

THE HARVEL HERALD - Issue one - November 2008

We hope you enjoy reading this first edition of the *Harvel Herald* and we look forward to receiving any comments that you may wish to make. To do so, please contact any of the committee members whose details are listed at the end of this newsletter.

The idea of a village publication has been suggested as a result of the Village Hall Committee members making a house to house call to as many of you as we could, back in the summer. Not only were we asking for your contributions for the Summer Fete, but also to inform you of our postie Barry's retirement "do".

Without doubt, your response and generosity made such a difference to the huge success of both events! Our aim therefore is to keep you as closely informed as possible with village events and local news.

Harvel Fete :

It has to be said that the event was a great success and the weather was most definitely on our side! It was felt that more people were there than in recent years, helped by good publicity and personal visits to households in the village during the preceding week. As well as the usual and very popular stalls, there were some new attractions! As a result of the photographic competition, it is hoped to publish some of the local photos in the form of notelets, which will be available for sale in the near future. The egg yarping proved to be great fun and literally a 'big hit' for some taking part. The idea (of course) is to catch it whole not hit your partner. All in all there was something for everyone to enjoy. Without doubt, none of this would have been possible without the help of so many of you! The grand total raised was £2,452.45.

Barry's Farewell 'do'

After 24 years of delivering mail to the village, our postie Barry retired in July. In appreciation of his dedication and service - frequently above and beyond the call of duty - it seemed only natural to mark the occasion and for us all to have the

opportunity to celebrate the start of his retirement with him and his wife. The evening was very well attended and created a really good community feeling and many stories about Barry were heard. We will of course miss him, but wish him and his wife well for the future. We would like to thank Mick & Ang at the Amazon & Tiger for allowing us to host the event there and to everyone who brought along plates of food. Also, a very big thank you to Alan Bates for the brilliant card he had made and printed and which everyone was able to sign. David Lawson took many photos during the evening and presented Barry with copies for a keepsake. David selected some of these photos and has framed them for display in the Amazon. Thank you cards were received from Barry and a letter to the village was displayed on the notice board.

Oh, and in case you haven't yet got to know our new postie - his name is Colin.

The Barn Dance:

As ever, this was a great evening of fun and dancing and once again, the warm evening was a bonus. 'Pugwash' have made it known that our annual booking is their favourite one! The authenticity of being in a barn adds to the occasion, not to mention the delicious food available. Our thanks of course to the Jones family for making the farm available to us for the evening and all those who were there to help. Most of all, those who were up there dancing for showing what a really good fun time can be had no matter what your age - or ability!

The Farm Shop:

The Harvel House Farm Shop was opened on Friday October 10th by Stephen & Joanne Jones and family. The array of fresh meats, homemade pies, cakes and pastries etc. are very impressive indeed! On the first morning of opening, Stephen was there to greet their customers with a most courteous welcome and a lift of the hat. He is happy to spend time discussing the super range of meat and game produce available and to give any advice you may need. The beef, lamb and pork is all from their home reared and locally slaughtered stock and they have chosen a good range of poultry to satisfy the chicken fans. Locally produced cheese and eggs are also available,

All the team are very helpful and Joanne has a superb range of homemade pies, pastries and cakes to tempt you, as well as some carefully selected weekly specials. An eco-friendly system has been adopted for the pie dishes, but they do need them returned - don't forget!

It is a great pleasure to have a village shop once more and to have local food produced to a high welfare standard. I'm sure those of you who have already visited are extremely impressed and have passed the word to all your friends and neighbouring villages. For those who haven't yet tried it - you really must do so and soon! Many congratulations to Stephen & Joanne and team! We wish you great success!

Forthcoming Events:

December 5th Christmas Dinner - Tickets £20 - available from committee members as from this week. Don't delay or you may be disappointed!

Sunday 21st December - Harvel Hash House Harriers - Santa Run Starting from the Amazon at 11.30am and returning mid afternoon collecting along route for various charities sponsored by the club's 6 marathon runners in 2009

Local News:

The Amazon & Tiger - Mick & Ang. Evening meals available Friday & Saturday - 7.00pm til 9.00pm Bar snacks/meals available at lunch time from Wednesday - Sunday Traditional Sunday Roast available from 12.00 to 3.30pm

The Farm Shop - Stephen & Joanne Open on Fridays 10.00am - 7.00pm & Saturday 10.00am - 6.00pm. For home produced meats, pies, pastries and cakes plus weekly specials

Millwood Homes - The development is completed and the fourth property is now occupied. New hedges and trees, along the boundary with the Calor Field, are due to be planted shortly.

Community Bus - Meopham Community Bus runs a service from the village into Gravesend on Tuesday and Friday mornings - details of times and pick up points are available from Colin Durham - 01474 813451

***Mobile Library** - This visits the village, outside the hall each Thursday from 12.15 - 12.40pm*

***W.I** - Meet in the village hall on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm New members are very welcome - please contact June Burkitt 01474 816837*

***HHHH The Harvel Hash House Harries** are a running club for all ages and abilities. Training sessions on Tuesday at 7.00pm. Contact Kevin Barry 01474 814934 or visit the website on: www.harvelh3.org*

***THIC The Harvel Investment Club** is a share club which meets the last Thursday of each month in the Amazon & Tiger restaurant at 8.00pm. For enquiries re. membership etc. contact Craig Murphy 01474 812263*

***Cricket Club** - For all information and membership enquiries contact see www.harvel.play-cricket.co/home or contact Ronnie Gawler 01474 813432*

***Vigo Rugby Club** www.vigorfc.net*

***Dog training** - Meet in the village hall on Saturday from 10.30am -12.30pm. For all information contact Jill & Mark White 01732 820455*

Harvel Village Hall Committee:

Chairman - June Burkitt, 7 St. Francis Road. Tel: 01474 816837

Treasurer - Ian Carey, 4 St. Francis Road. Tel: 01474 812782

Secretary - Mandie Jones, Swanswood Farm, Harvel Road. Tel: 01474 813183

Shaun Phyll, 2 St. Francis Road. Tel: 01474 813469

Rachael Clark, Leywood Farm, Leywood Road. Tel: 01474 815486

Lin Carey, 4 St. Francis Road. Tel: 01474 812782

Ronnie Gawler, Barncote, Harvel Lane. Tel: 01474 812150

Village Hall Lettings - Contact June Burkitt - 01474 816837

*Residents Association Chairman - Bob Hinde, Old Pond Farm,
Dene Lane. Tel: 01474 813432*

To help clarify: The Village Hall Committee are responsible for the land it owns in Trust - i.e. the village hall and surrounding grounds, the Calor Field, and the Rugby Club Field plus the organisation of social activities and events.

The Residents Association are responsible for liaison with Meopham Parish Council and the Borough Council in relation to the Village Green, the Pond and all traffic and planning matters in the village.

Harvel Website www.Harvel.net