins, who was captain of the force for some time, recalls how they resented the presence at small fires of the Canterbury or Sturry Brigades, who would be soaked on arrival! The Bridge Brigade had no ladders until shortly before

the last war, while the early hoses were made of leather and thick rubber. The fire brigade remained independent up until the Second World War.

CONCLUSION

Bridge developed in the same way as countless other English villages between 1918 and 1939, but like the rest of them it had its own characteristics. These manifested themselves in the institutions, the people and the life style of the village which we have looked at in the preceding chapter. Hopefully future generations, and not only the historians will find it easier to trace the development of the village in modern times, for there is an increased interest in recording aspects of village life, not only by individuals but also organisations like the Women's Institute, whose 'Countryside Survey' will be of great assistance in assessing the changing position of Bridge in the last decade.

Author: - Crispin Whitney

VKc Group Research Project 1978

In Bridge churchyard there is a headstone recording the deaths of two little children within a very short time in 1864.

My great-grandfather, Henry Vye, was a younger son, and instead of going into the family grocery business in Broadstairs became a commercial traveller, representing a London men's outfitters, and covering large areas of South and East England in a horse drawn brougham. As an apprentice outfitter in Ramsgate he had met a young lad called Jarvis who came from Bridge. On the day of the Duke of Wellington's funeral they hired a pony trap to drive to Bridge, and there Henry met his future wife, Elizabeth Jarvis. Her father, who had married a Welsh girl employed as a nurse to children at Higham (now Highland) Court, grazed cattle at Stone Street and had a butcher's shop on the site of Mr Wakeham's. Henry and Elizabeth duly married, and set off for Paris for their honeymoon, but the sea was too rough, and they had to stay in a hotel in Dover!

They settled down in a house on Bridge High Street. Soon two children, Henry and Edith, were born. One day Henry Vye was in Deal on business when his brother-in-law sent him a telegram to say that his son was dying of scarlet fever. He rushed back, and witnessed the death first of his son and then of his daughter. My great-grandfather's diary, in which he records the events, makes harrowing reading.

Henry and Elizabeth endured the tragedy, and next year, in 1865, another child was born. He was named Lincoln, after the American President.

In 1874 the family moved to Ramsgate. Lincoln's daughter, Vera, lived for much of her life in Derringstone, then after ten years at Stone Street spent her last ten, until 1979, very happily in Churchill House in Bridge.

Martin Vye

These events are still recalled by elderly local Juligers and while talking to some of them another facet of the Count's character became apparent. Evidently at the last of these grand balls he raised his champagne glass to toast the estate workers; as his glass clinked it shattered which the Count took to be an ill omen. He immediately retreated to his bedroom and did not speak to anyone for a week. The following year he was tragically killed.

ZBOROWSKI

The Count's generosity is recalled in an article written by David A. Paine, which appeared in Veteran and Village Magazine in December 1969. In 1920 the Count, on hearing the laments of the local fire officer about his aged horse-drawn appliance being too slow to reach the outlying village fires in time to be of any use, offered the Brigade a Piliam racing chassis complete with engine and Dion rear suspension. His coachbuilders were commissioned to build a suitable body to comfortably accommodate ten men and a mile of hose. This superb 75hp. engine could develop speeds of 60 m.p.h. and could also haul a steam pump if necessary and was probably the fastest engine of its type in the country.

One organisation of vital importance was the Bridge Volunteer Fire Brigade, whose equipment in 1918 included a Merry-Weather manual engine and about 1,200 feet of hose. The Fire engine was horse drawn being pulled by the same horses as were used for funerals and for delivering coal. The firemen were mostly local tradesmen and at one time included two grocers, the cycle agent, a publican, the draper, two gardeners, the coal merchant and the blacksmith. The men were summoned by a maroon flare and one was killed in 1926 when looking over the flare, supposing it to have gone out. There were twelve sets of helmets, tunics and axes, and if a tall man left the force to be replaced by a short man, the latter had to endure an ill fitting uniform. The force entered the motorised age when Count Zborowski donated a motor appliance, registration number CE 1037. It was kept running largely through donations from insurance companies, whose outgoings would have soared but for the Volunteer Brigade's existence and devotion to duty. The Brigade would resent the presence at small fires of the Canterbury or Sturry Brigades, who would be soaked on arrival. The Bridge Brigade had no ladders until shortly before the last war, while early hoses were made of leather and thick rubber. The Fire Brigade remained independent up until the Second World War.

Author: Crispin Whiting - UKC Group Research Project 1978

Bridge and Patricbourne C. of E.
School.



PROGRAMME
OF
6th ANNUAL
School Concert
(IN AID OF SCHOOL FUNDS)



DECEMBER 19th and 20th, 1934.

2d.

PROGRAMME.

1. Opening Item

"BEFORE THE CURTAIN RISES" ...

THE COMPANY

2. Sketch "UP THE POLL" ...

M. LAMING, J. CRAWLEY, P. WEBB, B. PRICE

3. Song and Dance "THE MINUET" ...

E. KEELER, W. DOBSON, J. CARPENTER, J. JORDAN

4. Sketch ... "THE DUD SET" ...

Characters:

Grannie Stubbs M. LAMING

Her Grandsons P. WEBB, R. ANDREWS

Their Friends B. and R. PRICE

Assisted by ... P. ILIFFE and E. McDOUGALL

INTERVAL

5. Humorous Operetta

"THE DOLLS' WEDDING"

Characters in order of appearance:

Fairy Goodluck J. CARPENTER

Attendant Fairies F. and B. WEST

Bridesmaid Dolls E. McDOUGALL & N. VAUGHAN

Bride Doll P. ILIFFE

Tinker E. DAVIS

Tailor A. BROWN

Soldiers J. CRAWLEY & H. JORDAN

Sailor W. DOBSON

Rich Man V. O'CONNELL

Plough Boy B. VAUGHAN

Poor Man E. WOODCOCK

Thief N. HOGBEN

Policeman F. HOGBEN

The Cat S. WILLET

6. Grand Finale "TA TA" ...

THE COMPANY

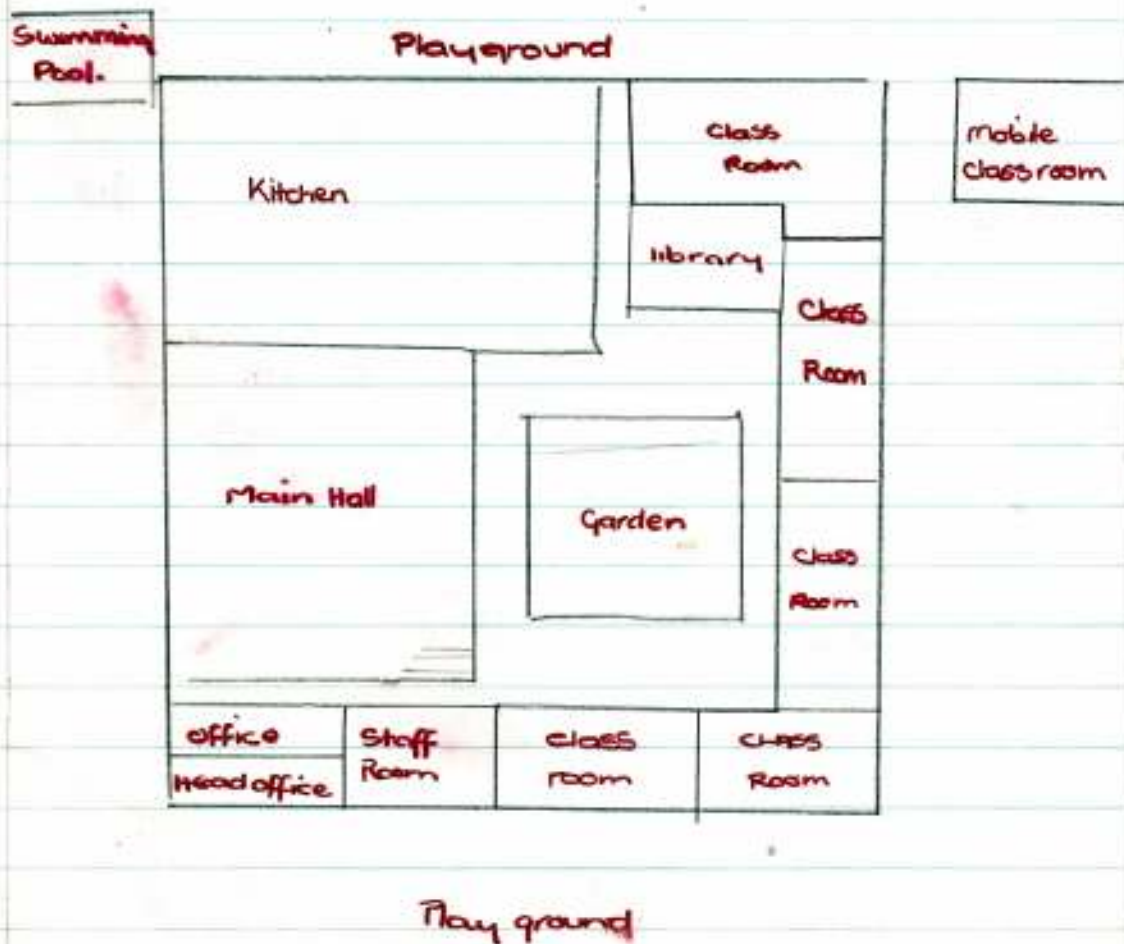
GOD SAVE THE KING



The Schools.

In 1971 a new school was built in Coppingham lane. This was promised to be built by 1948. It is all fitted with carpets and there is a large library.

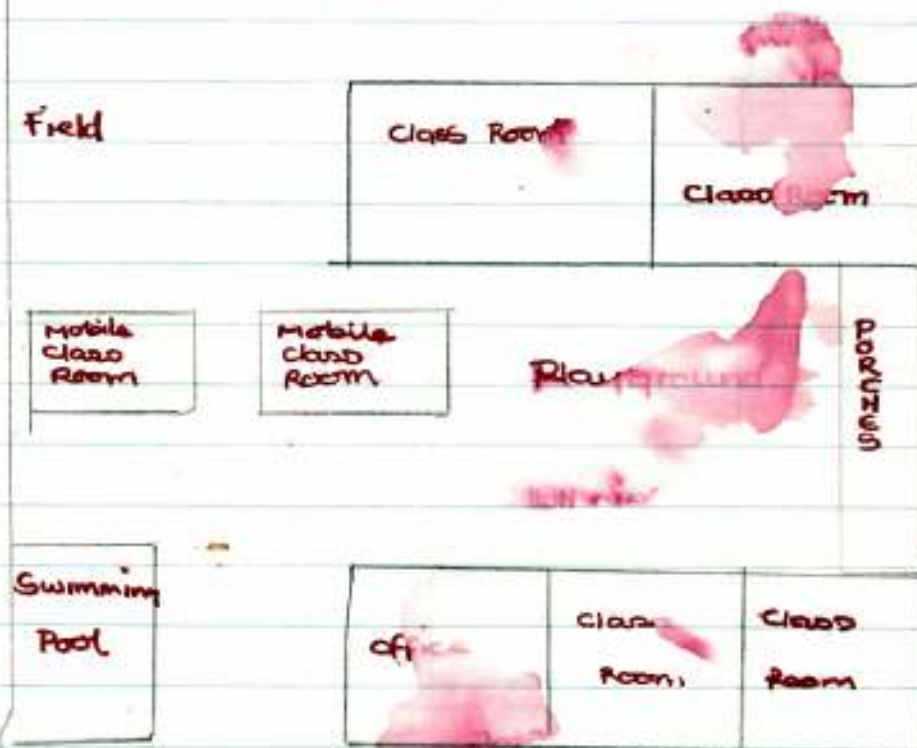
Map of New School.



The Old school.

The old school is now 103 years old. The old bell was taken away for preservation. It used to be used for the county library many years ago.

Map of old School.





Miss Dracula and Son of Frankenstein rub shoulders with Sherlock Holmes and Kojak in Horrortorio, a spine-chilling musical production at Bridge and Patixbourne Primary School.



Children and parents watching the open-air concert at Bridge Primary School open day last Wednesday.



After receiving gifts from Father Christmas on Thursday, children from Bridge Primary School sang him a Huron Indian carol.



THE 'BEETLE'S' BIG BROTHER REACHES 1,000,000 —

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Used V.W.'s in stock include:

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Please call and see us or we will gladly call on you any evening by appointment.

Colborne Garages Ltd.

THE VOLKSWAGEN CENTRE
Sturry - Canterbury - Sturry 240 & 544

BEST SELECTION OF USED CARS

Motor racing

This Sunday at the Lydden Motor Racing Circuit sees a very full entry of both men and women drivers. The women include some of the leading race drivers in the country who are competing for the "Embassy Trophy" presented by W. D. and H. O. Wills. Jacqui Smith in the "Fraser Imp" and Gabriel König's "Nathan Imp" should prove quite a match for the men in the saloon car races.

Among the men are Doug Mockford driving a works Diva and Roy Millbank with a Lotus 23. Both of these are past record holders at Lydden and both will no doubt be intent upon recapturing the outright lap record.

All races are oversubscribed and the meeting, consisting of 11 races with full grids at each event, should be the highlight of the season at Lydden. Racing commences at 2.15 p.m. and the circuit is to be found on the A2 midway between Canterbury and Dover.

Mainly



Chance for lady passenger

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*Wish all their Customers a
Merry Christmas and
Every Happiness
in the
New Year*

**A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

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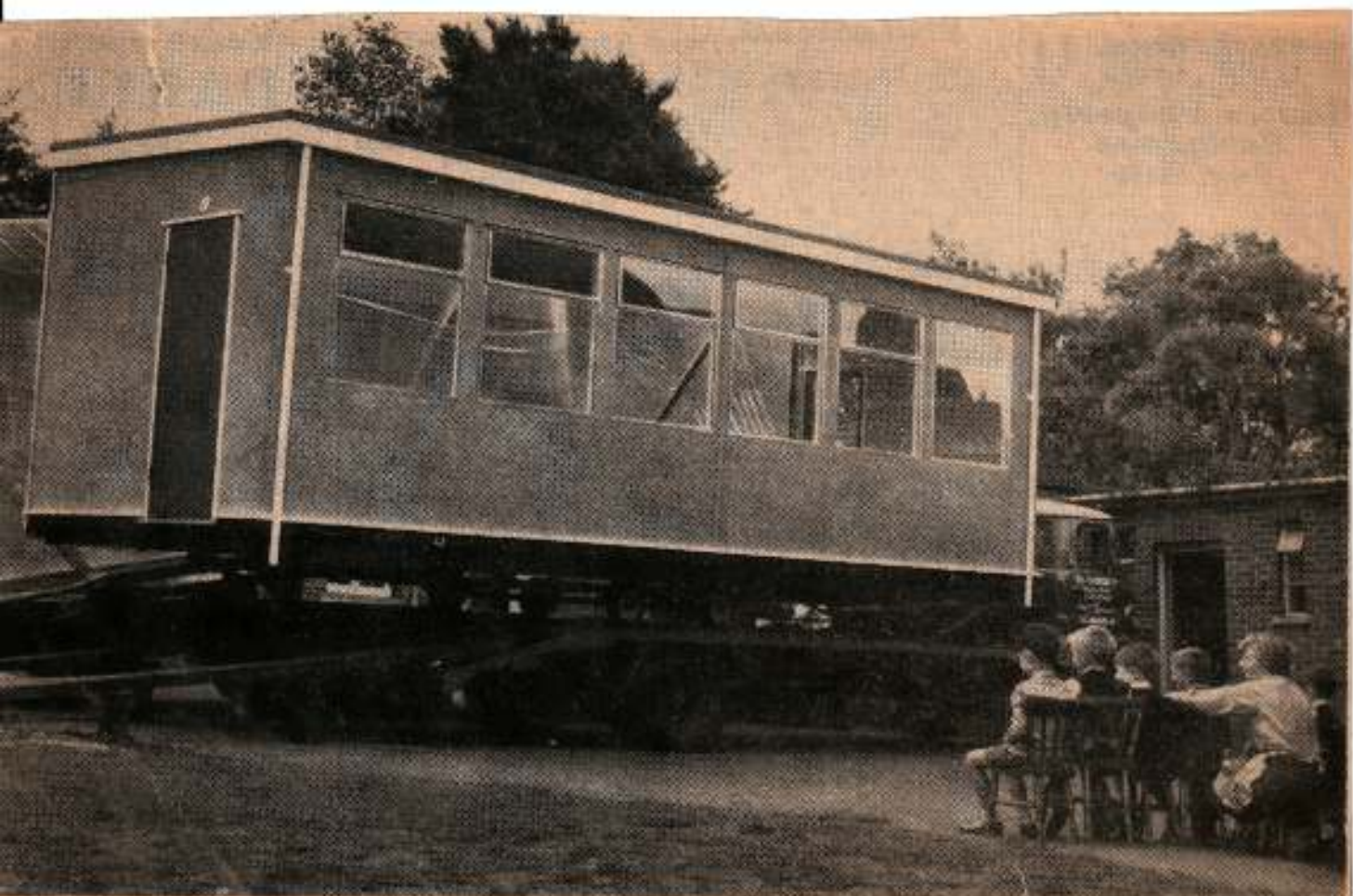
Principals: Mr. Sydney Woodman, A.R.A.D. (Advance M.I.D.T.A. (Ballet, Stage and Ballroom), Miss M. Woodman, A.R.A.D. (Advanced), A.I.S.T.D. (Ballet: High Commended), M.I.D.T.A. (Ballet, Stage and Tap: High Commended).

This year's Pantomime, "I HAD A LITTLE NUT TREE" to be presented at the Marlowe Theatre on January 2 and 30th. 19th ANNUAL PANTOMIME.

BLIGH BROS

*Wish
a Very Merry Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year
to their Customers and Friends*

Dover Street - Canterbury 664



A Kent County Council mobile classroom arrived by lorry at Bridge School yesterday (Thursday) and there was an interested audience to watch it being unloaded. It is the first classroom of its type to be provided for a school in the Canterbury area—although Canterbury and District Joint Education Committee is itself considering buying some.

from Page 11

Houses, Property, Businesses For Sale

HERNE Bay. — Attractive Tudor-style Semi-detached House, 3 reception, large kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, sep. w.c. Det. garage. £4,000. Freehold. — Phone Canterbury 64282. xh88

JUST IN THE MARKET. — **MARTON ROAD.** Post-war Semi-detached House with 23ft. tin. lounge-dining room, 3 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, w.c. Garden with detached garage. Freehold, £4,250. — Frank Wood & Co., 34, Watling Street, Canterbury (Tel. 6461).

CANTERBURY Outskirts. — Det. Centrally heated 3 bedrooms Gdn. Garage. £4,000. No agents. — Write Box 4823, 9, St. George's Place, Canterbury. xh87

BRIDGE. — Attractive, Newly-built Semi-detached Bungalow in excellent position and in excellent condition. Lounge-dining room, 3 double bedrooms, large kitchen, bathroom, w.c. Brick-built garage. Good garden. Owner must sell quickly. £4,150 or near offer. — Frank Wood & Co., 34, Watling St., Canterbury (Tel. 6461).

NEWSAGENT'S / CONF / TOB. Margate taking £480 p.w. N.B. £100. Audited net £2,500. Bright, well-equipped shop, same hands 14 years. 6-bedroomed home with pleasant garden. New 14-year lease at £400 p.a. being. £6,000. Ref. KB 521. — **CHRISTIE & CO.,** 57, Castle Street, Canterbury 61122. h

BLEAN. — Modern Detached Bungalow with lounge, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, separate w.c. Gdn. Concrete drive-in and space for garage. Freehold, £3,000. — Frank Wood & Co., 34, Watling St., Canterbury (Tel. 6461).

ULTRA-MODERN SELF SERVICE STORES, Gillingham. Built 7 yrs. No employees. Extensive local development nearing completion should enable present 7/3 (400) p.w. to

Professional

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C. A. HAWKINS, "The Springs," Island Road, Sturry. Decorating, House Repairs and Plumbing, anywhere. — Phone Sturry 553. xh89
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A Small Summer Sale

will be held at **St. Mildred's Rectory Garden** (If wet in St. Mildred's Hall) Fancy goods - grocery and cake stalls - jumble - teas Admission 3d.

Motor Cars

1955 FORD Popular, M.O.T. taxed; good condition; £65 o.n.o. — 61, Wife of Bath Hill, Canterbury. x887

1954 SIMCA; good condition; M.O.T.; 1955. — Apply after 6.0: 82, Shipman Avenue, Canterbury. xh

HEINKEL '57, new engine; give away at £40. — Chatham 490. x

WANTED. — Standard Vanguard; body and chassis in good condition, engine immaterial; from 1954 to 1957. — Mr. H. Wilson, 1, Woodside Road, Broad Oak, nr. Canterbury. x88

SCRAPPING 1959 Morris Minor. — All Spares cheap. New Battery, Radio. — Canterbury 68413. x

HILLMAN Minx 1960; good tyres, heater; £25 o.n.o. — Ring Peatham 383 (evening). x

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At Bekesbourne Village Hall

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 19

8-11.45 p.m.

Admission 4/-

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Saturday, June 19, 3 p.m.

Admission 3d.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 20

2.45 p.m. Rev. T. Harold Wood

6.30 p.m. Mr. W. C. Tilleray

Continued on

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

4 p.m. Divine Worship led by

Rev. E. Maynard Wilson

5.15 p.m. Tea with strawberries if available, 2/-, 1/3, S.S.S. 1/-

6.30 p.m. EVENING RALLY

Chairman: Mr. E. R. O'Mahony

Speaker:

Rev. E. Maynard Wilson

Soloist: Mr. A. W. Hobbs,

supported by Circuit Ministers

LEARN TO DRIVE

30, ST. DUNSTAN'S ST., CANTERBURY

Lifetime in a job she loves

WORK as an infants' teacher is demanding for the young and most enthusiastic of teachers, but it has provided Mrs Marjorie Collier with a lifetime of doing everything she has ever wanted to do.

At the end of the summer term, Mrs Collier, of Oller-ton, Valley Road, Barham, retires as a teacher at Bridge Primary School after 30 years' service. Before World War II, Mrs Collier taught in West Sussex, leaving for several years when she brought up her two children.

She resumed work in 1946, and over the years has seen attitudes towards education change considerably. "Teachers have much more personal contact with the children now, which I feel is far better," said Mrs Collier.

"Children are people and not just a number in the class. Nowadays, the system allows for several activities to be carried out at the same time with the teacher joining in each small group. Of course, this means much harder work for the teacher, but it is definitely more rewarding."

Although these changes allow more freedom, Mrs Collier maintains that as long as the children understand and are interested in what they are doing, results prove that they learn more through this system.

"The children," she explains, "respond well to this method and never run wild. I'm a dragon in class sometimes, but I make sure they learn the basic lessons first."

During her career at Bridge, Mrs Collier has taught children using the family grouping system, but still prefers individual age groups as she feels the pupils learn quicker this way.

Life as a primary school teacher is certainly not a nine to 3.30 job as many might think. As Mrs Collier pointed out, "Doing the best for the children involves a lot of incidental work and many extra hours."

"In fairness to my family, I have always tried to finish my work at school after lessons so that I could leave it behind when I went home, but this has not always been possible."

After 30 years as a substitute mother to hundreds of small children, Mrs Collier now looks forward to her retirement and spending far more time with her three grandchildren. "I have never had time to go to their school functions, so will enjoy having some spare time now," she said.

Mrs Collier has made no definite plans for her retirement but will enjoy spending more time at home with her daughter and pottering in her garden. She will visit



Mrs Marjorie Collier

Bangor University, North Wales, in September for an educational holiday with a friend.

A widow for 13 years, she has found working a financial necessity but would not have chosen any other career. "Teaching has been my life," admitted Mrs Collier. "I have enjoyed every minute of it. It is the only thing I have ever wanted to do."

"I shall miss the children and the life, of course, but I'm not a sentimental person and have no qualms about leaving."

The school's staff will miss Mrs Collier's individual and forthright approach very much. The headmistress, Miss Wendy Tomlin, said, "She has given a tremendous amount to the children of this school over the last 30 years. Her approach to individual projects has been so absolutely terrific that we now call her the Queen of Projects."

Now teaching her second generation of village children, Mrs Collier recommends the profession to anyone with enthusiasm and stamina. "Basically, you must like children if you want to teach."

"You are in demand all the time they are at school, but if you are keen the rewards are high. I have been lucky working here. It is one of the best schools in the area."

Since the new school building opened four years ago, there has been a substantial increase in the number of staff. "It has been a very happy community with a delightful headmistress. They all have a grand sense of humour, and I shall miss all my colleagues very much," she said.

The teachers, pupils, parents and managers of the school will say their farewells to Mrs Collier at the end of term.



Jeweller Pleasance Kirk, whose work is currently on show in London, in her own studio.

NEW POST: Head promises to build on school's strengths

THE new head teacher of Bridge and Patricbourne Primary School says she has inherited a fantastic school, which has an exciting future.

Renuka Chinnadurai, 35, has taken over the reins for her first headship, having previously held deputy posts in Ashford and Streatham.

Under her predecessor, Anna Newton, the school earned a glowing Ofsted report and Miss Chinnadurai wants to build on that good work.

With 385 pupils, Bridge is one of the biggest village primary schools in the district.

Miss Chinnadurai, who has a four-year-old daughter, said: "I have come to a fantastic school with a great staff and pupils so I am not about to make any sweeping changes.

"The school is being run very smoothly and is very well-equipped, particularly for ITC, with five advance skills teachers.

"I want to build on the school's strengths and develop the longer-term plans for an outside learning environment."

Miss Chinnadurai lives at



■ **New head of Bridge and Patricbourne School, Renuka Chinnadurai** PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES WOOD

Shepherdswell with her partner, Hugh Greenwood, who is head teacher at Boughton under Blean primary.

In her spare time, she enjoys gardening and cooking and says she plans to treat staff to some of her homemade cakes.

East Kent Diary

BY GAZETTEER

The Bridge Flood

WITH reference to the recent flooding at Bridge, Mr. V. G. Stockwell, formerly the village chemist and Bridge-Blean councillor, and now living in retirement at 12 Compton Road, Addiscombe, Croydon, tells me that when he arrived at Bridge over 30 years ago, he noticed that a drain, outside the cottage that once stood on the corner opposite the Red Lion, did not fulfil its function and he was told that the water never did run away.

Then came the floods, that of which Mr. Stockwell encloses photographs, and by which his premises were saved from flooding only by the use of railway sleepers. After some agitation, the County and Divisional surveyors arrived, and the latter, says Mr. Stockwell, denied that there was a drain, whereupon he produced the man who had put it in.

It ran from the church field under the main road, past the Boys' Club hut and emptied into the Nailbourne. It was found that the drain was completely blocked, and it was cleared and a manhole built near the Club hut, after which there was no further trouble.

Later, when Mr. Stockwell, at a Council meeting, raised the question of keeping the Nailbourne course clear, he was told that it was the responsibility of the landowners, and that in any case the Water Board was taking away so much water that the Nailbourne would never flow again! When he pointed out that the Nailbourne water came from a different source—a geological fact—he was told he did not know what he was talking about.

Acting on that statement, a Barham farmer planted a crop across the Nailbourne course and put up a fence. In due course, the Nailbourne flowed and swept away crop and fence. Referring to the recent flood, Mr. Stockwell suggests that, while not implying that the aforementioned drain has not been cleared, it might be worth investigation. "What I do say," he adds, "is that the whole course of the Nailbourne from Bishopsbourne to Bekesbourne should be dredged. That would at least avoid some of the trouble. The floods prove that what I said and tried to have done all those years ago was right."



When Brewery Lane was flooded 30 years ago.

Smith School, Canterbury. When his father moved to Dover—where, for 50 years, he had a photographic business—he was a pupil at Dover County Grammar School. He took a Double First at Cambridge.

He joined the Administrative Civil Service and was later assistant principal at the Home Office before transferring to the Admiralty. During the war he was principal private secretary to the First Lord, Lord Alexander of Hillsborough.

Aged 51 and married, with three children, he resides at Chislehurst. He has been awarded the K.B.E. and the C.B.

"I was interested to read your paragraph on the Langton badge. Until I gave it to the School last year, I, also, had kept my silver and enamel cap badge, number 701, and, like your correspondent's, issued in September, 1910, I was still wearing mine in 1921.

"The age-group of the '700's' suggests that many of these badges with lower numbers still exist, and, doubtless, several City Fathers yet display them to their grandchildren on high days and holidays—and get a nostalgic 'kick' in doing so!"

F.N.

THE reference to F.N. motor-cycles last week has reminded a reader that before 1921 all motor-cycles and cars of this make were registered in Canterbury so that they should have index mark "F.N." Several of them were owned by residents of the city, including at least one of the four-cylinder models. The makers were Fabrique Nationale, a Belgian firm which did a good deal of pioneer work in the early days of motoring.

SEEN THIS WEEK

A sign over the cake display in a roadside cafe near Canter-

Secretary of the Admiralty

MEMBER of a well-known Canterbury family, Sir Clifford Jarrett, who has just been appointed by the First Lord of the Admiralty as Secretary of the Admiralty—a £7,000 a year post—is the son of Mr. G. H. Jarrett, of 19 St. John's Lane, Canterbury, and a grandson of the late Mr. W. Jarrett, who was for 30 years licensee of the Jolly Sailor, Northgate.

During the 1914-18 War, Sir Clifford attended the Payne

High Street, St. Gregory

THE Priory of St. Gregory, founded by Archbishop Lanfranc in 1084, was situated on the high road leading to the Isle of Thanet. John Symkins was prior of this house at the time of the dissolution, when there were thirteen religious in it, the annual revenue being £121/15/1. The king exchanged the site with the archbishop and it was eventually sold to G. Gipps Esq., who died possessed of it in 1800. Its site was between Northgate Street and the new Mill-

FOCUS

Liberal Democrats keeping you informed



LIBERAL
DEMOCRATS No17

North Nailbourne

Published by Martin Vye,
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Bridge, Canterbury, Kent
printed by SAWD Publications,
Suite 1, 62 Bell Road,
Sittingbourne ME10 4HE



Cllr Martin Vye

PATRIXBOURNE

A good example of what can be done with concerted effort! Cottages by the bridge at the entrance to the village have been flooded since the autumn. On February 2nd the parish council organised a meeting in Patrixbourne Church. The MP and City Councillor were there, and I attended as County Councillor. Local residents were able to ask the various agencies directly what they intended to do to tackle the flood. By the time the meeting ended all of them had signed up to a series of meetings at the City Council offices to work on practical solutions, and work has started to dredge the channel of the Nailbourne.

BISHOPSBOURNE



Possibly the worst hit village, for its size. A public meeting was held in the Conrad Hall back in December, to which we had to wade in Wellie boots. It resulted in a commitment by the City Council and the County Council to put a temporary bridge over the ford at the Charlton Park end of the village, to allow villagers to drive out. The fresh downpour in February, however, brought new misery to residents.

Flood special!



My heartfelt sympathy to everyone flooded out – our house escaped, thanks to the work done to deepen the channel of the Nailbourne opposite us last winter, after persistent pressure by the Parish Council over the years. But I have seen for myself what a terrible mess flood water causes to people's homes.

Our urgent priority has to be to prevent it causing as much damage the next time it happens. The things the City Council and the County Council will be looking at are:

WARNING TIMES Did residents get the earliest possible warning of flooding to come?

SANDBAGS Were the sandbags there in time to prevent avoidable flooding?

BRIDGES These can hold up the flow of water. Does work need to be done to enlarge the channel through them.

OTHER OBSTRUCTIONS Was everything done to clear obstructions from the stream before the water started flowing?

SEWAGE Backing up into toilets has been a distressing feature of this emergency. Southern Water have pumps going right along the Nailbourne to get the sewage away. Was it done fast enough? Are there other ways of solving the problem apart from soiling the stream in this way?

THE STREAM BED Should the channel be dug deeper?

Martin Vye

Do you remember it so bad?

The recent flooding may be a once-in-two-hundred years event. I doubt it. All the evidence seems to point to increased autumn and winter rainfall in the future. If we are going to be able to plan properly to avoid the worst flooding it is vital we learn from the behaviour of the Nailbourne in the past. This is where the experience of our older residents will be so valuable. If you feel you have some useful information, please write to me – or phone me so that I can come round and make notes.

Liberal Democrats – making things happen locally!

The immediate task



The City Council is determined to do its best to minimise the damage caused by flooding. A Flood Committee has been set up, and members have visited all the areas in the district affected.

The first priority is to be prepared for a recurrence of the extremely heavy rainfall that came overnight in early February, to identify the properties most at risk of flooding again, and to have an early warning system and sandbags ready.

Good news



Elliot Morley, the Government minister who toured our area in mid-February announced £2.1 million extra government money for flood emergency work in the Southern Region.



Yet another dismal scene of flooding, with sandbags at the doors and people marooned in their houses.



Together we are stronger

Each of the parishes along the Nailbourne has been tackling the flood problem in its own way. I take my hat off to all of them – and to all public-spirited residents – for rolling up sleeves and acting with determination. But I think there is a lot of mileage in the idea of forming a Nailbourne Flood Committee, with parish councillors, City and County councillors, and local residents from along the length of the Nailbourne. They could then present the various agencies – City Council, County Council, Environment Agency, Southern Water, Fire Brigade, Police – with a list of what local people decide they need to combat flooding in the future.

Not so good news . . .

This money the Government is giving for flood emergency work in the Southern Region is going to the Kent Local Flood Defence Committee, whose main responsibility is sea defences. Will any money come to the Nailbourne? I am pursuing this and will let you know.



WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? *note it down*

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
FOCUS TEAM

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e-mail: vyeb ridge@rmpic.co.uk

JANET HORSLEY
Ragstone Cottage,
Meadow Close, Bridge,
Canterbury CT4 5AT
Tel: 01227-830923

Name..... Tel:.....

Address.....

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Village pays tribute to Joan's efforts

A COMMUNITY-minded villager has been thanked by her peers.

Members of the Bridge Fish Scheme, a neighbourhood help initiative, this week held a lunch in honour of founding member Joan Warren who is stepping down after 23 years' service.

Mrs Warren, of Bridge Down, was contacted by the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau in 1980 but decided that instead of becoming an outpost of the city, Bridge should stand alone.

With this in mind Mrs Warren set up a scheme that included a transport service, luncheon club and neighbourhood visiting.

She also became an encyclopedic authority on what benefits people were entitled to and made sure everybody got their due.

Paying tribute to Mrs Warren's efforts parish councillor John Hill said: "Joan

always knew what she wanted and got it with charm.

"She was not alone in the organisation but she was the driving force.

"Like any large football club or big business, the scheme has benefited from such a strong manager.

"Joan can rest assured that what was established 23 years ago is still fulfilling the needs of people in Bridge and will continue to do so for many years to come."

Receiving a card and gift from scheme members, Mrs Warren said: "I'm delighted to think I made such a good excuse to hold a lunch party! Thank you so much."

Mrs Warren also thanked fellow members and especially her husband Michael for his help and support.

●The Fish Scheme is always on the lookout for new volunteers in the Bridge area. To get involved, call co-ordinator Jean Johnson on 01227 766182.

Founder of fish scheme resigns



COMMUNITY MINDED: Dedicated Jean with her husband Michael and John Hill



GROWING CONCERN: Madge Hearn, 86, and her daughter Penny Moon watch the rising Nailbourne
kg1362aw17-11-00.jpg



SANDBAG DEFENCES: The Nailbourne flows through South Barham Road
kg1363aw17-11-00.jpg

Village in despair as river overflows

VILLAGERS who saw raw sewage pour into their street and gardens have complained that their early pleas for help were ignored.

Heavy rain caused the Nailbourne, known locally as the Waters of Woe, to flow. It only runs occasionally, usually after a very wet winter.

by Claire Witherden

"What's the point of the council having a flooding line if all they're going to tell you is where to buy sandbags? What do we pay our rates for?"

The villagers themselves, including 77-year-old John Kenyon, began clearing



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MARRAKESH £169
Sunday November 26

Set against the backdrop of the magnificent Atlas Mountains, the pink walled city with its mosques, souks and bazars.

Some roads in Barham were under a foot of water while the residents of Bishopsbourne grew more and more alarmed as water rose through the ground into their gardens and into The Street.

Over the weekend sewage began coming out of drains and manhole covers and even backed up into houses through toilets.

Villagers have now been warned to disinfect their hands if they come into contact with the flood water.

Malcolm Mitchell, chairman of Bishopsbourne Parish Council, whose home has been flooded, forcing he and his wife to move upstairs and put rescued furniture into storage, said: "We had to sit and watch as the water came up through the floor and spread across the room on Saturday night.

"What we needed was someone who knew something about flooding to come out and have a look. We felt ignored and snubbed.

"We do feel neglected by all the authorities in the first instance when we were panicking and didn't know what to do.

debris in the river bed when the water started to rise on Thursday night.

Mr Mitchell said: "After much bludgeoning from me someone from the highways agency came and looked at the road on Saturday and brought 50 sandbags.

"Once they realised our plight they were brilliant and we have received a lot of help.

"The fire brigade spent an hour pumping water away on Sunday, but it made no difference."

He added: "Normally the Nailbourne only flows in January and February when there has been lots of rain over the winter.

"Some experts say we could be like this until June."

Southern Water's waste water manager Paul Kent said: "When the Nailbourne is in flow, ground water overflows the sewers and some of the water is pumped into the river, bypassing the treatment works.

"If we didn't do that then properties which are connected to the sewage system would flood.

"The main pumps at



ANGLING TIMES: Malcolm Mitchell makes light of a serious situation at Bishopsbourne

Bekeshourne were working but somebody turned the additional pumps off over the weekend. We've modified the pumps to stop that happening."

At Barham pensioner Madge Hearn, 86, said: "I have lived in Barham and Kingston all my life and I have never seen the river like this before.

"Just a week ago the river bed was as dry as a bone, and now I cannot believe the force of the flow."

Steve Rivers, Kent Highways senior engineer at Canterbury council, said he was baffled by comments about the council's alleged lack of action.

An engineer had been on site monitoring the rise of the river and organising necessary work. Four hundred sandbags were also delivered to the area.

"The majority of people we spoke to seemed genuinely grateful for what we were doing," he said.

"Although the Nailbourne is not a highways responsibility the Highway Unit has tried to act as a good neighbour and help where property is in imminent danger of flooding."



ALL AT SEA: The flowing Nailbourne at Barham
kg1361aw17-11-00.jpg

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£15,000	£222.27	£136.84	£134.40	£88.76
£10,000	£148.88	£93.58	£91.12	£59.17
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3. Teaspoons of Hausfeld Ammonia
- 3 Teaspoons of Water
2. Teaspoons of Hausfeld Salt
1. Small Bottle of Ink. (any colour)

Pour the mixture over a few small lumps of coal in a dish.

Within two days the crystal formation of 'flowers' will appear.

1878 Coming of Age of Lord of Mount Charles

Visit to Work House dinner for inmates

4 o'clock at Reading Room was opened by a number of work staff of 60 men (40 in all) sat down to dinner provided by Mr Webb of White Horse.

at the Reception 25 Tenantry had a substantial meal from there to the school room amidst decorations were seat 200 children with an abundance of good food and a tea. At nightfall a monster bonfire was lighted on Bridge ~~the~~ side Hill lighting up the country for miles around, there was also fire works a day to be remembered.

Kentish Gazette Wed Jan 21st 1891?

In 1950 Lord Conyngham sold for £3000
28 thatched cottages at Patric Bourne



Bridge Junior Church Concert
 Inbi, Rene, William, Pam, Rosemary, Dawn, Pat, Marion, Gwen



Bridge Junior Church Concert early 50's
 Marion, Rene, Pam, Kathi, Gwen

FAREWELL: Village school's head leaves after 18 years



■ Anna Newton at the special assembly on Friday morning. Picture: Chris Davey pd 055247

A FANFARE of flags, smiles and song sent retiring head Anna Newton on her way after 18 years at Bridge and Patricbourne School.

Her last day of term started with a surprise treat, as a chauffeur-driven Rolls Royce pulled up to transport her to school, where she arrived to find pupils lining the street, cheering and waving flags.

After a special last assembly, in which flowers and a cake were presented, the children serenaded her with a sing-song.

Mrs Newton, who lives near Dover with her husband Paul, will pass the baton on to new

head Renuka Chinnadurai, who will greet pupils in September.

The retired head is looking forward to travelling extensively in the coming months. She will also do occasional work in schools for the Local Education Authority.

She said: "Obviously I feel sad that it's finally come to an end. I've had 18-and-a-half superb years at the school and worked with some fabulous staff and lovely children. It has been a privilege to work here. My only regret is that old age has caught up with me."







*A Service of Thanksgiving
for the life of*



Laurence George Samuel Shirley

21st May, 1935 - 21st January, 2003

St Peter's Church, Bridge

2.00 pm on Sunday 2nd February, 2003

followed by burial at

St Mary's Churchyard, Partixbourne

Presiding Minister

Mrs Margaret Clarke

Pastoral Assistant, the Bridge Group

You may keep this service sheet



Donations in memory of Laurie gratefully received for
"The Ryder-Cheshire Foundation" Reg Charity No 1088623
for the benefit of Raphael, North India

c/o WJ Farrier & Son, 161 London Road, Dover CT17 0TG

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

Address

Prayers

Hymn

Guide me, O thou great redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

Opening Sentences

Welcome & Introduction

Prayer

Hymn

Morning has broken
like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing,
praise for the morning,
praise for them springing
fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight,
mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play.
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's re-creation
of the new day.

Personal Tributes

Chris Barton

Dr Peter Giles

Nick Shirley

A Poem

Written & read by Laurie's granddaughter, Meg

Grandad

We are gathered here,
Hearts too sad,
Because of the loss,
Of my grandad.
His name was Laurence,
Laurence Shirley,
I need not tell you,
His loss is hurting.
His grin so wide,
His eyes so gay,
His laughing side,
Every day.
His large straw hat,
His snow white hair,
His wanting to chat,
His judgement so fair.
His mouth full of joke,
His hand full of fun,
Friends of all folk,
but now he's gone.
Remember my grandad.

Hymn

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the ancient of days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

A Reading From Holy Scripture

The Revelation to John, Chapter 21: verses 1-7
Read by Laurie's grandson, Scott

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

The Committal

Procession to St Mary's Churchyard

The Burial

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The family would like to thank you all for coming today,
and invites everyone for light refreshments at;
The Plough & Harrow, Bridge
following the burial



MUSICAL TRIBUTE: The New Orleans jazz band joins the cortege

Ref: pd 349509

New Orleans jazz send-off for villager

THE streets of Bridge were lined with mourners on Sunday for the funeral of former sub-postmaster Laurence Shirley.

More than 300 people looked on as a horse and carriage made its way through the High Street towards the village's St Peter's Church.

Former campaigner and councillor Mr Shirley's last wishes were met as a New Orleans-style jazz band joined the cortege.

A celebration of life was held at the church followed by a reception at the Red Lion and the Plough and Harrow pubs.

Mr Shirley's son Nick said: "I'm very proud of my father and was glad to see so many people in the High Street. He was a very popular man. There was a real sense of community spirit about the day."

Mr Shirley's widow Ann said: "We want to say thank-you to all the people who sent cards and letters and have made donations to the Ryder Cheshire Foundation."



FUNERAL PROCESSION: The horse and carriage makes its way through Bridge High Street

Ref: pd 349510

Voting time on campus

ELECTIONS will be held across Kent University campus tomorrow (Friday) for National Union of Students conference delegates.

Becoming a conference delegate is a good foundation in politics and so there is some competition for the eight available seats.

The successful candidates will discuss and vote on such issues as student fees, accommodation, teaching and course programmes.

Polling is from 10am to 3pm and counting from 3.30pm.

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 Patricxbourne 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.

Dancers are wanted

DANCERS are needed for a short film about a prima ballerina and a caretaker who swap skills.

Second year students from Canterbury Christ Church University College's radio, film and television department are making the film.

It is being shot between February 17 and 21 and the cast comprises a man and a woman who should be aged between 16 and 35.

"We're looking for people with training, preferably in ballet for the woman and tap for the man," said producer Erin O'Neill.

"We would also need them to help us with some of the choreography too."

There would be no payment for the actor/dancers, but travel costs can be discussed.

For more information call 07813 736372 or e-mail erinjoneill@hotmail.com

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

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

Thanksgiving: A service for the life of Laurie Shirley, as he was affectionately known in the village, both as Postmaster for many years, as well as representing the village as parish, City and Kent county councillor, was held on Sunday, February 2.

The cottage of a horse-drawn hearse and carriages, preceded by the Gambit Jazz Band, processed through the High Street from Dering Road, past the Post Office in which he had worked for so many years and on to St Peter's Church where the service was held.

A large gathering of relatives, friends and villagers followed on foot, and many more lined the street to pay their last respects to a greatly loved and respected character.

The church was packed to capacity with standing room only. Apart from all the local mourners, representatives from all the councils, authorities and charities with which he had been associated were present.

After a short recital by the band, the congregation was welcomed by the presiding minister Magaret Clark, pastoral assistant to the Bridge group, followed by a prayer from the priest in charge, the Rev Paul Filmer.

Personal tributes were given by long-standing friends Chris Barton, Dr Peter Giles and Mr Shirley's son, Nick. There followed a poem written and read by his granddaughter Meg. A reading from the Bible was made by his grandson Scott.

Continued next page

From previous page.

The cortege then reformed and proceeded with most of the mourners to St Mary's Church, Patribourne, where the burial took place, with a moving farewell by the Jazz Band.

Village pub wins accolade



■ Melanie and Chris Maclean celebrate after their pub was named local CAMRA Pub of the Year Picture: Paul Dennis pd805266

LANDLORDS Chris and Melanie Maclean are happy to break most of the so-called golden rules on how best to run a successful pub in these difficult times for the licensed trade.

They do not serve food, they do not have a garden where children can run around while their parents imbibe and they have no time for live music.

Loud, recorded music is also a no-no and their idea of decent drinking hours is 11am-11pm and they will not ban smoking.

Struggling

But far from struggling for business, the Macleans' Plough and Harrow pub in High Street, Bridge, has been named Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) Pub of the Year for the Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable area.

Gerry Keay, chairman of local branch of CAMRA, said: "The Plough and Harrow is a fantastic example of a traditional English community pub, where a friendly welcome and excellent beer are always offered to both regulars and visitors in the area."

The Macleans recently won Shepherd Neame's Community Pub of the Year award and on the strength of this week's success gain entry to the east Kent Pub of the Year contest.

Mr Maclean, 48, said: "We are both astonished and delighted."

"We have been at the pub for 14 years and, during that time, we have sought to provide a hub for the village community."

Wife Melanie, 48, added: "The best thing about our pub is that there is nothing special. Our emphasis is on good conversation. We are also the home to 30 local clubs."

Local clergyman, the Rev Paul Filmer, even does a stint behind the bar once a month in an effort to maintain contact outside his church in the parish.

As part of a reciprocal arrangement, Mr Maclean is a lay minister in his spare time, reading the lesson at Patricbourne church.



Bridge Junior Church Concert
in Reading Room
(Centre front Toni Gardner)

FED UP



I hope that you never feel
like this!
Best Wishes
J.G. Godden
July 1942

Headmaster
of Bridge School
Tom Giddens
did this in my
Autograph Book

Erwin
Lamar

BRIDGE

Parish Council
Caring for the village



Autumn 2013 Newsletter

Changes on the Parish Council

Unfortunately **Bill Oakey** resigned from the Parish Council because of his health. He did sterling work for the village, as he has done in his role as a City Councillor, which he is continuing to do.



A call for volunteers to fill the vacated seat resulted in three excellent offers and the Council co-opted **Mike Burns-Stark** as your new Councillor

Your new Chairman is
Cllr Sue Hodges



Next Parish Council meeting

7.15 pm Planning Committee

7.30 pm Full Council

Thursday 10th October 2013

Bridge Village Hall - all welcome

Bridge in Bloom

Congratulations to the winners of the 2013 Bridge in Bloom competition. The standard was once again very high throughout the village. Thank you to all those who took part and to the judges who went around the whole village in July.

Jim Tamsitt Trophy
(Businesses):

White Horse Inn
2nd - Red Lion Inn

2013

Margaret Jones vase
(Community):

Mansfield Court



Residential:

Julie & Malcolm Bennett,
33 High Street
2nd - Anchorage,
Dering Close,
3rd - 17 Union Road.



High Street Planters



These looked very attractive this year and thanks go to Vicky White, who has tended them so lovingly.

Dead Weeds

KCC have sprayed the weeds in the village but they do not remove them. Please pull up any weeds outside your property so as to improve the appearance of the village.

Thank you



UNION ROAD
BRIDGE



Union Rd.
Showing The Mill
a Dad's Austin 7
parked outside
your house
→ before the Churchill
House was built

Belsey, H. J. builder, The Street
 Beneneid, George, 3 Brewhouse lane
 Benedeid, Henry, 3 Brook place
 Bird, H. J. Mill House
 Bishop, George, Union road
 Bishop, John, Filmer road
 Boorman, James, Rose cottages
 Booth, George, Signalman's Cottage, Bridge station
 Bradley, Heer, Fint cottages
 Bridgland, Albert, builder and undertaker, Portland terrace
 Browning, Theodore, Post Farm cott.
 Burton, Miss, The Street
 Bushell, George, 3 Filmer cottages
 Caplan, Mrs. Ivy Cottage
 Carpenter, Edward, 7 Brewhouse lane
 Carpenter, Thomas, Primrose alley
 Castle, Mrs. Bridge Hill House
 Chapman, Harold E. Esq. Hillside
 Chapman, Thomas and Mrs. master and matron, Bridge Union
 Clayton, Edward, Portland terrace
 Colard, Thomas Louis, The Street
 Cook, Frederick W. Rose cottages
 Courtaux, The Misses, Sefton Villa
 Cover, George, The Street
 Cowell, George, The Street
 De Satge, Oscar, Esq. Bridge place
 Eastman, John, 3 Brewhouse lane
 Edwards, George, Union road
 Elgar, George, Primrose alley
 Evers, Mrs. Glen Falls
 Fairbairn, G. greengrocer, Bridge street
 Fairbairn, George, jun. Union road
 Fairbairn, J. Little Eaton Farm
 Fairbairn, Joshua, butcher
 Fairbairn, M. E. tea dealer, etc., The Street
 Featherstone, Thomas, 1 Waterloo cott.
 Fenn, John, plumber, painter, and decorator, 4 Albert terrace
 Fife, Stephen, Little Post Farm
 Foad, Edward, Brick Noggia
 Ford, William, The Street
 Francis, Mrs. The Street
 Friend, R. coal merchants and by prop. Brookside Lodge
 Fryer, George, Union road
 Gammion, Mrs. Belle Vue terrace
 Gibbons, Alfred, Flint cottages
 Gilbert, T. R. blacksmith, The Street
 Kimber, Stephen, 2 Brook place

Goldbeck, Mrs. The Dairy, The Street
 Gosling, Thomas, Filmer road.
 Griggs, John, The Street
 Griggs, William, Bridge hill
 Hartman, W. watchmaker, The Street
 Harlow, George Prior, 1 Brook place
 Harvey, Henry, The Terrace
 Harvey, William, Post Farm
 Hayes, Lieut.-Col. E. C. Rose Band
 Hindis, Thomas F. Red Lion Inn
 Hirst, Henry D. Esq. Bourne Lodge
 Hoare, William, The Street
 Hoare, Jonathan, Rose cottages
 Hoppen, Stephen, The Street
 Hollauby, Mrs. Union road
 Howard, C. W. vet. surgeon, 3 Albert terrace
 Jarvis, John, Primrose alley
 Jarvis, Thomas, 1 Brewhouse lane
 Jarvis, William, 3 Barnhouse lane
 Johnson, George Edward, plumber and painter, The Street
 Jones, Charles E. Esq. Rose Dale Villa
 Keefer, Mrs. The Street
 Kennett, George, The Street
 Kennett, John, Union road
 Kennett, James N. Woodhine Cottage, The Street
 Lansell, Edwin, Fishmonger, The Street
 Lambert, Mrs. The Street
 Long, Miss, Union road
 Luckhurst, Richard, Union road
 Luff, George, laundry, 5 Albert terrace
 Mann, Seth, 3 Brewhouse lane
 Mansel, George, Post Bottom
 Marsh, John, Middle Post cottages
 Martin, Mrs. The Terrace
 Maycock, Bayley, The Street
 Medhurst, W. J. 2 Waterloo cottages
 Meostiff, Mrs. Belle Vue terrace
 Miles, Ernest, Dale villas
 Miles, F. Bridge Farm
 Miles, William J. Bridge hill
 Mitchell, James, The Street
 Moss, Alfred, grocer and baker, agent, Kens Fire Insurance, The Street
 Monk, William, bear retailer and postman, Rose cottages
 Munns, James, 3 Brook place
 Murphy, Thomas James, Union road
 Noble, George, 5 Brewhouse lane
 Noble, Harry, Union road
 Ovenden, John, Post Bottom

Ovenden, Thomas W. 6 Brook place
 Packman, J. police sergeant, 2 Albert terrace
 Page, Alfred J. butcher, The Street
 Palmer, Thomas W. relieving officer, The Street
 Pagden, George, The Street
 Pagden, George William, 4 Brewhouse lane
 Pary, William, grocer, The Street
 Perry, Mrs. general draper, The Street
 Phillips, George, Dale villas
 Pierce, Robert, Brick Noggia
 Pinner, Richard, Bourne Park cottages
 Piper, Charles, The Street
 Piper, George, Rose cottages
 Piper, Herbert, Brick Noggia
 Poate, John, station master, Bridge Station
 Pooley, Albert, 5 Brook place
 Rayner, George, Little Post cottages
 Rice, Rev. A. G. Sefton villas
 Reynolds, Mrs. 5 Brewhouse lane
 Ripley, Arthur, 1 Albert terrace
 Rosener, Mrs. Union road
 Russell, John, Post Bottom
 Rye, William, Primrose alley
 Rye, Mrs. The Street
 Sankoy, Mrs. Filmer road
 Scudon, Charles Henry, Esq. surgeon, Medical Officer, Bridge Union
 Settnfield, George, Union road
 Settnfield, William, The Street
 Shal, George, White Horse Inn
 Shanks, Henry, Beans cottages
 Simden, Charles, Post Bottom
 Sibley, R. J. W. Plough and Harrow Inn
 Small, George, The Street
 Small, Mrs. The Street
 Soutan, Edward, 3 Filmer cottages
 Stevens, Henry, tailor, 5 Albert terrace
 Stoices, George, Union road
 Stone, George, dairyman, Glen Falls
 Strand, Charles, Bridge Hill Cottage
 Stringer, James, The Street

Stupples, Thomas, Woodmans Arms, Post Bottom
 Swan, William, The Street
 Tasseil, Miss (L.H.) Weston villas
 Taylor, George R. saddler, The Street
 Taylor, J. The Terrace
 Thomas, Mrs. Weston Villa
 Tritton, Thomas, The Street
 Turpin, Mrs. Bourne Park Cottage
 Turt, Mrs. Union road
 Vidgen, George, brickmaker, Moorfield Cottage
 Waters, Walter W. Post Bottom
 Wells, Walter P. Little Post cottages
 Wells, William, Middle Post Farm
 West, Samuel, 5 Filmer cott. Filmer rd.
 White, Thomas, Post Farm cottages
 White, Mrs. Union road
 White, William, miller, Little Bridge place
 Williams, Miss, organist, Private Schl. The Street
 Wills, C. sec. Bridge Gas Co. and Volunteer Fire Brigade
 Wills, R. 3 The Terrace
 Wills, Charles, confectioner, The Street
 Wilson, James, 4 Brook place
 Wilson, Elias, 3 Brewhouse lane
 Wilson, John C. chemist, Post Office, The Street
 Wilson, Timothy, Union road
 Wilson, Mrs. Brick Noggia
 Winter, Mrs. East Bridge House
 Wood, Mrs. bootmaker, The Street
 Wright, Mrs. Filmer road
 Wynors, Mrs. Filmer Cottage
 Wye, Robert, master, National School, Assistant Overseer and Collector of Rents, Tithes, and Queen's Taxes
 Wye, Miss G. F. assistants mistress, boys' school
 Wye, Miss, infants' mistress, National Schools
 Wye, Mrs. girls' mistress, National Schools

→ J. FENN, ←

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4, Albert Terrace, High Street, Bridge.

WALKER and HARRIS, Cash Chemists, Sun Street, Canterbury. Are the cheapest Chemists in Kent. Write for Price List.

H. E. DE TRAFFORD and CO.'S

Celebrated Littlebourne Ales and Porters.

CANTERBURY MEMORIES



BY THE SEA: Plough and Harrow regulars enjoy their outing to Hastings in 1961



TIME TRAVELLERS: The current landlord of the pub, Chris Maclean, hired a charabanc to make the 2001 trip to Hastings as authentic as possible



DAY OUT: The last trip to Hastings 40 years ago proved popular with the pub's regulars

PUB regulars boarded a charabanc for a seaside trip to recreate an outing that happened 40 years ago.

The party left the Plough and Harrow, High Street, Bridge for their excursion to Hastings, just like their predecessors did in the past.

The landlady who organised the original outing, Freda Weller, died at the end of last year. She ran the pub from 1958 to 1978.

Current landlord Chris Maclean said: "Her family gave me a pile of old papers and photos from her time as landlady.

"Among them there was a

Tour is a ride back in time

photograph of a pub outing that happened on July 16, 1961.

"It seemed appropriate to mark the anniversary of this. So I hired this 1950 charabanc and about 20 of us piled in."

Mr Maclean said: "The weather was fine all day. We ate spam sandwiches and drank beer. It was lovely."

Our first picture from the 1961 outing, which was taken at Hastings, shows Plough and Harrow regulars Bill Last, Nobby Laming, Ted Baker, Arthur Gambell, Jack Swan and Jack Osbourne.

Does anyone know who the seventh man is? Did you take part in the original outing?

Ads from the Past

UYES
FOR QUALITY AND VARIETY

<p>BRISKE BOND P.G. TIPS</p> <p>1'7</p>	<p>OVALTINE</p> <p>3'</p>	<p>M'VITTES LINCOLN BISCUITS</p> <p>10^D</p>
<p>KNORR SOUPS</p> <p>1'3</p>	<p>CROSS & BLACKWELL SPAGHETTI RINGS</p> <p>1'</p>	<p>KENNOMEAT DOG FOOD</p> <p>2'</p>
<p>KLEENEX KITCHEN TOWELS</p> <p>2'10</p>	<p>SURESHINE STAINLESS STEEL KITCHEN JAMS</p> <p>1'10</p>	<p>HAYWARDS PICKLED ONIONS</p> <p>2'</p>

Buy Right Windows

**BRIDGE & DISTRICT
HISTORY SOCIETY**

19 The Close, Union Road, Bridge, Kent CT4 5NJ
Tel 01227 831 044

Affiliated to the
Kent History Federation

Mrs Win Tamsitt
45 Union Road
BRIDGE
Kent CT4 5LW

22 August 1996

Dear Win,

I am delighted to enclose the programme for our second season 1996-97, commencing on Tuesday 3rd September, a highlight being the Visit to Bourne Park in October*.

I trust that you will be encouraged by the fact that the membership subscription and meeting charge have not been increased from last season. Please use the enclosed form to pay your subscription either at the September meeting, or send it direct to me. *(Please see over)*

Along with the rest of the committee, I look forward to welcoming you at the new season's meetings and visits.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Dawson
Secretary

* Tickets for the Visit to Bourne Park go on sale at 3rd September meeting.

Dear Win,

The committee have agreed that in honour of the work that you've put into the Society, you should be made an Honorary Life Member - our first!

I do hope you will accept this modest accolade in the spirit in which it is made.

Your assistance in the smooth running of the evenings in the Village Hall have, too, been appreciated.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Dawson

Village pub wins accolade



■ Melanie and Chris Maclean celebrate after their pub was named local CAMRA Pub of the Year Picture: Paul Dennis 04809266

LANDLORDS Chris and Melanie Maclean are happy to break most of the so-called golden rules on how best to run a successful pub in these difficult times for the licensed trade.

They do not serve food, they do not have a garden where children can run around while their parents imbibe and they have no time for live music.

Loud, recorded music is also a no-no and their idea of decent drinking hours is 11am-11pm and they will not ban smoking.

Struggling

But far from struggling for business, the Macleans' Plough and Harrow pub in High Street, Bridge, has been named Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) Pub of the Year for the Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable area.

Gerry Keay, chairman of local branch of CAMRA, said: "The Plough and Harrow is a fantastic example of a traditional English community pub, where a friendly welcome and excellent beer are always offered to both regulars and visitors in the area."

The Macleans recently won Shepherd Neame's Community Pub of the Year award and on the strength of this week's success gain entry to the east Kent Pub of the Year contest.

Mr Maclean, 48, said: "We are both astonished and delighted."

"We have been at the pub for 14 years and, during that time, we have sought to provide a hub for the village community."

Wife Melanie, 48, added: "The best thing about our pub is that there is nothing special. Our emphasis is on good conversation. We are also the home to 30 local clubs."

Local clergyman, the Rev Paul Filmer, even does a stint behind the bar once a month in an effort to maintain contact outside his church in the parish.

As part of a reciprocal arrangement, Mr Maclean is a lay minister in his spare time, reading the lesson at Patricxbourne church.

BRIDGE CHEMISTS

TAKEN FROM REF LIBRARY
AT THE BEANEY.

VICTOR GEO STOCKWELL OPENED
EITHER 1926 OR 1927 AND CLOSED
IN 1945.

(Taken from Kelly's directory &
Pikes Blue Book)

THE FIRST REF TO A.R. CLARKE
Tel 236! WAS IN 1995.

CLOSED IN 1971.

(Ref taken from old Tel Books
at the Beaney because blue
books had finished by then)

Kelly's Directory
1927

Commercial

Bullards Hourdresser
Bumell Building Surveyor
Bruce Hannah Plumber & Harness
Bridge Gas Coal & Bake Charles Wills Sec
Wardlyhamel Albert Builder
Cawte Albert Baker
Dacent Walter Grocer
Down Frank Cycle Dealer
Edmond Beestram Wilkie Butcher
Fourbrass Charles Shopkeeper
Fenn John Plumber
File Norman Farmer Little Pitt Farm
Gilbert Sydney Blacksmith
Hatcher Hy Edwin Farmer Middle Pitt Farm
Hawken George Draper
Hogben Frederick Saddler
Holland Charles Contractor Old Mill Coal
Honey Percy Registrar
Jones Albert Brick maker
Mummary Frank Agriculture Engineer

Nelson Thomas Laundry
Price Henry Grocer
Receiving Room Mrs Bowell Caretaker
Richards Philip Grocer & Baker
Rogers Archibald Motor Engineer
Siddlers Wm Plumber
Sneller Aubrey Motor Garage
Storkwell Victor Chemist
Stone George Dairyman
Sutton Jane Woodmans Arms ^(Mrs) ^(The Dick) Letter through
Taylor Henry Coal Merchants
Tutt Elizabeth Dress maker
Uden William Farm Buyer for ^{F. Holness} Great Pitt Farm
Watts William Vaccination Officer Registrar ^{Births &} Deaths
Watson John Red Lion P.H.
Wentzell George White Horse P.H.
West Charles Butcher
Williams Lionel Rural District Council Officer
Wilson ~~Ernest~~ ^{Arthur} Doctor
Wood Ernest Fishmonger
Wye Robert House & Ins Agent



A would-be Jack Nicklaus tries his hand at putting at Chartham Primary School fete on Saturday.



Church vergger and the one the villagers call "The Friendly," Mr. Jack Hapton.



A would-be Jack Nicklaus tries his hand at putting at Chartham Primary School fete on Saturday.



Gleaming brass firemen's helmets and an ancient fire engine gave the children plenty of excitement.



Competitors in the football competition.



A would-be Jack Nicklaus tries his hand at putting at Charlton Primary School for a Saturday.



Charlton State Homeowner's League and at least five engines give the children plenty of excitement.



Competition in the football competition.

They are going to dig into history

A bid to discover more about Canterbury's history is being made by a group of young people who are taking part in a project of the Canterbury Historical Society. The project is to dig up the history of the village and to record it in a book. The project is being led by the Canterbury Historical Society and is being supported by the Canterbury Council. The project is being carried out in the village of Canterbury and is being completed by the end of the year. The project is being carried out in the village of Canterbury and is being completed by the end of the year.

Canterbury soldier's sailing feat

Paul, a Canterbury soldier, has achieved a remarkable feat by sailing across the English Channel. Paul is a member of the Canterbury Sea Cadets and has been sailing for several years. He has sailed across the English Channel several times and has achieved a number of records. Paul's latest feat was to sail across the English Channel in a small boat. He sailed from Canterbury to France and back in a matter of days. Paul's feat is a testament to his skill and determination. Paul is a member of the Canterbury Sea Cadets and has been sailing for several years. He has sailed across the English Channel several times and has achieved a number of records. Paul's latest feat was to sail across the English Channel in a small boat. He sailed from Canterbury to France and back in a matter of days. Paul's feat is a testament to his skill and determination.



Chuck, seven, and the other villagers, with "Mr. Friendly," Mr. Jack Higgins.



The chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. A. Skidelski (left), takes a stroll around the newly replanted village and with its open villagers.



North-Island Bridge, Canterbury, on the Bridge-Road Rural District Council, Canterbury, Mr. J. Good.



North-Island Bridge, Canterbury, on the Bridge-Road Rural District Council, Canterbury, Mr. J. Good.

Bridge—at work and play



During time for members of the Young Wives' Group, who have seen Bridge blossoming among their children.



The man's, the young-bridge's father's step is owned by Mr. E. K. Bate and family, who are up at the work of down taking the village's bread.



The man's, the young-bridge's father's step is owned by Mr. E. K. Bate and family, who are up at the work of down taking the village's bread.



Young girls of Bridge who are now making full use of the facilities and opportunities offered them by the Downside, under the lead of Mrs. J. Good.



Young girls of Bridge who are now making full use of the facilities and opportunities offered them by the Downside, under the lead of Mrs. J. Good.

Canterbury M.P. at Stodmarsh

Mr. David Clark, M.P. for Canterbury, has been in a visit to Stodmarsh, Kent, to see the work of the Stodmarsh Drainage Board. Mr. Clark is a member of the Canterbury Council and is a member of the Canterbury Sea Cadets. He has been in Stodmarsh several times and has seen the work of the Stodmarsh Drainage Board. Mr. Clark is a member of the Canterbury Council and is a member of the Canterbury Sea Cadets. He has been in Stodmarsh several times and has seen the work of the Stodmarsh Drainage Board.

SAPPHIRE

OUTSHINES THE REST!

31 GNS LATEST 1967 MODEL

5 YEAR GUARANTEE

NO DEPOSIT & H.P. TERMS READILY AVAILABLE

- TWO STAR FULL WIDTH FREEZER
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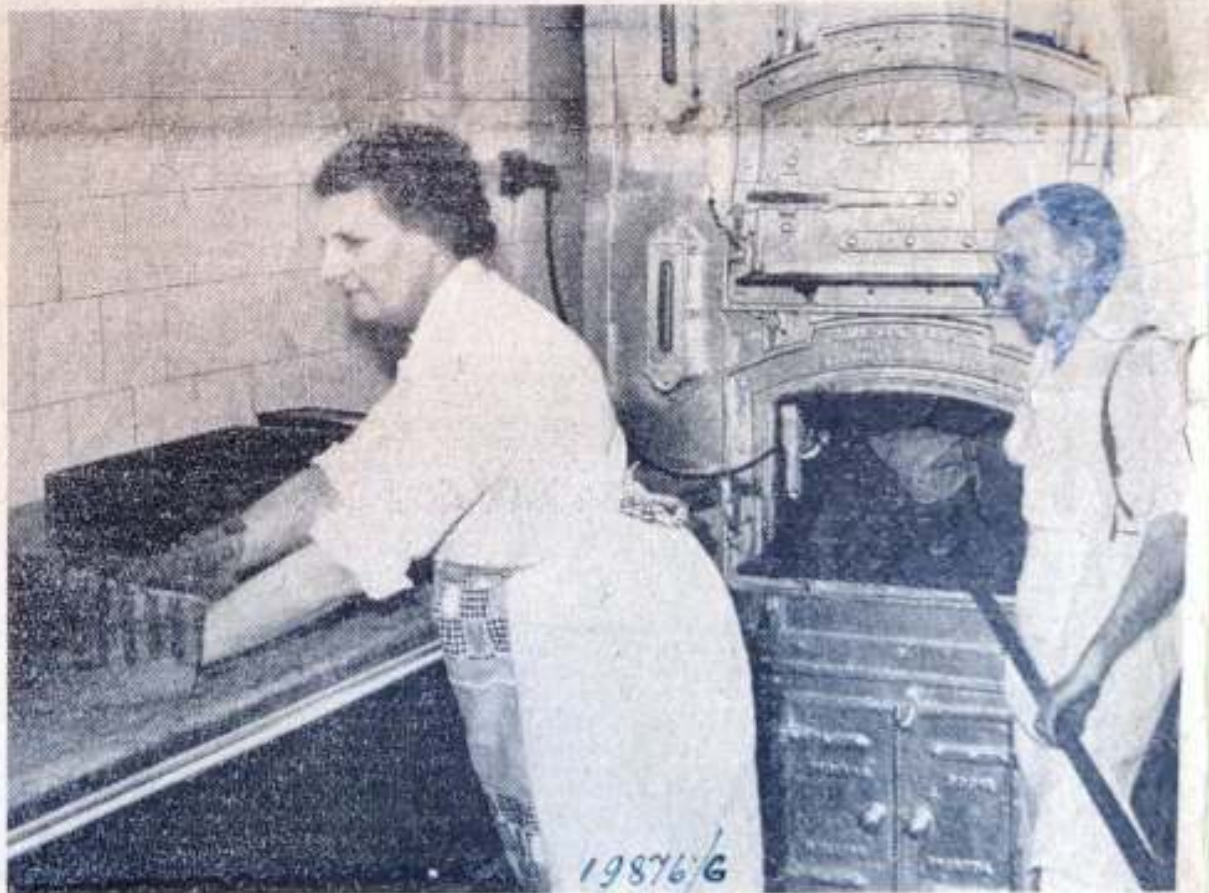
RETAIL SERVICES LIMITED

ST. GEORGE'S STREET, CANTERBURY

Bridge—at work and play



Outing time for members of the Young Wives' Group, who have new Bridge housewives among their members.



The name's the same—Bridge's baker's shop is owned by Mr. E. G. R. Baker and family, who are up at the crack of dawn baking the village's bread.

the village's "friendly," Mr. Jack Hopkins.

Outing time for mem



The chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. A. Stickels (left), takes a stroll around this rapidly expanding village and stops to speak to villagers.



Church verger and the man
the villagers call, "Mr.
Friendly," Mr. Jack Hopkins.

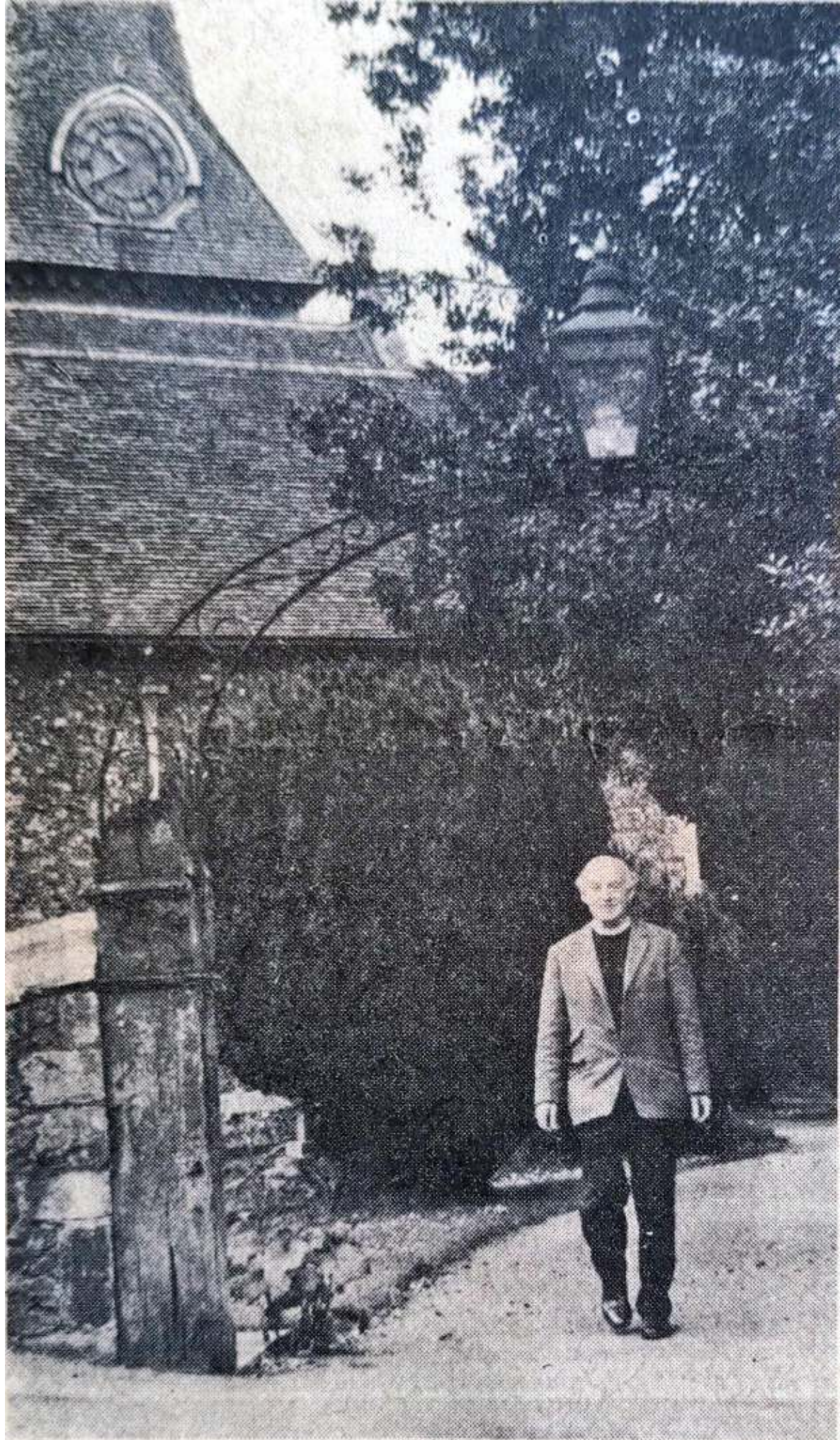


Newly-elected Bridge representative on the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council, Cllr. Laurence Shirley, of the Post

The name's the same—Bridge's baker's shop is owned by Mr. E. G. R. Baker and family, who are up at the crack of dawn baking the village's bread.



Young girls of Bridge who are now making full use of the facilities and companionship offered them by the Brownies, under the leadership of Mrs. R. J. Good.



A friendly welcome awaits the newcomer to Bridge, according to the Vicar, the Rev. Colin Perry.

THE "KENTISH" PROSPERITY IN THE OFFING— DESPITE THE PROBLEMS

"Kentish Gazette" reporter

OFTEN villages are shown as clusters of houses and shops merely providing a slumberland for commuters and retired businessmen. This illusion of rural stagnation is immediately destroyed when visiting villages such as Bridge, whose villagers care—sometimes almost passionately—about the future of their go-ahead community.

Bridge, with its rising population, has found itself coming to grips with the influx of new blood. Modern houses and bungalows have appeared on both sides of the village's main street and now its population is heading for about 2,000.

Only about three miles from Canterbury, Bridge houses many people who come to the city to work but prefer the village to provide their home life. Business houses and factories Bridge may not have; shops to cater for its needs it certainly has.

Apart from a wet fish shop and a bank, Bridge has every type of shop needed to make it self-contained for the housewife.

Some villagers are pressing hard to get a bank and, if they are as successful with this project as they have been with past demands, Bridge should have one in the not too distant future.

Proud of the past

Yet that is looking ahead and Bridge is proud of its past. It takes its name from what is now the 18th Century brick bridge straddling the River Nailbourne in the High Street.

For many of the older residents an evening is often well spent recalling life in the village at the turn of the century. Anyone wishing to know of the Bridge of decades ago is immediately directed to the home of Mr. Herbert Price at Lynton Cottage.

Formerly the village's representative on Bridge-Blean Rural District Council, he retired because of ill-health but is still an active member of the Parish Council, which he joined in 1930.



Of the changes in the village Mr. Price said: "Years ago the road was narrower near the bridge and we had a fine set of lime trees down the street. What is now the Red Lion public house's car park was stables, and the White Horse's car park was a lawn. We used to have open-air dances there."

"The Village Hall belonged to the Marquess of Conyngham and in 1952 he let the village have it on a 50-year lease at £100 a year, to be rented by a committee delegated by the Parish Council. At present we need a new hall and are looking for a suitable site."

Looking back at the village characters he has known, several names came to Mr. Price's mind. He said he could clearly remember Mr. Jack Friend, a former landlord of the Red Lion, who organised the village's King George VI Coronation celebrations. He also had vivid memories of a former village baker, Mr. Charles Wills, and Mr. Chas White, who was the chairman of the Parish Council for many years.

During his recollections Mr. Price never fails to remember the day Bridge was packed with people. It was at the funeral in 1910 of Fireman J. Fenn, who was killed while firing a maroon.

"Bridge has never been as full as it was on the day of Fireman Fenn's funeral. The streets were lined with masses of people who came from miles around to pay their respects to this popular fireman," said Mr. Price.

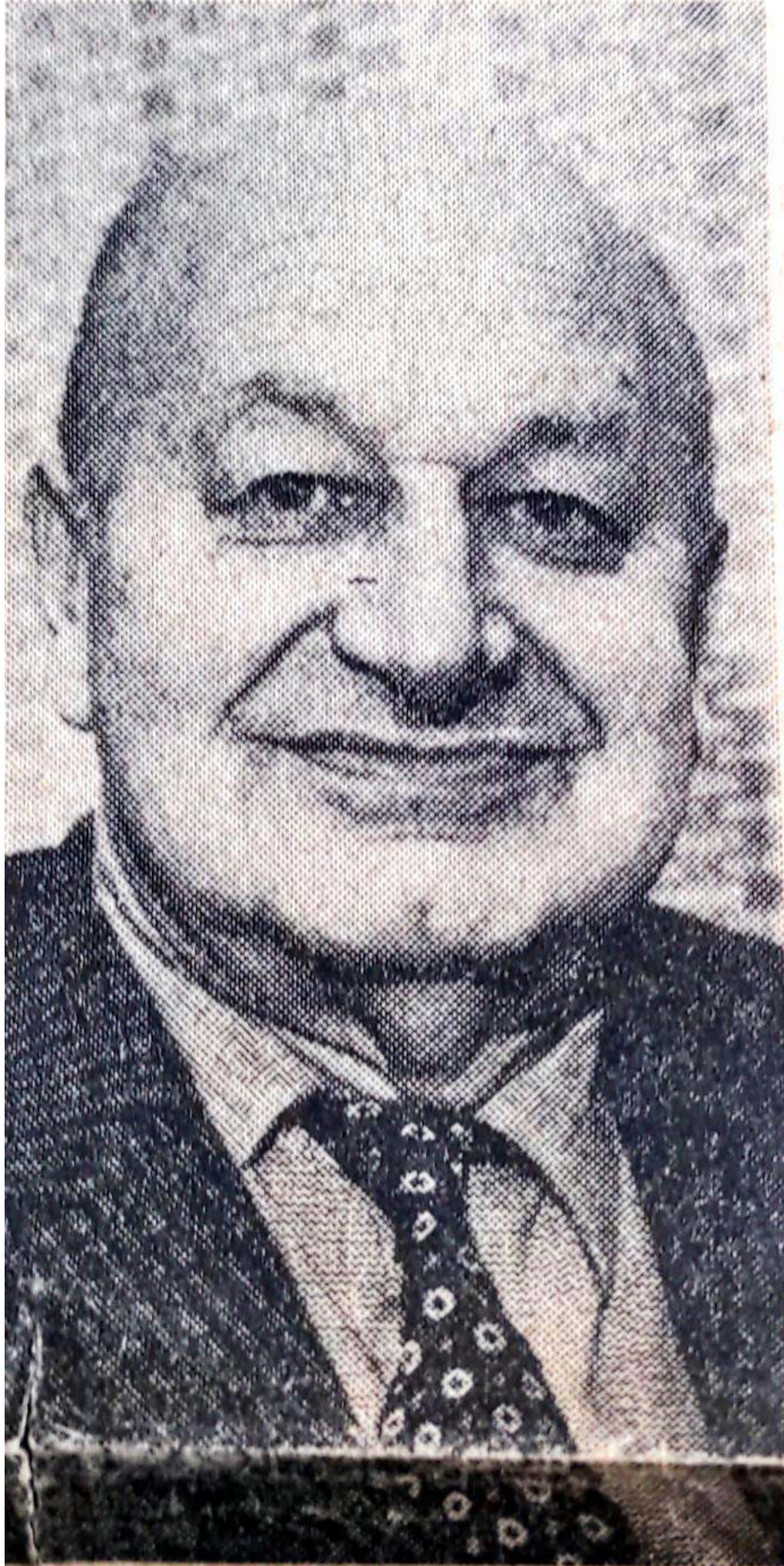
Housing developments

Another person who has many memories of Bridge is Mr. Harry Hawkins, owner of the ladies' and men's outfitters and the newsagents. His father came to Bridge in 1907 and he was born in the village.

Over the years he has seen the great housing developments in the village and is particularly proud of the way local tradespeople have risen to the occasion to meet the demands of the expanding population.

"There is," said Mr. Hawkins, "everything for the shopper. Really there is very little reason for anyone needing to go out of the village for their shopping."

With its shops, character and friendly atmosphere, Bridge ob-



**Memories are provided by
Mr. Herbert Price.**

PROSPERITY IN THE VILLAGES DESPITE THE PROBLEMS

"Kentish Gazette" reporter

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Memories are provided by Mr. Herbert Price.

He is also chairman of the managers of Bridge and Patric-bourne Church of England Controlled Primary School.

Mr. Price has almost a lifetime of recollections of the village. He remembers the days when the High Street was uncluttered by cars and when the Elham Valley Railway line was in operation.

The Fire Brigade

Some of his fondest memories are of the old Bridge Volunteer Fire Brigade, started by the Marquess of Conyngham in the 1880's. In the early days the brigade's manual pump was horse-drawn but in 1925, when Mr. Price joined the brigade, they had a motor tender which proved to be extremely efficient and was often called into Canterbury to help with city fires.

Later a Rolls Royce chassis was converted for use and in 1929 the brigade got its own motor pump. In 1938 the Rolls Royce was replaced by a Bedford.

Of the changes in the village Mr. Price said: "Years ago the road was narrower now it is bridge and we had a fine row of lime trees down the street. Now is now the Red Lion pub house's car park was stable and the White Horse's car park was a lawn. We used to have open-air dances there."

"The Village Hall belongs to the Marquess of Conyngham. In 1952 he let the village buy it on a 50-year lease at £100 a year, to be rented by a committee delegated by the Parish Council. At present we have a new hall and are looking for a suitable site."

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With its shops, character and friendly atmosphere, Bridge obviously provides a popular base for young families in search of the country, but at the same time not wanting to be too far from the town. But what of these newcomers, together with the well-established villagers, what of the future?

Like any community, Bridge has its problems to face. But it is lucky in having a great number of people interested when it is difficult to spend money here. The village more accommodating growing needs.

Traffic menace

Traffic is an almost constant menace to the village. High Street. Cars stream down it coming or going to the town, and Bridge is doing its best trying to speed up plans to by-pass to weed out this traffic problem from its doorstep.

Recently the A.I. Group formed to demand a by-pass. The campaign secretary is 27-year-old Mr. Brian Lewis, and the group was started by some members of the old Bridge Youth Club became appalled at the road conditions through Bridge.

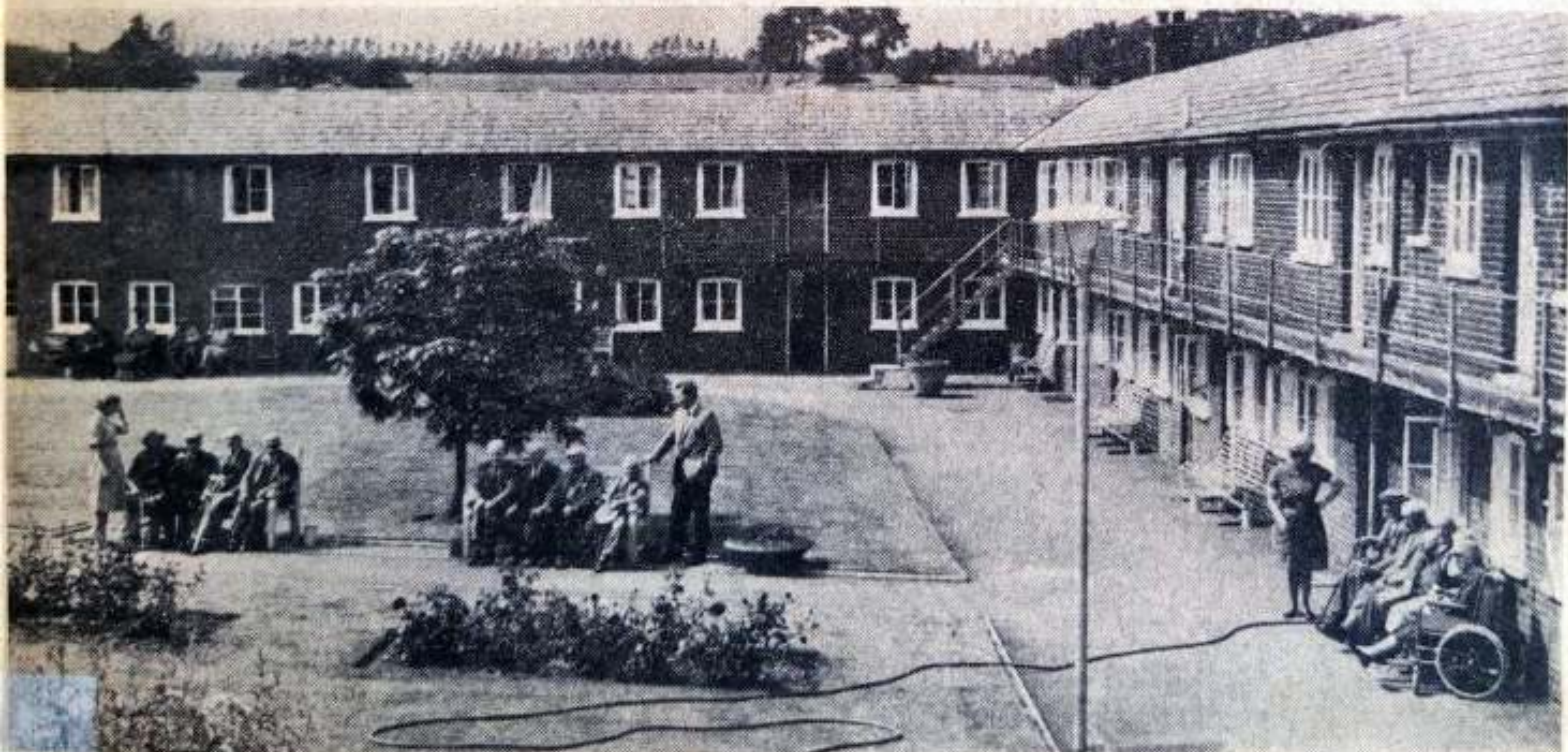
About 20 young people organised a protest march through the village and at the same time they joined forces with one resident, Mr. John Percival, who was conducting his campaign with letters to the Ministry of Transport.

With the Youth Club now teaming up with Mr. Percival, protest demonstrations were organised, aiming at a plan to extend the M2 from Ley Corner to Dover.

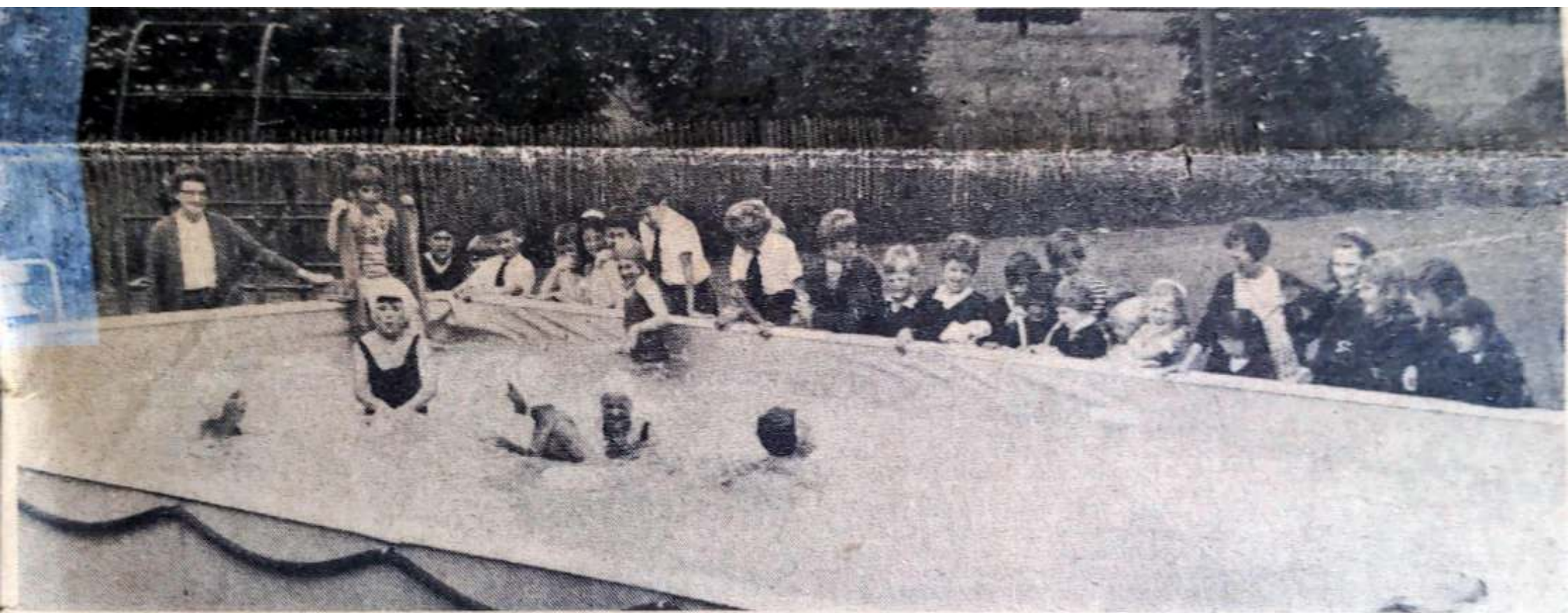
Because of their numerous protests and pestering of authorities and the M2



Welcome back to former president of Bridge Women's Institute, Mrs. Heather Stotesbury (right), seen talking to the present president, Mrs. V. Dawson. With them are friends of Mrs. Stotesbury who were welcoming her back for a short visit at a party at Mrs. Dawson's home.



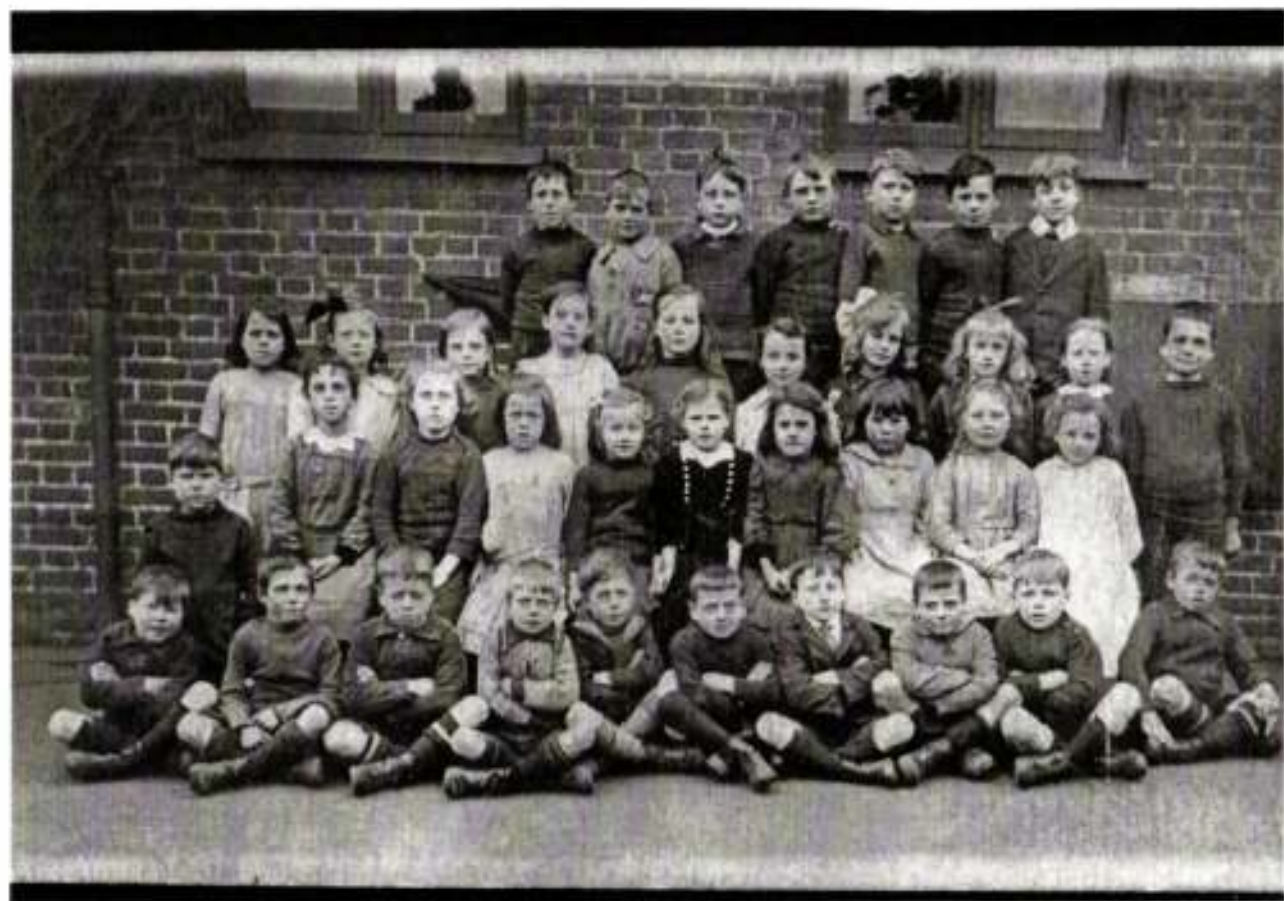
Taking advantage of some midday sun, residents and staff of The Close relax in the attractive gardens.



Children splash happily in Bridge School swimming pool, bought after a money-raising effort by the Parent-Teacher Association. Keeping a watch on the fun is the headmistress, Mrs. O. Knight.



Bridge's policemen, Sgt. D. Carless and P.C. B. Goodwin, who both live in Police houses in the village.













10.4.97
Bridge - Mr Moon's house.

General Accident Property Services

DOING MORE TO GET YOU MOVING

HERSDEN	WITHIN CITY WALLS	CANTERBURY	5TH CANTERBURY	ST DUNSTANS	PRESTON
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● East of Canterbury ● 1 Bedroom ground floor flat ● Double glazing <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£21,995</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ground floor flat ● 2 Bedrooms ● Good decorative order <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£49,995</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Semi-detached house ● 2 Bedrooms, GCH ● Gardens and garage <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£49,995</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Second floor apartment ● 2 Bedrooms ● Communal gardens and parking <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£54,750</p>	 <p>REDUCED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Older style terraced house ● 2 Bedrooms ● GCH <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£56,995</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● East of Canterbury ● Charming period cottage ● 3 Bedrooms, gardens and garage <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£83,950</p>
CHARTHAM HATCH	NTH CANTERBURY	BARHAM	BRIDGE	WICKHAMBREAUX	LITTLEBOURNE
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Semi-detached bungalow ● 2 Bedrooms, GCH, dble glazing ● Garden and garage <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£59,995</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Semi-detached house ● 3 Bedrooms, GCH ● Gardens <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£67,950</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Semi-detached character cottage ● Living room with open fires ● GCH, gardens <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£75,000</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spacious family house ● 5 Bedrooms, 2 bedrooms, GCH ● Garage and gardens <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£87,000</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grade II Listed cottage ● 5 Bedrooms, GCH ● Delightful rear garden <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£112,000</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Detached house ● 3 Bedrooms, downstairs cloakroom ● Gardens and detached garage <p>Apply Canterbury Office</p> <p>£99,950</p>
HIGH STREET	CARLTON HILL	HERNE BAY	UNDERDOWN RD	OAKLAND COURT	OSBORNE GDNS
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Top floor studio flat ● Shower room 	<p>NEW INSTRUCTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First floor flat, bedroom, lounge ● Kitchen, bathroom ● Off road parking, rear garden <p>Apply Herne Bay</p>	<p>NEW INSTRUCTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First floor flat, ● Sea views ● bedroom ● kitchen, lounge ● Gas central heating <p>Apply Herne Bay</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 4 Bedrooms ● Lounge, kitchen, bathroom ● Pts 2 Bedrooms, no stairs 	<p>NEW INSTRUCTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ground floor flat ● Bedroom, lounge, bathroom, kit ● Warden assisted, vacant <p>Apply Herne Bay</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 4 Bedrooms, bathroom, lounge ● Dining room, kitchen, utility room, downstairs wc ● CH, double glazing, garage

ANGELA HIRST

Surveyors & Valuers

R590

**26 High Street
Bridge
Canterbury
Kent**



Price £100,000

Description

This extensive property comprises a shop and store with four bedroomed living accommodation. The property is constructed mainly of brick under a slate roof. The property is in need of extensive improvement and renovation and is suitable for a number of uses subject to change of use.

Location

Situated in the High Street of the much sought after village of Bridge, approximately 4 miles to the south of Canterbury. A very convenient location.

Directions

From Canterbury proceed along the New Dover Road towards the A2. Take the slip road signposted for Bridge. Turn right at the T junction and continue until you come to a set of crossroads. Turn left and proceed into the village. The property can be found on the right hand side by the village hall.

Agents Note

The electrical circuits and equipment has not been tested nor has any heating, plumbing or drainage system.

Viewing

By appointment with agents, **Angela Hirst Surveyors and Valuers (01227) 765533.**

Canterbury: (01227) 765533 • Rye: (01797) 226889 • Uckfield: (01825) 760555
Sandwich: (01304) 239057 • Cranbrook: (01580) 713700 • Faversham: (01795) 830001

The accommodation comprises:

Access via the main front door. Main stairway leading to first floor. Door to lounge.

Lounge	12'6" x 12'6". Attractive open fireplace with timber mantle, window to front, built in storage cupboard, radiator, door leading to main stairway.
Hallway	Doors to lounge, dining room, shop and cellar. Telephone point, central heating controls, alarm controls.
Dining Room	13'7" x 13'. Door to secondary stairway leading to first floor, gas fire with back boiler providing domestic hot water and central heating. Window to side, built in storage cupboard, door and steps down to kitchen.
Kitchen	14'4" x 9'2". Stainless steel single drainer sink unit with floor mounted storage cupboards under, range of floor and wall mounted units, electric cooker point, plumbing for washing machine, plumbing for dishwasher, windows to the rear, door to the garden.
Shop	54'9" x 11'4" average. Display windows and door to front, side door to garden, open doorway to store, hatch to loft space, second hatch to first floor store room (measuring approximately 14'3" x 11'3").
Store Room	11'2" x 6'3". Expelair extractor fan, wash hand basin, stainless steel single drainer sink unit.
Cellar	16'1" x 12'. Electric and gas meters, open fireplace.
First Floor Landing	Main staircase, doors to all bedrooms.
Bedroom 1	13'9" x 13'1". Open fireplace, door to airing cupboard, door to secondary stairway, access to loft hatch, window to side, radiator.
Secondary Stairway	Door and steps down to bathroom, stairs down to ground floor, window.
Bathroom	Bathroom suite comprising low level WC, wash hand basin and panelled bath, window to side, radiator, sloping ceiling.
Bedroom 2	12'6" plus built in cupboard x 12'6" plus built in cupboard. Open fireplace, window to front, radiator.
Bedroom 3	11'4" x 11'4". Door to landing, window to front, radiator.
Bedroom 4	11'1" max x 11'11". In need of complete renovation, window to rear.
Outside	Enclosed gardens with a small lawned area, many shrubs and plants, paved path leading to car parking area with space for two vehicles, door to shop, access onto Union Road.

Angela Hirst and Hirst Commercial for themselves and for the vendors or lessors of this property whose agents they are give notice that:-

- (i) the particulars are set out as a general outline only for the guidance of intending purchasers or lessees, and do not constitute, nor constitute part of, an offer or contract;
- (ii) all descriptions, dimensions, references to condition and necessary permissions for use and occupation, and other details are given without responsibility and any intending purchasers or tenants should not rely on them as statements or representations of fact but must satisfy themselves by inspection or otherwise as to the correctness of each of them;
- (iii) no person in the employment of Angela Hirst has any authority to make or give any representation or warranty whatever in relation to this property



MOUNT CHARLES HOUSE, BRIDGE Guide Price £525,000

A magnificent detached residence enjoying a centrally located plot of about 1 acre backing onto open farmland in this extremely popular, well served village. Reception hallway, cloakroom, drawing room, study, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, laundry room, shower room, family room, galleried landing, master bedroom suite, 5 remaining bedrooms and family bathroom. Detached double garage and fully landscaped gardens.



BRIDGE

Modern semi-detached bungalow in a cul-de-sac. Centre of popular village. Two bedrooms. £94,995

Bridge Handmill Close Oct 99



BRIDGE

A substantial Victorian house with well established gardens situated on the edge of the village. About 0.5 acre.

Region £435,000

Oct. 99.



CANTERBURY 4 MILES

£795,000

A delightful small residential farmstead in a secluded valley yet within 4 miles of City centre. Period farmhouse with 3 receptions, 4 bedrooms. Outbuildings, gardens and well fenced pasture. Approx 18½ acres in all. 2.9

WHITSTABLE

- Situated upon an unadopted cul-de-sac
- Features GCH. No forward chain
- Off road parking, gardens to rear
- Prompt sale available

£200,000

Outbuildings

010

PETT BOTTOM, NR BRIDGE
 Rent £340.00pcm
 One bed lodgings in period farmhouse, sep kitchen & bathroom, allocated parking.

BRIDGE April 2000. £265,000



• A charming recently renovated 3 bedroom period house in this sought after village Gardens.



BRIDGE
 Superb Grade II listed house in the centre of the village, 3 reception, 3 double bedrooms.
£295,000 *April 2000*



Bridge
 A2M2 1 mile, Canterbury 3 miles, London: 63 miles
 An elegant semi-detached Victorian villa offering spacious family accommodation. This charming property is now in need of extensive refurbishment. Sitting room, dining room, kitchen, breakfast room, 4 bedrooms, solar. Garage, parking and walled garden.
 Region of £425,000

£395,000

BRIDGE



NEW

- Popular village
- Land with out lined planning permission
- Offers in excess of £275,000

OIRO £275,000 *07*



M.O.

Bridge
 A detached family house offering well presented comprehensive accommodation.

Four bedrooms, two bath/shower rooms, three receptions plus kitchen/breakfast room, utility room and integral garage, drive and good size rear garden.

£369,995 **Canterbury office**

53 UNION RD WELCH 09



Bridge **£299,995**

- 3 Bedroom Detached Home
- Fit Kit, Lounge/Diner, Conserv
- Front & Rear Grdn, Gge & ORP
- Canterbury office



Bridge

A desirable semi detached period property set within the village conservation area.

Lounge/diner, long galley kitchen, dining room, Bathroom and 3 bedrooms. Pretty rear garden with outbuilding. Large driveway with parking for several cars.

£320,000 *08* **Canterbury office**



Bridge Offers Over £535,000
 Substantial family home in centre of village close to all amenities, three reception rooms, three bathrooms, three bedrooms, solar, large gardens, period features. Must see. RC1021 *OCT 09 212-446M G.P.A. 011-611-6111*

Homes & Motoring, September 2, 1999

ANGEL
 Surveyors



SELLING OIRO £145,000
 Cottage benefiting from 3 bed accomm, 1 with en-suite, mature gdn's with summer house and views.




BRIDGE

This detached double fronted 1990s family home offers spacious accommodation, 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms. Approximately 1300ft rear garden. Garage and off street parking. £155,000.

DANIELS 53 UNION RD FEB 2000

MORE QUALITY PRO

40 Palace Street, Canter
 Telephone: 01227 478111



BRIDGE

A most charming Grade II Listed timber framed house in this sought after village. Riverside gardens. About 0.25 acre.
Region £295,000 SEPT. 99.



Bridge UNION RD

A well proportioned detached period house set in the heart of this prestigious village
 4 reception rooms | 6 bedrooms (1 en suite) |
 2 further bathrooms | double garage | gardens
Guide price £695,000 08

May
2
0
0
0-



BRIDGE

An attractive modern semi-detached bungalow near the centre of the village. Two bedrooms.
£185,000



BRIDGE

Attractive modern semi-detached bungalow, 2 bedrooms.
£95,000

Mary Wootley's Western Ave

Corner Weston Ave

• **PATRIXBOURNE**

£360,000



• *Converted oast in excellent order in this sought after village. 5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms. Gardens.*

APRIL 2000



BRIDGE £249,500

A double fronted period cottage comprising sitting room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, study, cellar, three double bedrooms, the master having en-suite shower room and family bathroom. There are gardens, off-road parking and the property retains many period features.

SEPT 2000
OLD MILL HOUSE



Bridge Brownies were hosts to the 5th Canterbury (Bridge) Cub Scout Pack at a scarecrow party held in the Village Hall on Saturday, to celebrate their fourth birthday.

Bridge Brownie party

To celebrate its fourth birthday the 1st Bridge Brownie Pack held a "Scarecrow" party in the Village Hall on Saturday and an amusing variety of fancy dress was on display. Guests were the 5th Canterbury (Bridge) Cub Scouts and a programme of games, competitions and a snack supper were enjoyed by about 60 children.

Mrs. H. Goode, Brownie Guider, was in charge, assisted by Mr. B. Pearson, Cub Scout Leader, and Mesdames Meyben, Goodwin and Ashdown.

Girl hurt in crash

A 19-year-old student at the University, Miss Peta Mackay, of Keynes College, was detained in Kent and Canterbury Hospital with face and leg injuries on Sunday after the car in which she was a passenger crashed in Echesbourne Lane.

The driver was Mr. Robin Wright, of 1 Green Dell, Tenterden Drive, Canterbury, who was unhurt, and no other vehicle was involved.



BRIDGE TODAY.

HIGH STREET.

PRINT TO BE RETURNED TO.

J. MILTON.

50, HIGH STREET.

BRIDGE.





Jan 1958



PATRIXBOURNE CHURCH framed in a setting of snow-covered trees



THE MAIN ROAD WAS BLOCKED while two Army recovery vehicles extricated this 10-ton armoured personnel carrier from the ditch it had skidded into while on tow at Bridge, near Canterbury, on Monday. There were many minor crashes on the snow-covered roads in the county.

OCT. 14, 05

Last orders at historic pub after rates hike

A PUB landlord has called time on a thriving business he claims has been made untenable by a "dramatic" rent increase.

John Leeming has left the Red Lion in Bridge following a dispute with the owners Punch Taverns.

He called last orders last Sunday and pulled out of the 400-year-old premises he has run for the past five years last Monday.

Mr Leeming left over what he claims is the unfairness of Punch's decision to increase his rent to £10,000 a year, following re-development of the five-bedroomed pub to include a new restaurant.

He says the pub chain has imposed a much higher rent than was agreed verbally and it would be "financial suicide" for him to continue.

"It was a lot more than we agreed. My rent would have gone up dramatically," he said. "I have always paid my rent promptly. I have run a very tight and happy ship, a true family business. It has given us all a decent living but we've worked very hard for the rewards we've enjoyed."

The Red Lion staff line-up included Mr Leeming and his wife Martina, daughters Neica Sharp and Zoe Leeming, step-daughter

Pub chain says it was fair deal

Jessica Horn, son-in-law Fergie Sharp and son Mark Leeming.

He more than doubled the takings from the £3,500 a week the pub was attracting on his arrival and in recent years the pub has run two darts teams and a bat-and-trap team.

Jules Kerby, a spokesman for Punch Taverns, said: "The Red Lion is a listed building and English Heritage has requested that we carry out certain structural improvements, including a new roof.

"Work will begin on the pub in the New Year with the conversion of the ground floor cellar into an 85-seat dining area.

"The former licensee was offered a new lease agreement which took into account the investment we are making in the site, but chose to leave of his own accord.

"We have now recruited replacement retailers with whom we look forward to together developing an even better pub for the local community to enjoy."



From left, John and Martina Leeming, Daniel Tunbridge and Fergie Sharp
Picture: Gerry Whittaker p4 802193

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187-01

New bridge proves its worth in hours

by Gerry Warren

COUNCIL officials faced with a bill of £10,000 thought it was a bridge too far.

But villagers at Bishopsbourne, who endured flood misery for months, finally persuaded them otherwise.

So engineers set to work on Thursday to build the relief crossing over the ford in Rose Lane.

It means residents who have been cut off at times by the overflowing Nailbourne have a vital, safe route in and out of the village.

The city and county councils are sharing the cost of the bridge, which is only temporarily in place while flood-water continues to threaten access to the village.

The concrete and steel structure took two days to erect and has a weight limit of three tons.

It was welcomed by parish council chairman Malcolm Mitchell who has been in constant negotiations with the authorities.

He said it was regrettable the authority had not acted when he first appealed for the crossing in November as the worst flooding in memory cut off the village.

At the time officials said the solution was too expensive



ON THE BRIDGE: Engineer Paul Lo, head of engineering Viv Pritchard, parish council chairman Malcolm Mitchell and city councillor Bill Oakey *kg1609gw15-1-01.jpg*

but villagers criticised the city council for putting the cost before the humanitarian need of the community.

The value of the bridge became evident on Friday when a Southern Water pump used to reduce pressure on sewers in the Park Lane area caught fire and was put out of action.

The flood water at Frog Lane deepened until the road became almost impassable to all but bigger vehicles, leav-

ing the Rose Lane bridge as the only guaranteed way out.

Mr Mitchell said: "When officials were saying the cost of the bridge could not be justified I argued that the council and Southern Water could not guarantee keeping their pumps going 24 hours a day for 100 days - and Friday proved me right."

City council head of engineering Viv Pritchard said the bridge would be in place until the flood threat subsided.

The structure will then be put in storage for use in similar circumstances in the village or elsewhere.

But Mr Mitchell and city councillor Bill Oakey say that longer-term remedies had to be sought to cure the Nailbourne flooding problems.

Clr Oakey said he would continue to fight to prevent development in the flood plain which many believe increases the threat of flooding.



ON LOCATION: Workers place the temporary bridge over the ford in Rose Lane

Thousands of pounds damage in ram-raid

June 2000



RANJIT DHALIWAL: He shouted, 'You stop that!' at the raiders 11/7681W/00

by Claire Witherden

A VILLAGE store re-opened only hours after a ram-raid caused damage estimated at £10,000 because the owner did not want to let down his customers.

A car repeatedly rammed the front wall of Bridgeway Stores, Bridge, in the early hours of Friday as owner Ranjit Dhaliwal watched from an upstairs window.

He and volunteers from the village spent the morning clearing up and the mini-market re-opened at 11am.

The shop front was rebuilt the same day.

Mr Dhaliwal said: "It was a complete mess but there are many elderly people who need their bread and milk and other necessities, and find it difficult to travel. We provide a service for them comparable to super-market prices.

"We had to wait until the scenes of crimes officer had been out at 8am, otherwise we could have been clearing up beforehand.

"A lot of people were kind enough to offer their help. About 10 or 15 people came by.



Chaos but store's service to villagers continues

In particular, I must thank Laurence Dunderdale, who works for Canterbury council's refuse department. He was clearing up from 7am while I was making phone calls."

The raiders were targeting an ATM cash machine but were disturbed before they could take anything.

Mr Dhaliwal has been a special constable with Canterbury police for six years and lives above the shop. He was watching a film when he heard a screech of brakes at 1am.

He added: "I could see a blue Ford Transit van ramming into the shop. I started shouting at them: 'You stop that!'"

"The alarms were going off and I also pressed the panic button next to my bed."

Four men were in the van but they then got into a grey Ford Sierra in Western Avenue

Police say the Sierra was abandoned in Bridge Hill towards Barham with the engine still running. The men are thought to have transferred to another vehicle.

The shop has been targeted by ram raiders before, four years ago. Mr Dhaliwal is considering putting up shutters.

He said: "My wife and I were on holiday but my father was here and he came down and fought with the intruders.

"I'm ready for them any time. These people think they can get away with it but we'll just put up more barriers and shutters to stop them."

He has dropped plans for exterior shutters because planning permission will not be decided for six weeks, and instead will put them up on the inside.

"We're talking about £10,000 or £15,000 of damage to this

SMASHED-IN: The front of Bridgeway Store, Bridge, was rebuilt on the day of the ram-raid

MOTHERS DAY CRAFT FAIR

MARGATE
WINTER GARDENS
SUNDAY
APRIL 2nd
10 - 4 Adm 50p
EAST KENT FAIRS
01304 201644

MODELS & EXTRAS REQUIRED (ALL AGES)

Children, Teenagers & Mature Adults for Film/TV Extra, Catalogue/Magazine, Acting, Dance, Catwalk, Promotional Work. All Ages

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
Interviews will be held on Sat 15th & Sun 16th April 2000 from 9.00am-5.00pm at the

POSTHOUSE HOTEL, ASHFORD
CANTERBURY RD, ASHFORD, KENT



Tunnel vision over home for pig

SUPPORT is growing for our campaign to move Charlotte the pig into the perfect des res for a discerning sow - an old London Underground carriage.

People have contacted us backing the campaign and urging the city council to allow Charlotte's owners, the Shirley family from Bridge, to site the carriage on their small holding.

Council planning officers have told the Shirleys that they are unlikely to get planning permission for the carriage, even though it will be placed just yards from the old Elham Valley railway line. Steve and Hazel Dawe, from Canterbury District Green Party, urged the city council to embrace the Shirleys' imaginative project.



ON THE TRACKS: Our campaign to allow Charlotte to live in a tube carriage is gathering momentum

They said: "Charlotte is a pig of great charm. Her current home is obviously inadequate to the needs of a fast-growing lady pig and is in need of replacement.

"Not only does the railway

carriage have historic echoes in the Elham Valley line which used to pass close by, but it is re-use of a resource which might otherwise have to be dismantled and retrieved as scrap metal.

"We are slightly puzzled that a pig shed for pigs destined for the dinner table would be agricultural use while a pig shed for Charlotte who is a rescue pig apparently is not."

Charlotte had been living at the Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary when she was given a home by the Shirley family.

Margaret Todd, who runs the Stelling Minnis sanctuary, also threw her weight behind our campaign.

She said: "It is vitally important that pigs have good accommodation. A railway carriage would be ideal as long as it doesn't stick out like a sore thumb."

Chris Maclean, landlord of the Plough & Harrow pub in Bridge, is fully behind our campaign, as is the landlord



of the village's White Horse pub, Alan Walton.

Mr Walton said: "The campaign definitely deserves support. I am a bit of a railway buff and I like this idea because it is a bit eccentric. I cannot imagine it will be an eyesore."

Tony Mogrige, of Burgate Bakery, which supplies free bread for Charlotte, said he thought the carriage was a good idea.

He said: "I would like to see

Charlotte in her new home and I don't think the carriage would upset anyone."

Mr Shirley said he was delighted with the support Charlotte was getting.

"I don't believe that I need planning permission for the carriage and am still trying to convince the city council," he said.

A council official said: "We have received Mr Shirley's letter and are giving it our attention.

"The use of land for agriculture would not require planning permission but Mr Shirley does not have any agricultural 'permitted development' rights because he is not a farmer.

"Genuine farmers are given certain rights by the Government in national planning legislation - these rights do not extend to hobby farmers or to those keeping farmyard animals as domestic pets."

Thousands of pounds damage in ram-raid

June 2000



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by Claire Witherden

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"We're talking about £10,000 or £15,000 of damage to this shop," he said, "but if we had shutters I think they would have picked another store."



CRIME SIGN: This was knocked down by the car

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WINTER GARDENS
SUNDAY
APRIL 2nd
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EAST KENT FAIRS
01304 201644

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POSTHOUSE HOTEL, ASHFORD
CANTERBURY RD, ASHFORD, KENT

Under 18's must be accompanied by a parent. Head Office: C.F. Photographs, Welfare House, Upper Market Street, Eastleigh, Hampshire. Tel: 01952 867477 or 07887 535000. To avoid disappointment please apply early and you will be interviewed in order of registration.

Fury as surgery is given go-ahead

CONTROVERSIAL plans for a doctors' surgery in Bridge have been approved, despite huge protests.

Villagers who spoke out against plans to put the two-storey building next to the recreation ground in Patricxbourne Road packed Canterbury council's Guildhall on Tuesday.

But after hearing from residents and one of the doctors and after a long debate by councillors, the plans were approved by 12 votes to six.

Afterwards, Dr Mark Jones from the surgery said the practice was pleased that the development control committee had approved the location of the new surgery and its design.

He said they expected the building to be ready for use early next year.

Sheila Sochacka, speaking on behalf of the Bridge residents who protested at the meeting, said afterwards that they were disappointed.

"We were heartened that six councillors spoke vigorously against this, but we were saddened that an innovative solution to use the existing building or a less sensitive greenfield site was not agreed on," she said.

"We fear that this decision puts at risk other, similarly protected land around this area."

Residents criticised the location of the surgery and the effect it would have on the countryside.

Natural beauty

Norman Fowler told the committee other sites were available on the edge of the village.

Mrs Sochacka said the cost of losing the land would be too great and the surgery would be a sore thumb in the middle of a green space, while Penny Morgan said the building was to go in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Emily Shirley said there was no proof of an overriding need for more facilities at the surgery. The existing one could be extended or another building chosen, she said.

Dr Jones told the meeting the present facilities were woefully inadequate.

Planner Bob Britnell said allowing the surgery will not set a precedent for development.

Bridge Children's Feast

Thanks to Canada

As a result of the residence in Canada of the Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Gregory, 1,200lbs. of food were distributed to, and eaten by, local children at the Village Hall, Bridge, last Wednesday. Mr. Gregory (Vicar of Bridge) went to Canada in 1931, and had a large parish in Manitoba, of which Shoal Lake, Strathclair, and Menzies formed part. He returned to this country in 1936.

Whilst in Canada he married Mrs. Gregory, and it was his wife's cousin, Miss Julie Reekie, who was responsible for 50 parcels being sent to the children of Bridge, from Vernon High School, British Columbia.

The occasion was a party given to the children of the Junior Church. They ate a lavish tea of food sent by Mr. Gregory's old parishioners at Shoal Lake, Strathclair, and Menzies.

The present Rector of the Canadian parish is the Rev. W. H. Champness, and it was through him and the local Women's Auxiliary, that the food was collected and dispatched.

It was prepared by ladies of the Village. The children were entertained for over an hour by Mr. A. Saunders, who provided a one-man conjuring and Punch and Judy show.

The Distribution

Then the distribution of the parcels from Vernon took place. Every child of the Junior Church received one. The parcels contained tinned and other rationed food, and each weighed 20lbs.

An account of the collection of the food was sent by Miss Reekie, a member of the staff of the Vernon High School, to Mr. and Mrs. Gregory. After describing how she had put the idea before the monthly staff meeting, Miss Reekie wrote:

"The project was unanimously and enthusiastically adopted and a committee set up,



A happy incident at the presentation ceremony in the Village Hall, Bridge. On the left are Mrs. Gregory and the Rev. W. H. Gregory, and sitting in front of two willing helpers is "Lady Waterlog" (Mr. A. E. Vaughan), who has just presented little Audrey Stephens with a parcel. On the right is Mr. L. J. Williams.

"The committee then met with a young Englishwoman, who had just arrived by air with her husband and four children. She gave us considerable guidance as to what she considered the best things to send—and we hope the right things have gone.

"Next an assembly of the whole school was called. The pupils were told of the need and every hand was lifted in support of the project. We asked every pupil to bring approximately one pound of food and ten cents towards the postage.

"... and the pounds poured in. They were sorted during the afternoon and early in the evening were put out on the tables in the library. Then the fun began. About 30 people turned up to help pack and nobody knew how to begin! For about ten minutes confusion reigned supreme.

"Then we decided to assemble each parcel separately, and by spreading things over the whole

library, that job was more expeditiously accomplished. We wrapped all the individual parcels that night and made out the customs declarations."

Miss Reekie went on to explain how, when the parcels were taken to the Post Office, they found to their consternation that it had run out of postage stamps. This was because, as the overseas deadline was near, the office had been swamped. The Postmaster wired to Vancouver for postage stamps, and all the parcels were sent off in time.

"It was quite a little effort while it lasted" continued Miss Reekie, "and our youngsters were thrilled to be able to do a bit for some British children. Some of the older boys worked very hard on the packing and enjoyed doing it."

Before the distribution of the parcels, Mr. L. J. Williams, Churchwarden of the Parish, explained to the children how the

parcels and the food came to be sent, and led them in three hearty cheers "for the people of Canada."

Mr. A. Taylor, Chairman of the Parish Council, emphasised that they did appreciate what the Canadians had done.

Mr. F. R. W. Berry, People's Warden, added that Mr. and Mrs. Gregory should be thanked as the medium through which the parcels and food were received.

If anyone in Bridge wishes to write to Vernon High School, expressing their thanks for the parcels, the Vicar will provide the address. He also wishes to thank the people in Bridge who, by their help, contributed to the success of the party.

Footnote: As the distribution of the parcels took place a fortnight after Christmas, it was considered a little too late for Father Christmas to officiate. So "Lady Waterlog" (Mr. A. E. Vaughan, a local butcher) presided.

7011

MAY 11 1920



K GRAVETT

RH. TOLL

A warm welcome at the Inn

SITUATED in the picturesque village of Bridge, overlooking some of Kent's finest countryside, is The Red Lion pub.

Built in 1593 the pub is popular with locals and walkers alike and has been in the hands of current owner John Leeming and partner Fergie Sharp for the last four years.

The pub has been newly-refurbished by the pair, having being hit by floods in 2001.

The Red Lion offers a speciality range of Young's brewery bitters and boasts a gourmet menu prepared by its talented chef Henri Chavant.

The pub's a must for music fans, as once a week live music

is on offer.

Trivia fans might also be interested to know that the Red Lion Inn was once home to the now Queen Muna who married King Hussein of Jordan in the 1950s.

Her son is now the present king of Jordan.



WELCOME: A fine village hostelry

NC43801-1

HIGHLIGHTS

NAME: The Red Lion.

LOCATION: High Street, Bridge.

OWNED BY: Manager John Leeming and partner.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES: "We sell a range of speciality beers including Young's brewery bitters."

"We also have fantastic live music once a month by dif-

ferent bands, and we pride ourselves on our disabled features."

WHO'S BEHIND THE BAR? "Mark, my son, and our bar staff Shannon and Dave."

BEST-SELLERS: "Carling lager, we also sell a lot of wine with people's meals."

ARE CHILDREN ALLOWED? "Yes we welcome children at all times."

WHAT ABOUT DOGS?

"Yes as long as they are controlled and on leads."

TELL US SOMETHING WE DON'T KNOW: "The pub was originally a coaching inn and dates back to the sixteenth century."

"However, four years ago there was a serious flood so the whole inside has been refurbished to a more modern feel, yet keeping the traditional features of the original inn."

BRIDGE

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

Playgroup: The new term began this week at the village hall. Mondays and Wednesday sessions are dedicated fours mornings, mainly for preschool children with emphasis on skills that will be needed at school, fees are £4.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday sessions are for the playgroup plus the fours, the fees being £3.75.

The OFSTED inspection was passed successfully. For details phone Nicola Adam on 01227 721386, or the Playgroup mobile on 07990425109.

Institute: Bridge with Patricbourne WI branch will meet in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday, January 15, at 7.30pm when Mrs Jan Glover will talk on basket making.

The competition will be a photograph of a winters scene. Visitors and new members will be welcome.

Village surgery: The medical practice in Bridge has, over the last 10 years, expanded from a single GP to three full-time doctors, with nearly double the number of patients and the list still growing.

The new surgery, to replace the existing bungalow, opening on January 28, will enhance the range of services that the practice is required to offer.

The ground floor will have a waiting area with children's facilities, a reception office with secure storage for patient records, and a new computer system, two consulting rooms, a visiting consultant / therapist room, minor operations room, nurse treatment room, district nurse / health visitor / patient confidential interview room, and toilets.

On the first floor there will be a staff training and meeting room, two offices and staff kitchen.

There will be on-site parking for patients and staff, replacing the present street parking in Green Court.

The building will have a full range of facilities for the disabled, including designated car parking.

Expanded services for patients are increased doctor's surgery time, with minor operations being undertaken, in-house clinics with visiting hospital consultants and therapists, and extra nurse clinics.

There will also be an opportunity for in-house physiotherapy, osteopathy, acupuncture and chiropody clinics, for which patients now have to travel to

Littlebourne or to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

The surgery will be open for viewing from 10am to noon on Saturday, January 26.

Concert: The King's School Crypt Choir and King's Musicians will perform in concert at St Peter's Church, Bridge, on Saturday, February 9, at 7.30pm, in aid of St Peter's Church restoration fund.

Tickets at £5, to include puddings in the interval, are available from Pat Dunderdale (830668) or Andrea Nicholson (830947).

Bill Dawson: The funeral took place at St Peter's Church Bridge, of the well-known village personality who will leave a gap in the community.

Mr Dawson was born in Dunstable but moved to London in 1960. In 1978, with qualifications in graphic design, he started his own business designing signs.

Nearly 14 years ago he started to visit and stay with his partner, David, in Bridge and gradually became involved in village activities, moving here seven years ago.

He undertook various duties concerning the running of the village hall and with the late Jim Tamssett founded the Bridge and District History Society.

He also undertook to revise and publish a new illustrated history of Bridge Church.

Donations may be made in his memory to the Canterbury Hospice.

Red Lion: John Leeming, landlord of the newly-restored inn in the High Street, says that from Friday, January 18, the newly-fitted kitchen will be operating for the service of restaurant meals and bar snacks.

Surgeries: City councillor Bill Oakey, representing the North Nailbourne Ward, will hold his monthly surgeries on the third Saturday of each month, from 10am to noon on the following dates: for Bridge and Bishopstone at Bridge Methodist Church Hall, Patricbourne Road, Bridge, January 19, March 16, May 18, July 20, September 21, November 16; for Bekesbourne and Patricbourne at Bekesbourne Village Hall, Station Road, Bekesbourne, February 16, April 20, June 15, August 17, October 19, December 21.

Confirmation: Classes are to begin in February. It is not too late to enrol by contacting the Rev Paul Filmer on 830260.

Lent begins early this year on February 13 and details of Lent events and courses will be announced shortly.

Air Photographs

Buildings

Maritime Sites

Archaeology



NATIONAL
MONUMENTS
RECORD

Mr J E Hill
Renville Oast
Bridge
Canterbury
Kent
CT4 5AD

22 July 1994

Dear Mr Hill

Thank you for your telephone enquiry of 18 July.

I am enclosing a selection of photocopies of Bridge, comprising approximately 50% of our holdings of the village. I have chosen these images because of their suitability for your purposes and because it should be possible for us to provide copy prints for the majority, in particular those with an AA and BB reference number. I have given the date taken where available. I enclose a price list for your information.

We do not hold the negatives for the two prints marked "c. Amos and Amos, Dover", and regret that we do not have an address for this company.

The negatives for the prints marked "K Gravett" are in the possession of Mr K W E Gravett, 85 Seaforth Avenue, New Malden, Surrey. I have provided his address, but our copyright file indicates that we have found that he is reluctant to make copies for people. I have included his photographs only because they happen to be on the same card as work by one of our own photographers.

The remaining coverage of Bridge is as follows:

26 prints of houses in Dover Road (K Gravett - all 1962)
Bridge Place: 2 copies of a painting of the house (c. R Bostock)
7 exteriors)
7 interiors) all 1962
3 prints of St Peters Church (Amos and Amos)
2 prints of St Peters Church - Tympanum (1931)

If you would like photocopies of these prints or would like to order copy prints, Please do not hesitate to contact us at the address below.

Yours sincerely



Moira Birks
Archives Officer
National Monuments Record - Buildings





1941

BB41/650



1941

BB41/651

BRIDGE — KENT.

DOVER ROAD. (HIGH ST.)



1962

BB70/798

BRIDGE
BRIDGE PLACE

KENT:



1952

AA 52/11222



BH 755
K. GRAVETT



K. GRAVETT

BH 756



K. GRAVETT

BH 762



1952

AA 52/11221

BRIDGE — KENT.

DOVER ROAD — PRIMROSE COTTAGE.



1952

AA52/11215



1952

AA52/11212



K. GRAVETT

BH 734



K. GRAVETT

BH 735



K. GRAVETT

BH 741



1952

AA52/11217

BRIDGE — KENT.

DOVER ROAD.



K. GRAVETT

BH 732



1952

AA52/11213



AA52/11216



AA52/11214



K. GRAVETT

BH 742



K. GRAVETT

BH 743

BRIDGE — KENT.

DOVER ROAD.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

A small shop with some big ideas in store

WHILE small shops across the country are being squeezed out by the supermarkets, one village shop owner is playing the big boys at their own game.

Ranjit Dhaliwal, who owns Bridgeway Stores in Bridge with his father Harcharan, has introduced some supermarket concepts into his own shop.

Unlike many corner shops Bridgeway Stores has a fully computerised scanning system, enabling Ranjit to see exactly what is selling and what is not, and order stock accordingly.

Earlier this year he had automatic doors installed and

by Amanda Wills
ajwills@thekimgroup.co.uk

has just finished revamping the bakery section.

The shop sells freshly-made sandwiches using bread baked on the premises, rotisserie chickens and breakfast baps.

Ranjit's next plan is to sell hot beverages, filled baked potatoes and paninis alongside the pies, sausage rolls, doughnuts and cookies the shop already stocks.

Since the Dhaliwals bought Bridgeway Stores 16 years ago, they have always tried to stay ahead of the game, looking to the supermarkets

to determine what is effective marketing and what is not.

Ten years ago, they extended the premises and now have an impressive 17,000sq ft of floor space to play with.

In 1999 they bought the newsagents in Bridge High Street and ran the two shops in tandem until three years ago when they incorporated it into Bridgeway Stores.

Although the store is independently-owned, it is part of the Londis group, giving the Dhaliwals more marketing and purchasing power and helping them stay competitive.

Unlike the major supermarkets Bridgeway Stores can offer customers personal service



■ Everything you want from a store - and more... Ranjit and Ranjit Dhaliwal proudly show off their new instore bakery

Picture: Martin Apps pd 1290617

- Ranjit often makes deliveries for villagers unable to get to the shop themselves.

"You have to move with the times," explained Ranjit, who employs a team of 10, including four full-time staff. "I'm always trying to stay one step forward.

By recognising what works - and what doesn't - he seems to have found a winning formula. As a result the business is

bucking the trend and is going from strength to strength.

Ranjit's best piece of advice for struggling shop owners is to invest in a computer system in order that they can keep a proper track of stock.

He added: "Village shops can be profitable businesses but you have to put the hours in, you have to invest, and you have to evolve."

BRIDGE. MILKMAN



Bridge paid tribute to its milkman since 1939, Mr "Mac" McNally, with a presentation on Tuesday at the village hall. Left to right: Mr Guy Honney, Mr McNally, Cllr Lawrence Shirley, Mrs McNally, Mr John Field and Mr Harry Hawkins.

30 AUGUST 07

To advertise: 01227 768181



■ Diamond anniversary celebrations for Bob and Joyce Hopkins

Picture: Martin Apps pd12/642

Gathering chestnuts began long romance

LOVE blossomed for Bridee who is 81. live in Western

couple Bob and Joyce Hopkins after the pair went gathering chestnuts together more than 60 years ago.

And today (Thursday) they are celebrating their diamond wedding.

Mr Hopkins, 88, and his wife,



■ Joyce and Bob Hopkins on their wedding day

office closes

Minal Patel will operate as the sub-postmaster from his Londis Poparound store, also on The Street, from Thursday, September 6.

Mrs Mawson said: "We would like to thank all of our loyal customers for their continued support over the years.

"We are going to miss all of the friends we have made during our time serving the community."

Avenue and met at the Unicorn pub in Bekesbourne, where Mrs Hopkins' father Albert Rennells was landlord.

"My wife asked me if I knew where she could go to get some chestnuts and since I did I showed her and it went on from there," Mr Hopkins recalled.

At the time he was working as a driver for the old Bridge Blean council and Mrs Hopkins was working for a poultry farm.

After their wedding at Bekesbourne Church, Mrs Hopkins gave up work and her husband became a gamekeeper on the Bourne estate at Bishopsbourne.

The couple lived in tied accommodation for the next 30 years until Mr Hopkins turned 60, when he retired from gamekeeping and started work for Burgate Bakery in Bridge where he stayed until he was 65. Mrs Hopkins ran a taxi business from their home until she retired.

The couple have five children, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

They moved to Union Road, Bridge, in 1976 and to their present home in 2002 where Mr Hopkins keeps himself busy with some gardening, while his wife is a member of Bridge WI and helps with Kent and Canterbury Hospital's League of Friends.

On Saturday they celebrated their anniversary at the Chequers pub in Stone Street with 40 members of their family and friends, including two of their bridesmaids.



A new seat has been placed at the side of the River Nailbourne, at Bridge, thanks to the village's Young Wives' Group. It was handed over on Wednesday to Cllr. Peter Lawrence, chairman of the Parish Council, who thanked members for their gift.

BUMPER RECRUITING YEAR FOR CATHEDRAL FRIENDS

LAST year was a bumper recruiting one for the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral, whose membership figures were the highest for the past 10 years.

The news was given in the annual report when the chairman, the Dean of Canterbury, the Very Rev. Ian White-Thomson, said, "1971-72 has been a good year for the Friends and therefore for the Cathedral, in so far as the strength of the Friends is an indication of the love and loyalty which the Cathedral inspires."

"The past year, as far as membership figures in the office records shows, has been the most successful the Friends have had for 10 years. Membership is higher than at any time during that period."

The Dean said that

pared with £1,400 and the number of people covenanting had virtually trebled from £74 in 1970/71 to £333 in 1971/72.

He said many things had contributed to that happy state of affairs but he would mention only three. First, the friendliness, interest and infectious enthusiasm shown by the Steward, Mr. John Nicholas.

Second, there was the tireless efficiency and total dedication to the work of the Friends which Miss Christina Jenkins had shown since she joined the office staff three years ago. She was ably assisted by first Miss Pauline Hall and until November of last year by Miss Lynda Middleton; but in recent months the day to day working of the office had rested on her shoulders.

The Dean's third reason for the upsurge of interest and work

centuries of Christian division. It belongs to all mankind in its beauty and in its grace.

"As its Friends, our happy duty is to increase the number of people who care for it, who want to give something of themselves to help in preserving it."

"At all times and to everybody Canterbury gives much more than it ever receives."

Coach driver did not pay in

A seat beside the ford

In a quiet spot in Bridge, beside the ford where the River Nailbourne crosses Mill Lane, a seat has been placed for the use of the public.

Donated by members of the Young Wives' Group, it was formally handed into the care of the parish council on Wednesday by Mrs. Gillian Harvey, leader of the Young Wives' Group.

Cllr. H. P. M. Lawrence, chairman of the parish council, thanking the group for the gift, said it would be greatly appreciated.

Seventy-six-year-old Mrs. Bessie Godfrey, of Church Cottage, added her thanks "on behalf of all the old ladies in the village, and others not so old."

After the presentation party, which included the Vicar, Canon Colin E. H. Perry, vice-chairman of the parish council, Cllr. L. G. Shirley, the clerk, Mr. E. Down, west 6 Bridgeford Way, the home Mrs. Harvey, where refreshments were served.

The cost of the seat and plaque was met by member donations and the proceeds of coffee mornings.

SHOW TIME: Village's vibrant floral displays wow the judges

Tender loving care and tomato feed

IT MAY not have been the easiest summer for gardeners, but villagers excelled themselves, transforming their community into a riot of colour.

It was enough to impress the judging panel tasked with picking the winners of this year's Bridge in Bloom competition.

For the fourth year in a row, Julie Bennett's hanging baskets and window boxes outside her High Street home secured her the trophy for the best individual display.

Julie, a health advisor for a pharmaceutical company, said: "Watering is a bit of a chore but I just love doing the flowers."

"They seem to provide a lot of pleasure for people walking up and down the High Street."

Julie picks different colours

every year and this year chose an eye-catching lime green, yellow and salmon pink theme.

She puts the secret of her success down to a weekly dose of tomato feed.

Julie said: "I'm not competitive; for me it's the pure pleasure of doing the window boxes and baskets, but it was nice to win."

For the second year running, Bridgeway Stores won the shield for the large retail category.

The colourful tubs outside

the shop have been tended by manager Pam Possee and were planted by her husband David.

Pam said: "They brighten up the shop and a lot of people comment on how nice they look."

"It's nice that they take notice," she added.

Residents of Mansfield Court were given a special community award for transforming the plain communal areas at their retirement flats in Riverside Close.

Amanda Williams, scheme manager at Mansfield Court, explained: "We have communal gardens at the front and back of the flats, which were very basic with just lawns and shrubs."

But last autumn residents decided to enter Bridge in Bloom 2007.

They worked hard through the



■ Mansfield Court's proud residents show off their award-winning blooms *pt 3283144*

winter preparing the ground, spent the spring planting up and were kept busy all summer watering, feeding and dead-heading the flowers.

Amanda said: "Now the gardens are just a show of flowers and look beautiful."

"Working on the gardens has brought the residents closer."

"They were absolutely over the moon to win and will definitely be entering again next year."

The Bridge in Bloom competition, which is run by the parish council, is an annual event.



REPORT
Amanda Wills
PICTURES
Chris Davey

tomato feed

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REPORT
Amanda Wills
PICTURES
Chris Davey



■ One of the bloodied terriers involved in the badger baiting

College could do more

A NEIGHBOUR of Canterbury College says it could do more to stop the streets around the campus being littered with cigarette butts.

Irene Seijo, of Edward Road, claims the smoking ban has led to dozens of students congregating daily outside homes.

She has contacted the college but been told that a designated smoking area on campus is not being provided because it

wants to encourage students and staff to kick the habit.

She said: "Their intransigence is disappointing because the gutters are getting littered with cigarette ends."

"It could provide an area for smoking along with literature and incentives for students who want to stop."

College director of enterprise and partnership Marco Forgione said the college had

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East Kent Edition

Gazette

PRESS, THE DOVER STANDARD, AND THE HYTHE REPORTER

12, 1968

Inland Postage: 7d

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9/11
Usually 15/8

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CANTERBURY

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arrived at Kent and
y Hospital after being
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a Canterbury inquest
on Monday.

48-year-old Edgar
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Round-the-clock

The ancient parish church of Bridge in a Christmas card setting on Tuesday. [More snow pictures on back page.]



Kentish Gazette

PUBLISHED AT 9 ST. GEORGE'S PLACE,
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1968

Sturry couple died on the same day

WHEN neighbours forced their way into a Sturry house last Thursday they found both elderly occupants dead. Mr. James Williams, a 78-year-old ex-miner, was lying at the foot of the stairs and his wife, Hilda (74), was dead in bed.

At a double inquest on Monday the East Kent Coroner, Mr. Wilfred Howell, said it was "extraordinary" that the couple had died within a few hours of each other.

He heard that Mr. Williams had died of a heart attack and Mrs. Williams from pneumonia. They lived at 23 Park View, Mrs. Rose Harrison, of 40 Park View, said she collected a doctor's prescription form from the Williamses on Wednesday evening on that she could get tablets for them from the chemist's.

The following morning she called at the house at about 9.30, but could get no answer. She thought they were still in bed.

Fifteen minutes later she went back to the house and, after getting no reply, looked through a window. She saw the kitchen light on and a tap running.

Still asleep

She went to the front of the house and through a window could see Mrs. Williams in bed. "I thought the old lady was still asleep," she told the Coroner. "But I thought Mr. Williams was knocking about because of the tap."

After getting no reply she pushed open the front door and saw Mr. Williams lying in the hall. There was a pillow by his head and a quilt underneath him.

When she could get no answer from him she ran for help and telephoned for the doctor.

Dr. Peter Oldrieve, of 40 Sea Street, Margate, Bay, said he examined Mr. Williams, who was lying in his day clothes, and estimated he had been dead for between nine and 12 hours.

In the front room he found Mrs. Williams in bed, in her night clothes. She had been dead for about an hour at the most, he said.

Heart attack

Dr. C. E. Forbes, consultant pathologist, said a post-mortem revealed that Mr. Williams, who weighed about 18 stone, had

hypertensive heart disease, who said Mrs. Williams was his mother and Mr. Williams his stepfather.

Until their deaths, he said, both enjoyed good health, although his father was overweight.

Regarding his verdict, Mr. Howell said: "It is extraordinary that two deaths should occur in the same house, independently of each other, on the same night. For that reason, in the public interest, I thought it might be desirable to hold an inquest."

He commended Mrs. Harrison for her help, not only in giving evidence, but in trying to assist the elderly couple.

The cost of drinking goes up

The cost of drinking is going up for 26-year-old Albert Ellis, of 15 Blackfriars Street, Canterbury.

That was what he told Col. George Mount, chairman of Canterbury magistrates on Friday after being fined £10 for disorderly behaviour while drunk in Butchers Lane on December 25.

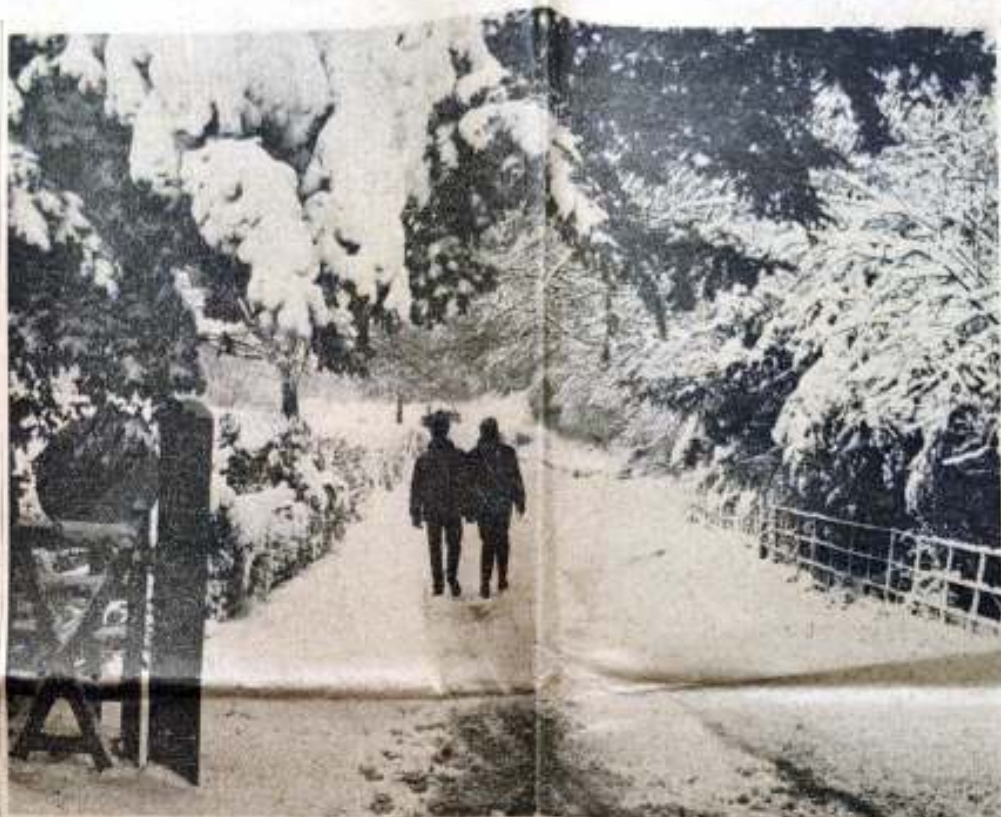
Ellis, who had five previous convictions for the same offence, said, "It's gone up, sir."

Mr. John Godley, Clerk to the magistrates, said him, "It's all gone up."

"I had been stop a teetotaler then," said Ellis.

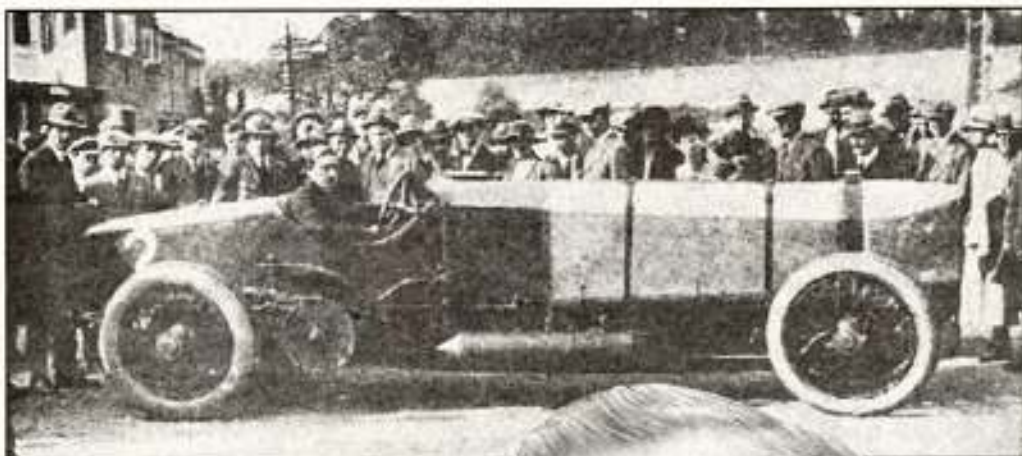
Det. N. Grayling told the court that when Ellis was first fined for being drunk at Canterbury in 1965, he had had to pay 10s. In 1960 he had been fined £1 and there had been further fines of £5 in 1962, 1963 and 1966.

Appearing with Ellis was 21-year-old Alfred Murphy, of 94 Great Road, Canterbury, who



While traffic struggled to scale Bridge Hill this week, pedestrians found the nearby lane to Bishopsbourne transformed as the snow clung to the trees.





DUCK INN: Ian Fleming wrote notes at this attractive alehouse

HOT SEAT: Chitty 1 (above) was described

as a 'brutal car put together by a madman' - Count Louis Zborowski is at the wheel

Grand Prix at Monza in 1924. It is said that he was wearing the same cufflinks that had brought about the downfall of his father, Eliot Zborowski, in 1903, when one of them got caught in the hand throttle of his Mercedes.

The Higham Park team was dedicated to racing, but its members were known for their flamboyant style of dress and fun approach. Spectacularly coloured, checked Florida golfing caps were their trademark.

Had the Count lived on, Zborowski would undoubtedly have become a household name because of his racing exploits, but the multi-millionaire also left a legacy of fun and enjoyment for countless visitors to Kent thanks to his involvement as one of the developers of the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch Railway.

AFTER Zborowski's death, Chitty 1 was bought by the sons of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes. They ran her in speed trials in the 1930s but abandoned her at Brooklands, where she was eventually broken up for parts.

Ian Fleming enjoyed many different associations with Kent, but it was golf that anchored him to the county.

He was a member of Royal St George's



SWINGER: Ian Fleming particularly loved Kent for its golf courses

at Sandwich, which he described as "the best seaside golf course in the world".

At the time of his death in August, 1964, aged 56, he was looking forward to taking up the captaincy of the club.

During his time in Kent, Fleming lived at St Margaret's Bay in a property formerly occupied by Noel Coward and at an 18th century house in the grounds of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's palace at Bekesbourne.

References to the county run as a vein through many of the early James Bond stories.

In *You Only Live Twice*, when 007 is believed dead, M sends a notice to *The Times* obituary page editor which includes the following passage:

"When he was eleven years of age, both his parents were killed in a climbing accident in the Aiguilles Rouges above Chamonix, and the youth came under the guardianship of an aunt, since deceased, Miss Charmian Bond and went to live with her at the quaintly named hamlet of Pett Bottom, near Canterbury in Kent.

"There, in a small cottage hard by the attractive Duck Inn, his aunt, who must have been a most erudite and accomplished lady, completed his education for an English public school."

Fleming frequented the Duck and was known to write notes there.

Goldfinger lived at a house called *The Grange*, which Fleming set at *Reculver*, near *Herne Bay*.

And in *Moonraker*, the monstrous *Sir Hugo Drax* had his sinister missile station on the cliffs at *Kingsdown*, near *Deal*.

FLEMING also played golf at *Deal*. At *Princes* he once borrowed his caddy's motorbike and took it for a quick spin. The bike was a *BSA Road Rocket* and the author, who gave Bond only two real hobbies - seduction and speed - apparently enjoyed the experience very much. Later a motorbike fitted with rockets appeared in *Thunderball*.

But undoubtedly the best collectors' reference to Bond in Kent is of him enjoying a fry-up.

In Chapter 13 of *Moonraker*, the third of Fleming's 14 action thrillers, you can read: "In *Dover*, Bond pulled up at the *Café Royal*, a modest little restaurant with a modest kitchen but capable, as he knew of old, of turning out excellent fish and egg dishes.

"The Italian-Swiss mother and son who ran it welcomed him as an old friend and he asked for a plate of scrambled eggs and bacon and plenty of coffee to be ready in half an hour. Then he drove on to the police station."

Never too old!



A Christmas toast from 102-year-old Miss Elizabeth Bing, the oldest resident at Churchill House, Bridge, who did not let her age stop her from enjoying the celebrations.

1979

RESIDENTS ANGRY AT PLANS TO AXE TREE



LANDMARK: The 100-year-old beech tree outside Bridge and Patrixbourne Primary School

VILLAGERS are on the warpath because developers want to chop down an ancient beech tree which survived the 1987 hurricane.

And they are angry that city council officials did not consult them about the tree in front of Bridge and Patrixbourne Primary School.

Cllr Bill Oakey says the village would agree to the tree at New Close being trimmed to two thirds of its size but not its removal.

Over 20 villagers attended a hurriedly convened site meeting to discuss the future of the beech.

"We can live with the removal of the crown but not the loss of the whole tree," Cllr Oakey said.

"It is disgraceful that the beech tree could have been felled without any consul-

tation whatsoever. We have had our own tree expert look at the beech and he said it could live for another 30 years at least.

"My real concern is the total lack of any form of consultation with local people over this issue.

"I hope we can put this matter on hold until proper consultation has taken place, and the views of parties like Kent Men of the Trees and conservationists can be taken into account."

Parish council chairman John Anderson said the tree had been standing for about 100 years and is a village landmark which is being studied by local children.

He said: "A lot of people are very angry that the villagers were not consulted about this at all. We have been in touch with the city council and registered our displeasure."

The tree has been given a month's stay of execution.

Body found in River Stour

A CANTERBURY man was found dead in the River Stour on Sunday morning.

The body of Lawrence Rogers was spotted by a tourist from Middlesex.

Mr Rogers, 42, of Birchwood Walk, was discovered shortly before 9.30am in the river near the Sainsbury's store at Kingsmead in Canterbury.

Kent Fire Brigade were called and recovered the body. Mr Rogers was pronounced dead at the scene at 12.20pm.

A post mortem examination was carried out at the Buckland Hospital in Dover on Wednesday.

Pathologists are awaiting further analysis and toxicology tests before determining the cause of death.

Sept 4
1964

Party of Germans visit the cathedral

TWENTY Germans, aged 16-30, came to Canterbury on Monday morning to visit the cathedral during their fortnight's stay at Brighton with English families.

The party are from Hamburg, and this is a "return visit." A reception was held for them at the Mayor's Parlour by the Sheriff of Canterbury (Cllr. Arthur Wilson).

Leader of the party, Herr Herman Greve, said they had found everyone very kind, and their new surrounding "interesting".

The party have already visited many places in England, including Crawley New Town. On Saturday they went to Butlin's Holiday Camp at Bognor Regis.

On Tuesday they went to Eastbourne, where they had a civic welcome. Today they have tea at the Embassy of the Federal German Republic, and they leave London for Hamburg tomorrow.



Club reopens

St. Dunstan's and Holy Cross Youth Club, Canterbury, re-opens today at 7.30 p.m. in the church hall.

TWO VETERAN HOP PICKERS: 79-year-old Mr. Mac Carter of 17, Fishers Road, Canterbury and his wife Amy (77). Their dog Gyp, their constant companion, relaxes in the sun while his owners work at Great Pett Farm, Bridge. Mr. and Mrs. Carter have been hop picking as long as they remember.

and
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can



TAKING TIME OFF from their normal farm duties at Great Pett Farm, Bridge, are Mr. Charlie Laming of Bekesbourne and Mr. Steven Jones of Littlebourne.



THREE YOUNG LADIES from Canterbury who are spending their school holidays hop picking at Great Chart Farm, Bridge, Shella Castle, Susan Norman and Glynes Prouten all 14 years old.

The Kentish Count who inspired a film legend

By **NEIL CLEMENTS**

neil.clements@kosmedia.co.uk

MANY of Ian Fleming's characters were, to put it mildly, larger than life, but the man who inspired his children's novel *Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang* was as remarkable as some of James Bond's celebrated adversaries.

Count Louis Zborowski – the name alone ranks up there with Auric Goldfinger, Sir Hugo Drax and Francisco Scaramanga – was the son of a Polish Count and an American mother who lived in a Palladian pile near Canterbury.

He had a passion for motor cars, he loved to drive them fast and he had the money to indulge his passion, racing in Europe and America.

Zborowski actually built two *Chitty* cars at Higham Park, close to the village of Bridge – an area Fleming came to know when he moved to the Old Palace at nearby Bekesbourne in 1960.

Chitty Bang Bang 1 was the first amateur aero-engined machine to achieve fame at Brooklands race track. The 23-litre, six-cylinder Maybach Gotha bomber engine bought from the Disposals Board after World War I was crammed into a pre-war, chain-drive Mercedes chassis.

When the machine first appeared at the Brooklands Easter meeting in 1921, it was described as "a brutal car put together by a madman" and was a far cry from the children's favourite that could fly and think for itself.

"Brutal" it may have been, but it won two races on its first day out at the world's first purpose-built motor racing circuit, including the Brooklands Short Handicap, at a speed of 100.75 miles per hour.

Lou, as Zborowski was known around the circuit, fooled the handicappers into giving

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him a 10-second advantage with the design of the car, especially its crude exhaust.

Eventually, after modifications, she reached 113.45 miles per hour but after a crash, in which a track official was injured, Zborowski never raced her again.

Chitty 2 was more refined and had an 18.8 litre Benz aero engine. Remarkably, she was used as a road car and took Zborowski and friends to the Sahara in 1922.

Chitty Bang Bang, the originals only had one "Chitty," is supposed to describe the sound of the engines but the name was actually that taken from a bawdy song popular in the trenches of WWI.

Three of these monster, aero-engined motors were made at Higham Park (open to the public in the summer) with the help of engineer Captain Clive Gallop, along with a fourth brute known as *Babs* in which Parry Thomas died in 1927 attempting a land speed record at Pendine Sands in Wales.

Babs still makes occasional outings at Brooklands, and *Chitty 2* is in the National Motor Museum.

The Count eventually joined the Mercedes racing team but died just before his 30th birthday after hitting a tree during the Italian



BRIDGE WEDDING

**MR. J. H. SWAN and
MISS J. A. CURTIS**

St. Peter's Church, Bridge, was the scene of the wedding on Saturday of Mr. John H. Swan, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Swan, of 47, Union Road, Bridge, and Miss Jacqueline A. Curtis, daughter of Mrs. J. H. Thomson, of 6, Highfield Terrace, Dover Road, Sandwich.

The choral service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Colin Perry) and the hymns were "The King of Love" and "Praise, my soul." Mendelssohn's Wedding March was played at the close.

Given away by her stepfather, Mr. J. H. Thomson, the bride made a charming picture in an Empire line gown of heavy satin brocade with train. Her three-quarter length veil was held by a single rose and she carried a handspray of white roses, looped with emerald satin ribbon.

The bridesmaids were the Misses Susan Swan (bridegroom's sister), June Ralph, Diane Ralph and Janet Tunstall.

They wore emerald satin dresses, two having emerald headresses and accessories and carrying handsprays of white roses and carnations, and the others with white headresses and accessories and carrying

posies of similar flowers. Mr. Kenneth Blissett was best man and ushers were Messrs. L. Gow and I. Mitchell.

Following a reception at the Adelaise Suite, Canterbury, the couple left for a touring honeymoon, the bride travelling in a navy suit with white accessories.

Numerous gifts included a fitted candlewick bedspread and pillow cases from the bride's colleagues at Pfizer's and a Swedish bread board and knife and linen from the bridegroom's colleagues of W. H. Smith & Son Ltd. at Canterbury and Gillingham.

Found Corner

The following articles, found in Canterbury and district and taken to the City Police Station, now await the claims of their owners who should quote numbers 1232-1278: Job card in black case; colour transparencies; Timex wrist watch; carton containing cakes and biscuits; child's black-framed spectacles; grey-blue plastic case; plastic pouch of cosmetics; rolled gold locket; mortice key on ring; lady's Ingersoll watch; cycle lock; bush hook; gold propelling pencil; two white pens; ignition key; watch on leather strap; large key; lad's glasses; gold ring inscribed "Fidelity"; man's grey suit; Agfa camera in case; off-white umbrella; mortice key; pram cover; Yale key; tie pin; red purse; blue shopping bag containing fruit; silver ring with topaz.

Leslie's getting awheel

Churchgoers at St Paul's, Canterbury, have come to the aid of the Kentish Gazette in its search for a tricycle for a hospital patient.

Thirty-year-old Leslie Fuller, a patient at Highland Court Hospital for the mentally handicapped, at Bridge, asked the East Kent Diary a few weeks ago to help find him a tricycle. Leslie had an operation on one of his legs and is waiting to see if another operation would benefit him. In the meantime, he gets about with the aid of a frame, placing it in front of him with each step.

He can just about manage the pedals of a cycle, but that is where the problem started. He could not manage an ordinary two-wheeler, but felt he could cope with a tricycle.

Now parishioners at St Paul's, where Leslie is a regular member of the congregation, have bought a tricycle. And on Wednesday night he was presented with it at Longport Hall.

Some of the money for the £80 machine, built by George Pitt Engineering at Whitstable, came from the sale of paintings by the Rector of St Martin's and St Paul's, the Rev Christopher Donaldson.

He launched the appeal for money for Leslie's tricycle at the church's harvest supper, and says the congregation went "head over heels to help, once they knew."

Other money has come from donations and the balance is expected to be raised at a coffee morning planned soon.



Watched by the Rev Christopher Donaldson and members of the St Paul's Church congregation, Leslie Fuller tries out his new tricycle for the first time.

Expressive

King met 'girl of his dreams'

A LITTLE girl who was once a familiar figure in the Canterbury area, is destined to be the mother of the next King of Jordan.

The son of Toni Gardiner, who lived at the Red Lion in Bridge and grew up to become the bride of King Hussein, has been named as heir to the throne for the second time.

Prince Abdullah was Crown Prince as a toddler until the accession was changed but is now heir again in place of the King's 51-year-old brother, Prince Hassan.

The unexpected move to depose Prince Hassan in favour of Prince Abdullah came after King Hussein returned to Jordan from the United States where he has been treated for non-Hodgkins lymphoma cancer. He has subsequently returned to the States.

Prince Abdullah was born after his mother married the King in 1961.

As he is Crown Prince, it means Toni, who took the name Queen Muna al-Hussein on marriage, will remain a member of the Royal Family of Jordan despite her divorce from the King in 1971.

Those who remember Toni when she

THE installation of Prince Abdullah as Crown Prince of Jordan means that the next King of the country will be the son of a woman brought up in the Canterbury area.

ROSEMARY BRAITHWAITE traces the remarkable story of the publican's daughter who met and married a king.

was growing up were unfazed by the news. Childhood friend Eric Hawkins, now landlord of the FitzWalter Arms, Goodnestone, said: "Nothing surprises us much although it was a bit of a nine-minute wonder at the time."

Mr Hawkins, the son of Bridge newsagent, Harold Hawkins, remembers Toni as an ordinary little girl who was popular although her family only lived in the village for a short while.

He said: "She was perfectly normal, just lovely and ordinary."

His sister, Barbara, who now lives in Margate, was another of Toni's playmates.

Toni's father, Lt Col Walter Gardiner, had taken a break from Army life to run Red Lion before taking a posting in Amman as military advisor to the British Training Mission.

Toni attended St Anne's Convent, Sturry, and was a dance pupil with the Sydney Woodman School of Dancing, Canterbury.

The school is now run by Mary Woodman who remembers her parents describing the future queen as a lovely little dancer.

Jacqueline Price, 77, lived just a few doors away from the Red Lion when the Gardiners had

Little girl grew up to become Queen

The King, then 26, fell head over heels in love and thanked providence for "bringing into my path an ordinary, small family. I have met the girl of my dreams."

But the marriage was not to last.

Ten years later they divorced and he married Queen Alia, who died in a helicopter crash. King Hussein is now married to the American-born Queen Noor. His first wife was Queen Dina.

Toni, now Princess Muna, lives quietly in Amman. She has never returned to Bridge.

Now villagers are wondering if the 37-year-old Crown Prince, who is an army major general, and was educated at St Edmund's School, West Sussex, and at Sandhurst, will ever visit Bridge.



ROYAL FAMILY: Princess Muna with Prince Feisal, left, Prince Abdullah, and the twin princesses Zein and Aicha in 1972



As he is Crown Prince, it means Toni, who took the name Queen Muna al-Hussein on marriage, will remain a member of the Royal Family of Jordan despite her divorce from the King in 1971.

Those who remember Toni when she



KING HUSSEIN: Being treated for non-Hodgkins lymphoma cancer
Picture: PA

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Jacqueline Price, 77, lived just a few doors away from the Red Lion when the Gardiners had it.

She said: "I can see her now, trotting out of the Red Lion. She was such a small, little thing."

"We all used to think — how on earth did she manage to get hold of a king?"

Toni met King Hussein when she joined her father in Amman and acted as hostess at a party.

in Amman. She has never returned to Bridge.

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ROYAL FAMILY: Princess Muna with Prince Feisal, left Abdullah, and the twin princesses Zein and Aicha in 1971



FLASHBACK: How the Kentish Gazette reported the Royal engagement in 1961

FAREWELL TO VICAR

Bridge People's Gifts

On Sunday, St. Peter's Day, the congregation of St. Peter's Church, Bridge, said farewell to their Vicar and Mrs. W. H. Gregory.

Following the evening service, a farewell ceremony was held in the grounds of Bourne Lodge, when Mr. Gregory was presented with a cheque by Mr. F. R. W. Berry, the People's Warden, on behalf of the parishioners. He also handed Mr. Gregory an autograph book signed by the 256 parishioners who had subscribed to the cheque.

Mrs. Gregory was the recipient of a bouquet presented by Miss Margaret Lemar, who has for ten years been organist at the church. An oil-colour painting of the Church was also given to Mrs. Gregory by Mrs. Spencer Mount.

The sentiments of all those present at the ceremony were voiced by Mr. Berry when he wished Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Godspeed and good luck in their work in Canada.

"I should like to thank them personally," continued Mr. Berry, "and I am sure all other members of the Parish will join with me, in saying how very much we have appreciated their work in the Parish."

Mr. Potter, Churchwarden of Patixbourne, endorsed all that Mr. Berry had said, and Mr. Gregory suitably replied.

The new incumbent of the Parish will find he has a big reputation to keep up. During Mr. Gregory's 12 years at Bridge, he has worked tirelessly for his parishioners, and they have held him in high esteem.

His final sermon on Sunday has set a very high standard for his successor, who is, we understand, to be presented with a copy of it.

JULY 29TH 1952



The Vicar (Rev. W. H. Gregory) receives the cheque from Mr. F. R. W. Berry. 2941



SOME 30 RELATIVES and friends celebrated the golden wedding anniversary at Bridge of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Marsh, of 2, Park Villas, Union Road, Bridge. Mr. Marsh has been a blacksmith for 60 years and although, at 71, he has officially retired, he still keeps his hand in at his time-honoured trade.



MR. AND MRS. MARSH, of Preston, cutting the cake at the celebration of their diamond wedding on Easter Saturday.

60 YEARS WED

AGED 84 and 81, respectively, sprightly and lively Mr. and Mrs. Albert Marsh, of Preston, near Canterbury, celebrated 60 years of married happiness at a family party on Good Friday.

Mrs. Marsh, who was born into a family of ten at Preston, told a reporter that she and her husband had been "supremely happy".

"If I had my life again, I would do exactly as before," she said. "I would still marry Albert."

A Sussex man, Mr. Marsh only wears glasses to read and works all day in his large, neatly-kept garden.

He was a blacksmith before retirement some years ago. Apprenticed at 11, he worked for many years in the forge at Bridge.

The couple met when Mr. Marsh moved to Kent to take up smithing. They were married shortly afterwards in Wingham Congregational Church.

At Friday's party their two children and one grandchild, as well as many relations and friends, gathered in the school hall to offer their congratulations and drink to their health.

Among many telegrams of congratulation was one from the Queen.

was the scene of the wedding of Mr. John A. Stevens, eldest son of the late Mr. J. Stevens and of Mrs. Stevens, of 6 Bourne View, and of Miss Dorothy E. Vaughan, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Vaughan, of 7 Mill Terrace. The Rector (Rev. W. H. Gregory) officiated at the choral service, with Mrs. M. Lemar rendering Melody in F (Rubenstein) and Mendelssohn's Wedding March. The hymns were "Lead us, Heavenly Father" and "Love Divine." Given away by her father, Miss Vaughan was a charming bride in a gown of cream figured satin, her embroidered lace veil being held in place by an orange blossom headdress. She carried a bouquet of tulips and lilies. The matron of honour, Mrs. Norman Carbury (sister), and the bridesmaid, Miss Mary Stevens (groom's sister), wore frocks of rose pink crepe, with rose headdresses, and carried anemones. Mr. C. Stevens (brother) was best man. Following a reception at Slatter's Restaurant, Canterbury, the couple left for a honeymoon in Monmouthshire, the bride travelling in a Harris tweed suit with brown hat and accessories. Susan Dowse (godchild) presented the bride with a silver horseshoe. The bridegroom served in the Middlesex and Cheshire Regiments during the war.



GIRL ORGANIST WEDS

P. C. DOWNHAM AND
MISS M. S. LEMAR

St. Peter's Church, Bridge, was crowded on ~~Saturday~~ for the wedding of P. C. Stanley Downham, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Downham, of Frith Bungalow, Pluckley, and Miss Margaret S. Lemar, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Lemar, of Old Mill House, Union Road, Bridge.

The bridegroom was until recently the village constable at Bridge, and the bride, who has been on the staff of W. Lefevre Ltd., at Canterbury for 14 years, has been church organist at St. Peter's for 14½ years.

The Vicar (Rev. G. A. Church) conducted the choral service for which the bride's place at the organ was taken by Mr. W. McCulloch, who rendered the Bridal March from "Lohengrin" and Mendelssohn's Wedding March. The hymns were "Praise, my soul," "The Lord's My Shepherd" (Crimond) and "Now thank we all our God."

The bride, given away by her father, made a charming picture in a gown of ivory figured brocade, with train. Her circular veil was held by an orange blossom coronet and she carried a handspray of red roses and lilies of the valley.

As bridesmaids her sisters, Gladys and Gwen, wore frocks of blue, and the bridegroom's niece, Ann Downham, lemon net over taffeta, with matching coronet headdresses. All carried posies of anemones. Mr. J. Downham (brother) was best man.

At the church door the bride was presented with a silver horseshoe by Diane Taylor on behalf of the church choir.

Following a reception at the Village Hall, the couple left for their honeymoon, the bride travelling in a green suit with tan accessories.

Numerous gifts included a canteen of cutlery from the Vicar, church officials and congregation

and a dinner service and fruit set from the staff of Lefevres. The bouquets were afterwards placed on the graves of the bride's grandparents.

Send your reports to: Villages, 9 St George's Place, Canterbury, CT1 1UU, or by fax (01227 762415) or by e-mail on ekentvillages@thekmgroun.co.uk

ow what's going on near you... Contact your local correspondent (found under your area's heading)

Parish farewell to retiring vicar

THE PARISHIONERS of Patrixbourne, Bridge and Bekesbourne have said a fond farewell to their vicar, the Rev Raymond Gilbert.

Mr Gilbert retired on Monday after 20 years caring for the pastoral needs of the community and a career in the church spanning 40 years.

On Sunday more than 125 friends gathered at the primary school in Bridge for a farewell lunch party.

He was presented with a

collection of Mozart CDs, two cheques and a framed picture of the three churches by church wardens John Anderson, Andrea Nicholson and Jane Millyard and organist Roslaie Stacey on behalf of the community.

His wife, Rosemary, was presented with a rose tree and book on rose growing by Billie Anderson.

Mr and Mrs Gilbert also cut a cake iced with the three churches of his parish and the vicarage.

The couple are soon moving to Eythorne, where Mr Gilbert plans to spend more time mastering the Internet and walking and travelling.

He will remain an Honorary Canon at Canterbury Cathedral.

ICING ON THE CAKE:
The Rev Raymond Gilbert and his wife, Rosemary, at the retirement party

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POPULAR BRIDGE WEDDING

:o:

MR. M. TAYLOR AND MISS A. CHERRY

Bridge had a popular wedding at St. Peter's Church on Sunday morning, when the bridegroom was Mr. Mark Taylor, second son of Councillor and Mrs. Allen Taylor, of Lynton House, Bridge, and the bride, Miss Anne Cherry, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cherry, of the White Horse Inn, Bridge, formerly of the Welcome Inn, Eltham, from 1927-42.

The bridegroom served in the R.A.F. during the war, was badly wounded, and for 3½ years was a prisoner of war. He is now on the Air Registration Board at Liverpool, where Mr. and Mrs. Taylor will reside temporarily. The bride's mother is a popular member of St. Peter's choir.

The Vicar (Rev. W. H. Gregory) officiated, and during the signing of the register the organist, Miss Margaret Lemar, played Rubinstein's Melody with Mendelssohn's Wedding March at the close.

Mr. Cherry gave away his daughter—a dainty bride in white embossed silk, with coronet of real lace and Brussels' net veil. Her bouquet was of red rosebuds, and this she subsequently laid on her late brother-in-law's grave at Eltham Cemetery on her way to London.

Her bridesmaid was Miss Kathleen Conway, of Welling, just home from Durban, South Africa. She wore a dress of white and blue organdie, with headdress of blue flowers and veiling, and carried a Victorian posy. The bridegroom's gift to her was a pair of diamanté earrings. The best man was Mr. Ronald Taylor (brother).

After the service, Mr. and Mrs. Cherry entertained 50 guests at a reception at the White Horse Inn, following which the couple left by car for a honeymoon tour.

JAN 29 98



Ian Barrie and wife Wendy, outside the Bridge Post Office and Pharmacy.

NOT MANY see what they want and have the chance to get it but fortune smiled on pharmacist Ian Barrie last week when he took over Bridge Post Office and Pharmacy.

Ian, 38, explained: "I was managing a chemists' in Deal when the post office and pharmacy came up for sale at the same time under the same roof – I'd always wanted my own pharmacy in a busy village community so this was a golden opportunity.

"It's an ideal purchase and a dream come true because we've been well received by the local community and everybody's been very welcoming."

Ian, from Ayr and his wife Wendy have two sons, Craig, 11, and Keith, aged eight, at Capel-le-Ferne Primary School.

Not only has Ian kept on all the existing staff he has increased trading hours through the lunch hour to 6pm.



GIRL ORGANIST WEDS

P. C. DOWNHAM AND
MISS M. S. LEMAR

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The bride, given away by her father, made a charming picture in a gown of ivory figured brocade, with train. Her circular veil was held by an orange blossom coronet and she carried a handspray of red roses and lilies of the valley.

As bridesmaids her sisters, Gladys and Gwan, wore frocks of blue, and the bridegroom's niece, Ann Downham, lemon net over taffeta, with matching coronet headdresses. All carried posies of anemones. Mr. J. Downham (brother) was best man.

At the church door the bride was presented with a silver horseshoe by Diane Taylor on behalf of the church choir.

Following a reception at the Village Hall, the couple left for their honeymoon, the bride travelling in a green suit with tan accessories.

Numerous gifts included a canteen of cutlery from the Vicar, church officials and congregation

and a dinner service and fruit set from the staff of Lefevres. The bouquets were afterwards placed on the graves of the bride's grandparents.



THE happy sound of children playing at The Closo old people's home, at Bridge, will soon be no more. The superintendent, his wife and their two young daughters are leaving to take up posts in another home.

Superintendent Henry Jones and his wife Edna, who is the matron, have been at the 103-bed home for the past four years. "We have enjoyed our stay here," said Mr. Jones, "and have rather mixed feelings about leaving."

The cheerful and friendly couple are moving to a larger home at Worcester. At The Closo they control a staff of 40.

"One thing that has helped us tremendously has been the support of the hospital's League of Friends," said Mr. Jones. "We have also had a lot of assistance from the village."

Mr. and Mrs. Jones' daughters, Betty, 12, and Barbara, 8, have become close friends to many old people at the home. The new superintendent and matron have not yet been named.

Village praise for new home

PRAISE for the way Bridge villagers care for their elderly came from Canterbury MP Mr David Crouch on Friday when he opened the New Close old people's home.

The purpose-built County Council home for 40 residents, next to Bridge Primary School, was built to replace the original Close, which has been shut.

It was a campaign by villagers, led by Mr John Purchase, that resulted in the replacement home being built in the village.

Twenty-four residents of the original home who could not be accommodated have been moved to Military Road, Canterbury.

Before opening the £700,000 home, Mr Crouch said: "The peo-

ple of Bridge have a very special affection for their old people. They like having them in their midst and like looking after them."

He said closure of the original home had been necessary because it had been built in 1835 as a workhouse.

"It may have been old but it was a happy home, made happy by the matron, her staff and the villagers."

Mr Crouch ended by praising the design of the single-storey home and congratulating matron Mrs Diane Holway for being "an inspiration to her staff."

Mr Crouch was thanked by one of the residents, Mrs Priscilla Norman, who presented a bouquet to his wife, Margaret.

During the evening Mr Purchase, chairman of the campaign to keep the home in Bridge, presented £231 raised by villagers to Cllr Ronnie Norman, chairman of the County Council's Social Services Committee.

Also present were the Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr and Mrs Arthur Porter, villagers and others involved with the home.



City MP Mr David Crouch (right) talks to residents and guests.

BEKESBOURNE FOOTBALLER WEDS

:o:

MR. N. F. CARPENTER AND MISS B. E. JONES

Popular member of the Bekesbourne F.C., Mr. Nelson F. Carpenter, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Carpenter, of The Green, Patricxbourne, was married last Thursday at St. Peter's Church, Bridge, to Miss Betty E. Jones, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Jones, of Rosedale Villa, Bridge. The Rector (Rev. W. H. Gregory) officiated and Miss M.



Lemar, at the organ, rendered bridal music, including Mendelssohn's Wedding March at the close. The hymns were "Lead us, Heavenly Father" and "Love Divine".

The bride, given away by her father, made a charming picture in a gown of figured white slipper satin with her veil held in place by a coronet of orange blossom. Her triple necklace of pearls was the bridegroom's gift and she carried a bouquet of pink and white carnations. The bridesmaids, the Misses D. Jones (sister), J. Carpenter (bridegroom's sister), and E. Buckmaster, wore frocks of blue cloque, with feathered headdresses and short blue veils, and carried bouquets of pink and white carnations. Their pearl necklets were the bridegroom's gifts. Mr. R. Goldfinch (cousin) was the best man.

After the reception at the Village Hall, the couple left for a honeymoon in London, the bride travelling in a tweed costume with off-white coat and brown accessories. She gave her husband a shaving set in leather case.

The bridegroom served in the 6th Airborne Division and the bride has been on the staff of W. Lefevre Ltd. A silver horse-shoe was presented by Miss E. Clayson to the bride as she left the church.

LAND ARMY HONOUR BRIDE

Happy Event At Bridge

GIRLS of the Women's Land Army, holding hoses, and the Bridge Church choir, of both of which the bride is a member, formed a guard of honour at the wedding of Cpl. John P. Beaumont, Royal Corps of Signals, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Beaumont, of Southfields, London, and Miss Edna C. West, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. West, of Canterbury, which took place at the Bridge Parish Church on Saturday.

Given away by her father, Miss West made a charming bride in a gown of white satin, her head-dress of orange blossom holding in place a veil lent by the bridegroom's mother. The bride carried a bouquet of red roses.

The bridesmaids were Miss Anne Wass, dressed in pink taffeta, and carried pink roses, and Miss Violet West (bride's niece), who also wore pink taffeta and carried a Victorian posy.

The Rev. W. Gregory officiated, and the best man was Mr. Norman Sarrett, also of the R.C.S.

The service was fully choral, and 14-year-old Miss Margaret Lemarr was at the organ. The hymns sung were "The Voice that breath'd o'er Eden" and "Lead us, Heavenly

(CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN)

MARGATE BREAKS SAVINGS RECORDS

MARGATE broke all records during its "Wings for Victory" Week, which ended, on Saturday. The target was £125,000, but the amount raised was £167,808—£3,788 more than in Warship Week last year.

The small saver was largely responsible for such a successful result, reflected in the larger sums invested in savings certificates and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The sale of certificates realised £25,000 compared with £15,178 in Warship Week, net deposits in the Post Office rose from £5,458 to £11,556, and savings stamps bought amounted to £3,305 against £1,019.

The elementary schools with less than 1,500 children set a target of £100 and raised £1,492.

After the announcement of the result in Cecil Square, on Saturday evening, a service of thanksgiving was conducted by the Vicar of Margate (the Rev. K. Percival Smith).

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS
COLUMN)

Father." Psalm 67 was also sung, and the choir sang a hymn as a recessional.

After the reception, at the home of Mrs. Wass, for over 80 guests, the happy couple left for a honeymoon in Devon.

EIFFEL TOWER

MADE



**R.A.F.
BRIDEGROOM**

**MR. D. C. BLEE
AND
MISS T. P. GRIFFITHS**

Much interest was taken in the wedding at St. Nicholas Church, Thanington, last Thursday of Mr. David C. Blee, second son of the late Police-Sergeant and Mrs. F. A. Blee, of Luccombe, Union Road, Bridge, and Miss Tesni P. Griffiths, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Griffiths, of Little Cottage, 152 Ashford Road, Thanington.

The Vicar (Rev. A. E. Blake) conducted the choral service for which Mr. A. V. Wiseman rendered the Bridal March from "Lohengrin," and Mendelssohn's Wedding March. The hymns

were "Immortal, Invisible God" and "Love Divine."

Given away by her father, Miss Griffiths was a radiant bride in a gown of white lace, with shoulder-length veil. She carried a bouquet of pink roses and lilies of the valley.

Her bridesmaid, Miss Sheila Fox, wore a frock of lavender blue georgette with matching floral headdress. Her necklace and matching bracelet were the bridegroom's gift and she carried a similar bouquet to that of the bride. Mr. Michael J. Blee (brother) was best man.

Following a reception at Slatters Hotel, the couple left for a honeymoon in Cornwall, the bride wearing a coat with matching dress in yellow, with black accessories. Mr. and Mrs. Blee, who gave each other gold watches, will live in Northern Ireland where the bridegroom is serving with the R.A.F. in Coastal Command.



A BRIDGE BRIDE

MR. P. TALBOT AND MISS D. L. REVELL

The wedding took place at St. Peter's Church, Bridge, on Saturday, of Mr. Peter Talbot, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Talbot, of Gypsy Cottage, Coldharbour Farm, Kingston, and Miss Dorothy L. Revell, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Revell, of The Lodge, Bridge Place, Bridge.

The service was conducted by the Rector (Rev. G. A. Church), and Miss J. Richards was at the organ. The hymns were "Love Divine" and "Praise, My Soul."

Given away by her father, Miss Revell made a charming bride in a white brocade dress, with her veil held by an orange blossom headdress. She carried a hand-spray of lemon carnations and freesias.

Mrs. Pat Ward (bridegroom's aunt) was matron of honour, and Miss Carol Dixon (cousin) was bridesmaid. They wore respectively blue and pink tulle frocks, and carried posies of red, white and blue flowers. The bridegroom gave Mrs. Ward earrings, and Miss Dixon a necklace. Mr. W. Dixon was best man.

Following a reception at the Plough and Harrow, Bridge, the couple left for their new home. There were numerous gifts from their many friends.



Mrs. Joan Ramsey, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, presents Mrs. Clara Waite with a bed cape at The Close, Bridge, on Monday. Left to right: Sister M. Fitton, Rev. R. A. Penney, Mr. H. R. Jones (Superintendent), Mrs. Ramsey, Mrs. E. Jones (Matron), Mrs. Waite.

MRS. CLARA WAITE 100 TODAY

Mrs. Clara Waite, a patient at The Close, Bridge, for the last 12 years, is 100 years old today (Friday).

The Matron of The Close (Mrs. E. Jones), has organised a special birthday tea for her, during which a congratulatory message from the Queen will be read.

On Monday, Mrs. Joan Ramsey, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, made a special journey to present Mrs. Waite with a blue angora wool bed cape.

Mrs. Waite was born at 14 Grove Street, Poplar. For 25 years, she and her husband—a tennis courts groundsman—lived at Putney.

On his death in 1937 Mrs. Waite came to live in Canterbury.

The Matron said of Mrs. Waite, "She is rather frail and rarely leaves her bed, but she is a wonderful old lady and her mental alertness is remarkable. She still knits and reads papers daily."

OLD FLORENCE IS GLAD THEY'RE GETTING DOWN TO GRASS ROOTS AT HIGHAM PARK

Echoes of a mad racer

WHEN Florence Turner, 85, read about the exploits of madcap racer Count Zabrowski in her Canterbury Times, it took her back to her childhood.

For when Florence was growing up in Bridge, the rakish

aristocrat was busily squandering his cash on fast cars and high living at nearby Higham Park.

The pensioner was only ten when the Count killed himself racing at Monza but she can recall him roaring along the Dover road, scattering villagers

as he went. "He used to go whizzing down the road in his fast car. We were used to horses and carts," she said. "The children were warned not to go in the road when he was coming, in case they got knocked over.

"He used to have a high old time at the house. He spent all his money on cars and having a good time."

Florence remembers the Count had a railway line in the grounds, because she went to school with Nellie Martin, daughter of the chauffeur at the big house.

"People said at the time he used to bury cars in the grounds. It would be great if somebody like the Time Team could come up and solve the mystery."

Although she was only little she can remember seeing a Zeppelin as it flew close to the village dropping bombs at either end.

"We used to sit under the big table in our kitchen if there was a raid. I remember the Zeppelin because it made a lot of noise. It dropped one bomb at Canterbury Hill and another at the other end of the village.

"My father went to look at the hole one of them made. He put his six-foot horse whip into the hole and it didn't touch the bottom. If we heard the Germans were invading he would have loaded us up in the wagon and taken us to White Hill Wood. I don't know what good that would have been."

Neighbours used to join the family under the table



SLOWLY: The Count would recognise this picture of the ford across the Nailbourne at Brewery Lane, Bridge.

BELOW: Meat hung outside Francis Edwards butchers shop in the High Street



LIFE AND SOLE: One of Florence's uncles kept the whole village shod at his shoe repairers

during the alerts and they would even bring food for an impromptu tea party while they were sheltering.

"My mother would boil a kettle and somebody would bring some jam, another sugar and another tea. Although I was

many years but only visited the house once, even though she lived in Bridge more than 60 years.

"I remember the gardens were very beautiful with lovely fountains. It would be nice to look at them again," she said.

"I saw the gardens but the only time I went into the house was

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Free car park at rear



my mind.”
She has been invited to Higham Park by owners Pat Gibb and Amanda Harris-Deans to share her memories of life in the village during the 1920s.

Florence and her late husband Leonard ran the radio and television repair business in the village for

when it was turned into a hospital and it looked a bit sorry for itself.”

Meanwhile, keen gardeners and viewers of Meridian TV's Grass Roots programme can meet presenter Richard Jackson and guest Nigel Colborn at Higham Park next Thursday to solve their gardening problems between 2.30 and 4pm. And they can see how Pat and Amanda have transformed the gardens.



MATES: Florence at Bridge School during the 1920s. She is fifth from the left, third row from the front



BRIDGE BRIDE

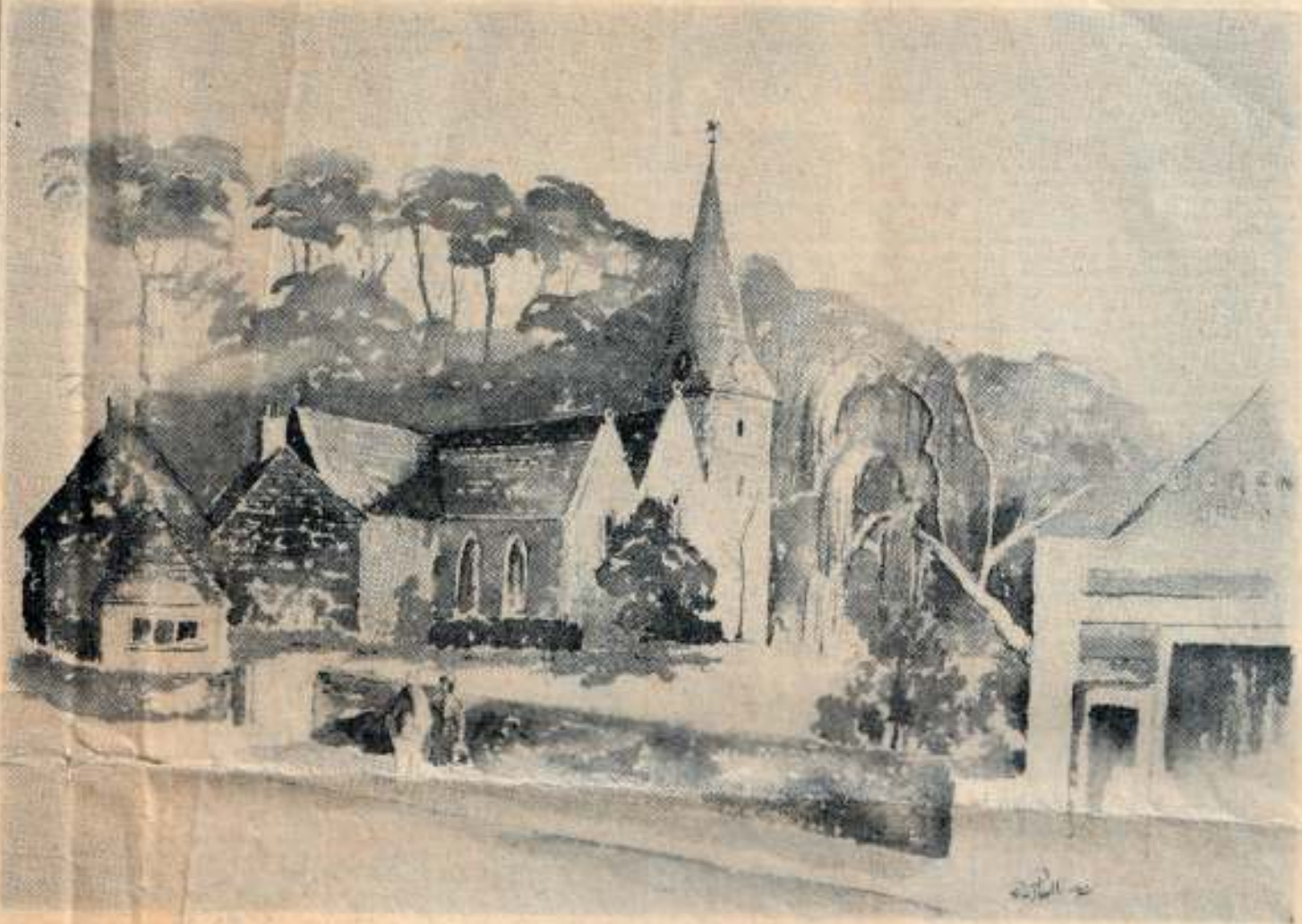
MR. R. D. DEVESON AND MISS P. M. SMITH

Three days before the silver wedding of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. F. Smith, of 8 Bourne View, Bridge, Miss Pamela M. Smith, the only daughter, was married at St. Peter's Church, Bridge, on Saturday, to Mr. Raymond D. Deveson, twin son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Deveson, of Court Cottages, Kingston. The Vicar (Rev. G. A. Church) officiated.

Given away by her father, Miss Smith was a charming bride in a ballerina-length gown of white net over taffeta, embroidered with mother-of-pearl. Her shoulder-length veil was held by a coronet of pearls and orange blossom, and she carried a bouquet of orchids and lilies of the valley.

The three older bridesmaids, the Misses Sylvia and Rosemary Sackett (cousins) and Irene Lawrence, wore ballerina-length lilac net frocks with shaded petal headresses, and gold and amethyst earrings (bridegroom's gifts) and carried Victorian posies. The three small maids, Margaret Tye and Judith and Christine Simmons (cousins), wore green organdie frocks embossed with lilies of the valley, green velvet sashes, lily of the valley headresses and necklaces (bridegroom's gifts), and carried sprays of lilies of the valley. Mr. Ronald Deveson (twin brother) was best man.

Following a reception at St. Faith's Hall, New House Road, Canterbury, the couple left for a honeymoon at Illogan, Cornwall, the bride travelling in a cherry red ensemble, with green accessories. The bridegroom gave his wife a sewing table, and Mrs. Deveson gave her husband a fitted travelling case. Numerous gifts included a willow pattern dinner service from the bridegroom's employer, Councillor A. J. Ross, of Out-Elmstead Farm, Barham, and household scales and roll-top bread bin from The Close, Bridge, where the bride was employed.



The uninspiring name of Bridge

By Arnold Bosworth

ONE would be hard put to it to dream up a more uninspiring name for a village than "Bridge." The first time I visited this obscure but easily accessible hamlet, I was surprised to see that no bridge was visible, even from my vantage-point at the top of the hill that runs steeply down to its centre.

The church is there for all to see. So are the tall and graceful trees that surround it, but apart from these, the first impression of the village is quite as uninteresting as its name.

Luckily, first impressions are not always reliable, and this old adage is no less true when applied to Bridge than it is to anything else.

Long before this present age of travel and rapid communication, people were obliged to build their communities around rivers, or near to the coast, and the early inhabitants of this area were no exceptions. Their first dwellings, in the place that today is called Bridge, were ideally situated, not only because of the Little Stour that flows along the valley, but because of the shelter received from the steep hills rising from either end of the village.

The Ancient Britons were evidently appreciative of these amenities, and were fiercely determined to preserve them at the time of the Roman invasion, for it was here in the grounds

of a certain William le Belyetre.

An interesting feature of the structure of the building is that the walls are of polished black flint—or, at least, that is what the books say. Not being of a very practical turn of mind, I was merely reminded of the words of Emerson as he wrote about the builder of St. Peter's in Rome:

"He builded better than he knew;
The conscious stone to beauty grew."

Wondering about the weather vane had brought on thoughts of a village forge, and I strolled back into the village in search of evidence of its existence.

It was early in the morning and because of repeated complaints by my family of my "image," I took time off to drop into the local hairdresser's shop. Now the use of the word "hairdresser" is for me a departure from custom. Barber is the word I normally use, since barber, according to the dictionary, is a person who cuts hair—and that, for many years, is precisely what has happened to mine.

But this was a red letter day. Not only was it dressed; it was actually brushed again into the way that I like it to be brushed, and not into some weird shape borne of lack of observation on the part of the man with the scissors. I shall remember the hairdresser of Bridge, and not only for his skill, but for the remarkable coincidence that on the spot where I stand while working, the old-time smith

of a village, I decided that since there are three within a stone's throw of each other, and I had to drive home, I had better return the next day. My son drove me down and left me to make a proper appraisal of the thirst-quenching potentialities of the village, and I came away after two very enjoyable hours with a satisfaction with them that was born not only of the excellent quality of the brews, but equally of the joviality of Miss Hosts, that in each of the houses was in full keeping with the traditions of English country hospitality.

Yes, Bridge is a surprising place, and judging by the small collection of new and well-built bungalows and houses that have been built on the side of the valley, more people are discovering its attractions.

Small wonder that the Romans coveted the place.

Forthcoming Marriages

MR. J. F. INGRAM and MISS B. J. MOUNT

The engagement is announced of John Frederick Ingram, only son of the late Mr. F. S. Ingram, M.B.E., and Mrs. Ingram, of 4, Sunner Hill, Harbledown, and Brenda Jean Mount, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Mount, 33, Marshall Road, Rainham.

MR. D. STANTON and MISS C. SNELL

Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Snell, of 26, Puckle Lane, Canterbury, are happy

Kent savings up 20 per cent.

Recent figures issued by the National Savings Movement for the South East Region (Kent, Surrey and Sussex) show an increase of almost 20 per cent. in savings over the past five years, said Mr. Geoffrey G. Rogers, deputy chairman of the Church of England Building Society, at the Society's luncheon at Tunbridge Wells yesterday (Thursday).

"Average savings in the Kent area, per head of population is now 14 a week," he said. "It will certainly rise and the very best and safest place for the increased savings is in a building society."

"People throughout this nation have trusted their building societies with approximately 15,000 million of their savings. This figure is steadily rising as living standards increase and savings absorb a larger proportion of the distribution of each family's income."

"Building societies are one of the safest forms of investment for savings in our community. Security is virtually guaranteed by the strength of societies such as the Church of England Building Society, which have official 'Prudential' status. The interest on savings lodged with the societies is tax-paid and represents a return on the investment."

house, alongside the church, that they made their last stand, before the superior weight of arms and Roman soldiery overcame them, and ultimately drove them from their homesteads.

Men and women being what they are, the invaders eventually mingled with the invaded, and the villagers, some probably with darker hair than their antecedents, drifted back into much the same kind of life that had always been led in the village.

Through road

An added amenity, of course, was the road built by the Roman engineers as a through road from Dover to London—a road that exists to this day, and is a part of the famous Watling Street Road.

With the road, there must be a bridge, at the point where the river flowed, and it was probably at this time that the first substantial bridge was built. The present one is very recent, having been built only 120 years ago.

The superior civilisation brought by the Romans triggered many changes that have taken place over the years, but there is at least one thing in the village that has remained fundamentally the same as it was in those far-off days.

It is the actual place where the Ancient Britons fought their last battle. A depression in the ground, it is known as "England's Old Hole." Col. Graham regretted that it is now overgrown with a tangle of vegetation, but I did not really want to see it. I could picture the scene quite easily, and although as an ex-infantryman I could not agree with the strategy of taking up a defensive position in a depression, Bridge nevertheless took on a much more interesting aspect following my talk with the Colonel.

I walked back to the church, and the first thing I noticed was that the weather vane at the pinnacle of its steeple is in the form of a rook—and a very lifelike figure it is. I wondered, since this is the first of its kind I have seen, whether its shape was inspired by the fact that in the trees close by, again according to the Colonel, there has been, since time immemorial, a rookery.

Their own land

Even as I looked up at the steeple, the pairing rooks were being blown about in the teeth of a wild wind, like pieces of charred paper, and it seemed appropriate the direction of the wind should be signalled by one of their own kind.

Surrounded by the inevitable yew trees, the Parish Church of

a forge. The smith was Sidney Gilbert, who lives a few hundred yards from the main street. I found him sitting alone in his tiny kitchen. A modest man, he could at first think of nothing about his life that might interest me, but after a while, the stories began to come, so that at the end of one of the most pleasurable hours I can remember, I had been back in time to the days when horses were tethered to the wall outside this building while awaiting their turn to be shod.

The pungent smell of scorching hooves seemed to be all around, and I could see the splash of white-hot sparks as the sledgehammer beat out the shapes of intricate pieces of ironwork, some of which Mr. Gilbert still retains in his house.

In general, the "good old days" were not very good, but at the same time, we have lost something. I shall never revel in the smells of a garage.

Since I always make a point of visiting the local hostelry



THE
MORRIS
IS H

Powerful

Jack looks back on half a century

FOR 76-year-old Jack Carpenter, who has just retired after 55 years as verger of the 12th Century St Mary's Church, Patricbourne, life will never be the same again.

No longer will he toll the bell, climb once a week into the tower to wind the clock or keep the grass tidy in the churchyard.

And although, like the church congregation, the number of baptisms, weddings and funerals has dwindled year by year, his quiet, unassuming presence will be missed by the faithful few who still pass through the classic arch of its Norman doorway.

Apprenticed as a carpenter to Lovell and Son, of Wingham, Jack was a chippie in the Royal Navy from 1914 to 1919 and it was on leaving the service that he became verger at St Mary's at an annual salary of £5.

Four years later he was married there.

He recalls that in those early days, before the landed gentry were hit by taxation and death duties, the Penn family, who lived at Bifrons, the Gays, from Highland Court, and the Ramsays, from Howletts, attended the church. But they, like the Bifrons mansion, has long since disappeared. He also recalls when, as a chorister, he went by horse-drawn waggons to Sandwich Bay on the choir's annual outing.

A keen sportsman, he was secretary of Bekesbourne Cricket Club for several years and wielded a useful bat for them when they played at Howletts. His wife, who died two years ago, cut sandwiches for the team.

During Jack's vergership William Harvey, then deputy organist at the Cathedral, played the organ at St Mary's.

Like his father, who belonged to the old Bridge Volunteer Fire Brigade, Jack was once a part-time fireman at Wingham.

Later, he joined Kent

County Council Highways Department at the Barham depot and retired when he was 65.

An enthusiastic whist player, he regularly attends drives at Bekesbourne and Kingston and for many years was MC at the weekly drives still held in Bekesbourne Village Hall.

Although little has changed in the quiet hamlet of Patricbourne during his lifetime, he is grieved to see the carve-up of part of Bifrons parkland at the beginning of the Bridge by-pass over Patricbourne Road.

He was born in the cottage where he lives now, 3 The Green, Patricbourne, within sight of St Mary's, a church well documented by historians because of its Norman doorway and Swiss painted glass windows.

As he will continue to live there, he will doubtless still keep an eye on the place which has filled a large part of his life for over half a century.



Bekesbourne CC of 1937. Jack Carpenter, wearing a tie, is in the middle of the second row down.

The team is headed by senior editor Bob Bounds and senior advertisement manager Caroline Brinkman.

The *Gazette's* campaign to clampdown on litter was named runner-up in the campaign of the year category while our first-year student's pull-out *Fresh Start* was winner of the best supplement prize.

Canterbury-based reporter Julia Walsh was second in the trainee of the year category. Julia won acclaim for her articles filed direct from a Kosovan refugee camp in Macedonia in May.

The *Gazette* also gained a runners-up spot for the best front page, following its coverage of the eclipse.

The editorial awards were judged by Bob Satchwell, former editor of the *Cambridge Evening News*, now director of the Society of Editors.

Customer care person of the year was Canterbury-based advertising rep Bill Carey while the classified advertisement of the year was picked up by Jo Proud.

Mr Bounds said: "All the categories were judged by highly respected professionals from outside the Kent Messenger Group so these are welcome, independent endorsements."

"I am delighted for the team here at Canterbury and our other offices in East Kent to have achieved such success."

This is my life

TV commentator Brian Moore will talk about his anecdotal autobiography *The Final Score* when he appears in Canterbury tonight (Thursday) at 7pm in Waterstone's bookshop in St Margaret's Street.

Tickets cost £2 and can be bought from the shop.

BACK IN TIME: Members of The Countdowns during their set at the Westgate Hall

34/6148E/99

Westgate Hall, was a success for Dave and £5,200 was raised for his charity which sends children with

Hendrix Experience also played. There was also a disco. All those taking part played for free.

Nothing barred in pub calendar

by Sian Napier

REGULARS at the Plough and Harrow, Bridge, got more than a full measure when landlord Chris Maclean launched his Millennium calendar yesterday (Wednesday).

Subtitled *Warts and All!* it is a surprising publication to say the least.

From its front cover showing Mr Maclean with nothing but a silly hat and a champagne bottle, to the back showing the photographers with nothing but their equipment, it is a humorous tribute to the customers and friends of the village pub.

Mr Maclean got the idea for his Millennium contribution from a similar project by a Women's Institute in the north of England.

And he did not have much trouble getting the pub staff and other supporters to go along with the idea.

"I needed the best photographers I could get, great design and quality printing," he said. "This is our Millennium gesture to the people who support us - nothing was going to compromise that."

The stunning photographs were taken by Alfie and Trish Jarvis at

their studio in Bridge. Mr Jarvis said he was amazed that everyone was so willing to take part.

The various months of the year show the staff and friends in poses connected with pubs, including September's offering of regular Norman Goodman pictured with just a jar of pickled eggs.

Monumental

Mr Maclean said: "I had the idea in August and the first photographs were taken a few weeks later. We all had such fun doing it. It has been a monumental project and I am still quite stunned that it has actually happened."

"All the photographs, in black and white, are pleasant enough, but it is the odd ones that make you laugh."

"I challenge anyone to look at the one of Norman with only a jar of pickled eggs and not smile."

The calendars cost £10 and are on sale from the Plough and Harrow, in Bridge High Street, in person only. All profits from the sales will go to charity.



COVER MAN: Landlord Chris Maclean is on the front of his calendar 21A/6174E/99



MR SEPTEMBER: Norman Goodman makes the most of some pickled eggs 20A/6174E/99

'No manners' employee drove off

A MAN who shot his apprentice in the eye with an air pistol has been bound over for two years by

Lark led

Gazette's proud evening

THE *Kentish Gazette* walked away with a host of honours at the first Kent Messenger Group awards evening.

Staff received their prizes at a special ceremony at the Jarvis Great Danes Hotel, Hollingbourne, on Friday, attended by 360 people made up from all the company's departments.

The publishing team of the year award went to East Kent, which is based at the Canterbury office.

The team is headed by senior editor Bob Bounds and senior advertisement manager Caroline Brinkman.

The *Gazette's* campaign to clampdown on litter was named runner-up in the campaign of the year category while our first-year student's pull-out *Fresh Start* was winner of the best supplement prize.

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BACK IN TIME: Members of The Countdowns during their set at the Westgate Hall
34/6148E/99

Psychedelic sell-out

THE clock was turned back 30 years when bands from the Sixties re-formed to play in Canterbury for comic Dave Lee's children's charity.

Dave, who is appearing in *Peter Pan* at the city's Marlowe Theatre later this month, said all those who took part had never really grown up.

"We had an absolutely brilliant evening," he said. "It was a sell-out and just like turning the clock back. I felt as though I was going into a time warp."

"We are all Peter Pans really and it was just like going back to our misspent youth."

But the Sixties night, at the Westgate Hall, was a success for Dave and £5,200 was raised for his charity which sends children with

disabilities and their families from Kent on holidays.

Dave used to play drums in a band called The Ways and Means and got back behind the cymbals on Friday for the gig.

His band released two records in the late 1960s.

Other local groups from the era which re-formed were The Countdowns, with member Colin Gow flying in from the USA at his own expense to play.

Dave Harvey also paid his own air fare to turn up from Australia to play in The Rockabats.

Tommy Savage and the Satans, and Noel Redding from the Jimi Hendrix Experience also played.

There was also a disco. All those taking part played for free.

Nothing barred in pub calendar

by Sian Napier

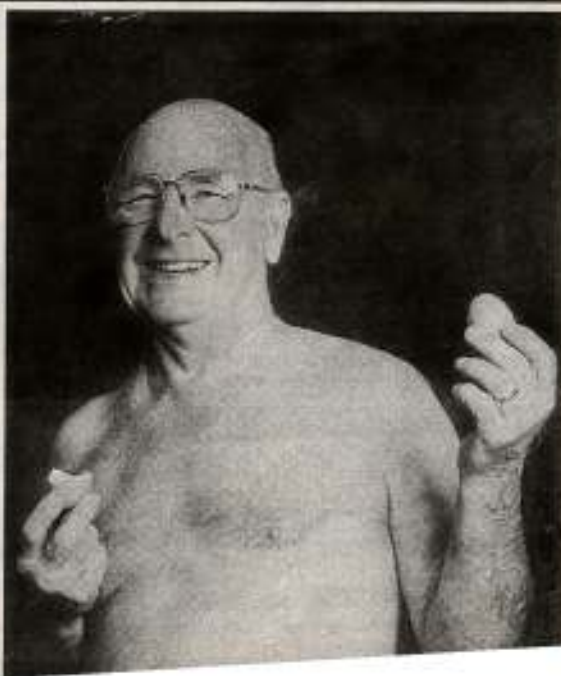
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THRILLENNIUM FOR MILLENNIUM

No half measures in pub's calendar of year!



April

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Chris Maclean

The Plough & Harrow also has a fine selection of keg lager, stout and cider...

● **WHAT A GAS:** Landlord Chris Maclean is Mr April in the saucy calendar

WHEN bar staff at the Plough and Harrow, Bridge were asked to get their kit off for charity, there were no half measures.

And these are the pictures the whole village has been waiting for!

The thrilleNNIUM for the Millennium has been such a success that sales are set to go through the roof.

Such was the bare-faced cheek of landlord Chris Maclean, he even got senior executives from Shepherd Neame to do a near full monty for the cameras.

"Having had the ludicrous idea of producing the calendar, I was astonished how positive everybody was about it. We chose the people very carefully, but they thought it was fun and entered into the spirit of things," he said.

One of the stars of the show is regular Norman Goodman, who posed with just a jar of pickled eggs to shield his modesty but his wife knew nothing about it.

"Norman is out in Tenerife with his wife at the moment and she has no idea he's in the calendar. He's so popular, we are considering making up Norman Tee-shirts and even a picture of Norman on the side of a cab," Chris said.

"The hardest part for Chris was posing on top of a keg stark naked



for the fliers that can be seen all over Bridge. "All I can say is that it was very cold."

His wife Melanie was a bit dubious at first, but when everyone else agreed, there was no backing out.

"Chris saw the WI had done a calendar, so he thought if it's OK for the WI, it's good enough for us," she said.

"Pictures of Chris have gone up all around the village and we are getting plenty of interest from all over the area. At first I wasn't too



● **JANUARY GIRL:** Plough and Harrow landlady Melanie Maclean shows her cheeky calendar contribution to local clergyman John Thackray

keen but I couldn't really back out. One of the girls hasn't told her husband and Norman's wife doesn't know either. It's a good laugh and will raise money for local charities."

Photographer Alfie Jarvis thought Chris was winding him up when he said what he was planning. "He wanted to get some tasteful

pictures, and said, by the way we would be in it too. My wife Trish wished she had been a few years younger, but I was surprised how comfortable everybody was taking their clothes off. In some cases they couldn't wait to get their kit off."

Funniest incident was when three officials from Shepherd

Neame and two suppliers turned up. "Three of them knew what was going on, but two were in the dark. I had to explain tactfully they would have to take their clothes off, but they did it," he said. Afterwards the subjects all got the chance to pick out their favourites - and the result is now on sale at the pub, priced £10.

AS PLOUGH AND HARROW STAFF (AND OTHERS) RUSH TO GET THEIR KIT OFF!



● September man Norman Goodman is holidaying and his wife doesn't know about the calendar



● Chris and assistant Garry Apps brought casks



● Hopping in Kent is March girl Debbie Blake



● Kelly Miles is a real corker as the May girl



● Kirsty Jones makes a clean sweep



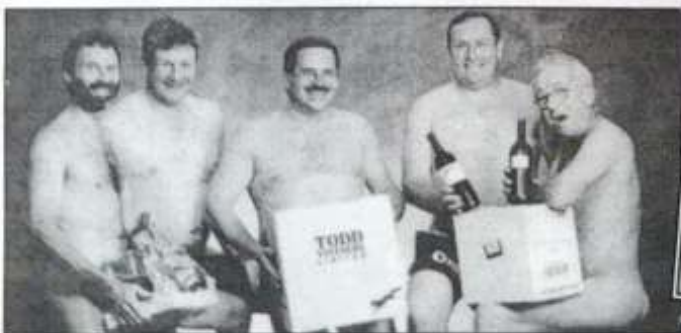
● Trish and Alfie Jarvis took the pictures



● July girl is cleaner Sue Wood



● Pool player Ella Sloman is August's girl



● November is a team effort from Shepherd Neame bosses and pub suppliers



● Merry Christmas from Chris, Melanie and staff

SATURDAY NIGHT OUT

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BON APPETIT

Top value at Duck

by David Rose

MUCH more of a good thing is now on offer at Pett Bottom's ever-popular Duck Inn. The pub is now open seven days a week.

The picturesque country ale house and award-winning restaurant is under new management and new owners Ron and Mavis Brown, their daughter Lorraine and her fiance Tony Pack are looking forward to welcoming customers old and new.

The four come to The Duck with experience in the pub and catering trade.

Ron completed a residential course with the Brewers Society and Mavis was formerly outside catering manager with J. Lyons at such locations as Wimbledon and Windsor Castle.

For the past year the couple have been running a sports and social club.

Lorraine has worked behind bars and waited on restaurant tables and

Tony has gained invaluable knowledge of the grape in his father's wine business.

All four realise they have their work cut out to maintain the high reputation enjoyed by The Duck.

But they are confident it can be done while, at the same time, stamping the place with their own family personality.

"We are very proud to be the new owners of The Duck and we plan to continue it as a traditional country inn and top value restaurant," said Ron.

"We look forward to meeting all The Duck's regular customers and welcoming new ones."

One of the main innovations following the change of ownership is the decision to open the inn's bar on Sunday nights and Mondays.

The restaurant will remain closed but it does mean The Duck's wide range of bar food will now be available seven days a week.

"As there are four of us it was no problem to arrange our duties so that the pub stayed open every day," explained Ron.



A toast to their success at the Duck from, left to right: Ron and Mavis Brown, Tony Pack and Lorraine Brown.

The bar food menu is one of the most extensive of any pub in the area, boasting salads, hot dishes and puddings galore.

In addition to the more familiar choice of steak and kidney pie and ploughman's, there is the chance to sample hot avocado with cauliflower, crabmeat and cheese or garlic mussels with

tomato topped with stilton.

To wash it down try one of the real ales. A new policy is to have a different real ale on offer each week, in addition to the regular brews.

Meanwhile, in the restaurant there is a new menu which the family plans to change every few months.

At the moment starter

highlights include the special Duck Inn pate with port and orange and the fried mushrooms stuffed with stilton and bacon.

Fresh asparagus, when available, and smoked salmon is also included.

Main dishes include Aberdeen Angus fillet

steak served with mushrooms or a peppered sauce and roast duck with nectarines and apricot brandy sauce.

Or try fresh wild Scottish salmon with white wine cream and fresh tarragon sauce or strips of veal served with tagliatelle, mushrooms, oregano and cream. All main dishes are served with a selection of fresh vegetables.

To follow there is a wide selection of mouth-watering puddings, from traditional tarts to exotic fruit salads.

On Sundays, succulent Scotch beef forms part of the traditional main course roast, with puddings to follow.

Thanks to Tony, the wine cellar is being extended and will soon include a large range of Bordeaux, Burgundy and Alsace wines.

While bar snacks are available to allcomers it is advisable to book in advance for a seat in the restaurant, especially at weekends.

Advertisement feature









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Gwen
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