



Hilltop News

An HCA (Canterbury) Community Service publication

Registered Charity No 1096781

January 2016

Issue 2016 / 1

Inside this issue

Page 2 Diary of Events
Hall charges

Page 3 Events & adverts
Page 4 Reports
Parish Council

Lottery results

Hilltop Contacts

Hilltop News editor
Trisha Cheeseworth
761642

Chairman of Trustees
Sarah Guest 765703
chairman@hilltopca.co.uk

Treasurer
Richard Armishaw
treasurer@hilltopca.co.uk

Hall Booking
Terry Maple 761329
4 New House Close
terry.maple@hilltopca.co.uk

Trustees
Jan Armishaw
Richard Armishaw
Trisha Cheeseworth
Roger Cheeseworth
Sarah Guest
Terry Maple
Dave Sackett
John Richardson
Bonny Tillotson

Editor—
Trisha Cheeseworth
01227 761642
trishaint@bt.com

A plea for knitting wool

This is a plea for knitting wool any type or colour welcome. It is for a retired nurse who makes and sells them for Demelza House Children's Hospice. So please turn out those cupboards and drawers! Wool can be collected or left at **Moira Gower's** house, 26 New House Close; tel: 760906 mobile 07756845891 or michaeland-moira@gmail.com



Parish Clerk
Roger Cheeseworth
01227 761642



Cllr Robert Thomas

Parish Council look at a Judicial Review Meeting on 8th February - Come and have your say

The Parish Council was hoping to announce the launch of its taxi service in this issue of the Hilltop News, but we have had to put it off as our time and money may be needed to mount a Judicial review against the City Council. We have had solicitors look at the case and feel we have a chance of winning which we feel we must take on your behalf, a decision will be made at the next Parish Council meeting. Below is a copy of an email from Cllr Robert Thomas to the Parish Council which shows the City Council is prepared to go ahead whatever the consequences.

"With regards to greenfield and brownfield sites as you'll know we were asked by the Planning Inspector to reassess Thanington specifically which is what we've had to do. However, the brownfield sites being suitable for development that you mention are there examples you can cite? I know many people were not happy with car parks being such examples included within this Local Plan!

With regards to the judicial review I'm sure our officers will, and must, do their utmost to ensure we comply with due process. That said any review is at the behest of those pursuing the action I'd have thought?

Finally with regards to the potential air pollution issues you're absolutely correct. It may well be that CCC could be directly fined for failing to meet limits imposed by future deadlines. If only it were an easy problem to solve! The state has to play its part but so too the private individual. KCC has endorsed our draft transport strategy which includes the additional 200 park places at Wincheap and dedicated bus routes for Sturry and South Canterbury. That said there's always a lot more than can be done and if you have particular suggestions then I know that the area member panels would only be too happy to explore these as the first point of discussion. As Vice Chair of the Rural Area Advisory Committee we insist that all parishes are invited to our meetings and so in that respect you have a couple of bites at the cherry (what with Wincheap Ward being within Canterbury Area Member Panel).

They have also made basic errors in trying to include land belonging to Milton Manor within their plans and this was my email about this. "The Parish Council would like to complain about the lack of proper attention to essential detail on the side of the promoters of this scheme. In detail you are using land which belongs to Milton Manor garden within part of your Local Plan Policy SP3. I refer to H.M. Land Registry Title Nr. K718849. The Parish Council is concerned that this is being rushed through without due diligence and that this show a severe lack of judgment on your part."

Thank you for your email. Ian has asked that I write to you to clarify the matter.



The site boundary shown in PA/003 reflects the information that was provided to us by the agent when it was submitted for consideration as part of the Council's 'Call for Sites'. We are aware there is an error with the site boundary on the land north of Cockering Road (east of Milton Manor) and have written to the developer's agent asking them to address this. Please note that the Council is required to issue the Inspector with a list of modifications that it is seeking to make to its published documentation, ahead of Stage 2 of the Local Plan Examination. At this point, we can amend the site boundary to exclude this parcel of land, prior to the finalisation of the emerging local plan. Timothy Bailey Planning Policy Officer, Canterbury City Council. Then there are the traffic issues which we all know are going to be a nightmare but the City Council have suggested that all the new residents will walk into town. Which will probably be faster than trying to drive along Wincheap. (See back for Nick Eden-Green's comments'.)

100 Club Winners Information will be on www.hilltopca.co.uk/100/winners.htm

Quinn
Estates

Diary of Events

Weekly Events:

Pilates

Monday 18:00

Dance rehearsal group

Tuesday 19:30

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 Feb 10th 10.00 & 19.30
Wed Mar 9th 10:00 & 19:30
Wed Apr 13th 10:00 & 19:30

Coming Events:

Trustees meeting

Wed Feb 17th 19:00
Wed Mar 16th 19:00
Wed Apr 20th 19:00

HCA Main Committee

Wed Mar 16th 20:00-21:30

HCA AGM

Wed April 6th 19:30-21:30

Church Services

Hall Evening Service

Sun April 3rd at 18:00

Easter Fair

Sat Apr 9th

Wine & Wisdom

Sat April 16th 19:30

Hilltop News deadline

Sat 23rd April 2016
To Trisha

To book the hall just contact Terry

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!!

CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2015.

The above was held on Saturday 28th November at the Community Hall. It was fortunately a dry day despite heavy rain being forecast, well at least until we were on our way home - good timing! The Hall looked bright and cheerful with the stalls looking festive and colourful. As always, the Raffle was impressive together with a brilliant Tombola. Cake Stall was supplied by lots of lovely people in the Community and the Refreshment ladies were really kept on their toes. There was a Bottle Stall, a Lucky Dip for Adults and Children which sold out, Fancy Goods, Christmas Wreaths to order and a Christmas Tree Puzzle to try your luck. However, all this was as well as our lovely visit from Father Christmas, who popped in from Lapland, to rest the Reindeer and see our children in his Grotto. The children received a gift and had their photograph taken, with parental permission of course. We were very lucky as Father Christmas stayed until the end of the Fayre, when he left to see some other Boys and Girls, to collect their orders for Christmas



"MAGIC!"



We had a marvellous attendance of people, which was so pleasing as was the new faces that came and more children too, a lovely atmosphere. The Grand Total was £775 profit, which will be added to the funds for the Hall Refurbishment. Thank you one and all for attending, selling, furniture shifting, putting up decorations, delivering flyers and posters, collecting goods - in fact, just a GREAT BIG THANK YOU, ALL ROUND. A Happy, Healthy New Year to you ALL, Carole Davis.

The first three prize winners of the Hilltop Christmas Draw were:-

1st Prize, £100 Hamper: Geoff Porter.

2nd Prize, £100 Cash: Hilary Spon.

3rd Prize, £50 M & S Voucher: Jo Dawkins.

Plus 24 other donated prizes.

This was drawn on the 28th November 2015 at the Christmas Fayre.



The Crafty Girls enjoy their outing for Christmas lunch at The Lord Whiskey Restaurant in December



Spring Fair

At HILLTOP COMMUNITY HALL
NEW HOUSE LANE

SATURDAY 3rd April 2016, 11am to 1pm

STALLS, Tombola, Raffle, Cakes, Plants, Handicrafts
and Refreshments

COMPETITIONS, Spring Bonnet / Hat, Adults, £1 per entry, Children 50p per entry

PRIZES FOR WINNERS

Entry forms available from Cheryl Ives, 01227 760707

There will also be other "Try your luck" games for children and adults with prizes

Please come along and make it a super event for everyone



In memory of Joan

It was with great sadness that we learned, just before Christmas, of the passing of Joan Gower, a well-known and much-loved Hilltop resident. Joan and husband, Cyril, who were married at Stelling Minnis in December 1949, (PICTURE- Joan and Cyril wedding photo) came to live in Iffin Lane in 1959, and soon established themselves as loyal supporters of the Hilltop Community. Joan's interest in St Nicholas and St Faith's really took off when she retired from BT in 1990 and she became a regular attendee at St Nick's and member of Cameo Club, which she enjoyed immensely.



Whenever they could Joan and Cyril attended Hilltop activities. In fact, Joan was the driving force behind many events, though being extremely modest and somewhat self-deprecating, she would never take credit for any of them. One time, Joan organised a 'Tramps' Supper, and Cyril, who enjoyed dressing up, had a great time. (PICTURE-Joan and Cyril in Tramps' costumes). Hilltop was so important to them that for their Diamond Wedding Anniversary, they held an all day 'drop-in' celebration, insisting that they didn't want presents or flowers, but would love donations for the Hall. (PICTURE- Joan and Cyril with grand-son, Mark, at their Diamond Wedding celebration.)

Joan had a brilliant sense of humour and a great sense of adventure. In fact, in 1967 she completed a return bike ride with her son, Nigel, from Hilltop to Abergavenny in Wales, according to daughter, Carol, "just for the sheer hell of it". They took 6 days to get there but only 5 getting back, having been given a

little niece, of events, and she would always contribute- be it plants for the Harvest Supper auction, prize money for tickets, and her purchase two years ago of the display board for the Hall for community photos, was typical of her generosity. Joan was always there for everyone and many residents have spoken of her and Cyril's kindness to them over the years. Her great friend and neighbour, Pam, remembers how often Joan would let out the dog for her; how one day the dog ran off in the snow and Joan was to be seen traipsing around in the middle



of a cauliflower field searching for it; and she recalls how Joan frequently used to ask the butcher for a bone for her 'adopted' dog. Joan was in her element doing walks around Chilham bird watching and observing nature, and another resident, Christine, remembers walking alongside Joan on the 'Barry Allen Walks' and being amazed at Joan's knowledge of all the Latin names of the flowers. Indeed her love of nature manifested itself in her writing of the 'Nature Notes' for Hilltop News for many years. Joan, being Joan, had everyone looking out for nature information for her and her enthusiasm just shone through in those delightful articles. Joan bore her ill health over the last few years with great fortitude and courage and continued to support Hilltop right to the end, making her last 'official' appearance at the Crafty Girls' Afternoon Tea outing. (PICTURE: Joan at the Crafty Girls; Tea May 2015) She will be sadly missed and to some of us it feels like the end of an era; but she will always be remembered for her kindness and generosity of spirit, and, of course, that lovely smile. (PICTURE- Joan cutting the cake at the Queen's Jubilee celebration) Cheryl Ives.



Joan had a brilliant sense of humour and a great sense of adventure. In fact, in 1967 she completed a return bike ride with her son, Nigel, from Hilltop to Abergavenny in Wales, according to daughter, Carol, "just for the sheer hell of it". They took 6 days to get there but only 5 getting back, having been given a little niece, of events, and she would always contribute- be it plants for the Harvest Supper auction, prize money for tickets, and her purchase two years ago of the display board for the Hall for community photos, was typical of her generosity. Joan was always there for everyone and many residents have spoken of her and Cyril's kindness to them over the years. Her great friend and neighbour, Pam, remembers how often Joan would let out the dog for her; how one day the dog ran off in the snow and Joan was to be seen traipsing around in the middle of a cauliflower field searching for it; and she recalls how Joan frequently used to ask the butcher for a bone for her 'adopted' dog. Joan was in her element doing walks around Chilham bird watching and observing nature, and another resident, Christine, remembers walking alongside Joan on the 'Barry Allen Walks' and being amazed at Joan's knowledge of all the Latin names of the flowers. Indeed her love of nature manifested itself in her writing of the 'Nature Notes' for Hilltop News for many years. Joan, being Joan, had everyone looking out for nature information for her and her enthusiasm just shone through in those delightful articles. Joan bore her ill health over the last few years with great fortitude and courage and continued to support Hilltop right to the end, making her last 'official' appearance at the Crafty Girls' Afternoon Tea outing. (PICTURE: Joan at the Crafty Girls; Tea May 2015) She will be sadly missed and to some of us it feels like the end of an era; but she will always be remembered for her kindness and generosity of spirit, and, of course, that lovely smile. (PICTURE- Joan cutting the cake at the Queen's Jubilee celebration) Cheryl Ives.



For your next vacation: Consider a holiday to Florida.

We are pleased to announce that during 2015 we purchased a vacation home in Orlando which is now available for holiday Rentals Don't pay tourist agency prices, get huge savings and go direct to the owners. We can assist with information on flights, car hire, shopping and dining etc. Beautifully furnished 4 bed, 3 bath heated pool and spa home. Sleeps up to 10. Only 4 miles from Disney, 5 minutes from many restaurants, supermarkets and shops. 30 minute drive from airport. Special Discount offered to HCA residents For further details, to check availability and rates please check out our website www.maplefloridavillas.com or get in touch with: Terry and Margaret Maple; 07771 640154 terry.maple2241@gmail.com



1 Iffin Cottage Weather Records - October to December 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
October	17.5	13.9	3.6	8.3	12	9.8 (27th)	48.7
November	16.7	12.1	-2.2	6.8	18	10.6 (23rd)	66.3
December	14.8	12	0.5	7.8	15	9.1 (30th)	50.6

Annual key figures since OUR records began:

Year	Max. temp.	Min. temp.	Total rain	Year	Max. temp.	Min. temp.	Total rain
2009	29.2	-7.9	721.7	2010	28.9	-7.6	589.8
2011	29.8	-3.6	511	2012	30.8	-10.8	757.4
2013	31.5	-4.9	707.9	2014	29.9	-2.5	917.8
2015	34.7	-3.4	648.5				

Note: 'rain' means any precipitation

Hilary Spon



Councillor Graham Page
Chairman TWPC
07506 467298

Thanington Without Parish Council.

Most of you will know that the planning application in respect of Thanington Without Park was approved at the meeting of the Planning Committee on 5th January by a majority of eight votes to four.

There was strong opposition to the planning application from Cllr Nick Eden Green, who is a ward councillor for the area, and people speaking against the application were myself as Chairman of Thanington Without Parish Council, Professor Clive Church (HIMN), Dave Smith, Ward councillor Charlotte MacCaul, Kent County Councillor Martin Vye and John Osbourne (Wincheap Society).

The fact that this application approves 750 dwellings, when there is still a consultation going on concerning the draft Local Plan which has a proposal for 1150 dwellings in this area, is in my view quite wrong. How can a large proportion of the 1150 dwellings be approved in a single planning application, when the consultation date for the entire 1150 does not end until 22nd January!. I am sure many other people share my view on this.

Prior to the Planning Application there was a public meeting which was held in early December 2015 at the Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre concerning Thanington Park. Due to excellent coverage of the event, there was standing room only, and over 100 people attend which was greatly appreciated by all who helped to organize the meeting. I hope to update you on progress concerning Thanington Park in the next issue of Hilltop News.

Cllr Graham Page

Chairman - Thanington Without Parish Council

Hall Refurbishment project.

You may all be wondering what happens to the money we all raise throughout the year through the fun events and fairs we have, well it is being kept safe and sound, paying the bills and ready for future improvements to our hall. Given all this hard work, the Trustees thought that we should keep everyone informed of what we have achieved recently through your generous contributions, and what we are planning for 2016 and beyond.

In the past few years the hall has been completely rewired including a fire alarm system bringing it up to current modern safety standards as well as replacing all the old wooden doors with uPVC ones making the hall less drafty and more secure. In 2014 we had the entire floor rebuilt taking out all the old materials which had served for over 50 years and replaced this with a damp proof membrane, underfloor insulation and up to date laminate flooring, which has transformed the look and feel of the building and made it warmed in winter.

Long term over the next few years we have a vision for the hall, driven by you following a number of consultations and listening to what you want for your hall, so in 2016 we intend to submit plans to Canterbury City Council for approval to include the following staged projects:-

Replacing the entire roof with new fully insulated panels to modern specification

Build a narrow side extension to the left side of the hall to store our tables and chairs

Improve the rear of the hall to include a new kitchen, entrance to the patio and new toilet facilities

A glass conservatory over the patio area

We appreciate this will not all happen at once but if we have a firm plan in place outlining our intentions it will make it easier to attract funding from outside organisations for each stage, because, although we have substantial funds in the bank we don't want to spend all our own money to achieve our ambition.

And don't forget after all, it is your hall so if you have an idea for an event or you just want to hire it for your Christmas or Birthday party, let's hear from you.

We'll keep you posted.



Cllr Nick Eden-Green
Wincheap Ward
Canterbury City Council

POINTS TO MAKE TO MEMBERS OF THE PANNING COMMITTEE REGARDING TRAFFIC IMPLICATIONS

OF THE PROPOSED THANINGTON PARK DEVELOPMENT

At the Planning Committee meeting at which the Thanington Park application will be considered, an officer from the County Council will be presenting the reasons why KCC Highways are not objecting to the application.

It would be worthwhile anyone speaking against the application to probe the weaknesses in KCC's case.

Regarding traffic in and out of the new development KCC will say:

The extension of the existing off-slip from the A2, and signalisation at the new junction with it, will allow traffic leaving and entering the development to flow freely;

Even if some of the exiting traffic goes direct to the A28, the installation of traffic lights at the end of St Nicholas' road will allow for this to happen in an orderly fashion;

There will be much less incentive for people to use their cars to leave the development as

There will be a primary school within the site

There will be employment opportunities within the site

There will be enhanced bus services, cycle lanes, and pedestrian routes into town

And for these reasons, and the assumption made by KCC that most people leaving the development by car will be heading for the A2, Wincheap will not be seriously affected.

The weaknesses in their case are as follows:- There is absolutely no guarantees;

First; That Thanington Park will be a 'self-contained' estate.

For all sorts of reasons people will want to get to their workplace across the other side of town, or deliver their children to the school of their choice, all at peak time.

Also, KCC is placing a lot of weight on the idea that people wanting to access the centre of Canterbury will shift to walking or cycling---not possible for the elderly or disabled.

KCC's assumptions that people will behave as KCC thinks fit were proved wrong by the Westgate Towers closure experiment.

Second; Successful operation of a light-controlled junction on the existing off-slip is very uncertain. If it is operated favourably to traffic from the development there is a real risk that the traffic coming off the A2 would back up on to the A2. If however, estate traffic is given very short 'green-light' times this will back up---and push people into going north on to the A28, adding to the already considerable back-up on that road, and dramatically altering the nature of St Nicholas Road, and Strangers Lane, at present residential areas.

Third; The installation of two more sets of lights, together with increased flows of traffic coming on to the A28, will make even more complex the already complicated signalling arrangements around the A2 bridge. There are already problems with traffic backing up and impeding flow: this will only become significantly worse.

As the developers proposing to build Thanington Park are offering to contribute to the costs of a Wincheap off-slip from the A2, this must be considered at the same time as the Park itself.

KCC has for a long time had an off-slip at this point as one of its strategic highways objectives, and their decision not to object to the Thanington Park development must be seen in the light of this. However, to construct this off-slip without taking simultaneous measures to mitigate the effect of greater traffic flows would lead to daily gridlock on the main thoroughfare through Wincheap.

The City Council recognises that a greatly extended Wincheap Park and Ride, and a gyratory road system making use of the Industrial Estate are essential if this gridlock is to be avoided. The Canterbury and District Transport Strategy puts the cost of the extension of the Park and Ride at £6million, and that of the gyratory system at £2million.

Neither council says where the money for the Park and Ride is coming from; and given that the new off-slip would inevitably take up a very large part of the existing P and R site, it is surprising that no plan is available showing how a larger P and R will fit in the available space left.

As for the gyratory all traffic will continue to enter and leave Wincheap at the City Centre end under the railway bridge and round the Wincheap roundabout. It is impossible to see how this pinch-point will not cause serious additional congestion.

KCC will say that an application for funding from the LEP for the gyratory will be made. However, the outcome of this is uncertain; and a reasonable approach would surely be to wait until it is known whether this bid is successful.

Inevitably KCC's position on the Thanington Park development will be seen as heavily influenced by its obtaining funding from that development for a 'strategic objective' (the Wincheap off-slip)---which on its own will make the highway system in Wincheap unworkable.