

# **ACOL VILLAGE VOICE**

**June 2021**

## **SUMMER FETE?**

In response to last months Village Voice, I have had a number of offers of assistance, enquiries about stalls and people volunteering assets (Gazebos, generator etc.). Grateful thanks to all those who have made such offers - and just to emphasise that further offers of help would be much appreciated.

What is really needed to get the project off the ground is someone to take the reins and organise the event.

Key decisions need to be made such as:

Budget required?

Funding model? - Entrance fee? Fund raising? Only covering costs? Charity?

Date - probably a Saturday in July/August

Venue - Recreation Ground?

Publicity - within Acol only, or as widespread as possible?

Parking - On the field?

Refreshments - do we borrow a Marquee and sell tea, soft drinks and cakes?

Entertainment - can we source a PA system and play recordings or can we find someone to provide live music?

Do we have a dog show, as has been suggested?

Do you have the organisational skills and time necessary to take on such a task?

Jon

(847705 or [inchley@btinternet.com](mailto:inchley@btinternet.com))

## **Pedestrian Access to Quex Questionnaire - Responses**

The questionnaire results are summarised in the enclosed Appendix from Richard Steel.

There is much food for thought in the analysis, and it is clear that there is demand for significant improvement in the pedestrian access both within and outside the Village. However, Acol's village boundary goes through the northern end of the recreation field and the land beyond belongs to the Quex Park Estate and comes under the jurisdiction of Birchington Parish Council. Acol Parish Council can support any campaign but cannot be responsible for development outside the village. Kent Highways are only responsible for the tarmacked Road, but they may be able to help with advice on how we might take this forward, and the Parish Council may be able to facilitate this.

## **ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club**

### **Winners for the Month of May 2021 were:**

Member no. 84 who won 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £20.00  
Member no. 2, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of £10.00 and  
Member no. 16, who won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of £5.00

### **Winners for the Month of Jun 2021 were:**

Member no. 90 who won 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £20.00  
Member no. 7, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of £10.00 and  
Member no. 63, who won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of £5.00

£70.00 has been donated to the Village Hall funds

The next draw will take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> July. Should you have any questions or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (84090)

### **THE CRISPE CHARITY**

**(Founded in 1708)**

**A Registered Charity – Number 208 705**

**CALLING CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH GROUP LEADERS, AND SCHOOL STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN YEAR 13 IN BIRCHINGTON OR ACOL.**

THIS LOCAL CHARITY MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU WITH THE FINANCES OF YOUR GROUP WITH SMALL CASH GRANTS.

THIS LOCAL CHARITY MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU SETTLE INTO HIGHER EDUCATION OR APPRENTICESHIPS WITH SMALL CASH GRANTS.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE RECEIVED BY 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER.

FOR AN APPLICATION FORM PLEASE WRITE OR TELEPHONE:  
ANN STORY, 8 NURSERY FIELDS, ACOL, BIRCHINGTON, CT7 0JF  
01843 846651

Or email [annstory56@btopenworld.com](mailto:annstory56@btopenworld.com)

## BROADBAND UPDATE (FROM RICHARD STEEL)

One of our residents discovered that BT is now accepting orders for FTTP services and posted on our Facebook discussion group. As a result, Karen has ordered a service for installation on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

I have heard nothing further from Openreach, and have written again to Broadband Kent as follows:

None of the FTTP providers on the link provided by Openreach at <https://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband/fttp-providers> yet seem able to supply Acol addresses, and neither does Acol feature in the upcoming Fibre availability for suppliers at <https://www.openreach.co.uk/cpportal/home>. Whilst I am happy for BT customers and anyone else who may be content to contract with BT, this seems a breach of Openreach's service obligation in what is supposed to be an infrastructure supplier that's independent of BT and providing a level playing field for all providers.

Please would you check and confirm that my understanding is correct - in that Openreach is in breach of its service obligation? That being the case, can I assume that you will join me in registering a complaint to OFCOM?

Best regards,  
Richard

This elicited the following response from Broadband Kent:

.... I have picked up your query for you with Openreach yesterday and they are forecasting the structure to go live before the end of June. ....

As soon as the structure is completed, and all the testing and commissioning are done George or I will let you know.

## ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

It is over a year since Acol Horticultural Society had a meeting with members and friends.

Hopefully, fingers crossed and all that, the 'Road Map' can be followed and things will start to return to near normal from the end of June, when the Society will once again begin to hold the monthly meetings and other functions. Sadly, some friends will not be present, and they will be missed.

**IF** all goes according to Boris's plan, the Acol Horticultural Society intend to hold the first monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of July, which is **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm**. This would normally be a visit to a local garden, but it has been decided to have this meeting in Acol Village Hall and hold our annual **Rose Show**.

This will be open to all members, visitors, friends and anyone who wishes to attend. Just turn up with your favourite and/or best rose or roses. They do not need to be top quality show blooms, if they are your favourite or have a sentimental memory, then PLEASE bring them along and share with everyone.

Whether you are a hands-on gardener or armchair gardener please come along and enjoy a social evening and maybe meet new friends. It has been a very difficult past 16 months, and this is an opportunity to reunite the village and friends and show solidarity against adversity. There has been a good rapport with Facebook users and now is the time to come out and put that into practice. We look forward to meeting you all and hopefully put faces to some of the names on Facebook.

We may even be allowed to provide tea/coffee and biscuits. I believe we still have some milk and biscuits left from the last meeting.

*Please note that any current rules and restrictions must be adhered to, and Village Hall rules and directions should be respected and obeyed.*

Bill Yeoman

 <p><b>NP</b> <b>ELECTRICALS</b></p> <p>BS7671 Qualified Electrical Engineer</p> <p><b>ELECSA</b> <small>Part of the SCA Group</small></p> <p>Part 'P' Registration No EPP2390</p> <p><b>All Electrical Work Undertaken</b></p> <p>Free Quotations ~ Competitive Prices Quality Workmanship ~ Fully Guaranteed</p> <p>Call Nic Morling on 07714580978</p> <p><a href="http://www.npelectricals.co.uk">www.npelectricals.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>YOUR M.P. At Your Service .....</b></p> <p><b>SIR ROGER GALE</b> holds regular advice surgeries for Margate, Herne Bay &amp; The Villages -</p> <p>for appointments and for advice on urgent problems:</p> <p>Ring: 01843 848588 (a.m. from 10.00)</p> <p>Web: <a href="http://www.rogergale.co.uk">www.rogergale.co.uk</a></p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:galerj@parliament.uk">galerj@parliament.uk</a></p> <p>Write: <b>HOUSE OF COMMONS –</b> London, SW1A 0AA</p>
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## VILLAGE INFORMATION

### VILLAGE HALL

In accordance with the Government Roadmap, the Village Hall will remain closed to groups of more than 6 at least until 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021. Bookings are now being taken for future events.

### **REFUSE COLLECTIONS**

Refuse (black), Green Garden waste  
& waste food

7<sup>th</sup> Jun

21<sup>st</sup> Jun

5<sup>th</sup> Jul

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food

14<sup>th</sup> Jun

28<sup>th</sup> Jun

If you have any problems with your bins, ring TDC, **577115**, or queries to **577727**.

### **PCSO**

In the absence of village surgeries, if you have any problems, you can email PCSO Debbie Forsyth at [60457@kent.police.uk](mailto:60457@kent.police.uk).

### **CCTV CAMERAS**

Please report ANY incident in The Street to 844706.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

You can contact Iris Osborne (840901) if you wish to be updated on local crime or see anyone behaving suspiciously.

### **KENT POLICE**

East Kent Division Rural Team can be contacted on **07980 978202** for queries or enquiries.

### **ACOL PARISH COUNCIL**

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> June, at 11.00am

You can check our website, [acolparishcouncil.org.uk](http://acolparishcouncil.org.uk), or please ring 844706 if you have any queries.

#### **MINSTER MOT & REPAIR CENTRE LTD**

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[mkjgasservices@btinternet.com](mailto:mkjgasservices@btinternet.com)



# MINSTER SURGERY

## COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME - UPDATE

Vaccination Clinics are continuing to be held at the Saga Centre in Westwood Cross and invitations are being sent out to all vulnerable and at-risk patients and, currently, all those aged over 35, and shortly those in younger age groups.

Currently we are receiving supplies of both the Oxford Astra Zenica and Pfizer vaccines, so if you have not yet received your first dose, or may have initially declined the vaccine, Please **BOOK NOW!**

## CALLS TO THE SURGERY

We are continually receiving a large number of calls asking, "Have I got Covid because..." or "where can I get vaccinated?" and many other similar calls. During the w/c 22nd February we received 1148 calls and during w/c 10th May 1120 calls, averaging one call every 1.8 minutes! Please be patient and understanding and try to avoid peak times when calling the surgery. Thank you.

## SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

STAFF TRAINING - Wednesday 24th June; 22nd July - from 1 pm onwards

If you need to see a Doctor during these times please call 111 for NON URGENT confidential help and advice. For COVID-19 help and advice - call 119

For URGENT/LIFE threatening cases call 999 as normal

## REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS

Please ensure you have sufficient medication to last you through these difficult times and ensure repeat prescription requests are submitted in good time to allow for the increased demand, both at the surgery and at the various Pharmacies.

## PATIENT LIAISON GROUP AGM/ MEETING

Our AGM was held on Monday 10th May, during which our annual accounts were presented, and Election of Group Officers confirmed.

## **Editors Note:**

### Advertising

For a box advertisement of about 8cm x 9cm the cost is £10 for inclusion in 3 editions, £15 for 6 editions and £25 for 12 editions.

Please e-mail contributions to Village Voice to [inchley@btinternet.com](mailto:inchley@btinternet.com)

**This edition of Village Voice has been sponsored by Nancy Chidwick in loving memory of her husband Norman, who sadly passed away in June 2020. Norman was a much loved and active member of the Acol community, and sorely missed by all his family and friends.**

Should you (or your organisation) wish to sponsor an edition, either in memory of a loved one, to commemorate an event or even from a feeling of civic duty(!), please contact me.

**Contributions for the next edition must be received by 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**