

# Hilltop News

An HCA (Canterbury) Community Service publication

Registered Charity No 1096781

May 2015

Issue 2015 / 2

## Inside this issue

- Page 2 Diary of Events  
Hall charges  
Quiz Night  
Summer Barbeque  
Page 3 Joan's Nature notes  
Recent events  
Page 4 Reports  
Parish Council &  
Chair of Trustees.  
Lottery results

## Hilltop Contacts

### Hilltop News editor

Trisha Cheeseworth  
761642

[trishainkent@aol.com](mailto:trishainkent@aol.com)

### Chairman of Trustees

Sarah Guest 765703

[chairman@hilltopca.co.uk](mailto:chairman@hilltopca.co.uk)

### Treasurer

Richard Armishaw

[treasurer@hilltopca.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@hilltopca.co.uk)

### Hall Booking

Terry Maple 761329

4 New House Close

[terry.maple@hilltopca.co.uk](mailto:terry.maple@hilltopca.co.uk)

### Trustees

Jan Armishaw

Richard Armishaw

Roger Cheeseworth

Trisha Cheeseworth

Sarah Guest

Terry Maple

Dave Sackett

John Richardson

Bonny Tillotson

## EASTER FAIR

The Easter Fair was held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March at the Community Hall. The day was mostly overcast and blustery, but the weather held out until "packing up" time, when it really got a bit wild and started to rain,

but it did not matter then. LUCKY US!

The Hall looked good, bright and cheerful with the Stallholders sporting their Easter Hats [and smiles], which added to the overall effect. We had our usual delightfully laid out Easter themed Tombola, with great prizes – always popular! Quite a work of art, display wise. Our Cake Stall surpassed itself, absolutely fabulous. There were large cakes, small cakes, simnel cakes, slab cakes, sliced cakes, buns scones, sausage rolls, etc., etc. Refreshments, as always were in demand and being next to the Cake Stall, made for "a good marriage". The Handicraft / Gift

Stall were loaded with handmade original items from toys and cards to bags and novelties. Pick an envelope for the Teddy was won by Terry Maple. There was also a Lucky Dip for Adults and Children with very good quality prizes, a fact mentioned by several people. The Raffle was as popular as ever with many attractive donated prizes. 1<sup>st</sup> prize: The Grocery Hamper was won by Pam Woods. The Bottle Stall, a new idea for this year was very popular indeed. It was created by a

generous donation of a collection of bottles from a member of the Community, added a few more, also good show. Also there was a Spring-like display of containers, together porating the garden bright, cheerful stall and very busy. In addition to all these items, we held the Easter Bonnet / Hat Competition for adults and children. The creations were really pretty, colourful and decorative, with great imagination used. The judges were Cheryl Ives and Anita Rubins, who undertook their duties very fairly. The winners were:-Adults. Christine Bates, Chris Silk and Barbara Markham. Children. Holly Gold sack, Kira Hardaker, Emilia Gordon and Adam Matthews.

This competition is good fun and we would love more children and grown-ups to take part. How about it? Note in your diary for next year, perhaps!! Finally, this report cannot end without the GRAND TOTAL.

### A record, the best ever Easter Fair, raising £700 profit.

Thank you so much to all the people of the Community who gave their time, goods and energy, working hard putting the Fair together.

Also very importantly, the Community, for supporting the event and spending so generously. This sum of money will help improve the facilities of YOUR Local Community Hall.

THANK YOU ALL.

Carole Davis.







Joan contacted me recently to say that as she has been unwell she did not feel able to continue with the Nature Notes for the newsletter. She was very apologetic not wanting to let us down. Ever since I started editing the newsletter she has been a stalwart contributor, always getting her copy to me for the quarterly issue, never complaining when I had to clip out some of the content to squeeze in a few more of the local events. For the newer members of our community who may not know Joan, she is a lovely person who has made a huge contribution to the development of our community. Always cheerful, seeing her cup as 'half full' even when experiencing very difficult circumstances. I have tried to think of the best way to show how much her delightful notes have been appreciated over the years, along with our gratitude for her continued involvement in supporting the hall, most recently the notice board to display event photographs. I decided to reprint a timeless copy of notes from of her own past 'gems' and a collage of her amongst us at events and celebrations together with some of the flowers and wildlife that she so loved to write about.

In January when the snowdrops were just coming out Joan was delighted to find two tulips emerging at the same time!! From 2012: During May when we had that short heat wave we



drove through all the places I was familiar with as a teenager. I particularly wanted to see if the cowslip bank still existed on the road between Stelling Minnis and Duckpit Lane, and was pleased to see that they are still there and in several fields the top of the banks were also full of them. We drove along the road bordering West Wood between Six Mile Service Station and Mockbeggar pond and the verges on both sides were covered with more primroses than I ever remember, so things are looking



too early and the hedges of the wild flowers massed garlic. You could smell it don't remember ever seeing everything flourishing in are cut just when the cow hawthorn in bloom above used to look spectacular. opposite and the children come home from school full of squashed wild strawberries to be put in a sandwich with sugar. some places where they still exist, but on this rat run the car I king banks must be kept tidy. Some years ago some Alexander appeared bank opposite and that flowers earlier than cow parsley and so is taking over, I know there is a lot near the coast but it is now spread- The name for cow parsley in Scotland is Queen Anne's lace, much propriate! There are so many young birds flocking round the feeders ing to be fed at the same time that it is hard to identify them all. They will not keep still. Every time the adult moves it is followed by the young - they look so harassed. The spotted woodpecker that came

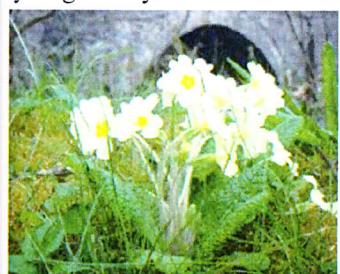


ter drove me down hoping to see hare- had been cut. on the banks was through the car that when I was a May I do hate it parsley is flower- the little single



up. My daugh- Sandy Lane bells, but it was Among the rest lots of wild window. I child. With when the banks ing. With the track roads

When we moved here there were sweet violets on the bank



larly has decided that the nuts in my not so good as elsewhere, and sadly the goldfinches that were coming and going for most of the day so often that I thought they must be feeding young in a nest disappeared one day and never came back, and apart from the odd one or two visits I have not seen many at all. It was so sudden that I think someone must have been cutting the hedge and taken the nest out by accident A close neighbour rang to say there was a kestrel circling the gardens and the next day a young hawk flew briefly on to the fence in our garden before leaving. Was the larger one a parent baby sitting? The banks in New House Lane are now being planted with primroses in several places and look lovely. It was



w o u l d with fists I know of and the on the s l o w l y ing inland. more ap- all shout- s i m p l y respective quite regu- garden are

great this year to see that the ground by the phone box has been planted with primroses to join those planted by the children for the millennium along the footpath and all private banks. Almost everyone living in the upper part of Iffin Lane has seen the wild flower bank which was started some years ago with a few cowslips and now contains primroses and bluebells as well. One of the cowslips has seeded in my garden. Thanks a lot.—And many thanks to you Joan for all your observation of the wonders of nature around us at the Hilltop Community.



## From your Parish Council



Councillor  
Graham Page

Chairman TWPC

01227 462508



Parish Clerk  
Roger Cheeseworth

01227 761642

## From HCA Trustees



Chairman  
Sarah Guest

01227 765703

Concerning the potential development in Cockering Road outlined by Quinns in November 2014, there has not been a second public meeting as Quinns have failed thus far to respond to some specific questions that have been raised. When there are any further developments I will let you know.

Following a site meeting between members of the Parish Council and Kent Highways recently concerning the condition of a number of roads in the area, a stretch of Hollow Lane was repaired the very next night, which was a great result for the Parish Council!

Brett Group have kindly sponsored our website for another year, for which the Parish Council are extremely grateful. A couple of dates for your diaries - The Friends of Hambrook Marshes Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday 8th May 2015 at 7.30pm at the Ashford Road Community Association hall. There will be an illustrated talk by the secretary, Michael Walter concentrating on the sites' wildlife.

Thanington Without Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th May 2015 at 7.30pm at Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre. The guest speaker will be Julie Hardy of Chalkhill Farm Youth Activities, which is a small not-for-profit organisation that has been running projects for young disadvantaged people since February 2007. The aim is to help disadvantaged people through horticulture, agriculture, wildlife, equestrian and animal related activities or country pursuits.

The Parish Council also has elections on 7<sup>th</sup> May but unlike the country is far less controversial and our two Councillors have been re-elected unopposed and the declaration has been placed on the Notice Board at entrance to New House Close. Our two councillors Cllr Terry Maple (New House Close) and Cllr Terry Davies (Iffin Lane) both get a councillor allowance from the Parish Council, so if you think of anything we need in our area let them know.

### THANINGTON WITHOUT (CIVIL) PARISH COUNCIL

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

to be held at  
Thanington Resource Centre  
Thanington Road  
Thanington Without  
on

TUESDAY, May 19th 2015  
at 7:30 P.M.

### GUEST SPEAKER

Julie Hardy  
Chalk hill Farm  
Youth Activities

ALL LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE WEL-  
COME  
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

Editor—Trisha Cheeseworth  
01227 761642

Hello all,

Spring has come round once again and it is lovely to see the blossom and spring flowers. For those of you who managed to join us, a big Thank You for attending the AGM. I am really sorry I was not able to be there, it was due to totally unavoidable circumstances.

Please join me in welcoming Bonnie our new Trustee.

Our Easter fair was a great success and the effort by Carole and her team was tremendous, it was so nice to see a new generation of children taking part becoming involved in Hilltop. This really does boost our efforts to secure and renovate our hall.

Larkey valley wood is stunning with all the bluebells at the moment and many of you may know the area behind the wood that has many caravans and waste on site.

The area on the Hilltop side of the byway has been sold and a planning application has been submitted. Detailed plans can be found on the CCC planning web-site **Application No. CA/15/00683/**

A development is planned with 10 dwellings. The byway will therefore presumably become restored through to St Augustine's and a 'new site access to be created off Cockering Road returning the car park to north to its former use' there are many very detailed documents available to public view, please take the time to have a look.

Finally, I look forward to seeing you all at our activities through the summer, and I thank you for your continued support.



After 10 years Sarah & Graham Loudon triumph at the hilltop Quiz pictured here with their neighbours, Claire and Graham Gent. A great evening with lots of laughter look out for the dates Beer & Brains and the Wine & wisdom all proceeds going towards the Hall restoration.

[100club@hilltopca.co.uk](mailto:100club@hilltopca.co.uk)

## 100 Club Winners November, December, January

Prize	February	March	April
£50	R.Cheeseworth	K.Homersham	J.Spon
£30	R.Collins	J.Armishaw	J.Cross
£20	C.Firth	R.Beaty	G.Morgan
£10	G.Strandvick	G.Riordam	R&P.Collins