



Hougham Herald

NEWSLETTER

Download a copy at Hougham Village Hall website <https://www.houghamvillagehall.co.uk/>

or request an email copy from alisonbarker@gmail.com

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Now the weather is improving, why not get out to take part in some of the events and activities happening in Hougham in Summer 2024?

Pop Up Pub will be taking place on Friday 31 May. As the Fish & Chip Van isn't coming, there will be curries instead. No need to cook on that Friday night...just head to the Hall to enjoy one of the home-cooked curries on offer for £12. Details page 4.

Starting 1 June, our multi-talented local artist Wendy Finnis, who ran the Quilt Festival in Hougham for many years and holds regular sewing and art groups for local creatives is taking part in the **South East Open Studios** event, details on pages 2 and 3.

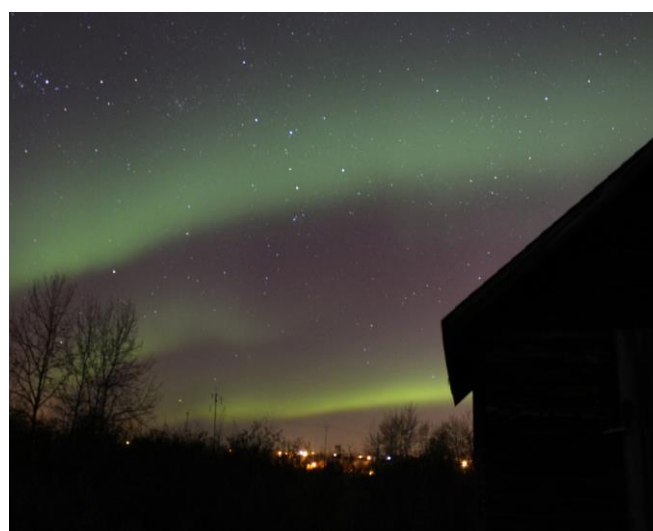
There's a **Quiz Night** at the Village Hall on Saturday 8 June. Come with a team of 6 or just come along and join in on a table. This regular event is proving popular, so do come along. There will be a prize for the winning team as always.

And call a friend...or lots of friends! Tickets are on sale for the **Hougham Party in the Park** on the Village Green on Saturday 13 July. This is going to be a great night and a chance for everyone to have a night of great music and food. Further details on page 7.



Are you really going to lie around doing nothing?

Time to check out What's On on the Village Hall website and the back page of the HH to see what's happening in Hougham this summer.



Unbelievable! The Northern Lights could be seen as far south in the UK as the Kent coast due to geomagnetic storms resulting from solar flares. Were you one of the lucky ones who saw the Northern Lights on the night of Friday 10 May? Please send photos and details of where you were and what you saw to alisonbarker@gmail.com. We'll include your experiences in the next issue.

WWW.SEOS-ART.ORG

ART TRAILS • PLAN A DAY OUT • ARTIST GALLERIES AND MORE



ANNA THOMSON



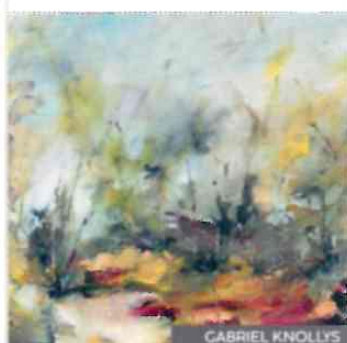
ANN BRIDGES



PRUDEN AND SMITH



CARRIE HORWOOD



GABRIEL KNOLLYS



JANET ALDIS



South East Open Studios is a celebration of creativity with over 200 artists and makers taking part across Kent and East Sussex.

Within our diverse community we have painters, potters, photographers, jewellery makers, woodturners, metalworkers, sculptors ... and more!

Wonderful opportunity to meet artists and makers in their own environment, watch demonstrations, learn about their process and what inspires them.

Our creative community stretches through countryside, coastline, villages and towns, a great way to explore everything this part of the world has to offer.

With a free, full colour guide showcasing each artist and maker by area with maps and information, available from local cafes, libraries, pubs and shops.

Our website now allows you to plan a day out, find studios open on specific days, search for artists or mediums and locations.

Scan the QR code to find out more.



@SEOPENSTUDIOS   

SOUTH EAST OPEN STUDIOS 1-30 JUNE 2024

WWW.SEOS-ART.ORG

@SEOPENSTUDIOS

LOOK OUT FOR THE FREE OPEN STUDIOS ART GUIDE



**Wendy Finnis
The Old Village School
Church Hougham, CT15 7AN
From 1st to 16th June
Open 10 to 5pm
On Saturdays to Wednesdays
Closed Thursdays and Fridays**

**MEET THE ARTIST
DEMONSTRATIONS
ARTWORK FOR SALE
FREE TO VISIT**

ARTWORK BY ANNIE SOUDAIN



POP UP PUB: CURRY LUNCH IN MAY

The Streetz2Streetz Fish and Chip van normally comes to the Village Hall from 5.30-6.45pm on the last Friday of the month for Pop up Pub. However, on Friday 31st May it can't come so there will be a Curry Night at the Hall instead. Home made curry donations welcomed. £12 for a curry if you're not donating a dish for 6 people. Contact Chris on **07533 689018** to let us know if you'd like to come.



ADVERTISING RATES

Quarter page - £5 per issue/£55 per year

Half page - £10 per issue/£110 per year

Full page - £25 per issue

Listing £1.50 per issue/£11 per year

PLEASE CONSIDER ADVERTISING WITH THE HOUGHAM HERALD.

CONTACT: Christine Care carechristine5@gmail.com



The Next

QUIZ NIGHT

AT HOUGHAM VILLAGE HALL

will be

Saturday 8th June 2024

7.30pm

£5 per head

Tables of 6 people

Bring your own drinks and nibbles
Please book online on the website at

<https://www.westhoughamvillagehall.co.uk/>

or message Alison 07976 623805, Dianne 07710 195331 or Chris
on 07533 689018



Nature Trail

by Tony Rawlins



As the old saying tells us, 'When the Ash comes before the Oak, we shall have a jolly soak. But when the Oak comes before the Ash, we will only get a splash'. So the prediction for this year is not much rain. At the time of writing this, the Oaks are all full of leaves but the Ash trees are not showing much growth. We shall see as the summer progresses.

Winter this year was a rather drawn out process and things seem to be struggling to bring Spring into our lives. But now the Spring flowers have been and gone, I always feel that the bluebells are the Grand Finale to Spring and that now we are into the Summer flowers which by and large have a longer display time than the Spring ones.

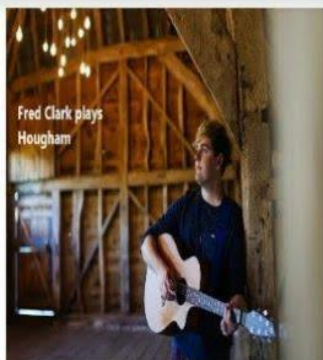
We await the arrivals of our Summer migratory birds, although it's a long time since we've seen or heard a cuckoo in the valley, with his inimitable and very identifiable call. This is something which many people miss and are regretful of its passing. The female cuckoo also has a call but much less powerful than the male and more fluid. But I suppose we cannot have one without the other...

In a bush pretty well under our bedroom window we are pleased to have a pair of long-tailed tits nesting. Not for the first time, sadly, the tits have fallen prey to attack by crows and about this time last year we were presented with the sad spectacle of a destroyed nest (plus fledglings) at the foot of the bush. Such is the nature of things 'red in tooth and claw' and not always pleasant to encounter. We've attempted to guard the bush this year by placing small mesh netting over it to allow the tits safe passage, but deter the predators who are, of course, much larger. Again, we must wait and see what transpires.

Not quite under this heading of Nature Diary, but I am sure everyone will be grateful to our enthusiastic village members who have so successfully browbeaten the council to take action to carry out some degree of repair work to improve the dire pothole situation which has done so much damage on our lanes. One cannot enjoy a pleasant rural drive when one's attention is focussed on spotting and trying to miss the next pothole lying in wait for the unwary.

Everybody – have a very enjoyable Summer 2024.

Tony



Fred Clark plays Hougham

Hougham Party In The Park 13th July 2024



Live Music, Food and Drinks



The Horse Box Bar

Entrance Tickets £15.00 per person, Children 5-16 £1.00 Under 5's go Free. Tickets to be purchased in advance. please call or text Dianne on 07710 195331. Tickets and wristbands will be issued.

Come and Enjoy a Great Night of Music

Hougham Party in the Park 13th July 2024
5pm-11pm Hougham Village Green, Satmar Lane, CT15 7BL.
Come and enjoy the music of Fred Clark and The Ratzkins. Buy your beer and drinks from the Horse Box Bar. Hog Roast also available to buy, Vegetarian Options will be available.

This event is being held to raise funds for the Village Hall.



PLEASE SUPPORT THE VILLAGE HALL'S FUNDRAISING

There are two ways you can help Hougham Village Hall's fundraising and possibly win a prize:

Dover District Lotto

Tickets available from:

<https://www.doverlotto.com/support/hougham-village-hall-trust>

The Hougham Village Hall Trust 100 Club

You can sign up with Christine Care carechristine5@gmail.com

Or join at the Pop Up Pub last Friday of every month.

May we take this opportunity to thank our supporters. We have raised £806 towards our target of £1,500 (52%) for the Lotto.

From the vicarage

Having been a teacher, I've spent years encouraging young people to plan for the future – to think about what they would like to do in life, and to work hard to try to make it happen. I had done the same at their age - I can still remember nervously opening the envelope containing my exam results, the excitement of being given my first teaching post, and seeing what would be my classroom for the very first time.

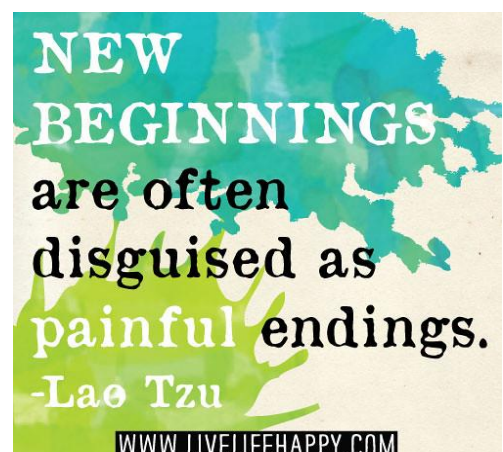
But I never thought about how it would end. You might expect retirement to be marked by farewell speeches and the presentation of a clock or something. But for me, it was different.

At our monthly Messy Church I looked – unsuccessfully - for a dice and counters. Arriving home, I decided to check my school bag. As I rummaged, assorted pens, crayons and a notepad emerged, along with a copy of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* - a memento of my last assignment. I had home tutored a lad who, though excluded from school, still wanted to sit his English GCSE; I had ordered a copy of the play so that he could tackle his coursework. It arrived at the same time as an email from Mum to say that he had changed his mind - and now he didn't want to work with me anyway.

Time had passed since then, suitable offers of work had dried up, and I realised that as is sometimes the way with endings, retirement had crept up on me without me even noticing.

There were no farewell speeches, carriage clock or gardening vouchers for me. Instead, I just emptied my bag, rehomed my board pens and revision guides, presented myself with a copy of a Shakespearean tragedy, and celebrated with a cup of tea...

Brian



CHURCH SERVICES, June 2024			
Date	Alkham	Capel	Hougham
Sunday 2nd 1st Sunday after Trinity	Evening Prayer 5.00 pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30 am	Eucharist (said) 11.00 am
Saturday 8th <i>Activities and stories at Messy Church, followed by tea.</i>		 3.00 – 5.00 pm	
Sunday 9th 2nd Sunday after Trinity	Sung Eucharist 9.30 am	Worshipping Together 11.00 am	Worshipping Together 11.00 am
Sunday 16th 3rd Sunday after Trinity	Worshipping Together 11.00 am	Eucharist (Traditional) 9.30 am	Sung Eucharist 11.00 am
Sunday 23rd 4th Sunday after Trinity	Eucharist (said) 9.30 am	Evensong 6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist 11.00 am
Sunday 30th 5th Sunday after Trinity	<u>St Mary's (Capel Old Church)</u> United Parish Eucharist 10.00 am		
There is usually a Eucharist at St Radigund's, Capel at 11.00 on Thursday mornings.			
Visit us online at: www.church-alkham-capel-hougham.org.uk and on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BeneficeofACH			



What's On at Hougham Village Hall JUN-JUL 24



To book any of the events message Dianne on 07710 195331 or Chris on 07533 689018 or book online at <https://www.westhoughamvillagehall.co.uk/>

Friday 31 st May	Pop Up Pub. No fish and chip van, so there will be a Curry Night instead. Home made curry donations welcome or £12 for a curry. Contact Christine to book.
Saturday 8 th June	Quiz Night 7.30pm. For details see page 5.
Saturday 13 th July	Hougham Party in the Park, with live music and food. See page 7 for further details. Book tickets with Dianne 07710 195331.
Date to be confirmed	Hannah Estelle Caldwell, local musician and performer of the 'Potholes Song', will perform at a Village Hall Music Night in the summer. Details nearer the time.

Regular classes

Every Tuesday morning 10am-11am **Pilates class**.

Contact michelle@pillarpilates.co.uk or book at Pillar Pilates using the Facebook link.

Every Wednesday evening 6pm-7pm **Dog training**. Contact Emma Lush 07583 947605

Every Sunday afternoon 2.15pm-4.15pm **Dog training**. Contact Emma Lush 07583 947605

Every Saturday morning 9am-10am and every Wednesday evening 7-8pm: **Zumba class** Contact houghamvillagehallcontact@gmail.com