



Hilltop News

An HCA (Canterbury) Community Service publication
Registered Charity No 1096781

Issue 2018 /3

Letter from your Chairman

It is hard to believe where the last few months have gone, they seem to have fled by so quickly. I hope you are all enjoying the great weather we are having this summer and long may it last.

This newsletter has been produced by our new editor, Katherine Richardson. Please take a note of her contact details for anything you may wish to contribute or assist with for future newsletters. Katherine can be contacted at: x-kr-x@hotmail.com

You are all probably aware that due to work and family commitments Bonnie decided to stand down as a Trustee along with her responsibilities as Secretary. She also was the past Editor of our Newsletter. I and my fellow Trustees would like to thank her for all the hard work she has put in over the last few years.

We welcome a new Trustee member, David Bush who is enjoying his retirement and was looking for a new challenge. He saw Hilltop as the ideal way. David's role will be our fund co-ordinator and as such will be looking at ways to attract funding for the future refurbishment of the hall.

We are continuing with plans for the refurbishment of the hall and are currently seeking quotes etc. for the 1st phase of works which will be the replacement of the roof. During the summer so far we have tried some new events and continued with some of our regular ones. The themed quizzes seem to go well. Both the Fish n Chip and Curry supper and quiz nights being well attended and enjoyed. Unfortunately, the planned Cheese and Wine quiz night had to be postponed. This will be put on again later in the year.

The Summer Family Barbecue and also the family Bat 'n Trap and Boule day both went very well and were much enjoyed by all who came along. Thank you all for your support and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events. Enjoy the rest of the summer!

WRITTEN
BY JOHN
RICHARDSON



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You can keep up to date with what is happening in your Community Association via our website: www.hilltopca.org or our Facebook page - Hilltop Community Association @HCACanterbury. If you would like to join our round-robin e-mail list please send an e-mail with your details to: members@hilltopca.org

Hello everyone! I'm your new editor

My name is Katherine and I'll be your new editor for the Hilltop newsletter. I have a degree in graphic design and work at a local design and print studio in Wincheap (Parkers Design and Print). After travelling for 3 months around Thailand, Bali and California, I wanted a new challenge so having produced the new Hilltop website, I was interested in becoming more involved in the community. I'm excited to take on this new role and I look forward to receiving your community news in the future. **Please send any content you wish to include to x-kr-x@hotmail.com**



COMMUNITY EVENTS

HILLTOP'S JUNE COFFEE MORNING

The coffee morning ladies decided to take advantage of the glorious summer weather this month, and so Coffee Morning was held outside in the Marquee! Waitress Service was provided by Carole, Marion and Tracey, with plenty of coffee, tea, and a delicious selection of biscuits. As usual there was plenty of chatter, much laughter, and we were all pleased to meet up with both new and old faces



WRITTEN BY
TRACEY SMITH

If you'd like to join us for a good old chinwag, we meet at St Faith's Hall on the last Thursday of each month 10.30 until 12.00 or whenever you are ready to leave. It's such a great way to catch up with local friends and neighbours!

Bat and Trap plus Boules Afternoon 10 June 2018



WRITTEN BY
CHRIS IVES

The weather proved to be reasonable and even the sun managed to shine for some of the time. The grass had been cut the day before and the pitch rigged for the Bat and Trap. The Boules pitch had been cleared of weeds and all was ready to go.

Between 30 and 40 of us turned up to play. About the same number as last year and a good mix of young, old and in between.

The Bat and Trap allows for larger team numbers. We averaged around 10 in each team. There was enough experience amongst the players to ensure that those new to the game were well briefed in the techniques. As the afternoon progressed, so did the scores. Richard Collins was voted 'man of the match'. The amazing thing was that some players were actually bowled out! The turf is usually too bumpy to allow this skill to flourish.

There was a steady stream of people wanting to play Boules. Generally a little guidance was needed on how to interpret the rules but after that it was fascinating to see the winners were often the ladies.

Special thanks must go to the team of ladies that baked the delicious cakes and served the teas throughout the afternoon. Their efforts amounted to £80 profit which went to the HCA.

If you are wishing to play Boules as a family or with friends, Bill and Maureen Hillman have kindly donated their Boule Set to the HCA and it is kept in the shed. It is there for you to make use of! (Contact a Committee Member.)

Hopefully, enough of us will want to repeat the afternoon next year.



WRITTEN BY
TERRY MAPLE

SUMMER FAMILY BARBECUE

We held our annual Summer Family Barbecue on the last Saturday in June this year and we were lucky enough to be granted the perfect weather for the day and evening. There were over 100 people who had bought tickets and turned up to enjoy this ever-popular event.

A really great day was had by all. With a Bouncy Castle for the little ones during the afternoon and early evening, complimented by entertainment from a live band during the evening. A Real-Ale bar and food continuously supplied and cooked fresh to order directly from the Barbecue.

I would particularly like to extend my personal thanks to our supporters and suppliers: Wakelins of Wye for the amazing burgers and sausages, all freshly made for us that very morning. Three Horse Shoes and Shepherd Neame for the real ale. Andrea and Jo for the excellent strawberries and cream desserts. John and Dave for helping me with the cooking. The Fantastic Island Ukes band for the fun and entertaining music. Those that help in the background with things like putting up and taking down of the marquee, clearing up on the Sunday morning etc. And last but by no means least my thanks to our young band of helpers for going around selling the raffle tickets.

This is always a popular and successful regular event on our calendar and goes a long way towards boosting the much needed funds to keep the hall going. Thank you all for joining with us and once again making it a successful event for HCA.

What was really great this year was to see so many new faces – I hope you all enjoyed yourselves and welcome to what is after all 'Your Community Association'. We all look forward to seeing you again at future events. Until the same time next year, Goodbye for now and enjoy the rest of the summer.



Next year's event is already being planned for Sunday 12 May 2019, so if you are interested in riding for us or helping in some way, please contact Cheryl & Chris on 01227 760707, to let us know, and we'll contact you with all the details nearer the time.

Cloisters 2 Oysters 2018

Chris Ives would like to thank everyone who sponsored him for the 2018 Cloisters 2 Oysters bike ride in support of national charity Rethink Mental Illness. The event, which this year was organised by Rethink member Paul Marsh, MBE, and Rethink Group Coordinators, Chris and Cheryl, took place on Sunday 13 May to mark the beginning of Mental Health Awareness

Week. It was a brilliant day with over 60 riders taking part including two other local residents, Anemone and Deri Jones, to whom the organisers offer sincere thanks for their support. The return route between the Dolphin Pub, Canterbury and Whitstable Harbour, also took in the scenic Crab & Winkle Way. It looks as if the total sponsor money from the riders will be just over £5,000, an amazing amount which will help Rethink to make a real difference to the lives of anyone affected by mental illness.

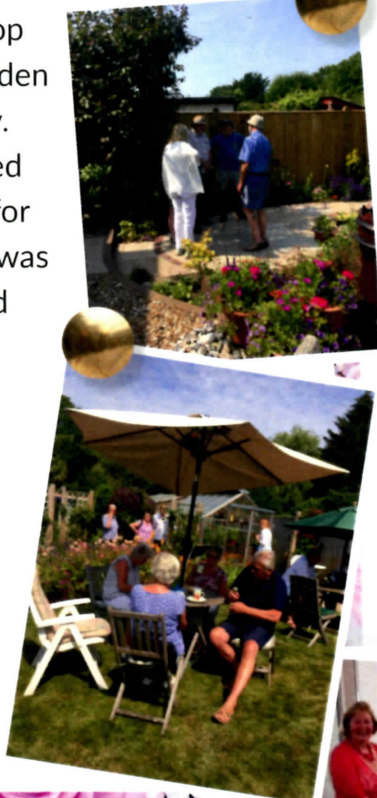


GARDEN PARTY RAISES

£725.00

Thank you so much to our Hilltop neighbours who attended the garden open on Sunday the 1st of July. We estimated close to a hundred visitors and we raised £725.00 for Prostate Cancer UK charity. This was far above our expectations and we are very grateful for your generosity.

John and Kate Cornish



Crafty Girls News

On Tuesday 17th July, the Crafty Girls set off on their annual jaunt for a Cream Tea. It had been decided that as "Poppies" at Thompsons Garden Centre did such a good job last year, we would return again.

There were 15 of us who travelled by car to the venue and were welcomed by the staff into the new additional function room, complete with lovely air conditioning, which was really much needed as it was an extremely hot day. All settled in our seats, the Cream Tea was served - WOW! 2 large fruit scones, clotted cream, a pot of jam and butter, plus a fresh large strawberry as the crowning glory on each plate. Tea and coffee were also part of the package, gratefully received together with refills.

One highlight of the afternoon was that one of our ladies who had been very poorly and could not be included, turned up just for a limited time, to say hello and to thank everyone for their cards and get well messages. So lovely she felt that she could make it and we were all so pleased to see her. She even made it in time for the obligatory photographs to be taken - hooray!

Finally, our thanks to our volunteer drivers, without whom it could not be arranged. Thanks also to all the staff at "Poppies".



WRITTEN BY
CAROLE DAVIS

WE MEET ON THE
2ND TUESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH
2-4PM

Thank You!

From Jane at the New house Close Nursery

I would just like to say how successful our recent Open Morning was and I thank all residents for their patience with the overload of cars. It is lovely to be serving the local community providing a service for local families with young children but also this year to invite local resident Cheryl Ives to help out who very generously agreed to step in to do the children's face painting as very short notice! Thank you Cheryl, your help was greatly appreciated not only by me but the children and their parents, so many of which commented on how good you were with the children! Thank you again and hopefully you will support this event again next year.

Nature Notes - New House Lane in 1976



WRITTEN BY
JAN
ARMISHAW

Well it has not rained since the end of May. This brings back memories of 1976.

In May we took the grand children for a walk in Larkey Valley woods and I found the beautiful star of Bethlehem growing wild with bright white flowers and yellow anthers. Each of the six petals has a green stripe on the back.

In July a group of us went for a walk near Upper Horton Farm on a blazing hot day. In spite of the hot summer, there were still some beautiful wild flowers in full bloom including the rich purple knapweed, yellow hawkweed, a pink form of the white yarrow, birds foot trefoil and tufted vetch. We also found the more unusual round leaved fluellen with purple and yellow flowers belonging to the toadflax family.

There were several different kinds of butterflies darting about and spreading their wings in the sunshine including the startling painted lady, meadow brown, brimstone, large skipper and the beautiful marbled white.

We heard and saw a corn bunting, black caps, a greater spotted woodpecker and song thrushes.

In a garden along New House Lane a neighbour saw a mullein moth caterpillar feeding on a buddleia. It can also feed on figwort and yes you have guessed, mullein. It can strip the plant bare with large holes. The caterpillar can grow to 5 centimetres and has black and yellow markings on a bluish grey and whitish body. The caterpillar is fully grown after 30 days. It will pupate in the soil and can take several years before developing into a moth.



Weather Records - January to June 2018

Month	Max. temp. °C	Mean (Av.) Max. °C	Min. temp. °C	Mean Min. °C	No. of days with rain*	Max. rain in 1 day in mm.	Total rain in month
January	11.1	7.7	-0.7	4.1	20	10.6	73.6
February	9.1	4.9	-10.2	-2	12	7.1	35.2
March	13.3	8.3	-4.5	0.3	16	12.7	78.4
April	25.2	15.6	3.6	6.6	10	60.0*	99.3
May	27.1	19.5	1.8	15.2	6	15.5	44
June	27.5	21.3	8.4	15.3	2	7.1	7.8

*Means any precipitation

February The minimum of -10.2 on 27 February was the lowest since 2012 (-10.8) On this day we measured 9cm of snow - driving conditions in Iffin Lane too treacherous for us.

April/May We were away from 29 April to 6 May, during which time we recorded 69.2mm of rain and had reports of strong winds at home. The total rainfall for April was 99.3mm - based on what people have said I can unfortunately only `guestimate` the maximum rain for a single day as *60mm (on 30 April). This was followed by high temperatures at the beginning of May.

June Very low rainfall (7.8mm). At the time of writing (15 July) we have had no rain for 40 days!

WRITTEN BY
HILARY SPON

Hilltop is a special place

Being born in the war and growing up in Hilltop in the 40/50s was quite a unique experience, everyone knew everybody so as a kid you couldn't get away with anything, someone always saw you. Screens weren't a problem as there were only two (TV's) in the road. We witnessed the Hall being built by our Dads, supported by our Mums and on completion we were encompassed with a Youth Group, which lasted until we all went out into the workplace. Most of our Mums worked at King's Farm (New House Farm), which became our playground in the summer holidays. Looking back now what an adventure it was. We were a mischievous lot but generally a good bunch but we had no name or obvious



Kings Farm Workers Circa 1951

Back Row Left to Right: Unknown, Bessie (Little Mrs) Smith, Francis (Sailor) Smith, Helen Ireland, Betty Hinchliff, Doris (Bought) Boughton

Front Row Left to Right: Unknown, Hugh Boughton, Unknown, Kay Boughton, Colin Smith, Peter Smith

leader, so for the sake of the story we will call them the Gang of 56. Not all but most started school at Wincheap Primary and then dissipated to various secondary schools, before heading out into the workplace and subsequently around the world. A nucleolus of the group kept in touch (predominantly the girls) with pen and paper, which was fortunate, as we knew where everyone was. Introduce the Internet and modern travel and we are fully back together and with the inclusion of spouses, partners and other family members make for a treasured group. The Hilltop News and Calendars find their way around the world, although the latter is now by e-mail and are much appreciated by old Hilltoppers. Once a Hilltopper always a Hilltopper.



The Gang of 56 – Left to Right

Jill Galvin, Jenney Clements, Keith & Vic Goddard, Tony Knife, Martin Bundock, Jack Boughton, Colin Smith, Anne Knife, Pam Keen

Moving onto the eighties and the Gang of 56 were all grown up and another Hilltop group of equal mix of boys and girls emerges. The Gang of 85 were equally mischievous like their predecessors but again a really good bunch and a very close-knit unit to this day. This group also has spouses and partners that have all been encompassed. It's been a delight to see them grow and blossom and have families of their own. To have two generations that have grown up in our community and kept in close contact is in my mind very special and the fact of continued support, particularly when needed, as Hilary and I have experienced over this past year. I know it's a cliché but money can't buy it.



The Gang of 56 – Unknown, Lucy, Dave
Porch: Kelly, Matthew, James

Now green shoots have appeared as the embryo of the Gang of 2018 develops and although a very young group they already mirror both previous gang's behaviour's. The Gang of 2018 is all the product of the Gang of 85 and four of them are linked back to the Gang of 56. In the fullness of time will there be a fourth generation of such Hilltop Gangs?

If it becomes the product of the Gang of 2018 that I would suggest be quite unique. What would the name be, The Gang of 20**?

In the intervening years other groups have come through and it would be interesting to hear their stories of growing up in Hilltop. I wrote an article in Hilltop News, Issue 44 in 2007, which was followed up in a later edition by Lucy and James for the Gang of 85. If there are stories of growing up in Hilltop I'm sure the Editor would love to hear from you.



Gang of 2018 – Oliver, Imogen, Olivia, Erin, Lauren, Albie, Julius, Daisy and Freddie – Photo from the Lucy Hicks collection.

WRITTEN BY COLIN SMITH

Local Residents Win a KMPT Award

In June, Chris and Cheryl Ives were awarded the Carer Contribution Award at the Kent and Medway Partnership Trust (KMPT) 2018 Awards Ceremony at the Mercure Hotel, Maidstone. Finding on the night that they were finalists, the couple, who have been coordinating the Canterbury and Coastal Rethink Carers Support group for 19 years, were delighted, but very surprised, to be announced the winners. With all the lights, balloons and music, Cheryl said that it felt just like being at the "Oscars"!



The group supports mental health carers

and is part of the national organisation called Rethink Mental Illness. It meets monthly (except August) at 7.30pm at the Canterbury Umbrella Centre. If you or any friends or family would like further information about the group, please phone 01227 760707 or email rethinkcanterbury@googlemail.com

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The usual suspects are on the agenda around our Parish. Pot holes, they continue requiring to be filled. A footpath, where the drains flood, not of course now as rain has not happened for some time. When it does rain, then the problem will reoccur. A dog bin at the corner of Iffin Lane/ New House Lane/ Hollow Lane is to be replaced as the existing is rusting away. In this same area the road is programmed for resurfacing. Street lights not working, overhanging trees and hedges over pavements all reported to the relevant authority to be put right. A redundant telephone box in Thanington Road is to be removed by BT. A donation was given by the Parish Council to TNRC for Thanington children to visit the Zoo.

Thanington Without Parish Council and Kent University have started a 6-month air quality monitoring program, 10 fixed diffusion tubes have been fitted around Thanington Without and volunteers will carry out particulate monitoring with two monitors around Thanington Without. The City Council have known for some time that Air Quality in Wincheap has been above the government limits and have done little to change this. Thanington Without Parish Council feels that the developments that are being considered and the unacceptable traffic plans will push these pollution levels even higher with more stationary traffic along the A28.

As you know we see the planning applications for our area and comment on them. The Nursing Home

in Cocking Road we thought was too high in regard to existing buildings and the parking spaces allotted were not enough parking for staff, residents and visitors.

Canterbury City Council disagreed and has granted planning permission.

The Parish Council was approached by a local resident, who wanted to use her knowledge of plants to help in making areas around the parish better or more colourful and appealing. To this end the Parish Council has requested a licence to cultivate the public highway, which has been granted. We also requested to take over responsibility for the verges in Thanington and be paid by KCC.

Remember please let the two Terry's know of any items that require attention in our Community, if we can, then we will do our very best to help. We see things, but there are more of you out there, who will see more than we can. Pick up the telephone or come to a PC meeting Remember it is the second Monday of each month, however there is no meeting in August.

South Ward Councillors', your Ward,
Terry Davis and Terry Maple.

WRITTEN BY
TERRY DAVIS



100 Club Winners

	May	June *Double money month*	July
£50	Kath Hewson	Chris Silk £100	Alan Clapson
£30	J Palmer	Barry Drew £60	Claire Gent
£20	Anthony Richardson	Anthony Richardson £40	Carole Davis
£10	B Robinson	Richard Armishaw £20	Chris Ives

FINAL REMINDER OF HILLTOP PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION

The closing date for the above Competition is Wednesday 5th September, 5-30pm to 7-30pm at the Hall. Hopefully we will be inundated with entries, as the winning photographs will appear in the 2019 Hilltop Calendar, that goes on sale later in the year.

Winners of the competition will be revealed at the Awards Ceremony on Saturday 6th October 2pm to 4pm. All are welcome on the day to view the entries and to learn who has won. Refreshments will be available.

Categories are:

Adults: In and around South East England

Children [age 13 or under]
I spy something beginning with the letter L



Additional entry forms are available from:
Carole Davis
01227 451485 and
Cheryl Ives
01227 760707

Thank you to all our sponsors



Diary of Events

September

Wed 5th - Photography competition deadline evening

Wed 26th - HCA Main committee meeting

October

Sat 6th - Photograph competition Awards

Sat 20th - Fish & Chips supper and Quiz

Sat 20th - Hilltop newsletter deadline

Monthly Events

Crafty Girls - Second Tuesday of the month from 2pm

Coffee mornings - Last Thursday of the month 10:30am onwards

Wellness Clinic - Every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 10am - 12pm and 7pm - 9pm

Evening church Service - The first Sunday of the month between April and September at 6pm

If you would like to book the hall for your occasion contact Terry Maple on

01227 761329 or
admin@tmaple.co.uk

email

CONTACT RATE
BY EMAILING

nanniedottiesbuttontin@gmail.com

Kate needs your help!

I'm after speaking to anyone who has any war time memories (or knows any one who has any to share) over a cup of tea for a book I'm starting to write. Any memories of anything will be fabulous, but specifically I'm after East Kent memories, the RAF, Manston airfield and the Ramsgate Wartime Tunnels.

