

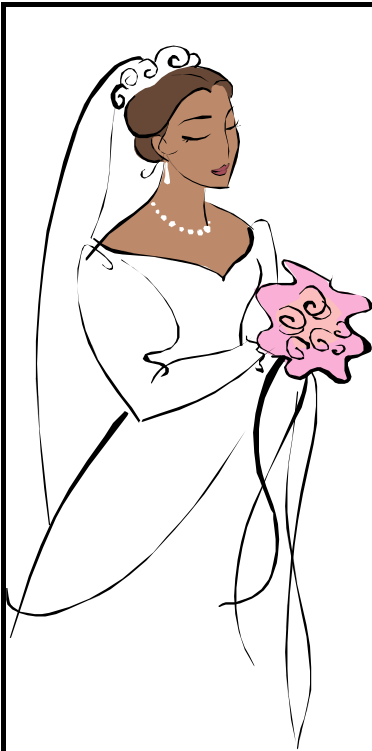
Community News

for

Hackbridge, Beddington Corner & Wandle Valley

ISSUE 13

JUNE 2009



Weddings – your new rights

WHAT'S NEW?

Last October the Church of England opened up dozens of churches as places in which engaged couples could get married. The law previously had been that you had to live actually in the parish where you were getting married. Now you can get married in the parish church of any place where you have lived for 6 months at any time in your life – or anywhere your parents have lived for 6 months while you were alive - or if your parents or grandparents had been married there - or in any church where you or your parents have worshipped for 6 months.

Nine and a half years ago I got married, and was very happy to be married in my parish church (next door actually) Under the new rules I calculate that I could now have a choice of getting married in Bedford, Coventry, Rugby (4 churches), Dunchurch, Oxford, Coventry, Birmingham (2 churches), Ludlow, Earls Court, (2 churches), Poole, Durham, Streatham, Kingston, and Leamington Spa. It has all the makings of a great new board game!

But it is all very well having the choice. Other questions come to mind – for example, what about costs?

Continued on page 4

Come and help us design a new **website** for the **COMMUNITY** – discussions on Thursdays 8pm during the Community Evening at All Saints.

Planning meeting for next issue of Community News
8pm on 6th August during the Community Evening at All Saints.

Hackbridge Carnival – Saturday 27 June 2009

'Past, Present, Future of Hackbridge'

Parade departs 12 noon from Culvers House Primary School and ends at Hackbridge Primary School in Hackbridge Road, where there will be live music, dance, open air theatre and workshops.



Restoring the Wandle: improving the health of our local river

Have you seen us cleaning up the river? We're the Wandle Trust, who organise monthly community river cleanups, pulling all kinds of rubbish out of this wonderful urban chalk stream. Up to 60 volunteers now attend each of these cleanup events – which are great fun and very satisfying!

First formed by concerned local residents in the late 1990s, the Wandle Trust is dedicated to restoring the health of the River Wandle and its whole catchment.

Every year we run an award-winning schools educational programme, Trout in the Classroom, installing modified aquaria into 20 schools along the Wandle Valley, and helping the kids hatch and grow the little trout "fry" until they're big enough to be released into the Wandle.

Now, to help create better living conditions for the little trout and other fish including chub, dace, roach and barbel, we're also working with local councils and the Environment Agency to improve the habitat in and alongside the river.

One of our very first habitat improvement areas is in Hackbridge, where our keen volunteers recently installed 39 metres of coir rolls to soften a stretch of hard, sterile concrete banks at Hackbridge. Coir rolls are just what their name suggests: 2-metre rolls of coconut fibre, pre-seeded with a selection of native plants.

Fixed into the river with stakes and wire, they're a conservationist's version of instant riverbank, sprouting as soon as the seeds get wet and germinate, providing a perfect riparian fringe for insects, water birds and fish. Eventually the coconut fibres biodegrade into the silt that's collected around them, and a healthy, stable, visually-pleasing riverbank has been created for the future, held together by the roots of the plants.



Photo: Duncan Soar

Upstream from the coir rolls, alongside Restmor Way, we've also secured a fallen branch into the river, to act as a "flow deflector", focusing the flow of the river to scour away silt and leave a clean gravel bed for insects, fish and water birds.

In this area, volunteers from the Wandle Trust's spin-off angling club, the Wandle Piscators, conduct monthly sampling of the river's insect life as part of the Living Wandle project. And within a couple of years, we hope to start work with London Wildlife on creating habitat along the river for water voles too

So when you're next down by the river, keep an eye out for the work we've done so far, and if you'd like to get involved, please feel free to contact us via either of the websites below!

To find out more about the Wandle Trust and our activities, visit www.wandletrust.org or phone 0845 092 0110

Or for details of the Wandle Piscators, the Wandle's mixed-method, mixed-species fishing club, visit www.wandlepiscators.net

L&Q WANDLE VALLEY

*Available for Hire
for group activities*

Disabled access & toilet, kitchen

ALL ENQUIRIES

Contact Carmen Theodoulou
Phone 07736 167 390

ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AT ALL SAINTS CENTRE

We are able to offer access to the wonders of the internet in our computer room.

Every Tuesday 11am-12noon and 2-3 pm we have an experienced volunteer available to help you access the internet.

It can be used for research, including family and local history, as well as e-mail.

The cost is 50p for 30 minutes or £1 for an hour.

ASIA TANDOORI

*Helping Hackbridge
celebrate since 1980!*

*Excellent Indian food +
Takeaway*

Open daily 6pm – midnight

0208 773 0450

The Wandle Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team has undertaken extra patrols, long term problem solving and partnership working to make a positive impact on the concerns identified by people in Wandle Valley.

Our priorities are set every three months by a Safer Neighbourhood Team Ward Panel, made up of local community members, businesses, schools, councillors and faith groups. The current priorities set are:

Anti Social Behaviour - Mill Green Estate
Anti Social Behaviour - Wandle Valley Estate
Anti Social Behaviour - Bedzed

We are currently working on these priorities with the community and we want you to tell us about any issues or problems you may have in your local area, either regarding the above ward priorities or any other concerns you may have.

Kind regards,
PCSO Sarah Lowe
Wandle Valley SNT ; 0208 7212773; Airwave Radio 476330

For more information regarding any of the above please contact the Wandle Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team on 0208 721 2773. If you would like to speak to us face to face then we hold a surgery at the All Saints Community Centre once a month for an hour on a Tuesday morning from 11.00am –12.00pm. Dates of the Surgery are as follows:

14th July 3rd November 11th August 8th September 6th October

Painted Lady hotspot in Hackbridge: take part in the count!

The Painted Lady is a long-distance migrant, which causes the most spectacular butterfly migrations observed in Britain and Ireland. This year, people throughout Britain have seen these fast-flying butterflies moving overhead for hours on end, setting the scene for what could be one of the largest Painted Lady migrations in decades.

The butterflies originate from the Atlas Mountains of Morocco, where this year heavy winter rains have allowed good germination of the caterpillar food-plants. In the UK, adults tend to congregate in open areas with plenty of thistles, which serve both as larval foodplants and nectar sources for adults.

Butterfly Conservation is asking for your help to track the migration by logging any sightings online. Take part in the Painted Lady Count by spending a couple of hours monitoring butterflies in your garden or a nearby field. Download instructions for collecting and submitting your sightings (<http://www.butterfly-conservation.org>). Visit the migrantwatch survey pages to find out more about contributing to this nationwide survey.



Painted Lady © Dean Stables /www.surfbirds.com/sbirdsnews/archives/2009/05/millions_of_pai.html

S1 Bus Route: Update from ROY 020 8773 9879

- There is a clear majority who want the S1 to come back to Hackbridge.
- 15 people contacted me in favour of the proposed loop route (see last issue), and four more were against using the side roads but in favour of using the London Road as far as the station and back.
- Therefore the most sensible proposal might be to bring the S1 as far as the station, turning right onto the Felnex estate and then right onto Hackbridge Road, stopping at the existing 151/127 bus stop before going back up the London Road to Mill Green. This has the advantage of following the Railway Replacement Bus route and using existing bus stops.
- We need to send a letter to TFL – but patience is needed as these proposals can take years!! Meanwhile please contact me if you have more comments.

NB: Does anyone have a copy of the original S1 route? And whatever happened to the S2?

Continued from front page: Weddings: Your New Rights



HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The basic cost of a wedding at All Saints is about £400 including a professional organist.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

You need to give at least 4 weeks notice for the calling of banns (an announcement of the couple's intention to marry) on the 3 Sundays before.

The service itself uses lasts about 40 minutes, and is always a great occasion.

I DON'T GO TO CHURCH. CAN I STILL HAVE A CHURCH WEDDING?

Yes. Marriage is about promises which you make to each other. However, I believe that whatever we do, we do in the sight of God. We can't go as far as one young lady who asked a vicar I know, "My boyfriend's an atheist. Can we leave out the bits about God?"

I'VE BEEN DIVORCED. CAN I STILL GET MARRIED IN CHURCH?

The answer is it depends on the Vicar. Traditionally the Church of England has said that marriage is for life, because that is what Jesus said. Some churches offer a service of blessing after a civil ceremony. Some vicars, including myself, believe that the Christian gospel is all about repentance, forgiveness and a new start. When someone asks me over the phone, "Do you marry divorced people?" I always say, "Come round and let's talk about it."

WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR YEARS. WHY BOTHER WITH A WEDDING?

It's all about commitment. It is not uncommon for a couple who have lived together for years, to split up a few months after getting married. I guess it is because the public declaration has triggered an unconscious fear of commitment which then takes over. But if a couple genuinely want to commit to each other for the long haul, then the public declaration of a wedding becomes the bedrock on which they can grow together, and weather the storms that come, throughout their lives.

DO YOU DO OTHER MARRIAGE CELEBRATIONS?

Yes. I am happy to take service of blessings for those who have got married abroad, or in a civil ceremony, to celebrate anniversaries, to renew a marriage that has been in difficulties.

WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

Ring me on 0208 648 3650. Leave a message and I will get back to you.

Revd Andrew Roland

'I dreamed of a wedding of elaborate elegance,
A church filled with family and friends.
I asked him what kind of a wedding he wished for,
He said one that would make me his wife.' *Anonymous*

DEALING WITH DEBT

Do you know someone struggling with debt?
Or struggling yourself?

*Don't bury your head in the sand –
come along and learn something that could help you
and your family's financial security*

**All Saints Church, New Road. 0208 648 3650
7.30pm Wednesday 24th June**

with

Larry Grant, Debt Management Consultant
Debt Advice Network (Registered Charity no. 1124322)

ADMISSION FREE

COMMUNITY LUNCH CLUB

Every Tuesday at 1 p.m. we run a
Community Luncheon Club for local people.
*Only **£3.50** for a healthy and freshly cooked
2 course meal and fruit juice.*

We provide a vegetarian alternative and our cook will
adapt meals to meet individual dietary requirements.

We are also visited on the 3rd. Tuesday of each
month by the mobile library.

To join us call 0208 646 1937.



VICAR'S CORNER

Last year there was an episode in “The Apprentice” in which it was discovered that one of the candidates had included an entirely fictitious degree from Oxford University. He was very lucky not to be fired, and in fact he went on to win. What shocked me was the acceptance by Alan Sugar and others in the boardroom, that being “creative” in one's CV was something that everyone did. To me, that is simply lying, a form of corruption.

We are now going through a major scandal: MP's expenses. To me it is doubly distasteful. It is distasteful to see some of our elected representatives milking the expenses system for all they are worth. But I find the witchhunt atmosphere just as distasteful. I guess that many of those carrying out this crusade have their own skeletons in the cupboard. Ann Widdecombe said, that for journalists to campaign against expenses scams is a bit like asking Satan to chair a commission on sin.

Both these are symptoms of a deeper sickness in our society. That sickness is not knowing who we are and what we are for. In the old days children would learn the prayer book catechism:

Question: “What is the chief end of man?”

Answer: “To worship God and enjoy Him for ever.”

Now with God pushed to the margins of our corporate life, what is left to aim at? Only what makes us feel good at any moment and does not interfere with anyone else. In fact, not interfering with anyone else's freedom has become the new Commandment. Quite different from the great commandments of both Judaism and Christianity, to “love God with all our soul and mind and strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves.”

We recently had a fascinating discussion on prayer between myself, Jewish Rabbi Avroham Groner and Muslim Dr Ahmed Younis. At the end, Ahmed said that he had been committed to the prayer discipline of Islam, worshipping God five times a day, for the last 4 years or so; and that his colleagues at work in St George's Hospital had noticed the effect this had on him – he had become more patient and willing to listen to others. When we put God and prayer at the centre of our lives, then we do start to become the kind of people we were created to be. And we are much less likely to get ensnared in the types of situation that has engulfed Parliament.

God Bless

Andrew Roland

Churches in Hackbridge

ALL SAINTS CHURCH (CofE)

New Road CR4 4JL

Sunday 10.00 Parish Communion
& Young Church

7.00 Evening Prayer

Tel. Rev Andrew Roland 8648 3650

APOSTOLIC CHURCH

All Saints Centre, New Road

Sunday 11.00 – 1.00 Worship

2.00 Youth Meeting

Tel. John Quarcoopome 8395 5794

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

All Saints Centre, New Road

Saturday 10.00 Sabbath worship

Tel. Dusan Uzelac 07909 834 636

CHURCH OF CHRIST

All Saints Centre

Sunday 6.00 Bible Study

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

LUNCH CLUB CO-ORDINATOR

at the Tuesday Community Lunch Club at All Saints Centre
about 40 people come, mostly from the Senior Corner Club and Sutton Mencap.

We have an excellent cook and several volunteers.

If interested, please contact Andrew Roland on 0208 648 3650

Want to ADVERTISE?

£25-£35 for a small ad, £50 per half page. Goes to 3,200 homes in the area. Short ARTICLES & PHOTOS also welcome. Please contact the editors (see back for details).

Deadline for next issue:

Friday 21st August, 2009

NEW ACTIVITY:

TIME OUT YOUTH PROJECT

Fridays at All Saints Centre

6.30 -8.30pm

Young people age 11-19

All welcome!

BedZED Pavilion Noticeboard

Sandmartin Way, BedZED Estate (next to the field)



Wellbeing...
Pampering...
Activities...

What's on?

1pm to 5pm: Open for home-baked refreshments, new and nearly new books, wellbeing stalls and consultations and more...

1pm to 2pm: **NEW ACTIVITY:**

Aromatherapy workshop – try out essences, and learn simple remedies FREE; take home a sample lotion or oil for £5.

2pm to 3pm: FREE try-out dance class.

3pm to 5pm: Pamper Mini-Sessions for £1.50, with extra treatments £5 – or have a longer session for £6.50.

Therapies include Reflexology, Indian Head Massage, and Back/Neck/Shoulder Massage.

Beauty treatments include eye-brow threading, facial rejuvenation, mini-manicure....

Book your session as soon as you arrive.

2nd Sunday of each month,

open 1-5pm

July 12th, Aug 9th, Sept 13th, Oct 11th etc

Summer Classes

Several of our regular classes will be running throughout the summer – see opposite for full details:

Mondays:

Hip-hop and Street Dance AND MORE TBC
4.45-5.45pm 7-11years

Tuesdays:

Yoga & Meditation for all 10am-12noon
Pilates

Sessions for existing class members TBC

Wednesdays:

Tai Chi Chuan for beginners 6.30-7.30pm

Thursdays:

BRAND NEW CLASS:



Flamenco dance

Beginners 7 - 8.30pm

Intermediate 8.15-9.45pm

Fridays:

Hip-hop and Street Dance

6-7pm 11-15 years

7-8pm 16+ years

Saturdays:

Karate for all levels and ages 9.30-11am

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Harvest Magic

Sat 10th October, 6-9pm

£2 per person over 5 years (under 5s free)

THIS EVENT WILL INCLUDE POPULAR DISHES FROM PREVIOUS INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND FAVOURITE HARVEST FOODS..

PLEASE CONTACT JO IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP – EXPENSES PAID AND FREE ENTRY FOR CONTRIBUTORS)

Booking ESSENTIAL! Please contact.

Jo 07796 410 850 josimister@yahoo.co.uk

or the Manager 020 8544 5113 bedzedpavilion@yahoo.co.uk



BedZED Pavilion is excellent for family and community events, away days and small conferences. Contact the Manager at bedzedpavilion@yahoo.co.uk or 020 8544 5113 or 07936 399 027 for details.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES @

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Ballet ages 4-9 with Zoe Hodges (restarting 8th Sept)

Tuesdays during school terms*; 3.50-4.20pm, £2.50 per session

Street Dance ages 4-9 with Zoe Hodges (restarting 8th Sept)

Tuesdays during school terms*; 4.30-5.15pm, £2.50 per session.

Hip Hop and Street Dance with X-plosion dance company

Mondays 4.45-5.45pm 7-11years

Fridays 6-7pm 11-15 years

Fridays 7-8pm 16+ years

Contact Natalie Ward for details 07723 335163;

dancingdivanazza@hotmail.com

WELL-BEING

Yoga & Meditation

Tuesdays 10am to 12 midday, gentle to intermediate

From 2nd June to 7th July,

then July 14th & 28th, Aug 4th, 11th & 18th and Sept 8th (TBC)

Contact Jo Simister, 07796 410 850, josimister@yahoo.co.uk

Pilates for adults with Rob Filmer

Tuesdays 5.45-7.15pm Beginners and 7.30-9pm improvers

£6 per session, induction necessary

Tai Chi Chuan for beginners with Norman Jones

Wednesdays 6.30-7.30pm

£4.50 per session

Flamenco dance classes

Thursdays Thurs 4th June to 2nd July, then 9th July to 6th August

Beginners 7 - 8.30pm

Intermediate 8.15-9.45pm

£30 per 5-week course, £7.50 drop-in /

Both classes £50 for 6 weeks, £14 drop-in

Contact Danielle: 07765 261 477

danielleallan@yahoo.co.uk, www.DanielleAllan.com/flamenco.htm

Karate

Saturdays 9.30-11am, for all levels and ages;

Contact Carlos 07932 012159, email kickingfrog@live.co.uk

COMMUNITY

Community lunch

Most Fridays 1-2pm during school terms.

Provided by Café Riverside.

To confirm dates, please contact Café Riverside on 020 8669 9050,

dave.lunn@riversidecentre.org

**Summer Term 2009 ends Fri 24th July.*

Autumn term 2009 starts 7th Sept, ends 18th Dec, with half-term 26th -30th Oct

NB: Please note there is no onsite parking without a permit and car clampers operate at BedZED. If you have a disability and need to park nearby, please contact us in advance and we will lend you a parking permit. There is public car parking at Hackbridge station.

The New Possibility Committee is a Company Limited by Guarantee.

Company number 5986323

Registered office: 24 Sandmartin Way, Hackbridge, Wallington SM6 7DF

Enquiries: 020 8544 5113 or 07936 399 027 or bedzedpavilion@yahoo.co.uk;

Website www.bedzedpavilion.org.uk

SAVE THE DATE: our AGM will be 5-7pm on Saturday 19th September - and the Pavilion will be open for an exhibition and refreshments Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th as part of London Open House.

BEDDINGTON FARMLANDS NATURE RESERVE OPEN DAY

The Beddington Farm Bird Group, Sutton Council and Viridor Waste Management have been actively working towards the creation of this dynamic and exciting urban nature reserve for some years and will gradually be opening up the site to the public. We will be arranging tours to introduce local residents to the exciting wildlife and to get the ball rolling there will be a guided tour on

SUNDAY 12th July from 10am to 11.30am

Please contact

littleoakgroup@btinternet.com so we can arrange where to meet and know how many people to expect.



As July progresses more and more birds will visit Beddington Farmlands on their migrations from the High Arctic to Sub-Saharan Africa. Hopefully we will bump into some of these migrants on the tour and check in on to see how the breeding birds are doing. Beddington Farmlands has nearly 60 breeding species including the endangered Tree Sparrow (above). There are also several pairs of Lapwing, Sand Martins, Skylark and Reed Bunting.

Peter Alfrey

Beddington Farm Bird Group

www.diporglory.co.uk

www.peteralfreynature.co.uk

**COME DANCING
with Ace Dance**

Ballroom & Latin for everyone
Saturdays - £6 for evening
Beginners 7.00 – 8.00
General Dance 8.00 – 10.00
*All Saints Centre, New Road
Contact Marion 0208 648 7488*

COMMUNITY GAMES NIGHT

Every Thursday 7-9 pm, only £1.
For local people of all ages.
*snooker - pool - table tennis -
badminton air hockey - scrabble
- chess - connect 4 dominoes -
and many more board games!
laptop computers and access to
the internet.*

Children under 11 are very welcome
to come along with parents. Young
people aged 11 to 16 must be
registered by a parent.

Halls available

for Children's Parties
most afternoons
£30 per hour

tel: 0208 646 1937

JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

For girls and boys aged 8-13.

Every Wednesday during term-time
from 3.45 p.m. to 5.45 p.m.

Activities include games and sports,
arts and crafts, music and dance,
cooking and computers.

Only £1.50 - including a healthy
snack.

*Call Andrew Roland on
020 8648 3650 for further
details or call in at the club to
register your child.*

ALL SAINTS CENTRE

New Road, CR4 4JN. Centre Office Tel: 020 8646 1937

For parents, carers and young children:

PARENT & TODDLERS Tuesday 9.30 – 11.30
CHILDMINDERS Wednesday 9.30 – 11.30
LITTLE VOICES Tuesday 10.15- 11.00
Phone Sherilee 07852 658 738

HUMPTY DUMPTY PLAYGROUP

for children aged 2-5 (over 3's free- supported by LBS)
Monday to Friday 9.30 – 12.00 noon
Phone Jackie 07729 434 226

For young people:

BEAVERS (age 6-8) Wednesday 6.00 – 7.15

ALL SAINTS JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

for 8-13 year olds Wednesday 3.45 – 5.45

TIME OUT YOUTH PROJECT

for 11-18 year olds Friday 6.30 - 8.30
Phone Dave Lunn 020 8669 9050, 07920 056 546

BLUE STARZ Cheerleading Squad

Age 5-8 Monday 4.30 – 6.30
Age 9-14+ Tuesday 5.00 – 7.00
Phone Abigail 8647 4286

Open to everyone:

BALLROOM DANCING LESSONS

Saturday 7.00 – 10.00
Phone Marion on 8648 7488

AEROBICS – SCOLA Monday 7.00 – 8.00

COMMUNITY GAMES NIGHT

Family games night for all ages
Thursday 7.00 – 9.00

MITCHAM CAMERA CLUB

Wednesday 8.00 – 10.00
www.mitchamcameraclub.com

MARTIAL ARTS

Tai Chi Chuan Monday 7.30 – 9.30
Kung Fu Wednesday 8.30 – 10.00
Karate Friday 7.00 – 8.30

For all older people who like to lunch:

Local Senior Citizens LUNCHEON CLUB

With Mobile Library Service third Tuesday of every month
Tuesday 1.00 – 2.00

SENIOR CORNER CLUB

Bingo, Community singing & chat
Tuesday 2.00 – 3.30

March 2009.

Community News is provided by All Saints Church and BedZED Pavilion for the people of Hackbridge, Beddington Corner & Wandle Valley. Deadline for contributions to the next issue: Aug 21st 2009. The editorial team, led by Andrew Roland and Jo Simister, can be contacted via All Saints Centre, New Road, Hackbridge, CR4 4JN