

The Hartley Herald



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July 2007

PARISH & DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The elections for the Parish and District Councils were held on 3rd May 2007. There were 13 places to be filled on the Parish Council and 3 places for the Hartley and Hodsoll Street Ward on the District Council.

Of those Councillors elected onto the Parish Council, nine have previously served on the Parish Council and four were newly elected.

In the District Council elections, two have previously served as District Councillors and there is one newly elected. Your District Councillors are Cllr Mr L Abraham, Cllr Mr J Gaywood and Cllr Mr B Ramsay all of whom may be contacted via the Clerk at the Parish Office.

HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 14th May 2007 in the Pavilion at Manor Field. At the meeting Councillor James Gaywood was re elected Chairman of the Council and Cllr Malcolm Harris was re elected Vice Chairman. The membership of the Committees and Working Groups are as follows:

COMMITTEES

Amenities and Open Spaces Committee

Cllrs Barnett, Mrs Cole, Gaywood, Graeme, Granger, Harris, Mrs Oxtoby and Sewell,

Burial Grounds and Gardens of Remembrance Committee

Cllrs Barnett, Mrs Burns, Gaywood, Harris, Minns and Mrs Oxtoby

Communications Committee

Cllrs Abraham, Mrs Burns, Gaywood, Graeme, Harris and Mrs Oxtoby

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllrs Abraham, Alford, Barnett, Mrs Burns, Mrs Cole, Gaywood, Harris, Ramsay and Sewell

Highways Committee

Cllrs Gaywood, Graeme, Granger, Harris, Minns and Sewell plus the local County Councillor (co-opted)

Planning Committee

Cllrs Abraham, Alford, Mrs Cole, Gaywood, Harris, Minns, Mrs Oxtoby and Ramsay

Special Projects Committee

Cllrs Alford, Barnett, Gaywood, Harris, Mrs Oxtoby and Ramsay plus Chairmen of the following Committees:

Amenities & Open Spaces, Burial Grounds & Gardens of Remembrance, Finance & General Purposes and Planning as ex-officio members

Youth Committee

Cllrs Mrs Burns, Gaywood, Harris, Ramsay and Sewell

Northfield Management Committee

Cllrs Barnett, Brown, Mrs Clark, Gaywood, Glover and Mrs Oxtoby

Northfield Management Committee was set up to manage the public open space at Northfield in partnership with Ash-cum-Ridley PC. Membership consists of 3 members from each Parish Council.

WORKING GROUP

Standing Orders Working Group

Cllrs Alford, Gaywood, Harris and Ramsay

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting took place on Friday 25th May 2007 at 7.45p.m. at Hartley Primary School. The Meeting was attended by 42 residents and speakers at the Meeting included Dr Howard Stoate M.P, Inspector A Payne (West Kent Police), PC Alison Roberts (West Kent Police), Dr Gerald Cramp (Chairman of the Hartley Parish Plan Steering Committee), Councillor David Brazier (County Councillor) and Mr A Osborn (Hartley Community Warden).

Your Parish Councillors are: Larry Abraham, Chris Alford, Alan Barnett, Jane Burns, Penny Cole, James Gaywood, Steffan Granger, David Graeme, Malcolm Harris, Jonathan Minns, Anne Oxtoby, Brian Ramsay and Vince Sewell. They can be contacted via the Clerk, Julie Hoad at the Parish Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road, Kent, DA3 8EL, by e mail hartleyparishcouncil.org.uk or by phone 01474 709441

HARTLEY LIBRARY UPDATE FROM LINDA & ROBERT

It's us again - here to update you on the happenings at your library. Our articles in this publication, together with those in The Hart, the Town & Country Post, and the Sevenoaks Chronicle led to several of you to join or rejoin the library, so thank you for that.



We now have new replacement uvpc windows, this means that we can now open them without worrying whether we would be able to close them again! We have also had a coat of paint, that is the library walls and ceilings have, not us. The library is now looking quite smart - you really should come and see us if you haven't already done so!

Our next project is to enhance the small garden area so that you can have somewhere pleasant to sit and read during the warm weather. It could also be utilised for the Bounce & Rhyme Time babes. We now have a volunteer lady called Lisa who performs fantastically with the baby bouncers. It is really good fun. The next get together is 12th July and then every fortnight.

If you are unable to get out and about we have a kind gentleman by the name of Frank who will voluntarily deliver your books to your door every month. You just let us know what type of reading material/talking books/large print/etc. that you prefer and Robert and I will try to select something to interest you. If you would like to take advantage of this scheme then just give us a ring on 01474 704403.

Since the issue of the last Hartley Herald we have had loads of fun:

1. In celebration of World Book Day on 1st March all 14 classes of Hartley Primary school paid us a visit during the week and the children [some 400+ in total] took part in a "treasure hunt" for a book or tokens using a photocopy of a local ordnance survey map. There were 7 winners - one for each year.
2. Sevenoaks libraries ran a survey of the new opening hours for which there was the chance of winning a DVD player for those who completed a comments card - this was in addition to qualifying for a free video/DVD hire for taking part. We were really pleased that Andrea Head, one of our Hartley customers, won the prize. Andrea was also quite pleased!!!
3. Easter saw the arrival of our Bunny display and the Great Easter Chick Hunt. 76 children actually took part to find the 25 chicks dotted around the library.

This provided entertainment for adults and children alike not to mention the great amusement that Rob and I had watching re-count, after re-count, after re-count. . . The names of the children who counted the correct number of chicks were put in a hat and Chloe Milton-Robinson was the lucky winner of the chocolate egg.



Coffee & Chat on Tuesday mornings [opening time onwards] has continued to thrive, however it is always good to see new faces - see you soon?

Our Jigsaw Puzzle swapping scheme has grown - to join in just bring in your complete [all of the pieces please] jigsaw, and borrow one.

One final note: The Police now hold 'surgeries' in the library monthly on Saturday mornings. Next surgery date is Sat 21st July. Future dates will be displayed on the notice board within the library.

Hope to see you all soon - Linda and Robert

HARTLEY POND

As you may have noticed, clearance work at the pond has recently been started. A team of 12 Community Wardens (9 members of the Response Team and 3 members from the Sevenoaks Team), led by Adam Osborn the Community Warden for Hartley, spent a day at the pond clearing the surrounding area, cutting back some of the overhanging branches to allow more light in and dredging some of the mud out of the pond. Public response to the project has been good and the Community Wardens plan to organise another day as soon as possible to complete the work.



* Photograph courtesy of Brian Tremain.

Adam Osborn the Community Warden for Hartley would like to thank the team for their hard work.

Thanks also go to Glovers Farm, Waitrose and Henry's Bakery in Longfield for their donations of food to sustain the team, Glovers Farm and Tony Williams (a local resident) for their donation of tools used for the clearance work, Ivy Sharp (a local resident), for her donation of bird boxes, Colin Senneck for his coverage of the day in the local press and Brian Tremain for taking photographs of the work as it was being carried out.

IN THE ZONE SUMMER PROGRAMME

In the Zone is the holiday activity scheme operated by Sevenoaks District Council for young people aged 8 and above.



The Youth Zone will be visiting the Woodland Avenue Recreation Ground on **Tuesday 7th August**. The scheme is offered **free of charge** so why not come along?

CHARLTON COMES TO HARTLEY

Charlton Football Club will be running weekly football skills sessions at Woodland Avenue Recreation Ground on Monday evenings from 6.00p.m.—7.30p.m. starting on 6th August 2007. The sessions will run for 6 weeks and are aimed at the 10-18 year old age group.



The sessions will be provided **FREE OF CHARGE** so come along and test your skills!

RURAL AGE CONCERN DARENT VALLEY

Rural Age Concern Darent Valley will be celebrating the official opening of its new Cottage Day Centre in Scratchers Lane, Fawkham on Saturday 28th July 2007. The Cottage Day Centre is operated for the benefit of the elderly and disabled and can accommodate up to 44 clients. Chiropody, hairdressing, bathing, an impaired hearing clinic and shop mobility are amongst the services available.

The Centre is generally open from 8.30a.m. to 4.30p.m. on Mondays to Fridays but closed on public holidays and weekends.

For further information on the services and facilities provided please contact Wendy Cooper, the Centre Supervisor on 01474 879473 or email Rural Age Concern Darent Valley on age.concern@ic24.net.

POLICE SURGERY—HARTLEY

Neighbourhood Police Officer, PC Ali Roberts is holding a Police Surgery at **Hartley Library** one Saturday every month between the hours of **10.00a.m. and 12.00p.m.** The Surgery gives you a chance to raise any concerns that you may have about local policing issues.

PC Roberts will see residents individually on a first come, first served basis. If it is not possible to see everyone during Surgery hours your contact details will be noted and you will be contacted later.

Surgery dates are as follows:

Saturday 21st July 2007	Saturday 18th August 2007
Saturday 15th September 2007	Saturday 13th October 2007

Please see the Parish Council noticeboards for future dates and any changes.

PC Roberts is based at Swanley Police Station and can be contacted on 01322 283172 or email swanley.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk.



Getting to know you!



David Graeme was born in central London and has lived for the last 20 years in Hartley. David has been married for 35 years and has two grown up children.

After leaving school David went into heavy engineering as a draughtsman and then in 1974 started working for the London Borough of Bexley. From 1986 he worked

for a large multi-national company delivering health and safety training throughout the country. He currently works for Kent County Council delivering health and safety training to staff in schools.

David is looking forward to supporting the residents of Hartley and representing their views. There may be things some people would like to change but equally there are many who like it just the way it is. David is sure that we all wish to maintain and build on the character of Hartley and the surrounding area.

We all have opinions about change and development and so David feels that having a strong Parish Council is important to ensure all views are represented and conveyed to the authorities who give the final approval.

HARTLEY WOOD

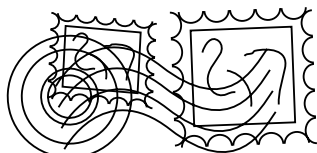
Residents are reminded that the riding of motorbikes in Hartley Wood is not permitted.

If you see motorbikes being ridden in the woods please contact the Community Warden, Adam Osborn on 07773 397135 or the Police on 01322 283172.

PARISH COUNCIL SURGERY DATES

Members of the Parish Council will be available on Saturday 21st July in the Parish Office from 10.00a.m. to 12 noon. If you have any points to raise or questions to ask your Parish Councillors please come along, no appointment necessary.

HARTLEY POST OFFICE



In view of continuing publicity about closures of rural post offices, the Parish Council would like to encourage residents to make full use of the many services provided by Hartley Post Office.

Hartley Post Office is situated on Ash Road and is open Monday-Friday 9.00a.m.-1.00p.m. and 2.00p.m. - 5.30p.m.

It is not yet known whether Hartley will be one of the post offices affected but if it is named as one of those set for closure, there will be a 6 week consultation period during which time residents and the Parish Council will have the opportunity to register their objections. The message is 'use it or lose it!' Please support your local post office.

KENT FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE—FREE HOME SAFETY CHECK

Did you know that almost all fires in the home can be prevented? To make your home safer and to help reduce casualty and death from fire in the home, Kent Fire and Rescue Service is offering free Home Fire Safety Checks. This involves home fire safety advice and if required, the installation of free 10 year smoke alarms.

To arrange a free Home Fire Safety Check telephone 0800 923 7000.

ROADSIDE HEDGES

The Council receives a number of complaints at this time of year about the danger to pedestrians from trees and hedges overhanging footpaths. Would those residents who have such hedges please ensure that they are regularly cut back.



FATHER HUGH BRIDGE RIP

In the March edition of the Hartley Herald, the Parish Council announced the death of Father Hugh Bridge. The article mistakenly stated that Father Hugh passed away on 21st January 2007 when it was in fact 22nd January 2007. The Parish Council would like to apologise for any distress that this error may have caused to father Hugh's family, friends and parishioners.