



# HERNHILL NEWS

## JUNE 2022



### HERNHILL JUBILEE EVENTS



#### Lighting the Beacon

At 9.45pm on Thursday  
2<sup>nd</sup> June the Parish council

will light the beacon at New Zealand for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee accompanied by a bugle call of specially composed music. The beacon will be one of over 2022 being lit by charities, communities and faith groups all over the UK as part of the official programme announced by Buckingham Palace for the Jubilee Weekend. In addition, beacons will be lit in all 54 commonwealth capitals and a Principal Beacon lighting will take place in a special ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

#### Village Picnic on the Green

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 3.00pm, there will be a picnic at the Village Green to which all residents of the parish are invited. The Red Lion will be open and have kindly agreed to provide a band. Please bring whatever food you want but not barbeques. Vehicle access from Crockham Lane onto Church Hill will be closed during this event. The picnic may be cancelled if the weather is unsuitable.

#### PARISH COUNCIL

You can contact the Clerk for Parish Council business on 07876221580 or [hernhillclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hernhillclerk@gmail.com). Full copies of the approved minutes for meetings are available on the Parish Council Website.

A regular meeting was held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June attended by

three Parish Councillors, one ward councillor and two members of the public. The Annual Statutory Meeting was held and both Cllr Heller and Cllr Edgington were voted to retain their position as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

The Clerk had received a tree report concerning the oak tree on the village

Chairman: Cllr Heller

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green following the recent tidying works undertaken. The tree is considered to be in good condition with no issues.

**Road Closures:** More weekend closures on the M2 are expected to occur sometime over the next few months. For the latest information please check the National Highways website

<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/travel-updates/road-closure-report/>

**Allotments:** The Clerk has received notification that a full size plot is due to become available. Anyone interested should contact the Clerk.

**Allotments:** The land rental for the allotment is being increased by an extra £50 per year. A review of the allotments show that since its inception, there has been a circa £100 overall loss even with maintenance fees subsidising the land rental. A

#### SWALE

#### BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

At this time of year the new civic year begins, and local councils hold their annual council meeting. It seems an appropriate occasion to look back at what has been achieved during the past year.

Local Plan

Last summer the council made the decision not to proceed with the version of the local plan published in early 2021 under regulation 19. Instead, a further "Issues and Preferred Options" consultation was undertaken under regulation 18 in November last year. The results of new traffic modelling showed significant impacts at some key junctions. It was concluded that there are no obvious development strategies that could deliver the "local housing need" number of new

discussion was ensued in which it was decided that 12 months notice would be given to increase the plot fee from £40 for a full plot and £20 for a half plot to £50 and £25 respectively to ensure plot fees cover the land rental. Maintenance fees would remain unchanged.

The next full meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the village hall on Wednesday June 29th at 8.00pm in the village hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend. If you are not able to attend the meeting in person but still wish to make representation to the Parish Council, please email or telephone the Clerk as soon as possible, but ideally a minimum of three working days before the date of the meeting, and the Clerk will ensure that your views are fully considered under the public participation section of the meeting.

homes without adversely affecting transport corridors. A new call for sites has been made and further traffic modelling will be required as the council must leave no stone unturned in its attempt to deliver the local housing need required by Government. A new strategy will be developed based on these consultations and the evidence collected. It is anticipated that a further Regulation 19 consultation will take place in the autumn.

Affordable Homes

The coalition administration has increased the number of affordable homes being delivered by developers. The Council has set up a housing company – Rainbow Homes – that is wholly owned by Swale Borough Council, so that, for the first time in many years, the council can start building much-needed homes for so-

cial rent. The first schemes will be flats built on sites owned by the council in Sittingbourne.

Healthier lifestyles and active travel This year the council has been renovating play areas across the borough. In Boughton, Swale Borough Council financed outdoor gym equipment located behind the village hall. An active travel coordinator has been appointed to develop plans for better facilities of walking and cycling across the borough. SBC funded the development of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan delivered by Faversham Town Council. Work is now starting on cycle routes between Faversham and the surrounding villages. Clear plans will enable the council to take advantage of funding opportunities from Government as they become available.

Action on the Climate, Ecological Emergency.

Action has continued to reduce carbon emissions in Swale, especially from the council's operations. Mas-

ters House in Sheerness is undergoing a major re-fit including leading energy-saving measures. Contractors have just been engaged to fit double glazing and extra insulation to make Swale House more energy-efficient. SBC has set up a car club in Faversham, which will enable some residents to forgo the expense of running a car, while still providing low-cost access for journeys when a car is essential. SBC has also funded a bike hire scheme delivered by Faversham Town Council. Over 5,000 trees have been planted by SBC in the last year. Another 6,000 will be planted in the autumn. A new grounds maintenance contract will see use of electric power tools, electric vehicles and reduced the use of pesticides in our green spaces.

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#### STAINED GLASS

St. Michael's Church Hernhill  
a guided talk

Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm

Following last year's illustrated talk on the windows of the church, it was suggested a guided talk on a summer's evening will allow people to get up close to the windows in good light to see and appreciate the detail. Hernhill Church has 15<sup>th</sup> century stained glass, unique painted Georgian glass and fine examples of both Gothic Revival and Pre-Raphaelite art by some of the most famous and respected artists of the Victorian era.

Free admission and refreshments.  
Retiring collection for church funds.

All are welcome.

#### HERNHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We invite you to join us for a wonderful trip to The National Trust Wakehurst Place on Thursday 14th July. Coach from Mount Ephraim at 9.30am  
£22 for members, £23 for non members  
To book your seat please call 07487258438

## HERNHILL VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS

The AGM is to be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July in the village hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

Peter Rawlins, Chairman.

### NATIONAL OPEN GARDEN SCHEME

Avalon garden in Stoney Road, Dunkirk, ME13 9TN, will be opening for the National Open Garden Scheme on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June (from 11.00am till 4.00pm) Admission £6.00, children free. It is a sloping woodland garden, overlooking the Thames estuary and with mixed planting and some unusual plants.

Violet Croll

### THE JUNE CHURCH SERVICES

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June-Pentecost

10.00am Holy Communion, Herrhill. Rev'd Lorraine Apps-Huggins

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June Trinity Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion, Boughton, Venerable John Barton

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June

10.00am Morning Worship, Herrhill

10.30am Holy Communion, Graveney, Rev'd Peter Ould

#### Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> June

10.00am Patronal Service, Boughton, Benefice Holy Communion, Arch-deacon of Maidstone Venerable Andrew Sewell.

#### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June

10.30am Wednesday Worship, Barnabas, Boughton.

A short service, followed by refreshments

All are welcome to our services.

### OVER THE GARDEN WALL

This month we had the first village fête for two years and I was delighted with the amount of support we received. The fly past of three Spitfires was really special. It is a lot of hard work to put on such an occasion and I know the committee would encourage new people to please help in the future. I know the funds raised from the day will be put to very good use. I attended the floral display in the church and can only wonder at the brilliance of Vicky & her sister. The arrangements were beautiful. Personally, I can spend hours arranging flowers and they still look as though

I have thrown them at the vase from a long distance. I should have known better than to moan about watering the garden last month. Clearly someone upstairs was listening. It brings to mind the saying "Be careful what you wish for". As Brits we have to have changeable weather, otherwise nobody would ever start a conversation in this country. Looking forward to the Jubilee weekend. I hope you all have fun and I have it on good authority that the Queen's favourite weather is 'Reign'. Stay safe & God bless, Sandi.

### PLATINUM PENTECOST

The church will be celebrating one of its major festivals on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June, Pentecost or Whit Sunday. Pentecost comes from the Greek word *pentecoste* meaning 50<sup>th</sup> day as it is a Jewish festival of thanksgiving for the harvest 50 days after the Feast of the Passover. For Christians, it is the coming of the Holy Spirit.

After the Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension of Christ, his apostles and followers were in Jerusalem for Pentecost and the Bible gives a detailed account of what happened in Chapter two of the Acts of the Apostles. They were altogether when "suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability".

It seems there were people from every nation of the known world present in Jerusalem at that time as the Bible passage contains a long list of the different races who were bewildered at what was going on. The apostles, filled with the Holy Spirit, were speaking about God's deeds of power and Jesus Christ, the Messiah, and each person was hearing it in their own language. Some of the crowd thought they were drunk, but Peter denied this because it was "only nine o'clock in the morning".

This was the coming of the Holy Spirit which had been prophesied by Joel over 600 years before and promised by Jesus to his disciples on the night before his betrayal and crucifixion. Pentecost is considered to be the start of the Christian Church as 3000 peo-

ple were baptised on that day.

This year, Pentecost falls on the weekend of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, celebrating the 70 year reign of a monarch with a strong Christian faith who has sought the guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout her life. Her Majesty openly talks about the importance of her faith and how she relies on it to guide her through the good times and the bad, drawing strength from the message of hope in the Christian Gospel. In her Christmas Day messages, even though she is addressing a multi-ethnic audience of other faiths and none, she ensures the real meaning of Christmas is always included. No doubt, some are not happy with this, as in our increasingly secular society it is considered not politically correct to promote Christianity for fear of offending other faiths. When Tony Blair wanted to talk about his Christian faith in public, his director of communications, Alistair Campbell, told him "We don't do God".

In her first Christmas day broadcast in 1952, the young queen asked her listeners to pray for her before her coronation that she might faithfully serve God and "you all the days of my life". 48 years later Her Majesty used her Christmas message to emphasise that the birth of Jesus was the true millennium anniversary. She paid tribute to the divine inspiration of other religions and their importance to so many people, but said, "For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to live my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example".

Last Christmas, following the death of Prince Philip in April, the Queen said, "Jesus, a man whose teachings have

been handed down from generation to generation, and have been the bedrock of my faith".

The Queen doesn't force her beliefs on us, but with the guidance of the Holy Spirit she just gently shares her faith with us. On her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday she declared, "that my whole life whether be long or short shall be devoted to your service..." Obviously, her strong Christian faith has sustained her throughout her long life of dedicated service to our nation and the Commonwealth.

Thank you Ma'am, and congratulations on your Platinum Jubilee.

Peter Wilcock  
Churchwarden

#### DARGATE COMMUNITY FIBRE Update

Many of you will have heard the good news that, with a concerted community effort, we managed to reach our target to fund the installation of a Fibre broadband network for Dargate. This will make UltraFast Fibre Broadband services available to ALL properties from Herhill School, along with Herhill Hill and through Dargate.

So what happens next? Our project has now been moved into the "Build" phase which means the necessary work should be complete in 12 months.

Things will go a little quiet for a few months while OpenReach plan their resources, conduct surveys, and apply for necessary roadworks/closures

#### GARDENER'S CORNER

June is a busy month in the garden. All those seeds you have sown are growing like little forests and need thinning out which requires a level of dexterity and patience which some of us find difficult. The weeds have woken up and are carpeting every spare space. Most spring bulbs have finished flowering and have left behind masses of leaves. The vegetable garden needs that final dig and raking to a fine tilth before sowing those tiny dots which we are assured will grow into our Sunday lunch vegetables. We are tempted by those glorious plants profusely flowering in the garden centres which require a high level of TLC from us when we fill our tubs.

June on the other hand is a month to enjoy the fruits of our labours. Wonderful roses, colourful perennials in the borders, the first tender peas and carrots from the veg. patch and the lawn is green and lush. The days are long and hopefully the evenings warm so we can enjoy our G and T on the terrace. This is the dream and I hope that June fulfils this dream for you this year.

Jill Gelliot

#### WHEELIE BIN RACE

Three Horseshoes, Staple Street  
23rd July at 1.00pm

followed by Leigh Highwood at 3.00pm. Plus a charity auction Entry forms are available now at The Three Horseshoes. 01227 750842  
Entry £20 per team when you return your entry form  
All the proceeds will go to the PILGRIMS HOSPICE

#### BITS AND PIECES

90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the presence of a church in Herhill since 1120. The Fete was very successful and realised £4,050 split equally between the Village Hall and St Michael's Church. I believe that result was the best ever. Whilst Joyce and I were away there was another, equally successful event. The Flower Demonstration in the church was attended by 63 people, including some men (and why not!). £305 was raised to provide for material for the Flower Festival to be held in the church later this year. I'm looking forward to that.

It is all happening. The Platinum Jubilee is upon us with the events shown at the beginning of this issue. Later in the month there is the National Garden Scheme and then a guided tour of the church windows. Enjoy! ADT

#### REFUSE COLLECTION

June	7	Tuesday	Green Bin
	14	Tuesday	Blue Bin
	21	Tuesday	Green Bin
	28	Tuesday	Blue Bin
July	5	Tuesday	Green Bin
	12	Tuesday	Blue Bin
	19	Tuesday	Green Bin
	26	Tuesday	Blue Bin

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