



The Hamlet

Issue 183

The Golden Green Association Newsletter

October 2014

First Aid Training

Wed 5 November 7–9pm

Sat 15 November 2.30–4.30pm

The AED (defibrillator) is easy to use – as described last month, dial 999 to get the access code and advice. But it's best to be prepared – so for some practical training, book now for a session in November. There are only two sessions and numbers are limited so don't miss out. Contact Jane Rogers: tel 850329, email gjanerogers@aol.com.

The Bell: Community Right To Bid Update

The meeting on 15 September to discuss applying to register a Community Right to Bid on The Bell was well attended, with over 30 people (+ 1 dog) present.

After discussion of the various issues, it was decided to meet with Hawthorn Leisure to underline our keenness to retain The Bell but that at the same time, the Community Right to Bid should be registered with TMBC.

Registering does not commit us to buying but it does give us the opportunity to decide whether to act, should Hawthorn Leisure, the new owners, decide to sell.

Thanks to all those who attended and to Alex Pelmore for chairing the meeting.

Coffee Morning

Friday 7 November 10.30am–12.30pm

Kent House Farm

Hatches Lane TN11 0JS

Hosted by Christopher and Christine Wheeler on behalf of East Peckham and Golden Green Conservative Branch

A chance to meet Tom Tugendhat, our Conservative parliamentary candidate.

All welcome. Bring and Buy stall (including produce) and a raffle.

For transport please ring Robin White-side 01622 871513.

Flooding from The Bourne

Correspondence continues between various residents and the EA regarding the Flood Warning boundaries map (see September's *Hamlet*). The EA has issued a revised map (which can be downloaded from my [fileshare site](#) or email gghamlet@outlook.com) but some anomalies remain. The EA says new data and computer modelling means they are again reviewing both this map and the Flood Planning map, and will circulate their decisions next year.

Barnes Street resident Rena Pope is concerned that the Bourne from the weir to Pierce Mill Lane has not been cleared of vegetation for many years and will make flooding worse. The EA has told her that as the area is 'low flood risk' and the only work needed is trimming overhanging branches that might snag debris and cause blockages. If you agree with Rena, please contact her or the EA.

The advice to farmers from the RSPB incidentally, is to clear banks 'little and often', i.e. a short stretch at a time on a rotational basis so that the habitat and wildlife can recover. Stripping large areas of bank vegetation can also make erosion worse.

The wooden footbridge over the same stretch of the Bourne has been 'closed' since the winter storms because bank erosion has destabilised the southern side of the bridge. KCC taped it off, put up a warning notice and promised to fix the damage promptly but months later, the tape has now gone and people are again using it freely. We don't want it closed again, but we would like it to be mended soon or another bridge built.

There will be a Flood Warden training session on Saturday 18 October at TMBC Kings Hill offices from 10am to 2pm. If you're interested in volunteering to be a Flood Warden or are a parish warden already, tel 876315 or email emergency-planning@tmbc.gov.uk

Nigel Manley

Longer-term residents will remember Nigel Manley, who lived in Poplar Farm Oast from 1982 to 1995. We're sad to report that Nigel passed away peacefully on 18 September. Nigel, a litho printer by profession, founded, wrote, printed and distributed our first village newsletter. [Anyone still have one? I'd love to copy it for our archives. AW] He was always very active in the community, especially in maintaining the hall. He organised a party of volunteers to paint it, and he even made the front door! He also took responsibility for hiring out the marquee. His wife Carole was GGA secretary. After winding up his business, Nigel used his artistic talents to paint traditional designs on narrow boats – he actually built his own narrow boat *Pollyanna* in his garden at Poplar Farm Oast. Once finished to Nigel's exacting standards, he and Carole left GG to live on *Pollyanna* until moving to Long Itchington, Warks.

The funeral is on 5 Oct in Warwickshire. Donations in Nigel's memory can be made to [Diabetes UK](#). Thanks to ex-GGA chair Vivienne Bird for passing on the news.

Straight to Your In-Box

We've got about a quarter of the hamlet signed up now – but we'd like lots more to switch to PDF delivery of *The Hamlet*, and the parish newsletter as soon as possible. Every one that is delivered electronically saves us money, time and hassle and helps the environment!

If you can't access the internet, ask to continue with paper copies but please remember to tell us, as we'll stop paper delivery from January. Otherwise, to continue getting your monthly newsletters, email (don't forget to tell us your address) alecpelmore@btinternet.com or gghamlet@outlook.com. Alternatively download the newsletters from the [Hadlow Parish website](#) or the [GGA Facebook page](#). Thank you!

Golden Green Association Committee Contacts

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, Graham Hargrave Smith 851576, Pete Hilborn 850278 Jo Ivell 850291 Val & Michael Nobes 850768
 Terry Parris 850725, Jane Rogers 850329, Pat Simmons 850257, June Thomas 850842, Sean Waddingham 850048, Ray Warren 851748, A Williams Walker

GG Women's Institute

Report by Iris Wilson

We'd been looking forward to the speaker for our September meeting as it sounded different and interesting. What was a pearl stringer? At Gerrard's the Crown Jewellers too! We weren't disappointed as Christine Etheridge had our attention from the start. She originally wanted to be a watchmaker, but at her interview she was found to have a natural aptitude for stringing pearls and has never looked back. She told us about freshwater and saltwater pearls, which result in slightly different colours. Before stringing, the pearls are graded from the large central one down to the smallest at the clasp at the back, and placed on a special, grooved board. Doubled silk thread is always used as it doesn't damage the pearl. After threading, a knot is placed before the next one. It was fascinating to see how quickly her hands moved, and the neat result. (I tried it at home and didn't even get near a knot!) Christine has restrung pearls worth thousands of pounds, and she has done work for many celebrities. Some members' pearls were then valued – although not worth thousands, some were valued at a few hundred, much to the delight of the owners. Her talk was so absorbing, the meeting didn't close until 10.30pm.

The speaker for 15 October sounds almost as mysterious, as David Bower is to speak about Olympic Trailbreaker Volunteers. Doors open 7.30pm for 7.45pm start. For details of GG WI, contact Rosemary Blackburn on 850812.

Power Cuts Update

UK Power Networks contacted *The Hamlet* to explain that when there is a fault we are switched to an alternative electricity supply, which can result in a brief 'flicker', but this system prevents longer interruptions. Engineers are installing longer 'cross arms' on overhead power lines which will push the wires further apart, reducing problems caused by wind-borne debris touching cables. UKPN apologised for any inconvenience and advise us to call 0800 7838866 if you have a power cut.

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
Wednesdays	Gentle Exercise	Hall	10.30am	850768
OCTOBER				
Monday 6 Oct	Bell Quiz Night	Bell	8.45pm	851748
Wednesday 15 Oct	WI meeting	Hall	7.45pm	850812
Monday 20 Oct	Bingo!	Hall	8pm	850768
Sunday 26 Oct	Holy Communion	Hall	11.45am	850768
NOVEMBER				
Monday 3 Nov	Bell Quiz Night	Bell	8.45pm	851748
Wednesday 5 Nov	Defibrillator training	Hall	7–9pm	850329
Saturday 15 Nov	Defibrillator training	Hall	2.30–4.30pm	850329
Sunday 23 Nov	Family Service	Hall	11.45am	850768

The Village Pump

* Last month a young GG resident was badly frightened by an uncontrolled grey dog and, to make matters worse, the lady owner was extremely rude to her. What a shame that a thoughtless minority give others a bad name; most dog owners are considerate, friendly, and aware that not everyone is a dog-lover. If you know anything about this incident, please contact the [TMBC Dog Warden](#).

* After crushing Hadlow Utd in the pre-season friendly, once again The Bell football team beat their old rivals in a great start to the new season of the West Kent Sunday League.

* Start early on your Christmas shopping: visit the Autumn Gift Fayre on 31 Oct from 10am to 3pm in West Peckham Village Hall, Church Road ME19 5JL. £1 entry.

* Speed Watch will be operating in GG and throughout Kent again this autumn, including during National Road Safety Week 17–23 November.

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: Victoria Rd, GG 18
 October 9.30–10.30am
Next council meeting: 13 Oct 7.30pm
 Mission Hall, Golden Green

GGA Lottery Results

September
 £25 Peter Thomas
 £25 Elaine Abbs
 £25 John Allen

Please hand in items for inclusion in the November issue to Anne Waddingham at 13 Sherenden Park or email gghamlet@outlook.com by 24 October.