

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

May 2018

VILLAGE HALL EXTENSION GETS THE GO-AHEAD

The Village Hall Management Committee are delighted to announce that, due in no small measure to the efforts of their Secretary, Iris Osborne, they have successfully secured sufficient grant funding to allow us to proceed with the work to extend and re-equip the Hall kitchen. With the aid of a grant from the KCC Kitchen Hall Fund and additional grants from the KCC Members Grant Fund secured by our two KCC Councillors, we have sufficient secured to allow work on the extension to start in July this year.

As many of you may know, the current Village Hall was built as a replacement for the old wooden structure which proved beyond repair when attempting to modernise it with the addition of a small kitchen and toilets. The new Hall was funded with a lot of help from TDC, and has served us well for nearly 30 years. As part of that construction it was necessary to install a septic tank in the front of the Hall (just where we want to extend the kitchen). This tank was never actually used, as the then Water Board provided mains drainage to the Village at that time, avoiding the need for it, but it is still in situ, and creates complications for the builders and their ability to dig new foundations.

Time has now come to update and modernise with a kitchen meeting current food hygiene and preparation needs. However, sadly, the work will take some months to complete, and will cause inconvenience to users of the Hall. We can only apologise, and promise that every effort will be made to minimise the inconvenience and disruption. It is likely that the small wall on the boundary to the Street will need to be demolished to allow off-road parking for skips, cement lorries etc. To access the site we may have to ask users to enter the hall via the Fire Door or Small Extension to avoid coming too close to the working area. We can only hope that these small inconveniences will be amply rewarded by an improved Hall fit for the current and future needs of the Village

Our thanks go to Phil Dadds for drawing up the plans, and to all the others who have contributed to achieving this important stage in the evolution of the Hall.

Jon Inchley
Chair, AVHMC

CROWN & SCEPTRE - AN UPDATE

Most of you will know that the current owner/developer applied for planning permission to demolish this historic building, which TDC quite rightly refused. In December 2017 the developer was given notice to reinstate the building and replace the roof. He subsequently lodged an Appeal to the Planning Inspectorate at Bristol.

At the original Planning Committee meeting in February 2015 the developer asserted that the facade of the building would be retained and, although they could demolish if they wished, they had no intention of doing so. The March 2015 Planning Approval included a clause for its retention.

The Kent Association of Local Councils, on behalf of Acol Parish Council, kindly acquired advice from a Legal Consultant, who mainly confirmed that the developer is in Breach of Conditions which should be enforced by TDC, and for which there is no right of Appeal.

Acol Parish Council have responded to the Appeal, pointing out to the Planning Inspector that the alleged deterioration of the building has been caused by the deliberate removal of the property's roof and subsequent exposure to the elements since March 2017. In addition we pointed out some of the erroneous statements and factual inaccuracies within the Appeal.

Sir Roger Gale has also written to the Inspector in support of our response, having taken the time to inspect the site at the end of April to see its continuing neglect and derelict condition.

The end date for responses is 9th May, so we will hear the result some time after that.

Sheila Bransfield,
APC Chairman

ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club

Winners for the Month of May 2018 were:

Member no. 103 who won 1st prize of £19.00
Member no. 30, who won 2nd prize of £11.40 and
Member no. 186, who won 3rd prize of £7.60

A total of £38.00 was donated to the Village Hall funds

The next draw will be held on Wednesday 6th June 2018. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (840901)

FORTHCOMING VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

Sat 12 th May	7.00pm	AHS MURDER MYSTERY EVENING
Mon 14 th May	6.00pm	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

AHS COACH TRIP

Acol Horticultural Society have organised a coach trip on Sunday 8th July 2018, leaving about 0800 hrs and returning 1800 hrs.

We will be visiting the following gardens: In the morning we will be at Green Island Gardens, near Colchester where we will enjoy tea/coffee and cake. In the afternoon we will visit the RHS garden at Hyde Hall near Chelmsford.

The total cost will be £22.00 pp.

Please contact Bill Yeoman, tel. 01843 845217.

Bill Yeoman

SPEEDWATCH

Speed Watch has started regularly operating in the village once more. initially our efforts will be concentrated on Minster Road, although it is intended to open-up further sites soon.

It is early days yet, but the signs are that we are having some effect. Motorists recorded as travelling at over 50 mph in our 30-mph limit, of whom there have so far been quite a few, receive a visit from the Police. Clearly, they are already breaking the speed limit approaching Acol before they even get into the village! We are on the look-out for further volunteers who can spare an hour or two per week to assist. Please get in-touch if you can help.

Richard Steel - Tel: 845363



MKT Gas Services
www.mkjgasservices.com

Boiler servicing & installation
Landlord certificates
Gas ovens and fires
Free estimates

Mel Johnson: 07858 508 292
mkjgasservices@btinternet.com

GAS safe
REGISTERED

USEFUL INFORMATION

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Refuse (black), Garden (green) & waste food
food

14th May
28th May
11th June

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste

21st May
4th June

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

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.

Please ensure that Iris Osborne (on 840901) has your contact details to advise you of suspicious behaviour or local crimes.

VILLAGE HALL

Please ring 841691 for enquiries or to book the Hall.

REGULAR BOOKINGS

Monday afternoons (term time) - Pam's People

First Tuesday evening - AHS meeting

All other Tuesday evenings, Dance Fitness Class

Wednesday 9.00 to 16.30 (term time), Village Textiles

Alternate Wednesday evenings - Life Drawing Art Group

Every Thursday evening - Art Group. **Art Group Website:** www.acolartgroup.org/

Friday 9.00 to 16.30 (term time), Village Textiles

Monthly, Saturdays, 10am-4pm - Phoenix Quilters.

(Check hall calendar or email Sheila.Bransfield@btinternet.com for information)

FUTURE BOOKINGS

Saturday 12th May, evening, AHS Murder Mystery evening.

Monday 14th May, 6pm, Acol Parish Council meeting.

Saturday 28th July, all day, AHS SUMMER SHOW

CCTV CAMERAS

Any incident or damage in The Street can be reported to 844706 for culprits to be identified.

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council website can be found at: www.hugofox.com/community/acol-parish-council-13724/contact/

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 6p.m. on MONDAY 14th MAY. You can ring the Parish Council on Mondays (9am-5pm) on 844706, or the day after a Bank Holiday, or the Clerk any day (9am-5pm) on 832243.

Please ring these numbers if you have problems and do not know who to contact.

Sheila Bransfield

MINSTER SURGERY

SPRING FAYRE

Our Annual Spring Fayre will take place on Saturday 12th May at Old Schools as usual, Tables remain at £8 for small and £12 for large and are selling fast, so please book early to avoid disappointment

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Please note that the surgery will close at 12.00 Mid-day on the following days for the purpose of staff training:

Wednesday 23rd May; Thursday 28th June

BANK HOLIDAYS

The surgery will be closed all day on: Monday 28th May

Please ensure you have sufficient medication to last you over the long weekend, Should you need to see a Doctor when the surgery is closed, please call the NHS 111 Service via the normal surgery number 821333 where you will be transferred automatically, or you can call direct on 111, to receive non-urgent confidential health advice and information for all the family, available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week For Urgent/Life threatening issues, dial 999 as normal.

PATIENT LIAISON GROUP MEETING

If you have any issues you would like to raise at our meeting in May, or require further information on any of the above, then please contact Mary Hodgson (842764).

RNLI Birchington & District Fundraising Branch

I succeeded Fiz (a.k.a. Phyllis Gulliver-Crane) as Chairman at our AGM, in February, where I thanked her, on behalf of members, for the great job that she had done in her year as Chairman.

Among Fiz's achievements was ensuring our Branch was included among local Co-op Community Fund causes, again this year. Please make sure you have joined the Co-op membership to share in the rewards scheme - and nominate the RNLI to receive the 1% share of your spending that's donated to a local cause.

It is great to see our local business successes - especially if they support us by hosting RNLI collection boxes - so, many congratulations to Quex Barn in being named as the Countryside Alliance National Award winner in the Local Food and Drink category.

There is a standing invitation to our branch members and supporters to visit one of our local Lifeboat Stations to learn more about how the funds we raise support the RNLI's vital lifesaving operations. Do get in-touch with me if you'd like to join a visit.

I am pencilling-in Saturday 11th August for our Annual Street Collection along Station Road - to be confirmed next month.

Finally, among my goals for the year is to recruit new volunteers, especially people who can help us in areas like the use of social media, to broaden our engagement. Please get in touch if you can help. In the meantime, don't forget to visit our Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/RNLI.Birchington

Richard Steel - Tel 845363

THE CRISPE CHARITY

(Founded in 1708)

A Registered Charity - Number 208 705

Hon. Clerk to the Trustees
Ann Story

8 Nursery Fields
Acol, Birchington
Kent CT7 OJF
Tel: 01843 846651

The Crispe Charity

The Trustees of the Crispe Charity will meet in November to consider applications for grants to young people in the ecclesiastical parish of Birchington with Acol and also from organisations working with young people in the parish.

The Charity is able to make grants to individuals between the ages of 16 and 24 years, who have left school, and are beginning to study, or studying, at college or university, or are starting in an apprenticeship in their first job. The grants are to assist with the cost of books, equipment and course fees.

Grants to organisations are to assist with equipment and activities for young people.

Application forms are available from the above address.

Yours faithfully

Ann Story

JOHN N ING **Mobile Locksmith** Established 1989

All aspects of security supplied and installed
by dependable and established local locksmith

Locks – Keys – Master Keying – Safes
Door Entry Systems

Free Quotations – Lockout and Emergency
Service - Insurance Specification Work
& Security Upgrades

For Personal and Friendly Service call John Ing

Tel : (01843) 843494 Mobile 07801 182348

email: john.ing@zen.co.uk

Meadow-Holt, The Street
Acol, Birchington CT7 0JA

YOUR M.P. At Your Service

SIR ROGER GALE

holds regular advice surgeries for Margate,
Herne Bay & The Villages -

for appointments and for advice on urgent
problems:

Ring: **01843 848588 (a.m. from 10.00)**

Web: www.rogergale.co.uk

Email: galerj@parliament.uk

Write: HOUSE OF COMMONS –
London, SW1A 0AA

ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

IN VILLAGE HALL
ON SATURDAY 12TH MAY AT 7.00p.m.

ADMISSION
£6.00 per
head

Including SUPPER
Bring your own Drinks

RAFFLE
PRIZES

To Book Tel. Nancy on 843364
Or Tel. Phyl on 845546

Tables of Eight

PAINTING & DECORATING

By
NIGEL MATHER

Your Local Professional Decorator
Bringing high quality decorating
to your home (or business)

Interior & Exterior
Clean Reliable Service
No Job too Small
Free Advice & Problem Solving

Free estimates without obligation
Tel: 01843 822946
Mobile: 07811 780492
24 High Street, Minster CT12 4BU



BS7671 Qualified Electrical Engineer

ELECSA
Part of the ECA Group

Part 'P' Registration No EPP2390

All Electrical Work Undertaken

Free Quotations ~ Competitive Prices
Quality Workmanship ~ Fully Guaranteed

Call Nic Morling 825 094
36 Tothill Street, Minster.
www.npelectricals.co.uk

The One-Stop Property Shop

Searching for your new home couldn't be easier...



HOMEOWNERS & LANDLORDS

- ✓ Lettings and Sales Service
- ✓ Building Management
- ✓ Transfer Your Tenant to KS
- ✓ Accredited by KLAS



KS Lettings & Sales

194 Canterbury Road, Birchington, Kent, CT7 9AQ

Tel: 01843 843845 | Fax: 01843 840624

For all enquires email: info@kspropertyrentals.com

www.kslettingsandsales.com



Editors Note:

PLEASE PASS ON THIS EDITION OF VILLAGE VOICE to any friends from outside the village who might be interested in knowing what is going on in Acol. Non-residents of Acol can become subscribers to the Village Voice at the cost of £7.50 for 12 editions, the charge covers the cost of printing and posting to a nominated address.

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 place contributions to Village Voice in the post box on the wall of the Village Hall (by the main door) or e-mail to villagevoice@btinternet.com.

This edition of Village Voice has been sponsored by Richard Steel in memory of his Mum, Hilda Elizabeth Steel, aged 88, who died on 24th March 2018.

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 5th June 2018.