

# ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

## September 2024

### VILLAGE VOICE - A NEW PERSPECTIVE

It has been my privilege to edit and circulate the Village Voice for the last fifteen years, and during that time I have never missed a planned publication date - until last month when I spent two weeks at the QEQM. Sadly, I first had a bout of Sepsis, followed by a dangerous overload of potassium in my blood. I am now thankfully on the road to recovery. However, this has meant a disruption in my immunotherapy treatment.

All of this sounds a lot scarier than it seemed at the time, but I did learn that, notwithstanding the negative publicity about the NHS put about by the media, the people whom I encountered, from the porters to the Consultants, were unfailingly cheerful, kind, courteous and caring, and I will forever be grateful for their diligence in identifying the appropriate antibiotics and treatments which brought about my recovery.

Another lesson we learned was that, far from having lost its community, Acol still has the capacity to support and assist those who need it. Both Barbara and I have been overwhelmed by the kindness of neighbours offering to collect shopping, provide transport etc. The other thing we learned was that we only had to ask. There are times in life when being self-sufficient and independent becomes a hinderance not a help. People are only too willing to help their neighbours, given half a chance.

Our thanks to all those who sent kind wishes - which buoyed our spirits, and to those whose little and not so little acts of kindness helped us both through a very difficult time.

### *Post Scriptum*

The day after I finished the above, I succumbed to a further infection, which is often a consequence of my Immunotherapy treatment at Kings. Unfortunately, I was not able to secure a GPs appointment and was therefore advised that I should ring again tomorrow, or as an alternative attend A&E at the QEQM. At A&E I was seen reasonably quickly, and given a saline drip and had some bloods taken. The blood tests revealed that I once again had infection markers above the acceptable limit. I was then given a rapid infusion of Antibiotic and sent home with a week's supply together with a promise that the Community Nurses would be monitoring my progress.

Sure enough, at 9.30 on Friday morning there was a ring at the front door and the Community Nurse was on the doorstep. If you, like me had never heard of the Community

Nurses, they can deal with pretty much anything except broken bones - they take blood tests, dress wounds, do observations and give injections. They are a team of experienced nurses who operate out of Westbrook House under the guidance of a GP. On that first visit the Nurse spotted a red patch on my leg, which was slightly warm to the touch, and suggested that this was a possible source of the infection. By 3.00 that day I received a phone call warning that I should not continue to use the antibiotic supplied by A&E, as it conflicted with a number of the medications I was taking. By 5.00 the nurse turned up on my doorstep with an alternative antibiotic targeted on the patch on my leg. On Saturday morning another member of the team arrived and took blood samples. These she delivered to the Path lab at Margate. A few hours later they had looked at the results, and were able to verify that the Markers were decreasing to such an extent that they could discharge me!

### **ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club**

The ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND lottery was introduced many years ago to boost the funds of the Village Hall. The cost of a ticket in the lottery was £1, and prizes of £20, £10 and £5 were paid each month and it was usually possible to match the prize money with a deposit to the funds.

Regrettably, contributions have since dwindled and we have therefore decided to revise how it is operated.

Contribution will continue to be £1 per month per ticket but the draw will take place every three months with prizes of £60 1<sup>st</sup> prize and £30 2<sup>nd</sup> prize.

**Therefore, the September draw took place on Monday 2nd September 2024.**

#### **Winners for the Month of September 2024 were:**

Member no. 69 who won 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £60.00. and

Member no. 59 who won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of £30.00

A total of £90.00 was donated to the Village Hall funds.

Following the decision to change the frequency of payment of prizes, we realized that the method of collection had also to be addressed.

We are accordingly suggesting that all participants are invited to make their payments online, either three monthly or annually. This would assist the current collectors, but should you wish to continue making cash payments this would continue to be arranged. Should you choose to pay directly into the Village Hall Bank Account, the details are as follows:

Account Name: Acol Village Hall Management Committee  
Sort Code: 40-32-02  
Account Number: 31339494

We hope that you will find this idea acceptable – please give me a call to discuss how you wish to continue.

Iris Osborne

Secretary to the Committee 01843 838829

## **News from The Parish Council**

We wrote to the organisers of The Sausage & Cider Festival complaining about the contravention of our 7.5 weight limit by multi-trailer pantechnicons involved in its logistical operations and copied Quex Estates. No reply from the organisers but we got the following, by return, from Jill Hewett at Quex.

Thank you for your email and I am sorry that you have had to bring this to our attention. We do appreciate feedback, as this enables us to endeavour to work through these issues.

I can assure you that all event organisers are requested to divert such traffic on main roads through Manston and not through Acol, to avoid exactly this situation. This is something that we cannot stress enough and understand totally the problems this traffic can cause.

We will continue to stress the importance of this moving forward and will highlight for this and other events.

We plan to introduce a Welcome Pack for new residents of the village. It will include an introductory letter from the PC, the latest Village Voice, details of the Village Hall, its management and clubs and activities, links to the APC website and village Facebook Groups, and a potted Acol history. We welcome your views and, whilst we will attempt to obtain details of people moving into our village from Thanet District Council, please let us know about any new neighbours you may have.

Following a meeting with Matt Elmer, TDC Head of Cleansing Services, we hope soon to have new litter bins at the Recreation Ground and adjacent to the Village Hall. We also discussed improved street sweeping, which should be achieved once new street cleaning equipment that's on order has been delivered. Collection points will be agreed for any future Litter Picks by our village volunteers.

We plan to arrange regular "tea, cakes and chat" events, open to all residents, but hoping particularly to attract anyone any who is lonely or housebound. Transport will be provided, if necessary. Kate and Sarah are leading this development, so please do share any thoughts/ views you may have with them.

Since there was no Village Voice for August, we have extended the deadline for Nominations for Freedom of the Parish of Acol, 2024, and they should now be submitted to Sarah by 31<sup>st</sup> October. A simple [nomination form is on the Parish website](#).

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> August are on [the website](#).

The next Parish Council meeting is at 7.30 pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October in the Village Hall.

Richard Steel (Chair)

### FORTHCOMING VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

1<sup>st</sup> Oct 7.30pm

AHS meeting TOM HART DYKE - The Lullingstone Gardener

### VILLAGE INFORMATION

#### REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Refuse (black), Garden Refuse (Green)  
& waste food

9<sup>th</sup> Sept

23<sup>rd</sup> Sept

7<sup>th</sup> Oct

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food.

16<sup>th</sup> Sept

30<sup>th</sup> Sept

Ring TDC on 577115 if you have problems, or 577727 with queries

#### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Please contact Iris Osborne on 07951 072914 for any information you require.

#### ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

As well as Acol Village Voice you can find out more about what's occurring in Acol via Facebook on the Acol, Kent community page ([www.facebook.com/Acol.Village](http://www.facebook.com/Acol.Village)).

Of course, other news and information is available on the Acol Parish Council website at [www.acolparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.acolparishcouncil.org.uk) or ring 845363.

Sheila Bransfield



**BS7671 Qualified Electrical Engineer**

**ELECSA**  
Part of the SCA Group

**Part 'P' Registration No EPP2390**

**All Electrical Work Undertaken**

**Free Quotations ~ Competitive Prices  
Quality Workmanship ~ Fully Guaranteed**

**Call Nic Morling on 07714580978**

**[www.npelectricals.co.uk](http://www.npelectricals.co.uk)**

**YOUR M.P. At Your Service .....**

**SIR ROGER GALE**

**Herne Bay & Sandwich**

**For appointments and for advice on  
urgent problems:**

**Ring: 01843 848588 (a.m. from 10.00)**

**Web: [www.rogergale.co.uk](http://www.rogergale.co.uk)**

**Email: [galerj@parliament.uk](mailto:galerj@parliament.uk)**

**Write: HOUSE OF COMMONS  
London, SW1A 0AA**

## **ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

On behalf of the Horticultural society, I would like to say it's good to have Jon Inchley back to fitness after his illness and we wish you a speedy recovery. The V.V. is an important circular to inform people of what is happening.

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 7.30pm our speaker will be Tom Hart Dyke, The Lullingstone Gardener. Who knows what he will talk about, but we can be assured it will be entertaining and informative.

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October we are having our annual NIGHT AT THE RACES.

**CONTACT THERESA/STEVE LING ON 01843 846963**

*Remember we meet on the first Tuesday of the month.*

You can join the Society:- £4 single and £7 for a couple.

*A big thank you to all the volunteers who did a brilliant job helping with the erection of the marquee on the Saturday after our show.*

### **Asian Hornet Update**

A nest has been found and destroyed in Ramsgate in August. To date 10 nests have been found mainly in the corridor between Canterbury to Dover and Folkestone. To illustrate the Asian Hornet's resourcefulness a primary nest was found in a BBQ at Elham followed by a secondary nest in an ash tree nearby.

It's important that as many nests as found and destroyed as soon as possible as this is the month when new Queens will be leaving the nests for hibernation.

Asian Hornets are not usually a threat to humans and are quite placid. On the other hand, getting too close to a nest is another matter so if you see a nest keep well clear.

Bill Yeoman

<div><b>MINSTER MOT &amp; REPAIR CENTRE LTD</b> Unit 24, Telegraph Hill Industrial Estate, Laundry Road, Minster, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4HY Telephone (01843) 823131 VAT Reg. No. 309 6619 83 <b>Trusted Traders</b>  <b>MOTs, Servicing and all Repairs undertaken.</b>  <b>Collection &amp; Delivery Service available.</b> <b>Give us a call or email us at David.minmot@outlook.com</b></div>	<div><b>FREEPHONE: 0800 980 6663</b> <b>DEAL, THANET &amp; EAST KENT</b> <b>A-SKIP</b> <b>4u.com</b> <table><tr><td>2 CUYD'S</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>3 CUYD'S</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>4 CUYD'S</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>5 CUYD'S</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>6 CUYD'S</td><td>35</td></tr><tr><td>7 CUYD'S</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>8 CUYD'S</td><td>ALSO GRAB LORRY</td></tr><tr><td>12 CUYD'S ALL DROP DOORS</td><td></td></tr></table></div> <div><b>Ugly but Reliable drivers</b>  A-skip4U.com      sales@askip4u.com  <b>01843 860444</b>  Local Family company. We pride ourselves on Our Customer service.  Quote 'Acol', as we like to look after our locals</div>	2 CUYD'S	15	3 CUYD'S	20	4 CUYD'S	25	5 CUYD'S	30	6 CUYD'S	35	7 CUYD'S	40	8 CUYD'S	ALSO GRAB LORRY	12 CUYD'S ALL DROP DOORS	
2 CUYD'S	15																
3 CUYD'S	20																
4 CUYD'S	25																
5 CUYD'S	30																
6 CUYD'S	35																
7 CUYD'S	40																
8 CUYD'S	ALSO GRAB LORRY																
12 CUYD'S ALL DROP DOORS																	

#### Editor's Note:

For a box advertisement of about 8cm x 9cm the cost is £10 for inclusion in 3 editions, £15 for 6 editions and £25 for 12 editions.

Please e-mail contributions to Village Voice to [inchley@btinternet.com](mailto:inchley@btinternet.com)

This edition of Village Voice has not been sponsored .

Should you (or your organisation) wish to sponsor an edition, either in memory of a loved one, to commemorate an event or even from a feeling of civic duty(!), please contact me.

Contributions for the next edition must be received by 5th October 2024.