

Pratts Bottom News



Welcome to this edition of the village newsletter. We hope you will come and be part of the community events planned.

PRATTS BOTTOM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Residents' AGM is in the Village Hall on 30th September at 8.00pm (refreshments from 7.30pm).

Three cheers for the Queen for uniting the village with a much enjoyed picnic to celebrate her 90th Birthday. A huge thank you to everyone for making it happen. We are thinking of making the picnic an annual event. please come to the AGM with your thoughts about this idea.

Our village school organised a meeting regarding speeding on Rushmore Hill. It was well attended with representatives from the council traffic department, councillors, our local police and some of us representing local groups and organisations. As you know, the Residents Association has been grappling with this for years, so it was good to support the school and have a very constructive meeting. There are various new signs, and more on the way.

We are looking at ways to improve Broke Farm Recreation Ground. One idea is a multi-purpose court marked out for tennis, 5-a-side football and hop-scotch. Again, we will discuss this at the AGM.

Watch out, there may be a terrorist about! Although we are sure Pratts Bottom is not a prime target, we all travel around areas that could be, eg. airports and cities. With this in mind, we are pleased to have Karl Hardy from the Met Police as guest speaker at the AGM. He will be speaking on the current threats, how to recognise activity and report it. He will also cover how to stay safe should you be unfortunate enough to be caught up in an incident.

Liz Turnbull (Chairman)

MAY FETE

We were blessed with a beautiful sunny day and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and try their luck on the many stalls or buying raffle tickets. As a consequence, the fete made an overall profit of £1300 and has donated the following:

Chartwell Cancer Trust £250; Kent Air Ambulance £250; Dovetail 2 £250; Downe AmDrams £200; Pratts Bottom School £150; Foal Farm and Orpington Gymnasts £100 each.

*Thank you for your support – next year the **fete is on 20th May.***

FROM THE TREASURER

The village financial year runs from September 2016-August 2017. It would help if you could pay your £4 subscription as soon as possible.

Christine Bradford

SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2016-2017

I enclose my village subscription of £4

(cheques made payable to the Pratts Bottom Residents' Association)

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Please send to: Mrs C. Bradford, 11 Downsview Close, Pratts Bottom.



ALL SOULS CHURCH

The weekend of 16/17th July will be a sociable time as we bid farewell to Thelma and Penny. Thelma has not only supported Penny in her role as Associate Vicar tirelessly, but has been our parish Evangelist. There will be a village farewell on the 16th July . do drop in to the village hall for a cup of tea and piece of cake . any time between 2.30pm and 5.00pm. The parish farewell will be at All Souls the following day, with a service at 10.30am followed by lunch. You are welcome to join us at either or both events but please RSVP: Brenda Johnson 01689 858840 (lancejohnson100@hotmail.com) or Marian Scutt 01689 859398 (marian.scutt@gmail.com)

Looking forward to the summer . Holiday Club is 2nd . 5th August. Look out on the website (www.SMASCH.org) for booking forms.

With autumn there is the Harvest Festival on the horizon. This year it will be on 25th September. The produce used to decorate the church will then be sold at the FarmersqMarket, with the proceeds going towards the work of ICare, our mission focus this quarter. Everyone is welcome to the service at 10.30am and lunch afterwards.

There will be FarmersqMarkets after services on 7th August, 11th and 25th September, 16th October.

Village Prayer Focus: For a number of years we have prayed for the village road by road each month. The Hillside, Charmwood Lane, Sevenoaks Road and Foxwood Grove will be among are focal points this autumn. But wherever you live, if you have a prayer request please put it in the prayer box on the church gate.

PILATES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Wednesdays from 9.35-10.35am and 10.45-11.45am

Next courses from 7th September and 2nd November. 7 weeks @ £56.

Pregnancy and Post Natal Pilates classes are also held in Chelsfield. Extra summer classes (evening) are available in August.

For further information and bookings, please contact: 07415 638546
www.bethanylucaspilates.co.uk / bethanylucaspilates@gmail.com

PRATTS BOTTOM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The WI were delighted to have participated in the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations, supplying the refreshments.

The WI have increased their membership this year and are always pleased to welcome new members. Our Spring Lunch was again well supported and we endeavour to bring in well-regarded speakers. Antonia Gallup gave a most enjoyable talk on carriage driving, and as she was so popular, we have invited her again for next year. The TV antiques expert, Catherine Southon, is our speaker for November. She has kindly offered to value items on the day, in addition to talking about the programmes on which she appears.

Our District Annual Public Affairs and International event in July is to be given by the curator of the St John's Ambulance Brigade. Our MP, Jo Johnson, has arranged for members to tour the two chambers of Parliament in July. If you would like to sample a WI meeting, please do contact me.

May I, on behalf of the WI wish Penny a very happy life in her new beginnings.

Angela Sutherland (President) ang.sutherland@btinternet.com

KENT AIR AMBULANCE

On behalf of the Bull's Head pub and our friends at Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance, thanks so much for your amazing donation from the proceeds of this year's fete. The pub has decided to champion the cause on an ongoing basis. With this donation, together with the fortnightly quiz, the pub's locals' Bonus Ball contributions and the collection boxes at the bar, we have to date raised £2300 for this charity. This is such an important and life-saving charity, and it is almost entirely dependent on voluntary donations. Very grateful thanks from the team at the Bull's Head.

Clare Jones

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| Don't forget to visit the Village Shop . now open daily for newspapers, bread, milk, cheese, ham, groceries, etc. |
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THANK YOU FOR FRIENDSHIP!

After thirteen years in the village, Thelma and I will be very sad to leave Pratts Bottom. We have enjoyed village life and appreciated the friendship of so many people we have come to know over those years.

It has been a privilege to be part of the community and to share in the joys and challenges we have faced, individually and corporately. There have been memorable times, like the launch of Sue Short's book on the history of the village; the celebration of creation and the harvest festival on Charmwood Farm, which followed; the special commemoration service for the beginning of the 1st World War; introduction of Carols on the Green at Advent, and the celebration of village life exhibition. Who can forget the rather soggy May fetes and the chilly evenings carol singing! But there has been much to celebrate, too, as we have seen the village school increase in size, the Bull's Head go from strength to strength, and a new village shop emerging, among many other causes of celebration.

We will leave with many happy memories of times shared, problems agonised over and sometimes resolved; of individuals and families who have made this village the special place it is.

As we move to Hastings, you will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. We thank you for your love and support, and pray that as we have travelled these last thirteen years together, so we will look forward to a future which, while it might be unknown to us, is not unknown to the God who created us and into whose hands we can place our lives and our future.

May God bless you now and always.

Penny

PRATTS BOTTOM CONTACT LIST

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| John Hickenbottom | Chairman-Village Hall | 01959 533070 |
| Bookings | Village Hall | 01959 533873/01689 852534 |
| Associate Vicar | All Souls Church | 01689 861742 |
| Mrs Debz Smith | P B Primary School | 01959 532225 |
| Mrs Brenda Johnson | All Souls Church | 01689 858840 |
| Mrs Liz Turnbull | ResidentsqCommittee | 01959 533165 |
| President | Womenq Institute | 01689813061 |
| Chairman | PB Dramatic Society | 01689 853724 |
| Box Office | PB Dramatic Society | 01689 602837 |
| Secretary | Tuesday Badminton Club | tuesdayclub2014@gmail.com |
| Secretary | Wednesday Badminton | 01689 856 366 |
| Chairman | Short Mat Bowls Club | 01689 851394 |
| Brown Owl | PB Brownies | 01959 533437 |
| Secretary | Model Railway Club | 01959 533070 |
| The Landlord | The Bulls Head | 01689 852553 |

Councillors:

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|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lydia Buttinger | Lydia.buttinger@bromley.gov.uk |
| Keith Onslow | Keith.onslow@bromley.gov.uk |
| Samaris Huntington-Thresher | Samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk |

Websites:

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| Pratts Bottom Village Website | www.prattsbottom.co.uk |
| All Souls Church | www.SMASCH.org.uk |
| Pratts Bottom Village School | www.prattsbottom.bromley.sch.uk |
| Pratts Bottom Village Hall | www.pbvh.co.uk |
| The Bulls Head | www.thebullsheadpub.net |
| Police (SNT) | 07920 233857 / 020 8721 2605 Chelsfield.PrattsBottom.snt@metpolice.uk |