

The Hamlet

Happy Easter!



Issue 189

The Golden Green Association Newsletter

April 2015

A Rubbish Job!



Howard Rogers writes: A big thank you to everyone who came along and helped on Community Clear Up Day. It was a really great effort. We had 25 volunteers and between us litter picked pretty much the whole hamlet, road, pavements, verges and footpaths.

Unbelievably we had nearly 40 full rubbish sacks (see above) plus three car trailer loads with four tyres, two wheels, two double mattresses, a big pile of discarded kitchen cabinets, two polystyrene sinks, a video recorder, several car parts and bits of a greenhouse!

I made a point of driving round the village afterwards and it has really made a difference.

A team of six tackled the Signpost Field play equipment and gave that a good scrubbing and clean up too. There's still a bit of work to do round there but it does look so much better. Many thanks and well done all.

And our thanks to Howard for organising everything so efficiently – GGA

Fast Fibre Update

Several people have asked me recently what's happening on the broadband front so here's an update.

Re BT, the new cabinet next to the bus shelter outside the Mission Hall is not connected and there's lots more work to be done including upgrading Hadlow Exchange. An OpenReach engineer I spoke to recently confirmed that superfast from BT isn't likely to be available until the end of the year. When it is, remember the service goes the rest of the way to your house by slower copper wire.

Effort to register enough subscribers for Gigaclear continue. The subscriber target counter at gigaclear.com has been split into three areas: north Hadlow is at 80% of their target so, lucky people, their first cabinet will go in very shortly. South Hadlow & GG is at 53% so if people continue to register, we could be next. East Hadlow is at 13%. This correlates with how the sales team have been deployed, and is roughly in line with the cable laying as they head south from Shipbourne. Gigaclear hope to hold some events in GG soon, so you can learn more about it then, or contact their head rep at Rob.Seymour@gigaclear.com.

Just a reminder that Gigaclear are completely independent of BT/OpenReach, and their cable will be fibreoptic all the way to your modem, giving a superior service, which they also hope will be live by the end of the year.

See the counter and register your interest at gigaclear.com.

Anne Waddingham

Hartlake Bridge Sign

How disgraceful that two men mindlessly vandalised the Hartlake Bridge Disaster memorial plaque under the bridge (left) on 10 Mar between 5.00 and 5.30pm. They were seen leaving in a small boat. Please call Kent Police on 101 if you know anything about it. (Crime Report No. YY/005323/15)

Ding Dong! The Bell News

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

Bell Race Night

in aid of Macmillan Cancer
8pm Sun 5 Apr

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*Also on Easter Weekend*

**Pool competition**

3 Apr 7pm £5 entry

**Meat raffle**

Sun 5 Apr 3pm

**Free Pool Killer**

Mon 6 Apr 4pm

*And on Fri 17 Apr*

**Live music! 8.30-late**

### 1st Bell Beer Festival

1-4 May all day!

Live music and BBQ

Sat & Sun 2 & 3 May

### Bernie's Bell Quiz

Tues 5 May 8.30 for 8.45pm

Teams of 2-6 people

£1 per person entry fee

Cash prize & monthly roll-over

Everyone welcome – just turn up

Contact Sarah at The Bell  
(851748) for more details about  
any of these events

### GGA Lottery Results

Congrats to our first 2015 winners:

*January*

£25 Emma Weare

£25 Graham Hackley

£25 Bernie Simmonds



## Have you registered to vote?

It's not too late – the deadline for applications to be on the Electoral Register is Monday 20 April (21st for a postal vote). As well as the General Election, you can vote for all your borough and parish councillors. Apply online at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) or contact [voting@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:voting@tmbc.gov.uk) or phone 876022 to request a paper form. Don't lose your voice!

## GG Women's Institute Report by Iris Wilson

There was a buzz of anticipation at our Wednesday meeting as we prepared to listen to 'Auctioneers Tales' as told by Derek Hodge. He started by saying that he had been in auctioneering for many years with Ibbett Mosely and had seen many changes. He showed us the ivory gavel he uses, and brought to our attention the dark stain at the end of it, caused by him holding the gavel incorrectly; he said that he had been told about this many times. Apparently one should cup the gavel in one's hand holding the 'hammer' part between finger and thumb! Once that gavel hits the table, of course, the deal is done and the contract is valid.

He made us laugh when he told us about valuing items sold in divorce cases: at one time there used to be a valuer for each party but it caused so much hassle with price variation that now only one is allowed. It was interesting to learn that, although good-quality furniture was once highly priced, 'brown' furniture is now hard to shift. And a gold dollar is worth £600–900 depending on quality, but the value of sovereigns has fluctuated greatly over the years from about £40 to £250 but is now sliding down again.

At the end of his talk Derek very kindly valued several members' items.

On 2 June, for the WI centenary, there will be a garden party hosted by the Duchess of Cornwall at Buckingham Palace, to which every WI can send one person. We drew lots for those interested in going and it was won by new member Jean Cort. Congratulations Jean – don't forget to write your report about it afterwards!!

For the Trussell Trust food bank we had also collected three days' worth of tins of food and non-perishables to be bagged up for those in need.

On Wednesday 15 April we will have 'Card Making' by one of our members. Come along if you are interested – just bring a pair of small scissors – everything else will be provided.

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 |
| Wednesdays | Gentle Exercise                  | Hall    | 10.30am   | 850768        |
| APRIL      |                                  |         |           |               |
| Fri 3 Apr  | Pool competition                 | Bell    | 7pm       | 851748        |
| Sun 5 Apr  | Easter Sunday Holy Communion     | Hall    | 9am       | 850768        |
| Sun 5 Apr  | Meat raffle & Charity race night | Bell    | 3pm & 8pm | 851748        |
| Mon 6 Apr  | Free Pool Killer                 | Bell    | 4pm       | 851748        |
| Wed 15 Apr | WI meeting                       | Hall    | 7.45pm    | 850812        |
| Fri 17 Apr | Live music                       | Bell    | 8.30–late | 851748        |
| Mon 20 Apr | Bingo!                           | Hall    | 8pm       | 850768        |
| MAY        |                                  |         |           |               |
| 1–4 May    | Beer festival                    | Bell    | all day   | 851748        |
| 2 & 3 May  | Live music & BBQ                 | Bell    | all day   | 851748        |
| Tue 5 May  | Bernie's Big Quiz                | Bell    | 8.30pm    | 851748        |

## The Village Pump

\* Now the heavy work on the solar farm has been completed, can British Renewables please fulfil their obligations to restore the Hartlake Road verges to their original condition, as stated in their planning permission?

\* The GG book club meets at The Bell on Wed 15 Apr at 8pm to discuss *To kill a mockingbird* by Harper Lee. Next month's choice is *Elizabeth is missing* by Emma Healey.

\* The GG Summer Fete is a must for all the family—put it in your diary: Sun 14 Jun from 1pm, Signpost Field.

\* The GGA AGM is on Wed 6 May 8pm in the Mission Hall. All welcome.

\* GG's Chris Salter bravely gave his all in a Full Monty performance at Tonbridge's Show Off for charity. Hats off to him – but let's leave it there!

\* And finally ... we can't believe anyone in GG would be daft enough to fall for this but it made us laugh! A hoax caller claiming to be from KCC has been phoning Kent residents to make an appointment to fit a 'compulsory bird bath' in your garden, asking for a cheque for £50. Look out - Big Bird is watching you!

## 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)

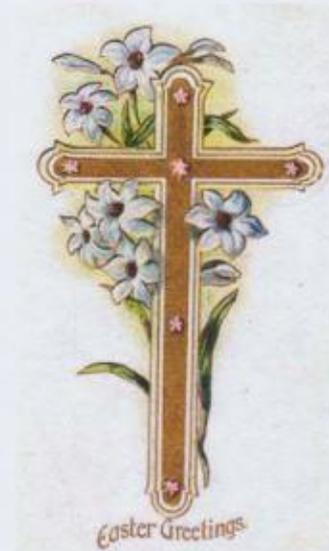
*Bulky refuse/WEEE/scrap metal lorry:*  
Victoria Rd, GG 25 Apr 9.30–10.30am  
*Next council meeting:* 13 Apr 7.30pm  
Mission Hall, Golden Green

Note a change of venue for the Annual Parish Meeting on 22 Apr – now at Old School Hall. Please tell the parish office if you're attending. On display: plans for the updated Williams Field play area – the GG play area will be next so go have a look. There'll also be info about the Country Fayre on 28 Jun.

Please hand in items for inclusion in the May issue to Anne Waddingham at 13 Sherenden Park (850048) or email [gghamlet@outlook.com](mailto:gghamlet@outlook.com) by 25 April.

Sign up for the email edition to be green and save us money and time.

**ST MARY'S CHURCH  
HADLOW &  
GOLDEN GREEN**



**EASTER SERVICES  
2015**

**Services at St Mary's  
and Golden Green**

**Palm Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**  
8.00am Holy Communion

**9.45am** Hadlow Square - Palm Procession to  
Church followed by Parish Eucharist

**Holy Week**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 8pm**  
Holy Communion

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 8pm**  
Holy Communion

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April**  
9.30am Holy Communion  
8pm Holy Communion

**Maundy Thursday 8pm**  
Holy Communion and stripping of the altar

**Good Friday**

**10am** Walk of Witness from St Peter's Chapel,  
Maidstone Road, to St Mary's  
*stay afterwards for coffee and Hot Cross Buns*

**12 noon - 2pm** Readings on the hour and half-  
hour and a time for private prayer  
**2pm** Good Friday Service

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**6.00am Dawn Service**  
Renewal of Baptism Vows,  
lighting of the Easter Candle and Communion

**8.00am**  
Holy Communion

**9.00am**  
Holy Communion at Golden Green

**10.00am**  
Family Service with Communion

**Happy Easter to Everyone**

***Christ has risen  
He has risen indeed  
Alleluia***