

Just one last chance to save your

Network

*Harrietsham's very own
Village Magazine
from closure!*

*Unless we can find a new Editor,
April 2022 will see the final issue of
Network being put through your door!*

*If you can help us, see page 15 & contact
Jan NOW! Or if you prefer come to the
Fish Scheme AGM on 16 March 2022 at
7.00 for 7.30pm in the Scout Hut.*

Or will it be:



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Save the Date

**Harrietsham Parish Council will be lighting
the Beacon on Thursday 2 June**

and

**The Jubilee Big Lunch will be held on
Sunday 5 June**

Watch this space for details



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Harrietsham Fish Scheme Who's Who

Fish Scheme-Helping Hands

Lift Organisers	Andrew & Felicity Rogers <i>Ridgedown, Marley Road, Harrietsham ME17 1AU</i> <i>Email andrew.rogers3@btinternet.com</i>
<i>Telephone 859352</i>	
Chairman	Peter Brown <i>Bassetts, Ashford Road, Harrietsham, ME17 1JR</i> <i>Email peter.78brown@btinternet.com</i>
<i>Telephone 851075</i>	
Treasurer	Michael Gear <i>Little Hatch, Ashford Road, Harrietsham, ME17 1AJ</i> <i>Email michaelgear44@hotmail.co.uk</i>
<i>Telephone 859410</i>	

Network Magazine

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Visit our website: www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

Harrietsham Network is published by the Harrietsham Fish Scheme

Network Magazine April 2022 deadlines:-

Tues 1 March 2022 12 noon advertising deadline for April Network

Tues 1 March 2022 12 noon copy deadline for April Network

In addition to printing the magazine and distributing it to all homes in the village, Network is uploaded to our website by the 1st of each month.

Please send advertising contributions to advertising manager's address above.

Please send copy to: editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org.

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Contents

Clubs and Societies

Craft & Chat and Knit, Crochet & Natter	9
Harrietsham Gardening Society	8
Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	9
Harrietsham in Bloom	12
Harrietsham Wives Group	8

Churches

Christian Message	30
Friends of St John's	23
Len Valley Benefice Service Times	17
Local Church Contact Details	16

Information

March Diary	21
Deadlines for April Network	3,21
Editorial	7
Harrietsham Fish Scheme AGM	13
Lenham Film Club	26
Local Directory	18,19
Public Services and Emergencies Directory	29
Who's Who	3

Features and General Articles

Borough Council Corner	34
Dog Litter	22
Fetcher Dog	33
HAMS Productions	27
Harrietsham CofE Primary School	24,25
Harrietsham Community Speedwatch Group	32
Harrietsham Parish Council Litter Pick	10
Lenham WI	25
Len Valley Health Walks	26
Local Mindfulness Support Group	27
Network Editor URGENT	15
Ploughmans, Pimms, Pickles & Plant Sale	12

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee **2**

Village Diary

Just a reminder that a Diary has been placed in the Post Office for anyone to put in any events which may happen in the village.

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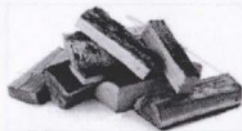
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Message From the Editor

Please remember to email any photographs, articles of interest about Harrietsham, or recipes etc. that could be considered for inclusion to:

E-mail: editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org

Visit our website: www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

Whilst every effort is made to include as wide a variety of information as possible each month, the editor reserves the right not to publish, or to edit, any item. The editor's decision is final. Responsibility for the information and views set out in articles and notices in this publication lies entirely with the authors.

Letters sent anonymously will not be considered. Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the officers or committee of the Fish Scheme.

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Harrietsham Network

Harrietsham Gardening Society



Members enjoyed a talk on bees by Wendy Laffan at our January meeting; not the usual honey bee and hives stuff but all about bumblebees and other wild bees, their habits and benefits to our gardens and the environment. Wendy was a very entertaining and knowledgeable speaker and no snoring was heard during the whole meeting.

Our AGM, the first for two years, took place following our speaker and David Oversby was once again elected Chairman. There were no other changes to the officers and committee. We do desperately need some new faces on the committee, particularly the Show sub-committee which we have temporarily merged with the full committee due to lack of volunteers so please put yourself forward if you can.

In the meantime if like many people your potatoes and tomatoes were devastated with blight last year it's worth trying a few resistant varieties which have been bred over the past few years, tomatoes such as Crimson crush and Cocktail crush; potatoes such as any variety beginning Sarpo, Sarpo Mira is a common one, Setanta and Cara are also widely available. However, as ever disease resistance is a compromise with flavour so you have to make your own judgement. Blight of course only occurs under warm humid conditions i.e. temperatures greater than 10 degrees C and humidity greater than 90% for 11 hours twice in 48 hours! What we'd call a couple of humid muggy days. It's best not to plant too close together to keep air circulating if you can and to avoid over-watering.

On a lighter note our next meeting on 15 March is the Spring Show when members bring along their daffodils and other bulbs, shrubs, pot plants and specimen veg. Do get in touch if you'd like to join in. Annual membership of the Society is a mere £15 per annum for 11 meetings: new members are very welcome and you can learn all sorts of things such as:

Kevin Harlock

Harrietsham Wives Group

Our annual auction took place at our February meeting. Jackie Bevan did a grand job as Auctioneer. Lots of good quality items went under the hammer and £130.00 was raised and donated to the JPK Project which provides training for young people with learning difficulties in the hospitality industry.

There will be a demonstration in the use of a defibrillator at our meeting on 2 March, the meeting begins at 7.30pm. The Wives group meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the Scout Hut in Station Road. A more explanatory title would be The Three M's, Mrs, Miss or Ms, all welcome. We are a sociable group whose meetings include talks, demonstrations, days out and an annual Bar-B-Q to mention a few. If you would like to come along or have an interesting subject you would like to speak to the group about please let us know.

Gill Whent - Secretary 01622 859426

Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls

With no friendly games being played over the past weeks it is always difficult to know what to write in this little news article we produce in the Network, however, in this review of the week ending the 31st of January, I can extend congratulations to six of our members who have combined to produce an excellent result for our club. The members were David French, Barbara French, De Beresford, Bev Dillon, Lesley Dack, and Ron Smith.



The Kent County Short Mat Bowls Pairs Competition took place at Mote Park that weekend. It involved 58 clubs from all over Kent, Herne Bay to Sevenoaks, and Sheppey to Tenterden. The teams played against competitors made up of County Team Members and those players who needed to qualify to play for Kent. All taking part had to provide a negative Covid Lateral Flow test, and for some, it was a day-long event as they played four games or more depending on their progress. The competition was divided into two sections. Harrietsham SMBC did extremely well and ended the day with the following results.

Ron and Lesley played as a pair and although they enjoyed their games they did not make the last four as according to Lesley, "We won our hard games, but lost the easy ones". Bev and De reached the semi-finals but lost to Langley SMBC, well done for such a sterling effort. David and Barbara reached the final and they played none other than Langley SMBC. This game became a cliffhanger. According to David's account, the match was at 7-7, Langley had 2 woods on the jack to win but then Barbara produced a little of the magic only she can deliver, sneaked around the Langley woods, and won the game.

Perhaps what is almost as important as winning the Plate, is that it must be mentioned that Ron, Lesley, De, and Bev stayed until the end to support David and Barbara. True team spirit!

David, Barbara, and Bev are County players but they need to play at least two separate games to be selected to play for the County, while County points are added to unbadged winners to help them gain their County Badge. The club has the opportunity to enter both competitive games and friendly matches locally and in the past years has done very well.

All the best in Bowling

Phil Gooda (Chairman/Secretary)

Craft & Chat and Knit, Crochet and Natter



The craft groups have had a break but both Craft & Chat and Knit, Crochet and Natter will recommence meetings in April. Members will be emailed with dates and any project requirements in March. Any queries, please contact 01622 851885

Hazel Roots

Harrietsham Network



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Harrietsham Parish Council litter pick

The Parish Council litter pick will take place on Saturday April 2nd. All residents are welcome 9.30-11 starting at the village green, opposite the Premier shop. Litter pickers and sacks will be supplied, please bring gloves. It would be wonderful to see adults and children with supervision attending. We would like to thank the workers from Bedfont for their active contribution in this. For more information ring 01622 859412

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Harrietsham Network

Harrietsham in Bloom

The planters are beginning to have a nice display and it's nice to feel that Spring is on the way.

In January we were able to have our annual get together once again and our thanks goes to the staff at The Taste of Bengal Restaurant for the delicious food and excellent service. It was nice to meet other volunteers and sponsors from the group and enjoy a pleasant evening together.



Donations from collections boxes in the BP garage, Post Office and Convenience store yielded £176.42p for which we are very grateful. Our thanks go to all who donated and the shopkeepers for hosting our boxes.

A new sponsor has joined us with a generous donation to funds. We are grateful to The Securitatem Group for their support and wish them well with their business.

The group is still in desperate need for volunteers to join in, if only to look after one planter – it all helps and can be very therapeutic. Please contact our Chairman for full details of the tasks involved.

Andrew Rogers (Chair) 01622 859352

We're Back!! After 2 Missed Years!! Please Save the Date

Ploughmans, Pimms, Pickles and Plant Sale

Thursday 19 May
12.00mid-day – 3.00pm
at Faygate, Ashford Road, Lenham
In aid of the JPK Sussex Project

The JPK Project aims to provide residential and daytime care for the learning disabled, along with meaningful training and activities. With your help the Project has raised more than £2.0m, purchased the ideal site, and built and opened the Community Centre part of the Project. There is a thriving and successful tearoom and cafeteria.

We still need further large sums for the Residential accommodation. Many thanks to all my friends who support me and the Project at this event.

Ticket/Donation at £10 each available from:
Jackie Bevan (01622-859310)

Tickets are limited so please reserve them now to avoid disappointment.

N.B. Excellent bedding plants and home-made pickles and preserves will be available at reasonable prices. The same nursery as previous years will be supplying the plants to my house.

Jackie Bevan

Fish Scheme AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Fish Scheme will be held on Wednesday 16 March 2022 in the Scout Hut, Station Road

7.00pm for 7 .30pm

All Welcome

Harrietsham FISH Scheme is a voluntary organisation comprising Helping Hands and the monthly magazine Network which was set up in 1968. With the support of many volunteers, we endeavour to provide those in need with transport to doctors' surgeries and to local hospitals, and other essential journeys. The FISH Scheme committee and its volunteer helpers continue to try to ensure that all newcomers to the village are warmly welcomed. They are given a copy of the Welcome booklet, together with the current Network magazine, which contains information on services and amenities, and on clubs and societies which they can join so that, if they wish, they can quickly orientate and integrate into village life.

The Fish Scheme obviously relies on volunteers and currently is desperately in need of someone to take over as editor of the Network magazine, so if you have a little spare time and think you may be able to assist us please come along to our AGM or contact our current editor, one of our committee members, or our Lift Organisers, contact details can be found on page 3 in the Network magazine or on our website harrietshamfishscheme.org

The Fish Scheme committee give their grateful thanks to all their helpers for their continuing support and hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM.

Peter Brown - Chairman



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!VERY URGENT!

I am leaving on 31 March 2022

Network

Harrietsham's Village Magazine

Needs a new Editor NOW!

We are looking for a volunteer who would enjoy the challenge of piecing together the editorial content of our monthly village magazine, keeping all Harrietsham residents up to speed with what's been happening and what's happening soon.

Network is currently produced using Microsoft Publisher software in a Windows environment, which is very similar to Microsoft Word. So, if you have used either Word or Publisher you won't need very much training to get into the swing of things. If not, get in touch anyway, this could be your chance to learn something new. Training and support will be provided along with a laptop computer and software.

You will need about 15-20 hours each month to start with, at times to suit you, while you get the hang of things. As with all things, you will need less time as you become more experienced.

WE NEED SOMEONE TO START RIGHT NOW!

to give you a training headstart.

There is also an opportunity to learn some Photoshop techniques to help you manipulate photographs and design our front covers.

This is a great opportunity to make loads of new friends here in Harrietsham and to help the organisations and clubs move forward.

Do YOU fancy having a go?

*Call me (Jan) now for a chat on **07484 310 307** or email me:*

editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org

PLEASE DON'T DELAY - CALL TODAY!

Local Churches

Parish Church of St John the Baptist

Vicar: Revd. John Huggins
01622 850280 vicar@lvb.org.uk
(Day off: Wednesday)

Assisting priests:

Revd. Millie Hart 01622 297296
revmilliehart@lvb.org.uk

Curate: Revd. Charlotte Coles
07805092823 curate@lvb.org.uk

Readers:

Joan Drury 01622 853766
jdrury23@btinternet.com
Pamela Cuerden 01622 859442
pamela@lvb.org.uk

Benefice Office:

Sarah Hills 01622 850604
ChurchOffice@lvb.org.uk
For details of services see p.23

United Reformed Church

Week Street, Maidstone
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01622 686053
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Bearsted and Thurnham Methodist Church

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Church of the Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church

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Holydays Mass 7pm

St Peter's Roman Catholic Church

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Saturday Evening Mass 6pm
Sunday Mass 10.30am
Weekday Mass generally
Monday and Tuesday 7pm and Friday
10am
Holydays Mass 10am and 8pm

Pathways Church, Maidstone

1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at
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Wednesday and Thursday evenings in
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Church leaders: Johnny and Estelle
McCabe www.pathwayschurch.org.uk
Pathways Church is supported by
Jubilee Church, Maidstone

For all church services please see
information on page 23 or contact your
own church for up to date information.

Len Valley Benefice February 2022



Everybody is welcome

Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.

Jeremiah 6:16

Wednesday 2 March

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion Ashing Service

Sunday 6 March

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30am Ulcombe: Creative Service

11.00am Harrietsham: Family-friendly Morning Worship

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 13 March

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

Lenham: Breakfast Church will be joining the market on this day.

Sunday 20 March

8.00am Lenham: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship with baptism

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

Sunday 27th March (Mothering Sunday)

11.00am Benefice Holy Communion at Lenham

Harrietsham Network

Local Directory A-Ha

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Tutor - Amanda Thesiger Kent Adult Education amanda.thesiger@cls.education

Beaver Scouts

Leader Ann Seales 01622 859829

Bell Ringers

Captain Ken Leach 01622 851173

Captain Graham Cuthbert 01795 886365

Bible Reading Fellowship

Co-ordinator Mrs J Bevan 01622 859310

Booth and Baldwin Charity

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Brownie Guides

Brown Owl Louise Ayres 07590 037693

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PCSO John Boyd 101

Conservative Association

Faversham Office 01622 758053

Countryways Quilters

And Stitchers Pamela Gillard 01233 879507

Craft and Chat/Crafternoon/

Knit Crochet and Natter Hazel Roots 01622 851885

Cricket Club

Chairman Mr A Hubble 01622 859692

Cub Scouts

Leader Mrs A Seales 01622 859829

Explorer Scouts

Leader Mark Horlock 07789 226516

Family History

Enquiries Mr F Long 01622 850863

Flower Guild

Parish Church Mrs R Long 01622 850863

Friends of St. John the Baptist Church

Chairperson Audrey Joy 01622 850806

Gardening Society

Chairman Mr David Oversby 01622 859674

Girl Guides

Leader Andrea French 07901 667018

Golf – Bill's Round for Charity

Secretary Mr T Grimes 01622 850632

Harrietsham Academy of Ballet

Organiser Deborah Nankivell 07775 716714

Harrietsham History Society

Chairman Mr P Brown 01622 851075

Harrietsham in Bloom

Chairman Mr A Rogers 01622 859352

Harrietsham Preschool

Susan Snoad 07897 821399

Harrietsham Social Club

Secretary Jed Stone 07759 8771198/whipacres2@g.mail.com

Local Directory He-Z

Health Walks

Organiser Ms M Darby 01622 850657

Helpers

Chairman Mr T Sams 01622 859412

Karate Club

Organiser Mr Lewin Tuckwell 07812 089304

Kent Community Warden Mr M Sherwood 07977 981993

Kent Messenger

“Your Local Pages”

Village correspondent Charlotte Lingard miss_lingard@hotmail.com

Lenham and Harrietsham Youth Hub

Contact Katie at KCC 01622 755044

Liberal Democrat Assoc. Mr David Naghi 07970 626829

PTFA (Harrietsham School)

Chairman James Reed harrietshamptfa@gmail.com

Rainbows

Leader Kate Davies 07971254029/beaukate@btinternet.com

Safari Supper

Organiser Mr R Bevan 859310

Scouts

Group leader Mr E Seales 859829

Leader Mr N Still 880139

Short Mat Bowls

Chairman Phil Gooda 01622851217/p.gooda@btinternet.com

Tai Chi Class Angela Akast 07754454030/akast.a@btopenworld.com

Tennis Club

Chairman Mr A Rogers 859352

Secretary Mrs K Daking 850652

The Lenham School

Head of School Mr Chris Foreman 858267

The Poppy Appeal

Organiser Richard Cast 07787476879/richardcast@btinternet.com

Ulcombe Pre-school

Chairperson Helen Leat 07511657828/
ulcombepreschool@live.co.uk

Village Hall Paul Chandler (Chair) 07572 049480/01622 439457

Wives Group Gill Whent 01622 859426

Yoga Helen Kacperk 07762761905/helenpurpleyoga@gmail.com

Yoga (Sundays) Roberta Bursinaro 07890630517/Rbursinaro@icloud.com

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Network Magazine April 2022 deadlines

Tues 1 March 2022 12 noon advertising deadline for April Network

Tues 1 March 2022 12 noon copy deadline for April Network

March Diary

Abbreviations:

HVH = Harrietsham Village Hall
LCC = Lenham Community Centre

Wed	2	7.30pm	Wives Group	Scout Hut
Thurs	3	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Sun	6	9.30am	Yoga Flow with Roberta	HVH
Mon	7	9.45am	Purple Yoga	HVH
Mon	7	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Thurs	10	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Sat	12	12-2pm	Soup Saturday	St John's Church
Sun	13	9.30am	Yoga Flow with Roberta	HVH
Mon	14	9.45am	Purple Yoga	HVH
Mon	14	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Tues	15	7.30pm	Harrietsham Gardening Society	HVH SPRING SHOW
Wed	16	7 for 7.30pm	Fish Scheme AGM	Scout Hut, Station Rd
Thurs	17	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Sun	20	9.30am	Yoga Flow with Roberta	HVH
Mon	21	9.45am	Purple Yoga	HVH
Mon	21	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Thurs	24	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Sun	27	9.30am	Yoga Flow with Roberta	HVH
Mon	28	9.45am	Purple Yoga	HVH
Mon	28	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Wed	30	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	St John's Church
Thurs	31	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH

April Diary Advance Notice

Sat 2 April 9.30am Harrietsham Litter Pick Village Green

HARRIETSHAM SHORT MAT BOWLS



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The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Harrietsham

Registered Charity No. 1090622

After many years on the Friends of St Johns Committee, Rev. Millie Hart has decided to stand down. The committee would like to thank Millie for her support and contribution to The Friends of St Johns over many years. She hosted the committee meetings in the Rectory for many years and also allowed the Rectory garden to be used for 'The Friends' Church Fete, raising much needed funds for the upkeep of our beautiful village church. We wish Millie all the best for the future.

Soup Saturday

Everyone is welcome to come along to Harrietsham Church on Saturday, 12 March 2022 and enjoy a bowl of Helen's Hearty homemade soup with crusty bread. Tea, coffee and biscuits also available.

AGM

At our committee meeting held in February it is hoped to have decided on a date for the AGM, but it will be too late for entry in this month's Network. All members will be notified and look out for posters round the village and in the church.

100 Club Lottery Draw Results

The results of the Sixty-third Draw of the Friends of St John 100 Club, drawn on 12 February 2022 by various diners at the Soup Saturday in the presence of Chris Roots and under the supervision of Michael Gear (Independent Adjudicator).

151 numbers (a new record of entries) were included in the draw giving a prize fund of £151

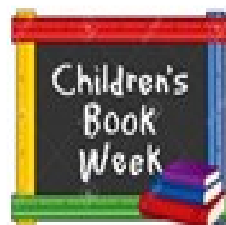
First prize £75.50 – number 33 – Robert Rusbridge
Second prize £45.30 – number 30 – Robert Rusbridge
Third prize £30.20 – number 11 – Pat King

Denise Williams - Secretary

Harrietsham CofE Primary School

As I'm writing this on a beautifully sunny winter's day, my thoughts are turning towards Spring. Harrietsham school is still facing the challenges posed by Covid but from what we, the Governors, have seen, they are definitely rising to this challenge. We've witnessed all staff pulling together while coping with absences, helping and supporting each other and taking on additional roles. As our Headteacher recently said, it was a clear demonstration of one of the school values of *Fellowship*. I'm sure everyone was grateful for the much-needed break at February half-term.

There's always a lot going on at the school and last month was no different. By the time you read this, Book Week will have taken place. It's an opportunity to promote the joy of reading and encourage the children to think about their own favourite book or comic. In the middle of the week, children are allowed to dress up as a favourite character. The staff join in too and it's always a fun time trying to guess who is who!



The week ends with a virtual 'Book at Bedtime' where the children can join in to listen to a story to finish the week before bed.

Most of the classes will have had the chance to visit the Chatham Ski Slope where they have been able to try their skiing, tobogganing and tubing. The trips were part of the whole school topic – The Winter Olympics. Who knows a future Olympian may have been born?

Reception children were practising their cycling skills, Year 6 were learning about our judicial system from a local magistrate and the whole school was rewarded with a production of "The Secret Garden".

Once again, we'll be asking parents and carers for their views of our lovely school and I can hopefully share some of the results of that survey with you soon. In our last survey (pre-Covid), we had some very encouraging responses from parents/carers which we are hoping to repeat or indeed improve upon.

The school keeps my child safe – 99% strongly agree or agree

My child feels a sense of belonging – 97% strongly agree or agree

My child is happy and enjoys school – 95% strongly agree or agree

My child is making good progress at this school – 94% strongly agree or agree

Some of the comments were just as encouraging: **'Teachers want all children to achieve'**; **'Teachers are caring and kind'**; **'They go above and beyond'**; **'High expectations of pupils'** and **'Lovely school, Village community'**.

Parent consultations are taking place on 9 and 10 March so if you are a parent or carer please make sure you have the date to see your child's teacher in your diary, as well as Red Nose Day on 18 March.

At the end of March, the younger children in Reception and Key Stage 1 will be visiting St John's Church to take part in the Easter Service which will be much welcomed this year. The children singing together always lifts the spirits and is a delight to hear.

I wish you all a happy and healthy Easter.

Jo Greasley - Vice-Chair of Governors

Lenham W I

In January we were treated to a very interesting and informative talk from Andrea Tinkler on behalf of her husband, Joe, who is Team Leader and one of three Community First Responders in this area. The First Responder Service is organised and co-ordinated by SECAM, the South East Coast Ambulance Service. When a 999 call is received asking for an ambulance a request is also sent to the First Responders in the area who can get to the patient quickly and give them a better chance of successful treatment. They spend an average of an hour with each patient and will stay with them until the paramedics arrive.

SECAM covers a wide area of South East England as far as Hampshire and have 400 First Responders in total. All these First Responders are volunteers who are trained by the NHS and spend around 10 hours per week helping patients. In the last two years Joe has worked over 1600 hours helping in a variety of emergency situations. There is an App for the smartphone called GOODSAM which can also be used to alert the nearest First Responder to the emergency. The app also shows the location of the nearest defibrillator.

I am sure that many of us had no idea that this service existed but it is good to know that there are some fantastic people out there ready to help at any time of the day or night.

At our March meeting we have a talk by Maurice Chittenden called "My Life amongst the Great Train Robbers". Looking forward to that one! Some of us are also going to Orpington to take part in an English Paper Piecing Patchwork Workshop.

We would like to welcome you to our WI meetings and if you would like to come along we meet at the Community Centre on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. We will be pleased to see you.

For further information please get in touch:

Email: rgodden@btinternet.com

Tel: 01622 858658



Hidden Figures

Friday March 11 2022

Performance begins 7.30 pm, doors open 7 pm

For more information please check out our website (www.lenhamfilmclub.org), follow us on Facebook (@LenhamFilmClub) or if you'd like to be added to our mailing list or become a member, contact us at lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com

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If you aren't already a Len Valley Health walker, why not come and join our friendly sociable group to enjoy the beautiful countryside we are so lucky to have on our doorstep.

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For more information contact the group co-ordinator, Jan Enever on 01622 851623 or email jenever@btinternet.com

Jan Enever

We are Back

As I'm writing this, we have just finished our 3 performances of Aladdin, we have had the most amazing responses from those that came to see the show and we are delighted to be able to say we are back.



We sold out on all three performances at 182 people per performance! Lenham, Harrietsham and the surrounding villages all did us proud by turning up with their singing and shouting voices ready to go.

There were all the normal gags, he's behind you, boos and hisses and cheers as you are expecting in any panto. The dreaded Covid-19 affected 2 members of a cast for the performances but luckily we had understudies in place for these two characters. Our director Sammie Cast did a great job getting us all together and putting on a superb show that really announced that HAMS Productions are back.

I would like to thank everyone involved for their tireless work in bringing together a fantastic production not forgetting all those that work behind the scenes to make every show a success, and not forgetting our wonderful audiences who joined in and made each performance so memorable.

By the time you read this we will have already started rehearsing a summer production of "Hear the Planes" a new play written especially for HAMS Productions. The story is set in Lenham and involves the romance of a pilot and a waitress from the Dog and Bear set against the backdrop of World War II. There will be some familiar characters from our 2018 play "The Boys Aren't Home", as well as a whole load of new characters specially developed for this play.

We look forward to seeing you all at future productions. If you would like to join our team we are currently seeking budding acting talent and backstage/tech individuals. You can enquire about membership of our group by contacting chair@hamsproductions.org.

David Penny - Chair

Local Mindfulness Support Group

I am trying to connect with some other like-minded people who currently practise Mindfulness and would like to create a small group for regular meetings either in my home (or if many are interested, booking a space in either Harrietsham or Lenham village hall). I live in Harrietsham and my email address is elliefstevens@outlook.com or phone number 07952 594655. This is not a business venture, but a wish to create a small community group of fellow Mindfulness followers. If anyone is interested, please get in touch! I look forward to hearing from you.

Ellie Stevens

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Dentist, Lenham	01622 858204
Dentaline (out of hours emergency treatment)	01634 890300
Saxon Warrior Pharmacy	01622 858287

Hospitals:

Maidstone ME16 9QQ	01622 729000
The Tunbridge Wells Hospital, Pembury, TN2 4QJ	01892 823535
William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, TN24 0LZ	01233 633331

Councils:

MP – Helen Whately	01622 758053
Kent County Council	03000 41 41 41
Maidstone Borough Council – all departments	01622 602000
Harrietsham Parish Council – Parish Clerk	01622 850089

Police: Emergencies only 999
Non- emergencies 101

Samaritans, 48, Grecian Street, Maidstone	01622 674444
Citizens Advice Bureau, 2, Bower Terrace, Maidstone	01622 752420
Childline	0800 11 11
KCC Children's Social Services	03000 41 11 11
KCC Adults Social Services	03000 41 61 61

Harrietsham Network

Christian Message

Stormy waters

Were this pandemic a sea, what kind of sea would it be?

Stormy? Dark? Threatening? Endless?

And if we were on a ship on that sea, what would we see?

Would we look at the waves above us-
And huddle in fear?

Would we look for the harbour lights-
Maybe finding them in masks and lockdowns,
vaccines and medicines?

I have sailed on a ship in a stormy sea.

I have watched ahead as water distorted all forward view.

One thing en-couraged me and helped me be:

The knowledge that the captain knew the way
Had sailed rougher seas

Had a map and was calm in action.

The Captain.

Our Captain.

Our God whose name is Love:

Found in Jesus

Knows the way.

Take heart and pray!

Loving God,

Lead us forward.

We don't know what lies ahead

But help us to find hope and courage

As we trust in The Captain.

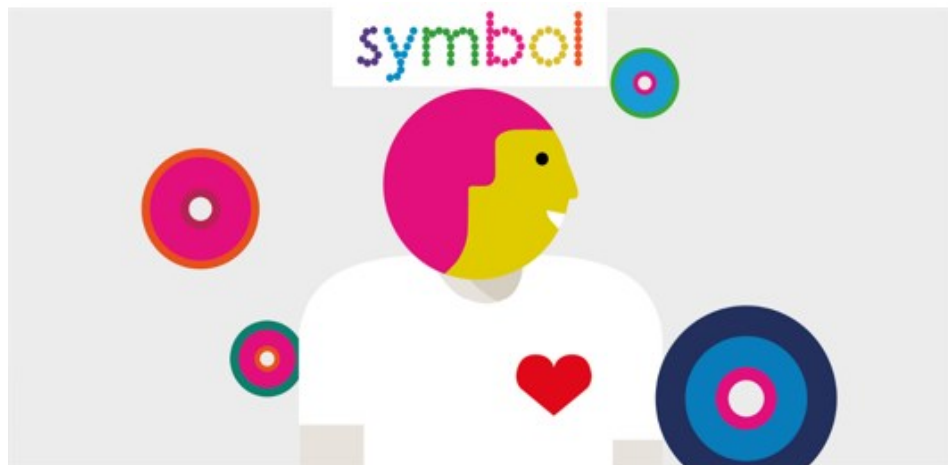
Amen

John P. Huggins - 01622 850280



The next Issue of Network will be printed and delivered subject to Covid guidelines and will also be available on our website on 1 April 2022

www.harrietshamfishscheme.org



Are you **looking for an inspiring and rewarding job within your own local community?** Have you considered supporting people with learning needs?

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If you are **compassionate, caring, and committed** to enabling others to gain skills and lead their best lives then we want to hear from you! **Get in touch now** to hear more about our **varied opportunities in the Harrietsham, Hollingbourne, Lenham, and Bearsted** areas and to discuss how your life can be enhanced by joining our team.

You can reach me, Alex Pennington, Symbol's Human Resources Manager on 01622 863 291 or email me at info@symbolconnect.co.uk.

Harrietsham Community Speedwatch Group



Due to the cold winter weather, we only carried out six one-hour sessions in December and January rather than our usual one-and-a-half hour sessions.

However, in those sessions:

- 1,205 vehicles were counted (note that vehicles in a convoy are ignored)
- 84 were driving over 35mph
- 24 were driving over 40mph
- 7 were driving over 45mph

Unbelievably, we recorded **one driver travelling at 55mph** – 83% over the speed limit. Although this driver had not been seen speeding before, they still received a communication from Kent police. In total, Kent police sent nine letters over this period to drivers caught speeding as a result of Speedwatch activities, including two drivers who had been recorded speeding before.

At the session where the 55mph speeder was discovered, there had been 165 vehicles that went past the Speedwatch operators (excluding convoys). Of these, over 25% had been travelling in such a hurry that if caught by the police, there would have been 45 prosecutions for speeding!

As Community Speedwatch volunteers are highly visible and make use of a speed detection device, it is usually clear to vehicle drivers their speed is being monitored. In fact, some motorists may even mistake the volunteers for police officers! Two months ago we said that 1 in 20 drivers on the A20 Ashford Road travel at over 10% above the speed limit and ignore our presence. This time the figure is more like 1 in 15 drivers! Just how fast do drivers speed along the road when Speedwatch is not present?

It is important for everyone to be aware that motor vehicles are potentially lethal weapons and the faster they travel, the less time you have to react to unforeseen hazards or mistakes from other drivers and the greater the impact any collision may have – making it more likely that someone will be killed or seriously injured, and it could be you!

If you have the odd hour or so to spare occasionally to help reduce speeding and improve road safety in Harrietsham, do come and join Speedwatch.

For more information, either visit www.kent.police.uk/speedwatch, email chris@roots@outlook.com or ring 01622 851885



FetcherDog

Thousands of dogs are born on the streets of Bosnia every year, condemned to face cruel acts by locals, starvation, disease and brutal and inhumane deaths. www.fetcherdog.com

Some residents may remember that we wrote about our Lovely dog, Dolly, who was able to join our family after being rescued from Bosnia via the charity Fetcher Dog. Her pregnant mum Uli had been rescued from a kill shelter in October 2020 and a few days later gave birth to 10 puppies, 8 female and 2 male. Monies were raised to keep both mum and pups alive and by May 2021 they were ready to leave Bosnia. They had all been named after a Netflix period drama having wonderful names like Penelope, Elouise, Geneviève.

It was not long before all but one of the puppies were adopted in England. In November one puppy, Benedict, was still waiting for a home along with Uli, the mother. We often looked at the Fetcher dog website to see whether they had found their forever homes.

Dolly has a wonderful calm nature and gets on well with children, other dogs, cats and has been visiting the older peoples' clubs to help those attending. We wondered whether her mum would be the same and took the decision to adopt her. She arrived at the end of November and has that same disposition although she is almost twice the size, giving her the name Uli Bear, and looks very different to Dolly dog. Benedict the last of the puppies was also adopted that same week.

We are so lucky to have two beautiful loving dogs and we can't thank those at Fetcher Dog enough.

Please check out their website or ring for more information <https://www.fetcherdog.com/>



Photos of Dolly, Uli and their 22 year old cat Millie supplied by Tom and Janetta Sams



Harrietsham Network

Borough Council Corner

Pandemic.

Firstly we wanted to say a big thank you for all those involved in the vaccination process. It was a marvellous effort organised on behalf of our community. It is so appreciated.

We hope that people are managing through this difficult period of transition as the pandemic evolves and the way we manage this new norm is tested. We have raised our concerns about how this is being done both privately and publicly and have encouraged councillors to set an example which serves to protect themselves and also staff members. We hope people continue to be vigilant and socially responsible and understanding of others. We sincerely hope that over the next few months we may all meet up and enjoy the Spring and the community social events that are planned with greater confidence knowing that the vast majority of people have done the right thing, having taken part in the vaccination process. We hope that the sacrifices so many have made will have been worthwhile.

Local Plan Review

This was concluded in mid-December. There were many submissions by residents about the two housing proposals within the village. Thanks to all those who responded. Our Parish Council submitted a full and concise response to represent our community, covering planning concerns that have been raised by parishioners. There was also a significant response locally to MBC's proposal to continue with the Heathlands proposal, which will affect Harrietsham significantly. The Save Our Heath Lands (SOHL group) has been absolutely fantastic, the amount of work undertaken by volunteers from the group has been considerable.

We recently attended an event in Faversham with SOHL members to express a solidarity with the housing proposals in their area along with those suffering the same issues in Canterbury and Capel

Highways and other reported matters

it seems a good time to start looking once again at highway problems. As usual the list include potholes, street lights, dirty bollards (there are many) and street name plates. Nearly all get reported to Kent County Council (KCC) via the 'report a fault' online form or in regard to street nameplates via Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) on 01622 602162. We also copy in our Harrietsham Parish Clerk, Amanda, to hopefully ensure there is minimal duplication, to save time. Sadly we have also had to report dead animals. A fox in Lenham can be reported to MBC to collect, yet strangely, anything "bigger than a badger" must be reported to KCC on their 'report a fault' line. Litter is also an on-going problem. Unfortunately it is often in the same areas. This is reported online to MBC and we ask that a team pick an area when needed. Fly tipping is reported in the same way to MBC. If you have any of the above issues please ring/ email us. Thank you

Tom & Janetta Sams Borough Councillors Harrietsham & Lenham
01622 859412 tomsamscllr7@gmail.com

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