

Hilltop News

An HCA (Canterbury) Community Service publication

Registered Charity No 1096781

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Chairman's Message

Good day to you all.

I trust that your summer has been a good one. It always amazes me how quickly they seem to pass nowadays - I'm sure it's not just an age thing is it? Since my report in the last Hilltop News quite a bit has been happening.

There was an excellent summer family barbecue with great live music entertainment, a bouncy castle to keep the little ones happy and a barrel of real ale to quench the thirst of the rest of us in the warm sunshine and into the evening. The food was delicious, with all the meat once again being supplied by Laurie Wakehams butchers of Bridge. This is a great event as always and gets more and more popular each year. Make a note to try your best to come along and join us next year for a really good afternoon and evening. During September we held one of our Beer 'n Brains quiz evenings: For those of you who haven't been to this quiz before, it was created as a fun alternative to the more traditional quizzes. Although very quiet on tables being entered this time round (where were you all this time?), it was once again a fun evening with lots of laughter and merriment. I am writing this report before the next two planned events in October, which by the time this Hilltop News has been published will both have taken place. I hope they will have both gone well as always: During October there is the Harvest Supper evening; A Fish 'n Chip Supper and quiz evening and the Awards Ceremony for our Community Photograph competition. In November we have a Bingo evening, a Wine and Wisdom Quiz evening and of course our magnificent Christmas Fair. Please do look out for the notices, buy a ticket and come along to join us - We will be glad to see you there.

Finally: We are on a recruitment drive for new Main Committee members and potentially a couple of Charity Commission Trustee members. If you would like to become involved and particularly if you have any skills or experience you can bring please consider coming and joining us and becoming part of the team. Please speak to any of the Trustees, any of the Committee members or just come along to one of our Main Committee meetings which are open to all residents. Please see the hall diary (posted in the notice board outside the hall) for dates and times. As you know 'Hilltop community Association' (HCA) is a registered charity. The Charity commission rules state that trustees are the people who lead the charity and decide how it is run. With co-trustees, we aim to work in the best interests of the charity to make balanced and adequately informed decisions, thinking about the long term as well as the short term effects on the community and charity. 'Being a trustee means making decisions that will impact on people's lives'. In essence HCA aims to make a difference in the local community, enabling groups and individuals to have a central meeting place that is fit for purpose and well managed. Trustees use their skills and experience to support the charity, helping HCA achieve the aims set out in our constitution. In addition

planning for the future, so our children can grow up in a community that get to know each other and belong. We have many new families to Hilltop which is lovely, some 15 years ago that was me! That is when I became involved and got to meet other families and the community. When my children were younger we developed mums groups, play groups and long lasting friendships have developed. Please have a look at the web link below if you would like to join HCA we meet 6 times a year and appreciate that all our lives are busy so will not expect huge amounts of extra work, but I hope like us you can help us maintain the friendly and thoughtful community we are lucky enough to live in. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/charity-trustee-whats-involved> Thank you all. Enjoy being part of our Community. Please come along to the events. Please become involved. On a last note; don't forget that the hall is yours. It is available for hire for any parties or private events you may wish to run. For details regarding availability or rates just get in touch with our Booking Secretary Terry Maple on 01227 761329, or call at 4 New House Close Thanks - See you soon Sarah

"Sliproad dream set to become a reality"

Kentish Gazette Thursday October 22nd 2015. "Motorists facing daily misery on Canterbury's congested streets have spent years waiting for this moment"

DREAM OR NIGHTMARE ?

Dear all,

You may by now have seen this weeks Gazette. The first I knew of this offer was reading the paper! I quizzed Colin Carmichael on this and he claims the first he knew of it was when the Gazette rang him for a quote. Of course there have been plans for a 4th slip for some time. However, my view has always been that there needs to be a clear plan on how to handle the ensuing traffic. If the slip was just to feed into Wincheap, traffic would just back up into the A2 which would be dangerous and the effect on Wincheap residents would be intolerable. Anyway, all this would have to be sorted out with KCC and Highways England.

Thus the slip road requires all the road improvement measures to be put in place - the Wincheap relief road, the new bridge under the railway and a gyratory traffic scheme joining the ring road. It would also mean a new P&R as the slip road would go through the existing one. It would need to be a much bigger P&R to take traffic from the London direction

A new slip road would trigger the need to do all these things and so there needs to be a fully comprehensive approach. Indeed were the Thanington Park scheme to go ahead, the relief road and gyratory elements would in my view be needed before the slip road.

All the consultation to date has excluded any meaningful discussion about the slip road and indeed avoided traffic and congestion issues. That has been one of the prime objections raised by Hilltop, parish council, residents etc.

Frankly I don't know where this leaves the present planning application or the consultation carried out thus far. I did not go to the cricket club but it strikes me that a the very least re-consultation is needed. I will email the planning officer to ask him where this application now stands.

Cllr Nick Eden-Green
Wincheap Ward
Canterbury City Council



Diary of Events

Weekly Events:

Dance rehearsal group

Tuesday 19:30

Pilates

Monday 18:00

Monthly Events:

Craft & Chat afternoon

Second Tuesday of month

14.00 all welcome

Coffee Morning

Last Thursday of month

10:30 just come along

Wellness Clinic

Wed Nov 11th 10.00 & 19.30

Wed Dec 9th 10:00 & 19:30

Coming Events:

HCA Main Committee

Wed Nov 18th 19:30

Trustees meeting

Wed Nov 18th 20:00

Parish Council Meeting

Tue Sep 1st from 19:30

Church Services

Hall Evening Service

Sun Sep 6th at 18:00

Harvest Celebration Service

Sun Oct 4th at 18:00

Wine & Wisdom

Sat Nov 21st 19:30

Christmas Fair

Sat Nov 28th

Hilltop News deadline

Sat 23rd January 2015

To Trisha

To book the hall just contact Terry
Maple on 01227 761329

Hall Hire Charges

Private Parties and Functions:

HCA Residents: £10:00 per hour

Non-Residents: £12:50 per hour

Security and damage Deposit £20:00
CASH

Returned after 7 days if no damage,
cleaning required etc.

Business / Exhibition Uses: Details on
Hire Charges available on application.

The editor would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this publication, with reports, pictures and stories. I will try to fit in all contributions but depending on the space some may have to wait until I can find a space. You can email copy to me at anytime in the quarter but please ensure it gets to me by the deadline date above!!

Harvest Supper 5 October 2015

All the hard work by the organising team was well rewarded by raising a profit of £446.26 for the HCA. The best year ever! To provide comfortable seating and to preserve the ambiance, we limited the number attending to 48. The substantial 2 course supper was well received and made possible by the fantastic efforts of the team. People still found plenty of money to spend on the raffle and the competitive, and at times hilarious, auction. Hopefully, the photographs give the readers a view of the beautiful harvest display assembled as usual by Tracey Smith. What the reader will not see is the trays of bagged up cooking and eating apples underneath the display. The auctioneer (Chris Ives) was pleasantly surprised to see only a couple of boxes of cooking apples left over. Terry and Carole Davis ensured that these were passed on to 'Lord Whisky'. Chris Ives as the organiser wishes to thank his team of volunteers: Carol and Chris Silk; Carole and Terry Davis; Christine Bates; Betty Wallis; June and Julie Robins; Maureen and Bill Hillman; Tracey Smith; Judy Butler; Margaret Burch; Jackie Bush; Pauline Collins and, not forgetting, Cheryl Ives. Thanks also go to: Sarah Guest (pork); Lower Hardres Farm Shop (vegetable hamper); Iffin Meadows Farm (eating apples); Tracey Smith (floral displays); 'Orchard View' (cooking apples); Dave Sackett (plants); Marilyn and Geoff Porter (logs); Anita Rubens (Haywain with cakes).

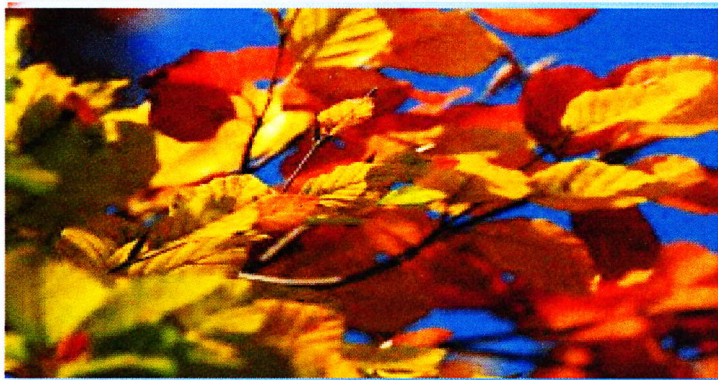


After 24 years, Chris is standing down from organising this successful event. Yes, we are looking for someone to take over the role. Could that someone be you? We hope so!

FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

On Saturday the 17th 42 of us sat in the hall with anticipation of our fish and chips.. They arrived very promptly and they were piping hot. We also enjoyed Jackie's mushy peas. Our quiz master Colin Sherwood was excellent, the questions being a good balance of easy and harder. We had a raffle and the total raised from the evening was £219. It was a happy fun evening. Thank you !





DELIGHTS OF AUTUMN

Sunlight catches the rich red Hawthorn berries and the juicy blackberries. The oak leaves turning a bright golden yellow. The seeds of Traveller's Joy creep along the hedgerow trailing like a feathered spider's web. The prickly fruits of Sweet Chestnut are already opening,



some ready to roast others still enclosed in their hedgehog home. Shiny red Rose hips brighten the hedgerow along with the softer scarlet berries of Black Bryony not to be eaten. Less frequent in the hedgerow is the poisonous startling Spindle with its distinctive bright coral pink berries, orange seeds and pinkish red leaves one of Nature's most beautiful colour clashes.



More camouflaged are the Sloe fruits with their smoky purple mauve skins from which delicious Sloe gin can be made, also a more sober jam! Golden Aspen and Birch leaves are quivering in the wind while the green gradually browning beech leaves are hanging on for a few more weeks. Jan



Dear Ms Martin,
We hope you enjoyed catching up over coffee and cake as much as we did. Who knew that raising money for a great cause could be so delicious?

Thanks to you and your friends, this year's Coffee Morning has been the scrummiest yet.

The £800.00 you raised will make a real difference to the lives of people facing cancer, offering them vital support, at one of the toughest times in their lives.

Together we're making sure that no one has to face cancer alone, so thanks again for making such a difference.

K Blaize Smith

Kath Blaize-Smith
Head Coffee Lady

Many thanks everybody!

Betty Martin would like to thank the villagers who kindly donated to her fund-raising Coffee & Cake morning in the Village Hall on Friday 18th September. **£700.00** was raised on the day, this support from the community was very much appreciated as the attached letter indicates.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2015

Hilltop Community Hall,
New House Lane
Saturday 28th November
11am to 1pm

Father Christmas is coming, so please bring the children to have their photo taken and receive a present.

His approximate time of arrival will be
11-15 to 11-30 until 1pm.

Raffle with £100 Hamper, £100 Cash, £50 M and S Voucher,

Champagne and many other lovely prizes.

Also Super Tombola, Cake Stall, Fancy Goods, Bottle Stall, Lucky Dip for Adults and Children and as usual Refreshments will be on sale.

Tracey will be there selling and taking orders for her beautiful Christmas Wreaths.
Please come along and make it a delightful event for everyone to enjoy.



By the Way..... Weather report from Hilary Spon

1 Iffin Cottages Weather Records - July to September 2015

Month	Max. temp. °C	Mean (Av.) Max. °C	Min. temp. °C	Mean Min. °C	No. of days of rain	Max. rain in 1 day in mm.	Total rain in month in mm.
July	34.7	22.9	7.7	13.3	8	31.7	56.5
August	29.2	21.9	10.3	13.9	13	46.6	131.4
September	20.7	14.9	6.2	8.8	7	21.1	83.7
Total rain for 3 months							271.6

Summary: July - hottest day was 24 July (34.7°C)

August - wettest day was 13 August (46.6 mm)

September - longest period without rain (11 days from 1 - 11 September)

The rain total of 271.6 mm. (approx. 10.7" in old money!) is almost double that of the same time last year.





Councillor
Graham Page
Chairman TWPC
07506 467298

As many of you will be aware, a planning application was submitted during the summer in respect of "New Thanington", later to become "Thanington Park" - ref CA/15/01479/OUT

Thanington Without Parish Council strongly objects to the proposal to break up the parish. It is a very vibrant council and already carries out much of the work CCC used to do. This application would ask for the area to be taken over by the city council.

The effect on traffic in Wincheap would be highly negative, particularly taking into account the main traffic proposals. It is overloaded at peak times already, and this proposal would seem to take it much higher still. This proposal has completely ignored the issue. Also it is quite evident that the traffic levels in Hollow Lane, Merton Lane, New House Lane and Iffin lane have increased significantly as traffic tries to avoid Wincheap.

What will happen if this scheme goes ahead? We consider there is no need for another community Centre. We already have ARCA, Thanington Neighborhood Resource Centre, St Nicholas Church Hall and Hilltop Community Hall - all very successful. The playing fields at TNRC are supported by KCC, CCC and the Parish Council. Who would do the ground care on the new playing fields?

It is quite clear that new jobs and commercial benefits cannot be delivered by a developer. Business delivers that, and is completely outside the control of the developer to manage that. So we have to ask, is a new business park really viable? Any new school needs to be funded by the local authority, and KCC has not said they will do that in respect of this application. As this is entirely dependent on outside agencies being willing to fund, this school will probably never happen!

With the funding of the 4th slip road being considerable, will there be any money left to provide other facilities promised in the final reckoning? Will the proposed park and ride scheme mentioned in the application come about, given that the original facility could remain, and that could prove an issue with attracting a contract to run this facility. It is interesting to note that only 12 local people turned up at the St Laurence Cricket Ground exhibition, due almost entirely to poor local publicity for the event earlier in the year. Even the Parish Council were not afforded the courtesy of an invitation!

The proposed new hospice for the Pilgrims Hospice could be £4 to £5 million - how are the funds going to be available to support this proposal? What will happen if these facilities cannot be delivered by the developer?

The likelihood is that there will be many more houses than shown. This has happened many times in the past with developments of this scale.

The plan shows a green space between the development and New House lane - will this be given to the Parish Council to improve the area? Will the promised level of affordable homes materialize? Admittedly there is a need for these, but there is also a history of developers not delivering their promises, arguing financial constraints. We consider that building on green field, grade 1 agricultural land should be the last resort - planning protocol requires other forms of land to be used for first. Is there really a need for these additional houses on this land?

As soon as any further news comes up on this subject, I will let you know in the next available newsletter.

Graham Page



HILLTOP PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2015

On Saturday 24th October we had an Awards Tea and Cake afternoon. Keen amateur photographer Lyn Gregory of New House Lane, was announced the winner of the Competition, having submitted a superb photograph entitled, "Tranquil Tide - Whitstable". Lyn also received 2 Highly Commended and 1 Commended for some of her other entries. The Judges, Ollie Knight, Julian Hart and Cheryl Ives were given a very difficult task trying to pick out a winner from such high standard and imposing entries.

2nd place was won by Jan Armishaw of New House Close for her excellent photograph entitled "Swordfish Reflection". Jan also received Commendation for another photograph she entered.

3rd place was won by Richard Armishaw of New House Close for

his delightful entry entitled "Duck House Maybe?". Richard also received Highly Commended for another entry.

There were Highly Commended and Commended Certificates presented to several people for such lovely quality entries. **Well done everyone!**

Note: - We had many more entries this year which we were very excited about and therefore, we will run the Competition again in 2016. Hope that you will all submit photographs again next year, along with perhaps some more new entrants.

HILLTOP JUNIOR PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2015

We have our first winner of the above Competition, Daniel Gent of New House Lane. Daniel entered several photographs and his winning entry was "Sitting Pretty". It was a superb effort, resulting in a lovely photograph. **Well done Daniel!** Hopefully Daniel will enter again next year and that more children will also enter.

A big thank you goes to all the Competitors, Judges and Helpers on the Awards afternoon, for all the hard work and support to make this a successful event and enable it to continue next year. A special mention is for Cheryl, for her taking the time to explain the intricate system that was used to judge the entries. We would like to also thank our anonymous donor who so kindly provided the winning prizes again. Photographs are shown in the Community Hall until the New Year.

Thank you once again everyone. A total profit of £207 was raised, combining competition entry fees and the Awards afternoon proceeds. Carole Davis [Organiser]



100 Club Winners May, June, July 100club@hilltopca.co.uk

Prize	August	September	October
£50	Joan Cross	Paul Sharratt	
£30	Pam Wood	T Cheeseworth	
£20	Gareth Morgan	J Cornish	
£10	M Richards	Chris Silk	