



# Hilltop News

An HCA (Canterbury) Community Service publication

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## A wonderful weekend was enjoyed by thousands

With pictures and details from Lounge on the Farm website



It was a truly wonderful weekend and congratulations should go to the organisers from HCA for holding this large public event with the minimal amount of disruption and inconvenience possible to local residents. The line-up of artists, food, refreshments, entertainment, fun fair and numerous stalls and outlets were all exceptional. The 'tidal-flow' traffic system once again appeared to work well as did the parking and over the weekend camping arrangements. Apart from a small glitch on the Saturday evening, the weekend's weather was hot and sunny helping to bring out the crowds.

The general consensus of opinion from residents canvassed has been nothing but praise along with a huge support for the event and the weekend. Yes, there will always be some complaints about noise, but in fairness the same probably applies with any outdoor events whatever and wherever they are. The disruption is after all only for one weekend and should be weighed against the great time had by all those attendees, old, young and families alike. A very generous gesture from the organisers in recognition of the inconvenience caused to local residents was the offer of free weekend tickets to all locals on application.

In conclusion then: A big - THANK YOU - from us here at Hilltop for the kindness, generosity and respect shown to the local residents. We are happy for you that the weekend was a success and look forward to next year's event.

Terry Maple 5th August 2013

## By the way.....

### IFFIN (as in Iffin Lane , Canterbury)

The word comes from the Old English GEOGUOINGAS. In old English GEOGUO meant 'youth', 'young people', 'junior warriors'. The whole word 'geoguoingas' probably means 'youthful dwellers'.

The first appearance of Iffin is in 1315: YETHYNGGE.

In 1338: ITHYNGE.

In 1349: GYTTHYNG, also in 1349: YTHGTHYNG.

In 1465: YFFYNG. After this it lost the 'G' and remained more or less as we have it today.

All these earlier versions (1315, 1338, 1349 and 1465) appear in documents relating to land and property transactions. It is important to remember that even when our written language settled down into more or less as we have it today (roughly 16th century) it was still subject to very varied spelling! Shakespeare for instance spelt his own name several different ways in his own lifetime—and he was an educated man! So IFFIN went on possibly being spelt slightly differently from time to time until the present century.

Carole Davies



## Diary of Events

### Weekly Events

**Friday Evening Social**  
All welcome for a chat

### Monthly Events

**Coffee Morning**  
Last Thursday of month  
10:30 just come along

**Wellness Clinic**  
Second Weds 19:30  
Second Thurs 10:00

### Coming Events:

**HCA Main Committee**  
Wed Sept 18th at 19:30

**Trustees meeting**  
Wed Sept 18th 20:30  
Wed Oct 16th 19:30

**Church Service**  
Sun Sept 1st 18:00  
**Harvest Service**  
Sun Oct 6th 18:00  
**Harvest Supper**  
Mon Oct 7th 19:30

**Community Family Walk\***  
Sun 15th Sept 10:00  
Contact Terry Maple or  
John Richardson to book

**Bingo**  
Sat Oct 12th

**Hilltop news copy deadline**  
Thurs Oct 25th / items to  
Trisha

**Remember you can book the  
hall for your own use. Just  
contact Terry Maple on**

## 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.

## Joan Gower's Nature Notes

Hello everyone. From the cold grey weather at the beginning of the last newsletter to the heat wave at the beginning of July. Most things have caught up with the weather gradually getting a bit warmer, but June moved slowly. The hedgerows were white with hawthorn and cow parsley, then as the month progressed the elder flowered. I don't think I have ever seen so many tight umbels of flowers. The bushes were almost a mass of white. Then it was the turn of the dog roses. Next it will be long trails of honeysuckle with a lovely perfume in the evenings. The garden shrubs were wonderful and so it goes on with herbaceous plants following on, most of which are taking the place of shrubs which have been pruned ready for next years flowers. One morning a resident in the close saw two carrion crows tear a birds nest out of a large tree in his garden to make their own nest in an area of the tree. When they had taken what they thought they needed from it, eight tree sparrows flew busily back and forth collecting detritus until within five minutes it would appear that nothing had taken place. Nature's waste not want not.

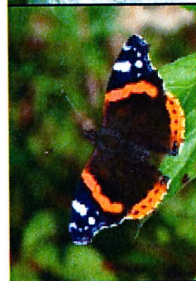
In the newsletter last spring I mentioned the cowslips on a bank just down the road from me. They looked great and set seed prolifically now joined by primroses and some bluebells. This year the flowers have seeded and tripled and have looked really beautiful. It shows how with a little help from us nature comes back.



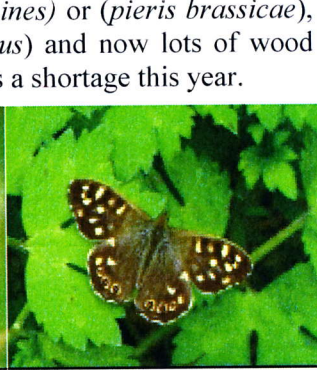
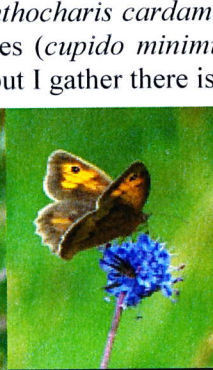
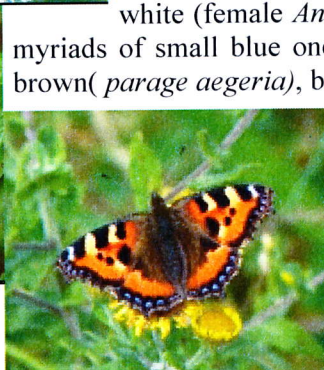
Numerous butterflies have now begun to appear, the majority in my garden being small pale blue ones, *Anthocharis cardamines* (female *Anthocharis cardamines*) or (*peris brassicae*),



orange tips (male *peris brassicae*), lots of myriads of small blue ones (*cupido minimus*) and now lots of wood brown (*parage aegeria*), but I gather there is a shortage this year.



Scarlet Pimpernel (*vanessa atalanta*).



A neighbour heard a cuckoo in Chartham and despite the fact that I no longer have a pond I have seen several froglets. That's all this time, bye for now. Joan 451492

## \*Community Family Walk

Barry's Community walk is in memory of Barry Allen who was a dear friend of the community. All members of the community are welcome to come along - look out for the posters and fliers shortly!

## 100 Club Winners for July

Prize	Number	Name
£50	21	E & M Hawkins
£30	25	P Sherwood
£20	12	D Buenotempo
£10	69	D Sackett

**Do you not have a 100 Club number or would like another,**  
email [100club@hilltopca.co.uk](mailto:100club@hilltopca.co.uk)



# Barbeque Fun for all!



A big thank-you to all those who supported this event, especially to those whose hard work before the event and during it ensured that everything went smoothly –well done!

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

Following Saturdays night success with Dom (The Busker) and after loads of requests on the night for follow up music night event with him. John has been in contact with him and booked him for the evening of Saturday 28th September. We thought we would arrange it on a 'Bring your own Food and Drinks' basis evening with entrance by pre-purchased ticket only. John and I will arrange the advertising. John will follow up with more details for you later. Terry .Web: [www.tmaple.co.uk](http://www.tmaple.co.uk)

4		5
7	2	4
	8	6
2	1	3
9	8	2
6	5	7
2	9	
4	3	1
3		6



## From your Parish Council



Councillor  
Graham Page  
  
Chairman TWPC  
  
01227 462508

The elevated footpath that travels from Hollow Lane to New House Lane has been giving cause for serious concern for many years. The Parish Council paid to have the upper section - which is in our parish - to be fenced for the safety of the public, but the lower end remained unfenced. This was in our view dangerous, as in places there is a 20 feet drop onto the main road. I am pleased to report, that we have seized the initiative on this, having had no success with either Canterbury City Council or Kent County Council, and arranged to have this section fenced ourselves. We hope to recoup part of this money from the Canterbury City Council Offsite Open Space contribution. This is a fund that developers have to contribute into if they are applying for planning permission for property building etc.

### Threat to Hambrook Marshes

You may be aware that the Hambrook Marshes is currently for sale. The Great Stour Way runs from Chartham to Canterbury, and goes through this land, and is well used by pedestrians and cyclists alike.

The present position is that the current owners, Kent Enterprise Trust, who manage Hambrook Marshes as a reserve with full public access, are selling off their land. KET's agreement with Sustrans, who put in the Canterbury to Chartham cycle path, takes the form of a simple licence, which could be terminated on just twelve month's notice. So the land could be sold tomorrow, and in a year's time the cycle path could be closed to the public. As there are no public rights of way across the reserve, we could end up with no access to that area at all, and even the footbridge across the Stour to the Wincheap retail park would become out of bounds.

KET currently gets a grant from Natural England to help pay for managing the reserve in a wildlife-friendly fashion. This agreement expires in three years time, and there is no guarantee that a new owner will wish to farm in an environmentally sensitive manner, so much of the charm of the grazed wet grassland and meadow could be lost.

I firmly believe that any new owner should

have a requirement to maintain public access as at present, and to maintain the wildlife interest of the site. If KET could delay the sale for long enough to have the paths made into public rights of way, and also make it a condition of sale that the land be managed appropriately, this would be a step in the right direction.

I have spent the last week or so lobbying our MP, Kent County Councillor, ward councillors and any other parties that may have some influence to raise awareness of the serious threats facing the Marshes and would urge everyone to request councillors and our MP to take urgent action to ensure that the sale can't go through until these safeguards are in place. I will report again to you in a future edition of this newsletter once I have further news.

**Graham Page**

## Part-Night

# streetlights

## Consultation

Kent County Council is proposing some changes to street lighting that will save around £1 million a year, reduce carbon emissions by 5,000 tonnes per year and tackle light pollution.

Have your say.....

[www.kent.gov.uk/streetlights](http://www.kent.gov.uk/streetlights)

KCC are proposing that 70,000 of our 120,000 streetlights are switched off between midnight and 5:30am. Further engagement will take place within target areas as they are identified.

To request a paper copy please phone 03003335539

Alternative formats available

Editor—Trisha Cheeseworth  
01227 761642

## From the Hilltop Chair



Sarah Guest  
  
Chairman  
Hilltop Trustees  
  
01227 765703

Dear All

Finally some lovely weather, this year's summer barbeque was a great success and thank you very much to all those involved, a huge effort in organization and cooking by Terry, John and Dave.

The Hilltop family walk is to be 15th September, and again we will be walking to the Local in Chartham. We were all made very welcome last year and think we have ironed out the glitch in the meals, so do come along. If you are planning to walk we will be putting a poster up on the notice board at the hall and the phone box nearer the time with the details.

By popular demand we have 2 bingo sessions booked during the autumn 12th October and 3rd December. As usual taken by David Swain please let David or Sarah know if you plan to come along.

Hilltop 100 club is doing well. There are a few numbers left so please contact Jan Armishaw at 5 New House Close if you would like a number. The cost is just £2 a month, £1 of which is a donation to Hilltop Community Association and £1 as the prize fund.

Hilltop would also like to say thank you very much to the Parish Council for the splendid new fence they have had commissioned for the path on Hollow Lane.

Whilst this part of the path is not actually inside our area, our Parish Councillor had for some time been attempting to get made safe the very dangerous drop to the road below. Both Canterbury City Council and Kent County Council had steadfastly refused to do anything about replacing the fence.

The Parish Council worried about the care about the safety of the residents, especially our children when walking up and down the path felt they had no option but to seek and obtain grants to have the necessary works carried out themselves.

Their intervention and help is much appreciated.

A warm welcome to the new residents we have in hilltop please feel free to come along to any of the Hilltop activities, more information is on our website [www.hilltopca.co.uk](http://www.hilltopca.co.uk) and you should receive a welcome pack through your door soon.

Finally on a personal note. Thank you to all that attended the final farewell for Ken in May, a simple ceremony followed by being laid to rest on his beloved farm.