

The Hamlet



Issue 199

The Golden Green Association Newsletter

March 2016

GG Services to be Reduced?

From Revd Paul White:

'I have been Vicar of Hadlow and Golden Green for three years (amazingly!), and throughout that time I have run monthly services in the Mission Hall.

'For much of that time here there has been a small but fairly steady congregation. However, for the past six months or so we have seen fewer people, and the last service was cancelled because no one came.

'I know from my predecessors that running services in Golden Green has been something of a stop/start affair. The purpose of this article is firstly to advertise the dates of the next three services, which are 27 March (Easter Sunday), 17 April and 19 June, all at 12 noon, and secondly to say that, unless the people of Golden Green indicate a real desire to actually come to services in the Mission Hall, then it is possible that I shall have to reduce the number of services quite substantially.

'This is certainly not something I want to do but I need to focus my resources on services that people actually attend. If you value a church presence in Golden Green then please come and support the services.'

Note: There's no Easter services card this year (production problems). AW

Clean for the Queen

Saturday 5 March

10am–12 noon

Meet outside The Bell



Litter pick and spring clean around Golden Green

'Clean for the Queen' is a Keep Britain Tidy campaign to clear up Britain in time for HM The Queen's 90th birthday.

To make it more fun, dress up with a royal theme: wear royal-family masks, make your own crowns and dust off your tiara! More details from Howard Rogers (850329) or just turn up.

Love Where You Live?

Not everyone, it seems. On 9 Feb, Borough Cllr Janet Sergison, a TMBC officer, parish clerk Mel and two volunteers spent 2.5 hours 'bagging and flagging' 72 dog fouling deposits in Hadlow and GG. The bags and flags were left in place for 24 hours to raise awareness of the unnecessary and anti-social amount left by a small number of dog walkers. In GG, Victoria Road netted 7 bags, Three Elm Lane 16 and Bourne Park none, although a few days later, GGA's Facebook page reported more mess in Vic Road and Bourne Park—it was even commented that the situation's got worse since the event!

Report anyone who fails to pick up after their dog at www.tmbc.gov.uk/foul; or Waste Services (876147).

LitterGram Reports Litter

If you're into apps and hate litter, check out this free [LitterGram](#) app adopted by TMBC—take a smartphone photo of the litter and all the details, including GPS location are sent to the council automatically. Report fly tipping, litter, overflowing bins, potholes, broken road signs etc.

Ding Dong! Bell News

Great news! The Bell got a top score of 5 on TMBC's hygiene rating, after having the kitchen professionally cleaned. Food will be available very soon. Lee & Sam would like to thank their customers for their continued support.

Ska/Reggae Night

16 Apr 8pm

A great night of live music is assured. All welcome! Just come along.

Not-the-Bernie's Big Quiz

Monday 7 March 8.45pm

Bernie's away so the questions are being set by a mystery Quizmistress! Join us for a fun evening at 8.45pm.

Bat & Trap

Thursday evenings

The new season of this great local sport will be starting in April.

New players always welcome.

Contact Alex Donlevy (851753) ad13851@hotmail.com



Fish & Chip Challenge

Eight teams (*above*) battled for the honour of lifting the coveted trophy on 6 Feb but the Medway Streakers (*right*) were triumphant.

Thanks to everyone who took part and helped with organising and clearing up. Special thanks and a pat on the back to our quiz masters, David and Juliet Richards, who did a fantastic job, and to our MC Linda Daker.

A really fun evening, raising £175 for the community coffers.



The Golden Green Association Committee wishes everyone a Happy Easter!

Chair Alec Pelmore 850739 Secretary Howard Rogers 850329 Treasurer Gabrielle Lear 851252 Hall Bookings Rob & Ros Seall 850664 Newsletter Anne Waddingham 850048 Committee John Allen 851462, Chris Blackburn 850812, Ed Bright 850590, Nick Collins 850968, Linda Daker 851969, Andrew & Judith Deckers 850039, Stan Ellis 07711 014205, Graham Hargrave Smith 851576, Pete Hilborn 850278, Lee Stanley 851748, Jo Ivell 850291, Val & Michael Nobes 850768, Terry Parris 850725, Jane Rogers 850329, Pat Simmons 850257, June Thomas 850842, Sean Waddingham 850048, A Williams Walker 852733

GG Women's Institute by Iris Wilson

In February, Fred Lemont enlightened us about the 'coffee and chocolate' Quaker families Fry, Rowntree and Cadbury, all familiar names. (Founded by George Fox, the Quakers stood for peace, equality and integrity.)

The first was Bristolian apothecary Dr Fry who started making chocolate in 1759. The first chocolate bar was produced in 1847. (Now here's a gem of information! Did you know that the first hollow Easter egg was produced in 1873?) In 1919 Fry's merged with Cadbury's and four years later, opened the Somerdale factory in the south-west.

Rowntree's of York began life in 1725 as a grocery business started by Mary Tuke, who in 1869 was bought out by Henry Isaac Rowntree. It wasn't until 1881, when they introduced fruit pastilles, that the company became successful, the sweets accounting for over a quarter of their business. They went on to produce Smarties, KitKat, Aero, Dairy Box, Black Magic and others.

By now we were almost drooling when Fred began on the history of Cadbury's! John Cadbury founded the business, and on retiring in 1861, passed it on to his two sons Richard and George. In 1905 Cadbury's Dairy Milk was born—in 1913 becoming their bestselling brand, which continued for 75 years. In 1920 Cadbury's Flake was produced (by now we could hardly contain ourselves!) During WWII the factory machinery was adapted for arms manufacturing. All three companies were dedicated to the welfare of their workers. Luckily some parts of the businesses were protected from the 2010 hostile takeover by Kraft, although the Somerdale factory was closed.

Fred Lemont finished his talk with the words 'I'm sorry, but I haven't got any samples!' The groans must have been heard in East Peckham!! He was still applauded though, as we really enjoyed his talk.

Our thanks to Marion for arranging this successful last-minute replacement speaker, and also for organising the forthcoming talks. This was our first meeting in 2016, so during the coffee break we caught up with all the news.

On 16 March Jean Surry will be talking about 'Great Grandma's Needlework Box'. This should not be missed and is open to anyone who might be interested in the subject. Meet in the village hall opposite The Bell. Doors open 7.30 for 7.45pm start.

For further information about GG WI, please contact our President Rosemary Blackburn on 850812.

What's On in Golden Green?

More info:

Mondays	Zoe's Pilates	Hall	10–11am	771747
Tuesdays	Coffee Morning	Hall	10am	850768
Tuesdays	Mobile Library	Vic. Rd	5–5.15pm	0300 333 6022
MARCH				
Sat 5 Mar	'Clean for The Queen'	outside Bell	10–12 noon	850329
Mon 7 Mar	Not-the-Bernie's Big Quiz	Bell	8.45pm	851748
Thu 10 Mar	GG Book Club	Bell	8.30pm	850329
Wed 16 Mar	WI meeting	Hall	7.45pm	850812
Mon 21 Mar	Bingo!	Hall	8pm	850664
Sun 27 Mar	Easter Sunday Holy Communion	Hall	12 noon	850238
APRIL				
4 Apr	Welcome-back-Bernie's Big Quiz	Bell	8.45pm	851748
16 Apr	Ska & Reggae evening	Bell	8pm	851748

Village Pump

* On behalf of the Tonbridge/Heusenstamm Friendship Circle, Howard Rogers is collecting the **garden competition vouchers** published in *The Courier*. If they win, they will use the share of £7000 to create a flower garden around the Bannturm Schloss relic which is near Tonbridge Castle walls. Vouchers were published in the past two weeks' editions, and there will be more over the next four weeks. Please clip them out and contact Howard (850329) who will collect them before 25 Mar.

* The **GG book club** meets in The Bell on 10 Mar at 8.30pm to discuss *The Tea Planter's Wife* by Dinah Jefferies. The next book will be *Beside Myself* by Ann Morgan.

* It's a pity TMBC didn't actually say they wanted volunteers for the '**bag & flag**' event on 9 Feb—it might have got a better response?

Compaid Needs You

Can you spare some time to make a difference? Compaid is a charity based in Paddock Wood supporting disabled people in a variety of ways, and we are looking for volunteers to assist our work. Help our team support clients in discovering the magic of computers in a relaxed and informal way, helping individuals gain in confidence and ability. Join our volunteer minibus drivers providing a vital lifeline. Raise funds with a sponsored challenge. If you would like to find out more, contact Judith Williams: email judith.williams@compaid.org.uk or tel 01892 834539.

Parish Council Contacts

Parish Office Tel: 851878
Email: clerk@hadlowpc.co.uk
Open Tue & Thu 9.30am–12 noon
Website www.hadlowpc-kent.org.uk
Golden Green Councillors:
Nick Collins: 850968
nicolins@btinternet.com
Ed Bright: 850590
ed.bright@talk21.com

Bulky refuse lorry & WEEE collection:
Victoria Rd, GG 19 Mar 9.30–10.30am
Next council meeting: 14 Mar 7.30pm
Old School Hall, Hadlow

Annual Parish Meeting

Old School Hall, Wed 20 April 7.30pm

In a time when devolution seems the way forward, this is the perfect opportunity to express your views on what the parish council should be providing, and what it should do in the future.

There will be an update on existing projects, including the cemetery extension, parking facilities, play areas, buildings and the Hy-Arts Centre.

Please come and contribute your ideas for Hadlow parish and its future.

Hand in items for inclusion in the next issue to Anne Waddingham at 13 Sherenden Park (850048) or email gghamlet@outlook.com by 24 March.

Sign up for the email edition or ask for the paper version if you're not on the circulation list.

Please tell us if you have a new neighbour so that we can be sure they get the newsletters. Contact Anne (details above) or Alec (850739).