

# The Hamlet



Issue 186

The Golden Green Association Newsletter

January 2015

## Gigaclear: Ultrafast BB for GG

Enclosed with this issue is information from Gigaclear, who specialise in supplying ultrafast broadband services to rural areas. We don't usually advertise commercial services in this newsletter but I'm making this an exception because I believe that having fast, reliable broadband is a community issue. It's essential if the many home-based businesses that exist in GG and Hadlow are to thrive, and it's increasingly important for personal use, as internet services demand more and more bandwidth (the size of the 'pipe' that delivers your internet). If you want to take advantage of on-demand TV and stream films without interruption, you need at least 10MB, says Ofcom, and you can be certain that will soon increase. (Currently you're lucky to get 5MB in GG!). If you sell your house, having ultrafast broadband will make it more attractive to potential buyers—it will soon be regarded as important as an electricity supply.

Why not wait for BT to install superfast BB? It's due at the end of this year if we're lucky *but* they will bring optical fibre only to the cabinet outside the Mission Hall—from there to your house it will be same old copper wires, with the inevitable speed reduction and reliability problems. Gigaclear are completely independent of BT and their fibreoptic system does not use any BT equipment—not even the Hadlow exchange. The cable comes direct from Seal and is laid underground down the road, so there would be some disruption while that happens. A connection box is installed in the road outside every property—all you see is the lid—a bit like your water meter. Those who sign up install another fibreoptic cable from the box to the Gigaclear router in their house. This means that you get ultrafast fibre direct to your house.

Gigaclear's basic package delivers 50MB, then 100MB etc. up to 1000. There's a £100 connection fee plus an installation fee depending on how far your property is from the box in the road – up to 17 metres costs £95, or you can self-install. The system can be used in conjunction with a telephone package called Vonage, which means you can do away with your BT landline, making the 50MB package comparable in price with BT Infinity but with a better, faster service. Note wifi speeds drop drastically in a house depending on where your router is, so it's advisable to get a booster.

Crucially Gigaclear have to have a third of Hadlow & GG signed up in the next few weeks for it to be worth their while laying the cable while they're in the area. If we haven't reached that number, they'll move elsewhere. You can register your interest by going to [gigaclear.com](http://gigaclear.com). The procedure may seem a bit alarming as you have to place an order and complete a direct debit form but Gigaclear won't take any money until and if they supply the service, and you can change your mind at any point up to when they start the supply. You're also protected by the direct debit guarantee. Even if you're tied into a BT contract you can still sign up now and their service can start as soon as your BT contract expires.

I'd urge residents to register for Gigaclear as soon as possible!

AW

## Join the 2015 GG Lottery

The GG draw pays out three monthly prizes of £25 plus mid-winter and mid-summer prizes if all the numbers are sold. Each number costs just £6 for a whole year and you can buy multiple numbers.

It's an important source of income for the community, funding the village hall upkeep and local events.

Contact Alec Pelmore (850739), The Old Farmhouse, Hartlake Rd, or email [alecpelmore@btinternet.com](mailto:alecpelmore@btinternet.com) as soon as possible to be in the January draw. Provide your name, address, phone number and the quantity of numbers you'd like. Good luck!

## Ding Dong! The Bell News

Lots happening in the next few weeks:

- \* 5 Jan (change of date) Quiz Night
- \* 20 Jan It's National Cheese Day! Cheese evening from 8pm
- \* 23 Jan National Pie Day! Cockney Pie & Mash evening from 8pm
- \* 25 Jan Burns Night supper—booking essential
- \* 14 Feb Valentine's Dinner with live music from Off the Cuff—booking essential

Call in at The Bell or phone 851748 for more information or to book an event.

## Retired Residents' Lunch Wednesday 21 January

Mission Hall 12.15pm for 12.30

Contact Linda Daker (851969) at 22 Sherenden Park or Rob/Ros Seall (850664) at 1 Bell Cottages.

Please say how many places you'd like to reserve and whether you have any special dietary requirements.

There'll be the usual scrummy home-made pies, mouth-watering desserts and a glass of wine to help the convivial atmosphere. Our Nippies will serve you with a smile and wash up!

Just bring yourselves and a raffle prize if you can.

## Golden Green Annual Fish & Chips Challenge!

Saturday 24 January Mission Hall 7 for 7.30pm start

£6 per person including fish & chip supper

Bring your own drinks and nibbles and a raffle prize

Teams of up to 8 maximum. If you haven't got enough for a team, join another table on the night. If you prefer chicken, say when you book.

To book, contact Howard on 850329 or email [howardsrogers@aol.com](mailto:howardsrogers@aol.com)

Always a popular event so book now to avoid disappointment!

## 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, Sarah Humphrey 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 Report by Iris Wilson

Our 10 Dec meeting went with a swing, with Doreen Cole reading her monologues, which she found after her mother passed away, handwritten in a notebook. Remember those days when we used pen and pencil? We also enjoyed Doreen's biscuit Christmas tree but owing to a bit of a mix-up instead of our usual 'hot toddy' we had to settle for tea and coffee—still, there's always next year! We managed a bit of WI business during the evening and voted on the resolution that we wanted to support, out of the four put forward. We don't meet in January so our next meeting is 18 Feb, when subs are due and 2015's programme will be given out. Our February guests will be Alan Austen and Linda Smith who will be recounting stories about the folk songs of Kent and Sussex. I only know songs from my school days so it'll be interesting to find out more.

Barbara Beale has been a great supporter of our WI but is now moving Essex way, and we will all miss her very much. She has promised to keep in touch and to make sure she doesn't forget us, she was presented with some garden vouchers and a lovely card, with a photo album including pictures of everyone, just to remind her! Our Christmas meal in the Hop Farm's Brewers Oast was enjoyed by all and we managed to find time to do some shopping. The shop that sold every material you could imagine and lots more besides had some of our members purring with pleasure!

My sincere apologies to everyone and especially to Rosalind for inexplicably reporting her name incorrectly in last month's *Hamlet*. It was Rosalind Seall of course who collected all our efforts into the wall hanging, and a wonderful job she did. Sorry again, Rosalind—can I please get up off my knees now?!

Golden Green WI wishes everyone a happy, healthy and successful 2015. We're a very small but friendly WI, meeting on the third Wednesday of every month. Doors open at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start. For further information 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
Wednesdays	Gentle Exercise	Hall	10.30am	850768
JANUARY				
Tue 20 Jan	Natl Cheese Day Evening	Bell	8pm	851748
Mon 19 Jan	Bingo!	Hall	8pm	850768
Wed 21 Jan	Retirees' Lunch	Hall	12.15pm	851969
Fri 23 Jan	Cockney Pie & Mash Event	Bell	8pm	851748
Sat 24 Jan	Annual Village Quiz	Hall	7.30pm	850329
Sun 25 Jan	Holy Communion	Hall	9am	850768
Sun 25 Jan	Burns Night Supper	Bell	tbc	851748
FEBRUARY				
Mon 9 Feb	Bell Quiz Night	Bell	8.45pm	851748

## The Village Pump

\* The application to register a Community Right to Bid for The Bell (see *The Hamlet* Sep 14 for details) was submitted on 18 November. The GGA are now waiting to hear from TMBC.

\* Sarah Chilvers in Hartlake Road isn't the only one worried by the huge trucks that are using it to access the solar farm construction site. Stationery vehicles on the bridge make it a continuing hazard, as HGVs manoeuvre in and out of the temporary road. Be very careful as you approach it.

\* Sarah Chilvers is our own correspondent for *Kent Messenger's* Malling & Weald edition—send details of any events to her by noon on Tuesday for the following Friday's issue.

\* Didn't the Christmas tree outside The Bell look pretty? It was supplied by Mike Hibbs. By the way, the GGA is hoping to buy coloured lights to adorn the Mission hall next festive season.

\* Watch GG resident Georgina Du Bern's daughter Josephine competing on ITV's *Countdown* on 14-16 Jan!

\* Remember Christmas cards, trees and plain wrapping paper can be recycled in your green bin.

## Parish Council Contacts

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

*Bulky refuse/WEEE lorry:*  
Victoria Rd, GG 24 Jan 9.30–10.30am  
*Next council meeting:* 12 Jan 7.30pm  
Mission Hall, Golden Green

## Parish Council Elections

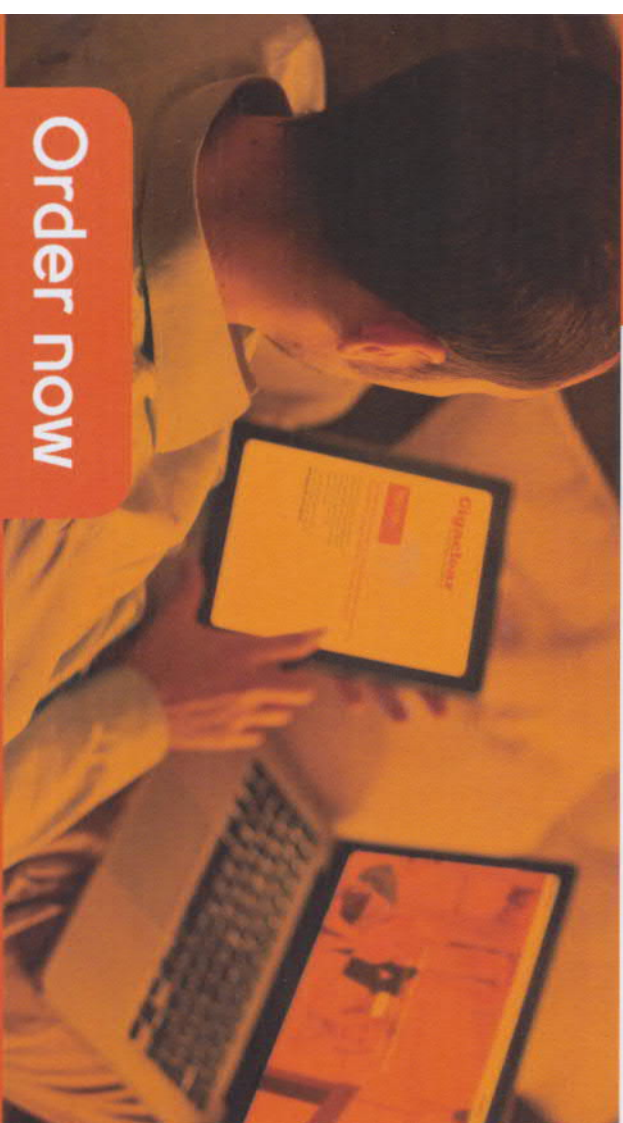
Are you considering putting yourself forward as a candidate for the 2015 elections to the Parish Council? There will be information boards in Golden Green, Hadlow and on the parish website on which applicants can put a headshot and brief details of themselves and what they can contribute to the parish. Please send details to the Parish Office, Old School Hall, Hadlow; email [clerk@hadlowpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@hadlowpc.co.uk).

Please hand in items for inclusion in the December issue to Anne Waddingham at 13 Sherenden Park or email [gghamlet@outlook.com](mailto:gghamlet@outlook.com) by 22 January. PDF edition available.

# Gigaclear

Ultrafast Fibre Broadband

STAGE 2



## Order now

### For Gigaclear ultrafast fibre broadband!

Gigaclear brings the UK's fastest broadband\* to rural communities, transforming the way people engage with the digital world by providing a truly top class broadband experience.

The only way to get ultrafast and consistent broadband speed is with pure fibre-to-the-home, not fibre to the cabinet and then the same old copper to your home as supplied by other providers.

So why not order now to access your online world, the faster you sign up, the faster you can get Gigaclear!

Place your order now!

[www.gigaclear.com/ordernow](http://www.gigaclear.com/ordernow)

\* Delivering up to 50x faster broadband than the average UK broadband speed. Source: Ofcom's review of UK broadband speeds published in October 2014, based on Ofcom May 2014 tests.

# Gigaclear

Ultrafast Fibre Broadband

## Great reasons to order Gigaclear today!

- The capacity for everyone to go on line at the same time
- Speeds of up to 1000Mbps with unlimited downloads/uploads
- Unlimited broadband and phone packages, from just £45.80 per month!

### Transmission Speed

	Typical rural broadband 4 Mbps	Gigaclear 50 Mbps	Gigaclear 100 Mbps
<b>Large file 512MB</b>	TAKES 21.4 MINUTES	TAKES 89 SECONDS	TAKES 9.5 SECONDS
To download your favourite movie or game demo or upload 200 photos	TAKES 3.7 MINUTES	TAKES 18 SECONDS	TAKES 1.7 SECONDS
<b>Medium file 100MB</b>	TAKES 3.7 MINUTES	TAKES 18 SECONDS	TAKES 1.7 SECONDS
<b>MP3 Audio CD Download</b>	TAKES 14 SECONDS	TAKES 0.8 SECONDS	TAKES 0.2 SECONDS
<b>Extra small file 5MB</b>	TAKES 14 SECONDS	TAKES 0.8 SECONDS	TAKES 0.2 SECONDS
<b>Share files or download high quality 5 minutes MP3 music file</b>	TAKES 14 SECONDS	TAKES 0.8 SECONDS	TAKES 0.2 SECONDS

All speed tests conducted during peak network time 16:00 - 18:00 Hours

**LIMITED OFFER**

Order now today!  
and receive a FREE upgrade on your home package for the next 12 months \*\*  
[www.gigaclear.com/ordernow](http://www.gigaclear.com/ordernow)

### 3 stages to get Gigaclear in your community

**STAGE 1** COMPLETED

**Register Interest** 30-35% of households need to 'register interest' to demonstrate sufficient demand in the community for Gigaclear

**STAGE 2** CURRENT STAGE

**Order Now** Households can place an order now. A threshold of 30-35% of orders are required before 'go-live'

**STAGE 3**

**Go Live** Installation of fibre broadband network and activating Gigaclear ultrafast fibre broadband

\*\* For terms and conditions visit [www.gigaclear.com/upgrade](http://www.gigaclear.com/upgrade)  
Gigaclear Home 50 : Up to 50Mbps uploads, up to 50Mbps downloads, Unlimited use £38.80 plus Vantage Talk at £7.00 per month (Effective 1st January 2015).

