



Town Clerk

Regrettably the recent County Press report on our Cathy in the role of Town Clerk is a trifle misleading, so many people do not appreciate that the increase in her salary is due to added hours rather than an increase of her hourly rate (which isn't much). So I thought it might be helpful to list some of her duties and job requirements: -

Person specification. A clear speech and good general health, GCSE or equivalent, willingness to participate in local training, literate and numerate, good communication skills, able to relate to people of different backgrounds, act unsupervised and on own initiative, car, telephone, irregular hours, to attend evening meetings, to be accessible to the councillors and public.

She has to : -- keep Council accounts, listen patiently to Ern and myself when we complain or offer advice, supervise volunteer workers, monitor policies of the Council and suggest changes if necessary, act as representative of the Council, liaise with Isle of Wight Council and other bodies, attend site meetings, attend Council meetings and see to all the relevant paper work and lots more. All this in 20 hours/week. It seems to me that we are getting very good value indeed! *Russ Lea.*

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY/ BRADING SCHOOL

HELP! Does anyone know of the whereabouts of the Mortimer cup awarded to the winner of the children's school classes at the show. It was probably awarded through the school at assembly. The society and school would be grateful for any help in tracing it. Many thanks, Gill Lea, treasurer B.H.Society 407271.

Put the show in your diary Wed 6th. October 1999

The Society will also have a table at the Brading day festivities, any old gardening bits and bobs or plants to sell to help finance the show would be welcomed. The schedule will be available in May.



Your Town Council invites you to enjoy Springtime walks along Brading Parish Byways and Highways during the Island - wide

**WALKS WEEK,
20th ~ 28th MARCH, 1999**

DETAILS OF GUIDED WALKS WILL BE PUT UP
ON PARISH NOTICE BOARDS IN MID-MARCH

**Editor :-
Russ Lea.
7 High Street.
407271**

Adgestone Alverstone Yaverland

Cllr. Holmes

Dear Residents of Brading,

This is one article that I hoped I was never going to write. Since being elected in May 1998, I have been trying to get a firm decision from council officers re: the so-called 'New Age Travellers', in Brading Chalk Pit. You may or may not be aware, that it was about to be handed over to the Town Council to be used for a community project, the hand over was aborted because of the unlawful occupation.

Both Councillor Peggy Jarman and myself have on numerous occasions written letters to the officers concerned and met with them many times. On the 19th Nov 98, both of us and members of the Town Council attended a meeting at County Hall, during which we were told, that the legal process had been started, and that we would be kept up to date on what was happening. We were hoping to be told that an eviction would be taking place, at the end of January. During this time the Town Council had agreed not to discuss this subject in open meetings.

On Monday 25 January 99, Councillor Jarman and myself, attended another meeting and were horrified to learn we were NO nearer to the eviction than we were back in May 98, and the goalpost had been moved. We now needed to find people who were, or had been, intimidated by the illegal occupants of the Chalk Pit.

Both Peggy and myself have written to the new Chief Executive, asking for this subject to be debated at a full Policy Committee meeting. The fact that we have written letters to Mr Quoroll, has been leaked to the press, and as a result, both Peggy and I have declined to be interviewed, until after the result of the Policy Meeting. However one of the Council Officers went on Isle of Wight radio, and stated, that there was nothing they could do, because they did not receive any letters from residents of Brading, who had had confrontations, with the illegal occupants, of the Chalk Pit. In another phone conversation, with this officer, on the morning of the 17th Feb. I challenged the remarks he made on the radio the day before. He virtually told me, that there is nothing the Council can do, which means, that this occupation, although illegal, can not be challenged in a court of law, and we could end up with this as a PERMANENT site.

I personally feel that this is not the right thing for Brading. For the past 10 months, the Town Council, Town Trust, and myself, have been working together to improve the image of Brading, not just for the residents, but for the Island and the tourists. If this is allowed to become a PERMANENT site for the 'New Age Travellers', this will no doubt attract others from the mainland to come and settle here. This is the wrong message to send out from Brading, and the Isle of Wight. These people do not wish to live by the rules of society, and the system, but seem to be given carte blanche to milk the system. If it is the law at fault here, then once again, the law is an ass. Can I ask you, the residents of Brading for your support? I do believe there is a petition asking the Isle of Wight Council to pursue every avenue to evict the illegal occupiers of the Chalk Pit
Jock Holmes.

Jock Holmes and the IW Council can only act in this if they have our support in the shape of constructive letters of complaint. Some people have told me that they have found these people nice and pleasant and I am sure they are but that is not the point - they take but do not give. Please remember that these will be replaced by others in the future and we must ask ourselves - will they remain so pleasant after the area is given to them as a permanent home and they feel safe or will the site degenerate into the usual unsanitary car and lorry dump guarded by large, noisy dogs. Ed.

Connections

March 1999

Vicar's letter.

Dear Friends.

I wonder if you saw the piece in the paper about the preacher, who, when preaching at some of the major churches in the land, on the 10 Commandments, had called for people to get right with God and their neighbours. After preaching on the eighth commandment (you shall not steal), the churches were inundated with books, that should have been returned to Libraries or their rightful owners. There were other stolen objects sent in too. Not too much unpaid income tax though! The churches were having quite a job getting things back to their rightful owners.

It occurred to me that it is one thing making restitution of things stolen, it is quite another sorting out some of the other commandments like: "you shall not kill". Now that's a bit final! Then I got to thinking about whether one can ever clear one's conscience properly, unless it is sorted out with God.

Broadly speaking, all the first lot of commandments are about our dealings with God: 1. You shall have no other gods but me. 2. You shall not regard anything else more highly than me, or dedicate your life to it. 3. You shall not take God's name in vain. All failures to observe these laws, would have to be confessed to God alone.

With the last of these, the one about swearing, so often I hear people saying: Oops! I shouldn't have said that in front of the Vicar. But it isn't the Vicar you should be worried about, it is God. (I've heard enough over the years, as probably every Vicar has.) I tell you what, if I had been that way inclined, I could have sworn a few minutes ago, when I had got not only this letter but all my contribution to Connections ready and my computer screen suddenly went blank and I lost the lot. However, it doesn't help to swear and I just had to pick myself up and start again. So this letter is nothing like the one I had originally intended.

Back to the commandments. The last set are much more practical. I guess the one about honouring your mother and father is difficult in an age when advanced years do not always get respect. So I guess we've all been guilty there. But at least if our parents are still alive, we can try to say how sorry we are. Losing face is said to be terrible for Japanese people, but for us who say we are Christians, it should not be such a difficult matter. And if we can't do it with our parents, what chance is there with anybody else.

I have so far not mentioned the seventh commandment "you shall not commit adultery", or the ninth: "you shall not lie", or the tenth: "you shall not have a burning desire for anything that is not yours". Since all advertising is geared to make us want desperately the thing that is being advertised, it is exceedingly hard not to "covet". And in all these, we are really back to having to put things right with God, or we could be making a lot of people exceedingly unhappy, by inexpertly owning up to the people we have hurt, though this may often be necessary and we shouldn't shirk from it, if it is the right thing to do.

So facing up to the 10 commandments and especially trying to put right things that were wrong is exceedingly difficult. But no one ever said that having faith in God and trying to be right with him, was going to be easy!

But what we really do need, is to make the effort to get into a right relationship with God.

Your friend, David M. Low.

Some features of Church life.

Restoration Appeal

Thanks to the efforts of many of you, the total now stands very close to £5,000. This should enable us in the near future to do the most important thing, which is to put some heating into the Church. Many of you will know how desperately needed this is and so if you possibly can help towards the cost, we would be most grateful.

The congregation have been working extremely hard with their Talent scheme and have so far raised nearly £700.

Plant Sale. (All gardeners please note). Our next major event at the Church will be a sale of plants on May 1st. Please could you have some trays of Seedlings or cuttings potted up or whatever by May 1st?

Bishops visit to Brading.

It was very good to have our Bishop Kenneth Stephenson with us at the end of February.

Christian Aid Walk.

Please put May 8th. in your diary, if you are able to help us raise some much-needed money for some of the poorest people in the world. This will be another opportunity for visiting the lovely country round Newchurch, that's where it will begin at 10 a.m. the distance is approximately seven miles.

Mothering Sunday.

As you know, we are in the season of Lent, and Mothering Sunday marks the middle of it. So on March the 14th we welcome mothers especially, and of course, people of all ages, for a special Service that includes Baptism.

Services over Easter.

Palm Sunday. Service with Donkey 9.30am Brading Church
Maundy Thursday. Eucharist 7.30pm Yaverland Church
Good Friday. March of Witness 10am Sandown
The Crucifixion (Video) 12 Noon Brading Church Hall

One hour Meditation 2 pm-3pm Yaverland Church
EASTER DAY. Sunrise Service 6.20 am Sandown Seafront
Holy Communion 8 am Brading Church
Sung Communion 9.30am Brading Church
Sung Eucharist 11.00am Yaverland Church
No Evensong

Your chance to hear Mark's Gospel as a whole.

Sandown Baptist Church have got a well-known actor to do a rendering of Mark's Gospel on Thursday April 8th at 7.30 p.m. it is very good to get all the parts in context. They have said we would be welcome.

Up coming dates.

Saturday 13th March Church Jumble Sale 2pm Brading Town Hall
 Sunday 14th Mothering Sunday 9.30 am St. Mary's Church
 Monday 15th Churches Together Meeting Sandown
 Tuesday 16th Schools Music Festival Sandown
 Friday 19th Church Grounds Clean up St. Mary's Grounds
 Thursday 25th Church Spring Clean St. Mary's Church
 Saturday 27th Yaverland Church Lunch Rayles Hotel
 Sunday 28th Palm Sunday Usual Services
 Thursday 1st April Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Yaverland Church
 Friday 2nd April Good Friday (See above) Both Churches
 Sunday 4th April EASTER DAY " Both Churches

Did you see this Millennium Hymn?

Through the darkness of the ages,
 Through the sorrows of the days,
 Strength of weary generations,
 Lifting hearts in hope and praise.
 Light in darkness, joy in sorrow,
 Presence to allay all fears,
 Jesus, you have kept your promise,
 Faithful through two thousand years.

Bounty of two thousand harvests,
 Beauty of two thousand springs:
 He who framed the times and seasons
 Has vouchsafed us greater things.
 Word of God who spoke creation
 Speaks forgiveness, speaks to save,
 Gathers still his ransomed people
 In the life he freely gave.

Countless flowers have bloomed and withered,
 Countless noons are sealed in night,
 Shattered thrones and fallen empires,
 Realms and riches lost from sight.
 Christ, your kingdom still increases
 As the centuries unfold.
 Grain that fell to earth and perished
 Has brought forth ten thousandfold.

Master, we shall sing your praises,
 Man of sorrows, God of power,
 For the measured march of seasons
 Shall at last bring in the hour
 When, as lightning leaps the heavens,
 You return to lead us home,
 You have promised, "I am coming,"
 Swiftly, our Lord Jesus, come.

I think it's rather good. Don't you?
 Vicar.

BRADING

At the last meeting of the Town Council it was suggested that preliminary inquiries were made regarding inviting a Farmers Market to come to Brading. The Clerk will now discuss this matter with the appropriate officer at the Isle of Wight council who is responsible for organising the markets. We will let you know the outcome of these discussions in the April issue of Connections.

THE enemy of my enemy - is my friend. Arab saying, anon.

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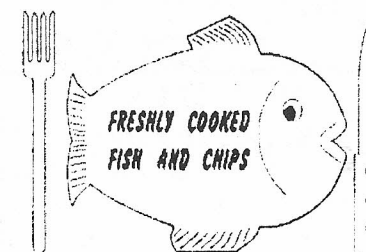
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Take Away!

BRADING WI 18th February 1999

At the February meeting, Mrs. Audrey Hardcastle welcomed visitor Mrs. Wendy McClurg, who had come with her sister Mrs. Edith Coidwell. Barbara Hill, convenor for the "Spithead Group", invited everyone to a party on 25th March — to celebrate the Group's 15th Birthday. There was an invitation to Newchurch WI's birthday party at the Taverners in Godshill on 16th March, and also an invitation to Shanklin Victoria WI's birthday luncheon at Luccombe Hall Hotel in Shanklin on 17th March.

Mrs. Audrey Hardcastle had written a letter to the Town Trust, on our WI's behalf, congratulating them on their purchase of a parcel of land at Beech Grove. She said that this would be excellent for the preservation of wildlife, which so easily could become extinct. Mrs. Mary Ralph read several of her humorous poems and also "Winter's Love", which featured in BBC Television's "The Nation's Favourite Love Poem" and gave its name to her latest book of verse. The competition for a furry toy was won by Mrs. Sylvia Greville, and best bloom was brought by Mrs. Joy Burgess.

Several members won raffle prizes. Mrs. Hilary Hamflett and helpers prepared refreshments.

We would love to welcome you to our next meeting, which is on Thursday 18th March at 7pm. The speaker will be Miss Honour Clegg head of a special school.

Competition: An unusual Egg Cup.

Oh innocent victim of cupid

Remember this terse little verse.

To let a fool kiss you is stupid

To let a kiss fool you is worse.
E.Y.Harburg.

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BRADING TOWN COUNCIL

Mr Graham Parker who is sixteen years old and lives in Lower Furlongs, Brading has been appointed as a Tree warden by the Town Council. Graham joins Mr. Russell Palin and Mr. Nigel Walters who have been wardens for some time.

You may have seen reports in the County Press concerning the Brading Youth Old Boys Football Playing Field at Rowborough. It has been the intention of the Town Council to take on the responsibility for maintaining the field so that it could be used once again for playing football. Unfortunately at the present time it looks as though the restrictive covenants placed upon the field at the time of sale, twenty years ago, will prevent us from proceeding with this project. We will give you more information as things develop.

The Town Council is to take on responsibility for maintaining the two areas of grass at Devonian. Members agree that this is one of the entrances to the Town and that the Council could enhance the area. Posts will be installed shortly in an effort to prevent vehicles damaging the grass.

As you are probably aware the lime tree at the Yarbridge Crossroads has had to be felled, as it had become dangerous. The Town Council has discussed this with the Highways Department and recently members met with the tree officer to decide upon a site for a replacement tree. Consequently two maple trees will be planted on the grass verge to the south west of the traffic lights.

If any one has a problem with dogs fouling near their property, please contact the Town Council Office — 401770 we can request that the Dog Warden visit the area. It is important that all problems with dog fouling are reported as the Dog Wardens can only undertake their work efficiently if they are informed of problem areas.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Tuesday March 9" at 7pm in the Town Hall.

THIS MONTHS RECIPE PEANUT COOKIES

150g (5oz) self raising flour 125g (4ozs) Caster sugar.

125g (4oz) soft margarine 50g (2oz) salted peanuts.

Cream the margarine and sugar together thoroughly.

Chop the nuts and stir them into the mixture with the flour.

Place walnut sized balls of the dough on a greased tray

Bake in moderate oven 180C 350F Gas 4 for 20 minutes.

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George Pocock Remembers

On 31st October 1995 George Pocock allowed me to record some of his memories of life in Brading, a place where he has lived all his life. This was a great pleasure for me as I did not know Mr Pocock and the meeting resulted from his brother lending me some family documents for my first Bygone Brading exhibition in the autumn of 1995. I sat with George in his sitting room overlooking his beloved marshes. Since he has spent a lifetime studying nature, this view offers a wonderful panorama of the seasons and the bird life that goes with it. From my house I have the same delightful views. George has a quiet serenity about him. He is contented with his life having rarely travelled far from Brading and certainly never off the Island. "I don't want to" he says firmly.

I always take a photo of the person I interview and the photo of George emanates a peaceful satisfaction with the life he has led.

George was born and brought up in Brading and must be almost ninety now, even so he is able to remember who lived where up the High Street, so for this first piece on George I'll relate those memories from George's youth.

At the Wheatsheaf, Harry Duffett; next door Simmonds jobbing builder; Oscar Brading, butcher; next up two or three steps Mrs Dennis and her daughter, then the Post Office run by the Loe family, Mr Loe also repaired clocks (One of his longcase clocks is in the records office at Newport quay, still going well). Rusty Lea carries on that tradition to-day. Next came Mrs Black's sweet shop. Then Taylor the boot repairer. Where Londis is now was Riddick's and Jolliffe a bakery and cake shop. There were three bakers in Brading then. In the little cottage next door to Riddick's lived one of the owners of the cake shop. *Jolliffe worked for Riddick's.*

Next door came Lloyd's Bank "a little square place" then where Miss Hewson's sweet shop is to-day, was a secondhand furniture shop run by Mr Gladdis. Then Stay's ironmongery; Wilkins -taximan; Harding then? and then Fanny Dowden, he worked for Riddick and Jolliffe's. He would push a two wheeled hand-cart laden with freshly baked bread and cakes for delivery "up all over The Mall, up Hornsey Rise then back along New Road all by hand." No wonder folk kept fit or perhaps became exhausted. Remember that at the time George is talking about there was no gap between what is now Londis and Miss Hewson's sweet shop old photos show the buildings he is describing.

Next we come to Mrs Huck's shop at what is now The Barn. On the other side of the passage lived Will Scott. Then another archway and there lived Mr and Mrs Scot. Jim Scot's parents; on the other side of the archway lived Parker. Where the Bugle car park is on the upper side were three cottages. In these lived Mrs Bndget; Allen family and the Pococks. There was an archway between these cottages which led into what was called Arnold's Yard. Above this archway living in two rooms "with a bit of glass on top" was Granny Trueman. She lived to be 97. The other side of this archway there were three more cottages in which lived the Phillips; Stones and Mrs Lee. Next before reaching the Bugle came a shop, Kirby's boot shop. "he sold boots shoes and slippers". The Bugle was run by Mr Willis his mother and daughter. Then came Tom Dadswell and his wife, then Joan Fardell the daughter of a magistrate then Ringway? : Deacons and in the house that lies back from the road just before the now Waxworks, lived another Reeves. Deacon's shop came next "they sold rabbits, pigeons, anything".

(Chaffey)

see over.

In my 1998 exhibition there was a lovely photo of this shop with the items George mentions, hanging up outside the shop front with Mr Deacon standing nearby. *Grandpa Deacon*
 In the next cottage lived Farmer Jones he had a club foot. Lower Furlongs used to be all fields in those days and Jones had a stable there with ten or twelve cows. He used to take them across the fields down to the marshes as "he used to have they then"
 In the small two up two down house which came next lived Len Reed In the next timbered house lived Dorry Grey and finally in what is now the Waxworks lived the two Carley families. Man and wife. Daughter and her husband and five or six children There are some lovely gravestones relating to the Carley family in our churchyard. also a very good photo of the then shop front can be found in one of the 1W local history book.
 No doubt other folk will have some thoughts about is written here and may remember the two names I have had to give a question mark to .Please let me know. There is lots more to follow. Molly Pewsey.

NO SMOKING DAY

Would you like help and support to become a non-smoker?

Beech Grove Surgery patients are invited to a Stop Smoking event on National No Smoking Day -Wednesday 10 March between 10 am and 2 pm.

There will be advice available on how to quit, as well as information on Nicotine Replacement Therapy and alternative therapies such as acupuncture.
 if you are a smoker and over 40, why not have a simple breathing test (Spirometry) that can show if there is any deterioration in the way your lungs work.. (Please contact the surgery to make an appointment)

Come along and see us and make this your year to become a "NON-SMOKER".

"Jock Holms"

On Friday 29th January 99, I was taken on a guided tour of the new set up at Lynbottom Tip, it is quite impressive, and we were informed, that it is the first of it's kind in the U.K. I was surprised that it is not working yet, to it's full capacity in the composting department as they cannot get enough kitchen waste to mix with the other green waste, which means the excess has to go to the landfill site.

Biffa who are running Lynbottom are looking at bigger green bins for our kitchen waste and as soon as I know when they become available. I will let the residents of Brading know. For the gardeners amongst you, the compost being produced looks very good. There are 3 types and are still in the experimental stage, so therefore I have not got any prices to pass on to you. Can I also remind you of the Sixties Night at Brading Town Hall on Saturday 20th March 99. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN HALL OFFICE AND POST OFFICE, £3 ADULTS £2 OAP AND JUVENILES. Wine will be on sale for consumption on the premises. Please support this as all profits go towards Brading Day, which is going to be something different this year. A lot of work is going on behind the scenes to make this a success JH.

Yaverland Parish Lunch.

We invite our friends from Brading to come and join us at this social occasion, back this year at our favourite venue - Rayles Hotel. Saturday 27th March 12.30pm. Cost £8.50. Tickets from Mrs Joan Leggett 405717

TOBY JUGS.

Toby jugs were first produced by the Staffordshire potteries in the middle to late 18th century.

The name is said to have come from a poem published in 1761 about a Toby Philpot. The traditional design, of squat old man wearing a three cornered hat, and holding a jug of ale in his hand.

Staffordshire potter Ralph Wood was perhaps the most famous producer of Toby jugs. He designed his first jug after buying "The Toper", an engraving illustrating the verse about Toby Philpot.

The Toper, the first character, was soon followed by The Squire, The Sailor and The Snuff Takers. Later in Victorian times Toby's were modelled on specific individuals, literary figures and military, Naval and political Heroes

Early Toby's are rare, but many commonly found examples date from the 19th century. Royal Dolton is probably the best known producer, with many designs giving likenesses of film stars, Henry VIII and his wives, Captain Hook and even Old King Cole. Kevin Francis has produced a series of limited editions character jugs

AN EPITAPH

HERE LIES A POOR WOMAN WHO ALWAYS WAS TIRED
 FOR SHE LIVED IN A PLACE WHERE HELP WAS'NT HIRED
 HER LAST WORDS ON EARTH WERE, DEAR FRIENDS I AM GOING
 WHERE WASHING AIN'T DONE , NOR SWEEPING OR SEWING
 AND EVERYTHING THERE IS EXACT TO MY WISHES
 FOR THERE THEY DON'T EAT AND THERES NO WASHING OF DISHES
 DON'T MOURN FOR ME NOW, DON'T MOURN FOR ME NEVER
 FOR I'M GOING TO DO NOTHING --- FOR EVER AND EVER

Found in Bushy churchyard.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Please don't forget our Marie Curie Afternoon Teas at The Town Hall on Saturday 3rd April.

Few tables still available, More details later, Please look for details on the posters nearer the time.

Marie Curie Daffodil Day 26th March Daffodils broaches available from Gillys all the month.

Donations will be greatly appreciated. Phone 407271 or leave messages at Gillys

Any items for sale or raffle, or help on the day would be very welcome

He who tells the truth - should keep his horse saddled. *Old Arab proverb, anon.*

Yaveland Ladies Club

Next meeting, Thursday March 4th. @ 2.15pm. at the Sailing Club. Mrs Muriel Owen "Cuba" Tea and Biscuits.