



The Hamlet

Issue 184

The Golden Green Association Newsletter

November 2014

Welcome to Sarah!



Please give a warm Golden Green welcome to Sarah Humphrey who has taken over The Bell from Ray and Gill Warren.

Sarah formerly ran the Black Horse at Borough Green. She has wasted no time in organising a fundraising event for a favourite charity – a race night for Macmillan Cancer Support.

We hope she will be very happy in our hamlet, and will soon feel part of our community.

At their leaving 'do' last month, Ray and Gill were presented with an engraved crystal vase from his friends in Golden Green.

They have retired (with Jenny the cat) to Kemsley, near Sittingbourne where they can enjoy being closer to their grandchildren.

Photos of the presentation can be seen on the GGA Facebook page and in the email subscribers' supplement (and on the parish council website).

First Aid Training

Wed 5 November 7–9pm
Sat 15 November 2.30–4.30pm

There are a few places still available on the above dates for training in the use of the AED (defibrillator).

Don't wait for an emergency to learn how to use it.

Book now as there are no more sessions planned. Contact Jane Rogers: tel 850329, email gjanerogers@aol.com.

Your Hamlet

There's no room to print all the photos I'd like to show you this month – Ray & Gill's presentation, the works going on at the Bourne, the updated Flood map from the Environment Agency etc. But they are in the supplement to this issue, which is emailed to PDF subscribers. Sadly we can't afford to print them all on paper.

Next month will be the last issue that you'll receive unless you've given us your email address or you've told us you want to continue with paper. So please, if you can, subscribe by email. Send your email *and* address to Alec (alecpelmore@btinternet.com; 850739) or Anne (gghamlet@outlook.com; 850048). Alternatively download the newsletters from the Hadlow Parish website or the GGA Facebook page.

Golden Green Village Hall Open Day

A warm welcome awaits you on **Saturday 22 November**
10am–4pm

Call in to view the new wall hanging of places in Golden Green and see photographs of the hamlet through the ages.

Hear some memories of where we live and share your own, however old or recent while enjoying a cup of coffee or tea and a cake

Books, cakes, jewellery and cards for sale. Raffle

Hosted by Golden Green WI

Cross-trainer for Sale

Healthrider elliptical cross-trainer
Excellent quality (originally £700), solid. £100 ono; ideal Christmas present to help with New Year resolutions! Dismantled ready to collect, with manual. Phone Andrew 850039

Race Night

at The Bell Inn in aid of
Macmillan Cancer Support
Friday 21 November 8pm



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

At last month's meeting our speaker was David Bower, who was an Olympic Trailblazer. He told us that it started way back in 2008 when he was interviewed at the London Assessment Centre. He was asked if he could commit to one day a week for four years! As he was retired he thought, 'Why not?'. Don't forget that this commitment was unpaid!

While the Olympic Park was being built he worked in the Communications Centre as a tour guide. In the opening and closing ceremonies of the Olympics, he was one of the men in royal blue suits and bowler hats with a light on top! He brought his hat along to show us as they were allowed to keep their 'uniforms'.

David also brought along various pictures, badges and official notes for us to see. He is an accomplished drummer and was in the sequence where they used upturned plastic buckets as drums (much cheaper than buying the real thing!) He admitted that some of it was hard work – learning routines and keeping in time and having to remember exactly where to stand. He had lots of fun during those four years and made many new friends. He ended by saying that he was proud and privileged to have taken part.

In a busy month, our quiz night was held the following week when, as hosts, we welcomed representatives of six other WIs in the District to our village hall. All the tables were used and Rob Seall, husband of our secretary Rosalind, very kindly offered to act as quizmaster. There were at least seven categories, finishing with a Dingbats quiz, while we enjoyed sandwiches, cakes and drinks. It was fun finding out just what one did and mostly did not know! For those who arranged the evening, thank you – it was enjoyed by everyone. The winners were Hildenborough Evening, second was Hadlow and third was Lyghe.

On 19 November (doors open 7.30 pm) we look forward to our Rosemary telling us about patchwork quilts. Do come along! For details of GG WI, contact 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
NOVEMBER				
Wednesday 5 Nov	Defibrillator training	Hall	7–9pm	850329
Saturday 15 Nov	Defibrillator training	Hall	2.30–4.30pm	850329
Monday 17 Nov	Bell Quiz Night	Bell	8.45pm	851748
Monday 17 Nov	Bingo!	Hall	8pm	850768
Wednesday 19 Nov	WI meeting	Hall	7.45pm	850812
Friday 21 Nov	Charity Race Night	Bell	8pm	851748
Saturday 22 Nov	Golden Green Open Day	Hall	10am–4pm	850812
Sunday 23 Nov	Family Service	Hall	11.45am	850768
DECEMBER				
Monday 15 Dec	Bell Quiz Night	Bell	8.45pm	851748
Sunday 21 Dec	Christmas Carol Service	Hall	4pm	850739
Sunday 25 Dec	Holy Communion	Hall	9am	850768

The Village Pump

* Dick Marcroft, Bourne Park resident, has done it again! At 76 he has won gold at the British Masters Judo championships, and has now set his sights on the World Masters, where he has conquered before. Well done!

* Hadlow Orchestra is holding its annual concert on Sunday 23 November at 3pm in St Mary's Church, Hadlow. Free admission for a selection of well-known light classics and a delicious home-made tea. Just turn up.

* The superb Lydian Orchestra have a concert on 22 December at St Stephen's Church, Tonbridge, featuring our very own Chris Pelmore as tenor soloist! Not to be missed.

* We're delighted to see that KCC have begun repairs to the footbridge over the Bourne. And the EA have started work too – they say they will 'remove obstructions from the river and overhanging branches between Victorian Road and Pierce Mill Lane.' They say the work will take several weeks.

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
 15 October 9.30–10.30am
Next council meeting: 10 Nov 7.30pm
 Old School Hall, Hadlow

GGA Lottery Results

October
 £25 Gabrielle Lear
 £25 David Gittings
 £25 Neville Summers

Please hand in items for inclusion in the December issue to Anne Waddingham at 13 Sherenden Park or email gghamlet@outlook.com by 22 November.

Bourne Update

The Environment Agency (EA) has updated the Flood Map (again). After protestations from some Sherenden Park residents, some properties that had been included in the revised map have now been re-classified as low risk. The new map will be published on 3 November.

If you've been walking up by the Bourne in the past couple of weeks, you'll have seen that concrete blocks have been laid on either side of the footbridge, and by the weir, vegetation has been cleared from the north bank. Further works are to carry on over the next few weeks.



Top left and right: The footbridge now leaning at a rather drunken angle after bank erosion caused by last year's floods loosened its moorings. *Middle left:* No access across the bridge, with large concrete bastions placed at either end, which presumably will be sunk into the bank to provide a firm footing for the repaired (or new?) bridge.

Let's hope KCC restore it quickly as there is now no crossing point for walkers between Victoria Road and Pierce Mill Lane, and no warning of the fact.

Middle right: The north bank of the Bourne by the weir cleared of vegetation. Long-term residents say that the channel of clear water at non-flood times (*bottom right, taken at the end of September*) is much narrower than in the past, when canoeists used it. Do you have any photos of how the Bourne was in past years that you could share?

Last Orders for Ray & Gill

Ray and Gill's plans to depart without fuss were scuppered last month, when their last evening behind the bar at The Bell was hijacked by an impromptu send-off attended

by as many people as were available at only a few hours' notice!

Linda Daker presented them with a crystal vase engraved with the GG sign and the words 'Ray & Gill,

on your retirement from The Bell Inn from all your friends in Golden Green'. Howard Rogers thanked them for all their support for the community (although Ray doesn't look impressed in the photo!)

Thank you to Linda who arranged for the purchase of the vase, which was paid for from GGA funds.

Ray & Gill have promised to visit when they've settled into their new home.

And finally ...

The Pelmore's very impressive home-grown Halloween pumpkin (nicknamed Percy), weighing in at a magnificent 26.4 kg or just over a stone!



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY WARDEN

Now that the darker evenings are returning and whilst North & West Kent remains a very safe place to live a lot of burglaries take place on the spur of the moment when a burglar sees an open window or another easy way in. You can take simple steps to avoid this type of opportunistic crime.

In your home

- Lock all windows and doors before you go out or go to bed
- Fit security measures such as intruder alarms, door chains and door locks. A spy hole lets you see who's at your door
- Avoid labelling house keys in case you lose them and they fall into the wrong hands
- Don't leave keys (especially car keys) or other valuables near doors or windows.

Around your home

- Make sure fences, hedges and gates are in good condition – this makes it difficult to enter your property
- Install external security lights (but make sure the lights don't affect your neighbours and that alarms turn off after 20 minutes)
- Avoid leaving side gates open and make sure ladders and garden equipment that could be used to force entry are not left out
- Keep garages and sheds locked and alarmed
- Store bins carefully so that they cannot be used as a climbing aid
- Never hide spare house keys outside or in a shed
- Dispose of packaging carefully - wrapping and boxes you put outside your house on bin day advertises what you have in your house.

If you are away from home

- Use timers for lights and radios - this will create the impression someone is home
- Cancel regular deliveries, such as milk and newspapers
- Make sure garden furniture is stored away and that sheds and garden gates are locked
- Ask a relative or trusted neighbour to pop in and move any post or junk mail from inside your door
- Arrange for the curtains to be opened and closed
- Offer your neighbours the use of your driveway
- Check your insurance policy - some policies don't provide cover if you are away for more than 30 days

If you are unfortunate enough to come across an intruder in your home – contact 999 immediately

Tips on staying safe from fire:

- Make sure you fit, and regularly test, a smoke alarm. It is the single most important piece of safety equipment in any home.
- If you plan on using an open fire, make sure your chimney has been recently swept as build-ups of soot and ash can cause chimney fires.
- When going to bed, make absolutely certain that any open fire is either out, or pushed back into the grate and a guard used to prevent sparks setting light to carpets or furniture.
- Interior doors should always be closed when going to bed as they can dramatically reduce the spread of fire.
- Portable heaters should be dust-free and kept well away from anything that could catch fire.
- Candles should always be placed on a non flammable surface, be away from soft furnishing like curtains and never be left unattended. It is far safer to consider using torches instead of candles.
- Before using an electric blanket, make sure it is under 10 years old, check it is working order and always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

For further information or to learn more about the free advice and services on offer to residents contact KFRS on 0800 923 7000 or visit www.3breaths.info

Paul Harfleet - Kent Community Warden Service

07969 584183/ paul.harfleet@kent.gov.uk