

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

July 2017

CHRISTMAS IN JULY?

It may have been the hottest June for 40 years, Wimbledon is on the TV, but the nights are drawing in, and Christmas will soon be upon us - at least, the Village Hall Management Committee are starting to plan for it. First, the good news. The Senior Citizen's party will go ahead as per last year, with a cooked Christmas dinner and entertainment. As this was such an enjoyable occasion last year, you may wish to put the date in your diaries now - Saturday 9th December.

Secondly, the Committee are issuing a challenge to all parents and grandparents in the Village. It seems most unfair that Senior Citizens get all the fun, so the committee have allocated an initial sum of £200 towards the cost of a children's Christmas party to be held in the Village Hall. All that is necessary to claim this money is for individuals (or groups) to volunteer their time to organise a suitable event. If you are interested, please contact me on 847705 (or any other committee member as appropriate) .

Jon Inchley

ACOL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Two years ago, the Acol Neighbourhood Watch scheme was relaunched with 5 new coordinators to cover the village.

Every resident received a visit from the person looking after their area of the village, and was invited to become a member of the Scheme by giving their contact details. In this way they would routinely be contacted regarding reports of crime and any suspicious happening, including scams.

Since that time there have been some changes in the population, so awareness of the scheme may currently not be as widespread as it should be. Please contact Iris Osborne on 840901 to join the Scheme. She will pass on your details to your local coordinator - in this way we can hopefully keep our village a safe and secure environment.

ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 CLUB

Winners for the Month of June 2017 were:

Member no. 94, who won 1st prize of £20.50

Member no. 112 who won 2nd prize of £12.30, and

Member no. 121, who won 3rd prize of £8.20.

£41.00 was donated to Village Hall funds

The results of the draw held on Wednesday 5th July 2017 will be published in the next edition of Village Voice. The next draw will be held on 3rd August. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne on 01843 840901

New Member of Parish Council

As you will know from the Minutes of the AGM, Brian Hall has stood down from the Parish Council, as he is no longer able to attend as many meetings as he felt were appropriate for the role. The Parish Council thanks him for his years of service and efforts in aid of the community. The resultant vacancy on the Parish council was advertised, but only one individual was willing to put his name forward, It is therefore with pleasure that the Parish Council invited Richard Steel to become a member, which he did at the recent PC Meeting. Richard introduced himself thus:

Having just been confirmed as Brian Hall's replacement on Acol Parish Council, and attended my first meeting as a Councillor, I'd like to take this opportunity to say hello.

My wife, Chris, and I moved to Acol at the end of June, last year. We enjoy walking and cycling, and our only difficulty in deciding to move here was in our realisation that the village had little pedestrian provision, and was increasingly used as a traffic "rat-run" to avoid the Birchington bottleneck, or the inconvenience of having to use the sign-posted routes via the A299. The traffic, and driving standards, seem to have grown still worse in the short time we've been here, and we've both had "close shaves" with speeding motorists while out walking, so, I am, of course, absolutely committed to supporting the Council's fight for a bypass, and measures to calm traffic through our village.

With that in mind, I volunteered to work with Speedwatch, last October. The scheme is under new management, rolling-out initial training online, and supposed to be provided with new equipment. However, I've been dismayed at the length of time it's taking to sort these matters out - as are my fellow Councillors - so hoping our efforts to get the scheme back on-track will soon be rewarded so that I can get to work!

I also volunteered to form a Community Litter Picking Group (and was involved in a similar initiative in Gravesend, where Chris and I moved from). Like many communities, Acol has problems with litter, much of which, in our case, seems to come from fast food packaging disposed of as people travel through the village. The Council has agreed to fund necessary equipment and high visibility clothing, but I'm looking for other volunteers to join me in occasional litter-picks. Please get in touch!

Aside from traffic hazards and litter, Chris and I love our new home and the area in which we live. We've been especially struck by people's friendliness, and hope to reciprocate the warm welcome we've enjoyed through what help and support we can offer as active members of the community.

I look forward to meeting more of my fellow villagers in the coming weeks and months.

Richard Steel

richardjohnsteel@outlook.com

01843 845363

**URGENT REMINDER:
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RELEVANT INFORMATION

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH For the latest information, ring Iris Osborne on 840901. Simply provide your email address so that you can be sent immediate updates whenever suspicious events occur locally.

CCTV CAMERAS

The CCTV cameras appear to be having some effect, as there have been less incidents in The Street, but there are still occasional wing mirror removals! Please remember to ring the Parish Council on 844706 to report anything that happens.

REFUSE COLLECTION - MONDAYS

Refuse (black) & waste food	Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food
10 th July	17 th July
24 th July	31 st July
7 th August	

Ring TDC, **577115**, to arrange collection if you are unable to put your bins out.
Or Ring the 'Recycle for Thanet' line on **577727** with any queries you may have.

REGULAR VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATES

Monday afternoons (term time) - Pam's People

First Tuesday evening - AHS meeting

All other Tuesday evenings, Dance Fitness Class

Alternate Wednesday evenings - Life Drawing Art Group

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

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

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

DIARY DATES FOR THIS YEAR

Sat 29th July, all day - AHS Summer Show

Sat 12th August, 10am to 4pm - AHS Nosh and Natter

Sat 23rd September, all day - AHS Autumn Show

Sat 14th October, eve - AVHMC Quiz

Sat 28th October, eve - AHS Race Night

Sat 4th November, a.m. to 3pm - AHS Autumn Fayre

Tue 7th November, 7.30pm, AHS AGM

Sat 2nd December, eve - AHS Christmas Party

Sat 9th December, eve - AVHMC Seniors' Dinner

Fri 15th December, eve - St Mildred's Carol Service

Sat 16th December, eve - AVHMC Reindeer Drive

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE

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

MINSTER PRACTICE NURSE WINS MAJOR AWARD

Dawn Langdon, a Nurse Practitioner at Minster Surgery, has been awarded "The Inspirational Mentor Award" for the whole of Kent and Medway NHS Practice Nurses, at a presentation at the Tudor Park Marriott Hotel.

As Minster is a training Practice for student nurses, Dawn and her team have guided many such students throughout the years, and Kent and Medway NHS invite nominations from such students and fellow colleagues throughout the county.

Dawn has been a member of the team at Minster Surgery for over 17 years, firstly as a District Nurse and now to her present position as Nurse Practitioner.

On behalf of the staff and patients at Minster Surgery, we would like to offer our congratulations on this well-deserved award.

LOAN EQUIPMENT FOR PATIENTS

Would any patient who currently has equipment on loan from the surgery, kindly return it at their earliest convenience, because an audit is due to be carried out very shortly. If you have any difficulty in returning or getting to the surgery, please ring 821200 where arrangements can be made for collection. Thank you.

IT'S HOLIDAY TIME!

Please remember to order your Repeat Prescriptions in good time, and most importantly, check whether your Annual Review is imminent. Please also remember that our Healthcare Professionals take their holidays at this time as well and our resources may be slightly stretched.

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Please note that the surgery will close from 12.00 Mid-day onwards on the following days:

Staff Training - Wednesday 19th July; Thursday 28th September

Bank Holiday - Monday 28th August - closed all day

Please ensure that you have sufficient medication to last you during these times, and of course, please don't forget to include all the family who may require repeat prescriptions and check when their medication review appointment is due.

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 you and your family.

For Urgent/Life threatening cases please dial 999 as normal.

MISSED APPOINTMENTS

Last Month: 50 PATIENTS DID NOT attend their DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT!

44 PATIENTS DID NOT attend their NURSES APPOINTMENT!

THATS STILL 94 PATIENTS WASTING VALUABLE APPOINTMENTS and TIME!

DON'T NEED IT - CANCEL IT! KEEP FORGETTING - GET TEXT REMINDER SERVICE

"WALK FOR LIFE" ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

The surgery holds these events every Thursday morning at 10.30, so why not come along and join us for a walk around the local area for about an hour.

PATIENT GROUP MEETING

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

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**ACOL HORTICULTURAL
 SOCIETY**

**SUMMER
 SHOW**

2.30pm – 4.30pm
29th July 2017

**In the Marquee at the back
 of the Village Hall**

Refreshments Raffle

Adult Admission £1
(Children Free)

An Exhibition of work by *Village Textiles* students,
including those completing City & Guilds Stitched Textiles Embroidery
and Machine Embroidery Levels 2 Certificate

"TEXTILE JOURNEYS"

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th August from 10am to 5pm
at: The Old School, Church Street, Minster,
nr. Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4BX.

Admission £1.00

Tea, coffee and homemade cakes available.

'Smartfrog' will also be attending, offering an exciting range of textile
supplies

Further information from Barbara Inchley on 01843 847705

VOLUNTEER DISTRIBUTORS REQUIRED FOR VILLAGE VOICE

Could you spare half an hour each month to deliver copies of Village Voice to a specific area of the village? At present there are four distributors, each serving no more than 40 homes. Ideally, I would like to increase the number of distributors to seven, serving about 20 homes each. These distributors would then be able to cover absences when one or more distributor is unavailable for any reason - ill health, holiday etc. and nobody should have to deliver to more than 40 homes for any reason.

Please contact me by phone (847705) e-mail (inchley@btinternet.com) or by putting a note in the Village Hall post box.

Thanks

Jon Inchley

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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 inchley@btinternet.com.

This edition of Village Voice has been sponsored by Barbara Inchley and the students of 'Village Textiles'

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 August 2017.