

BEAN YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE SURVEY
SEPTEMBER 2009

Please circle as appropriate and please be honest and frank.

Do you live in Bean YES/NO

If not where do you travel from

Do you use the Community Centre YES/NO

How often do you use the Centre Daily Weekly Monthly Occasionally

Please indicate ages and number of users from your household

Age of Centre users 0-5 6-12 13-19 20-40 40-60 60+

How many in each age group

Are you happy to use the facility if not please tell us why you don't

What improvements would you like to see made to the centre?

If these improvements were made would you consider using the centre more often?

Thank you for your time it really will make a difference.

Please drop completed forms into the shop or one of the following addresses.

67 Stonewood

28A Foxwood Road

1 Bramble Avenue

1 Beacon Drive

10 School Lane

Newsletter of The Bean Residents Association

Our 44th Year

September 2009
3 / 09

BEAN'S TALK

Issued free to every
Household in Bean.

Web site: beanvillage.org.uk

E-mail: beanra@waitrose.com

We welcome new residents to the village and to the Residents Association's quarterly News Letter. Please feel free to contribute your thoughts, ideas and comments.

A selection of the activities available in the early part of the month.

Mustard Seed Exhibition of Works

Sunday 5th September 10 - 2pm. (See page 16)

The Bean Residents Association

Annual General Meeting

Monday 7th September

Will be held In the Community Centre at 8.15pm.

All Bean residents are invited to attend.

There will be an opportunity to raise questions etc.

Please support your Residents Association.

Bean Parish Fair 12 - 4pm.

Sunday 13th September in the recreation ground
(See page 10)

**A QUIZ in aid of the Community Bus and the
Village Hall. (See page 14).**

**A Questionnaire to assist the Village Hall Committee
with their fund raising. (See page 28).**

To contact the editor; e-mail: thebeanstalk@btinternet.com

Telephone 01474 704062

1 School Lane

Bean DA2 8AL.

Bill (editor)

**THE COPY DATE FOR THE DECEMBER
BEAN'S TALK IS TUESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER**

Information from the monthly meetings of

The Bean Residents Association.

The following notes are updates from the May, June, July and August 2009 meetings.

It was mentioned that the handrails and path edging are still missing from areas of Beacon Wood Country Park.

Policing and Neighbourhood Watch:

Jill Mendham (Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer), and neither Dave Davies nor Jemma Pawley attended the June meeting, however we were notified that in future both PCSO's and PC's will be working in teams and will be able to cover for each other.

(See pages 16 and 20 for other reports)

Talk by Mr D. Smith from KCC regarding linking Bean, Beacon Woods and Darenth Wood with Bluewater:

Mr Smith from KCC came to the meeting to talk about linking Bean, Beacon Woods and Darenth Woods with Bluewater via footpaths. Once the proposal was in place the legal aspects and costings would be looked at. Mr Smith mentioned that this could take between 12 to 18 months. A point was raised about the access via a culvert that had been cut since Bluewater had been built and was now blocked by a gas main (photos were shown).

Ian Martin (Groundwork) said they would be meeting Bluewater Management shortly to discuss how the Bluewater Parklands could be made more accessible. Mr Smith promised to keep the Residents Association informed on progress. Various plans and KCC booklets on footpaths and cycle routes were supplied.

Secretary's Report and Correspondence:

Linda and Ashley had attended the two Bluewater Forums in the period. Among the topics were the 'Drop-in Surgery' opening in September at Northfleet (opposite the new Police Station), the 10th Anniversary of Bluewater opening 'celebrations' and the proposed river crossing from the Bean Interchange.

The Planning Application for 'File Storage' at Cherwell Farm had been approved.

The Planning application for a 1st floor extension at 160 Beacon Drive had been refused.

The agent for Vision Homes had been invited to the June meeting to discuss their application, for 14 Houses at Beacon Drive/Drudgeon Way, but as he was unable to attend he sent a statement which was read out by Ashley Johnson.

A meeting was scheduled for 9th July at Dartford Borough Council

BEAN YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

News from the Community Centre is that we have secured some funding to go ahead with replacement double glazed windows, and a new, we hope, more welcoming front door. This work will hopefully have been completed by the time you read this.

The Management Committee are committed to continue trying to secure funds to enable more improvements to take place although this process can be time consuming and long winded and certainly not without its knock-backs.

So far this year we have applied for five grants for various projects and amounts and just one was successful. We feel that this village deserves a modern facility and whilst we cannot do very much to the structure of the building we can with sufficient funds improve the internal space and facilities. Some of the grant providers require that we have carried out a recent survey to confirm that the work we are planning is what is required by our users so **we would be very grateful if every household whether a user of the community centre or not completes and returns the survey on the next page.**

For example, we are currently planning to apply for funding to internally insulate the hall and at the same time the internal wall surface would be revamped, the loft space also needs more insulation but you our users may feel other things need attention first. Maybe your concern is the garden space or even the ceiling. **Please do let us know.**

In the meantime please continue to support us at Easy Fundraising please visit <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/beancc> and select Bean Community Centre this is basically free money which goes towards improving the Community Centre. All the details and instructions are on the Community Centre website <http://www.beancommunitycentre.co.uk/> and there are lots of instructions on the Easy Fundraising site.

As always new volunteers to sit on the Management Committee would be very welcome.

Please contact the Secretary Lynn Garnham on 01474 704180 or come along to one of our meetings which are held on the third Monday of the month at 8pm. in the Community Centre.

Kent Thameside Regeneration Partnership

Has launched its new dynamic website www.kent-thameside.co.uk which brings together the best Kent Thameside has to offer.

The site will be regularly updated with news and information on key projects, transport infrastructure, jobs and leisure facilities etc. *Kent Thameside News.*

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES and USEFUL NUMBERS.

Bean Village web site www.beanvillage.org.uk

E-mail address beanra@waitrose.com

Phone Numbers 01474 unless shown otherwise.

POLICE **Maidstone 01622 690690**

Gemma Pawley - Neighbourhood Police Officer.

Dave Davies - Police Community Support Officer.

Community Warden.

Community Warden (Control Centre)

Mobile 07870252526

Mobile 07969584192

Mobile 07811271252

☎ 01732 885712

Crime Stoppers

☎ 0800 555 111

Bean Youth and Community Centre

Hall Bookings

Tuesday	1.00 - 2.45pm.	Mother and Toddler	Betty Martin	☎ 706347
Wednesday	2.30 pm.	Young at Heart	Carrie	☎ 700291
Wednesday	6.00 - 7.30pm.	Beavers	Betty Martin	☎ 706347
Wednesday	6.00 - 7.30pm.	Cubs	Adam Boucher	☎ 07931 733862
Wednesday	7.45 - 9.30pm.	Scouts	Faye Brown	☎ 07971 011928
Thursday	5.15 - 6.45pm.	Brownies	Neil Warburton	☎ 707382
Sunday	10.00 - 11.00am.	St. Nicholas at Bean,	Mrs. E. Barrett	☎ 703429
Mon - Fri	9.15 - 12.00 noon.	Play School	Don White	☎ 705430
			Allison Barrass	☎ 07771864937

Mobile Library

Black Horse	4.05 to 4.25pm.	The service is on a Monday at the
Beacon Drive (Lower end)	4.30 to 4.45pm.	stopping points and times shown.

Doctors

Dr. Somasegaram	Bean Surgery, High St. Bean.	☎ 707236
Dr. Langley	Beacon Drive, Bean	☎ 708672

Churches

St. Nicholas at Bean.	Bean Youth and Community Centre.	Sundays 10 am.
St. Nicholas at Southfleet	Rector is David Houston	☎ 832252
For special services - see the church notice board located at the front of the car park at the Youth and Community Centre.		

Bean Residents Association

Bean Residents Association meets on the First Monday of the month at 8.15pm. in the Bean Youth and Community Centre. All Bean residents are welcome to attend.

Bean Parish Council.

E-mail Beanpc@dsl.pipex.com

Bean Parish Council meet on the second Monday of the month at 7pm. In the Bean Youth and Community Centre. All Bean residents are welcome to attend. ☎ 832402

Oasis Counselling Centre ☎ 01322 294430

Free counselling for bereavement and help for those affected by suicide, pregnancy, crisis and post abortion, support for ex-offenders, advice and support for job-seekers, those affected by domestic violence, those in distress, befriending scheme, and parenting classes

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Correspondence to The Secretary, Linda Collins, 26 Turner Road, Bean, DA2 8BA.

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regarding the Vision Homes new application.

A good attendance from Bean residents was important and on the day the application was refused. (See pages 9 and 10 for details).

Ken Follet, The DBC Drainage Engineer, was on holiday and unable to attend but sent answers to a list of questions. The properties in Page Close and Sandy Lane were listed, (It was noted that the house holders had had to pay a substantial amount [high four figures] to go onto the main drainage), The gates to the pumping house had been erected and fencing completed, and The gate to Sandy Lane was not properly locked yet.

It was mentioned that correspondence between Dr. Howard Stoate MP. and ourselves regarding the possibility of another river crossing from Bean Interchange. A letter from the Highways Agency, and the Transport Minister, Lord Adonis, to Dr. Stoate was read out.

Other Village Issues and AOB:

The Parish Fair is to be held on Sunday 13th September.

The rest of the recreation ground equipment should be updated shortly, however it was noted that the equipment has been vandalised with nuts and bolts being removed and taken away.

The pot hole near the junction of Beacon Drive and High Street had been temporarily repaired and then resurfaced.

A broken gully in Beacon Drive, a damaged manhole in School Lane and the road surface breaking up at the Beacon Drive / Foxwood Road junction were reported.

The date for the next meeting, **the Association's Annual General Meeting will be 7th September. The meeting starts at 8.15pm in the Community Centre. All Bean residents are invited to attend.**



Can anyone identify the Date, person or location of this early Photograph?

Was it taken in Bean?

Community Bus:

Anyone wishing to book the bus should contact Colin Smith on 01474 832793. A list of forthcoming trips can be found on the notice board outside the Post Office. More drivers are also needed for the bus. If you are 25 to 69 years old with a clean licence and with a wish to help our community please contact Colin if you are interested. An ordinary full driving licence is required.

This is not a full time job and only a few hours a week could make a significant difference.

Assistance required please.

It seems lately that the bus has taken over my life. No one else seems to be available to do the day and evening "Hires" that bring in the monies that keep the bus running. The original committee members that were going to keep the bus clean, check the oil etc. are conspicuous by their absence. Those of us that do still keep it running are just about managing to do so.

Greatfull thanks to Faye and Alan and to John for the "office" support.

We would like to thank Christine for her research and organisation of trips and wish her well. (see page 5)

In the past couple of months we have found that the trips on the paddle steamer, and to the coast, seem to be very popular and would welcome more suggestions from the villagers.

If you have four or more people that want to go somewhere, let us know and we will try to get up a group to go by bus and make a sociable day out. *Colin S.*

Bus outings and shopping trips.

As you will see on page 5 our events organiser, Christine, is stepping down and as a result we are looking for someone to take over the task of selecting places of interest to visit and new areas to shop.

Trips have been arranged as on the next page for the remainder of the year, so any newcomer will have time to settle in and sort out places of interest etc. for next year. Help will be available.

If you are interested please contact Colin, as above, or the editor.

Would you like to advertise in the Beanstalk?

The magazine is delivered to all of the 650 houses in Bean four times a year, in March, June, September and December.

Advertising prices are shown below.

If so please contact Colin on 01474 832793 or The editor .

**Advertising Rates per issue
Or buy 4 get one free.**

Full page £30-00

2/3 page £25-00

1/2 page £20-00

1/3 page £15-00

1/4 page £10-00

**When replying to an
advert please mention
the Bean's Talk**

**BEAN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS
Are held on the FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH
(Excluding Bank Holidays).**

The meetings start at 8.15 pm.

In the Youth and Community Centre.

All residents of Bean are welcome to attend.

**Check the notice board outside the Post Office
for notice of guest speakers.**

If you have any particular area that would benefit from a litter pick please contact me and we may be able to tackle it, or make contact with the council.

The routine Litter Picks will take place, starting at 10 am.
and lasting up to 1½ hours on;

Thursday 24th September
Meeting outside the School,

Thursday 29th October
Meeting outside the Royal Oak,

Thursday 26th November
Meeting outside the Black Horse.

Bill on 01474 704062 e-mail thebeanstalk@btinternet.com





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mobile phone or not wearing a seat
belt.

The scheme is expected to be
introduced into North Kent after a
major publicity drive.

Motorists using a mobile phone
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and three points on their licence,
whilst not wearing a seat belt
results in a £60 fine.

If children are not belted up the
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On 07866 515 640**



Bean Community Bus Trips Schedule

**If you are interested in any of the trips below please contact
Colin on 01474 832 793 as soon as possible to save being disappointed.**

Date	Venue	Bus fare
Tuesday 1st September	Leeds Castle	£8
Sunday 6th September	Sevenoaks Lions Heavy Horse Show	£5
Tuesday 8th September	Tenterden	£9
Friday 11th September	Polhill Garden Centre	£5
Friday 11th September	EVENING - Jazz Boat trip	£20
Tuesday 15th September	Dunelm Mill	£8
Tuesday 22nd September	Chatham Dockyard Outlet Centre	£7
Friday 25th September	Canterbury Eurofair	£10
Friday 9th October	Polhill Garden Centre	£5
Tuesday 20th October	Leonard's Lee (Lakes, Gardens & Beyond the Dolls House).	£10
Monday 9th November	Polhill Garden Centre	£5
Tuesday 24th November	Lakeside	£6
Monday 30th November	Ashford (Tent City) Designer Outlet	£9
Tuesday 8th December	Polhill Garden Centre	£5
Tuesday 15th December	Canterbury	£10
Tuesday 22nd December	Polhill Garden Centre	£5

Having spent quite some time now sorting out trips to gardens,
houses and shopping venues I feel that the time has come to hand
on “The Mantle” to someone else.
I have enjoyed the planning, and participation on the trips and
will continue to go on future outings.

Thank you for your support and I wish the next person well in
2010.

Christine T.

**The Bus Team is still in desperate need of drivers to cover day trips,
Weekends, evenings and the shopping trips in order to maintain and
hopefully expand the service.**

If you can help PLEASE contact Colin on 01474 832 793

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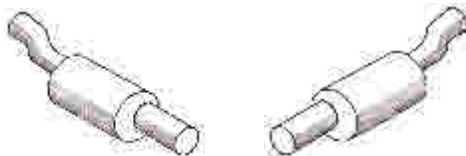
Helpful and friendly staff waiting your call



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01474 833674



IN FRANCE

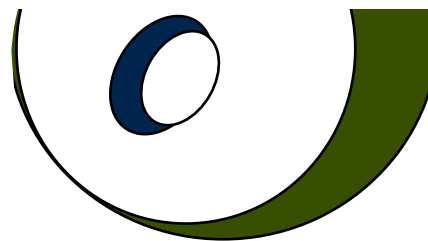
Speed limits have recently changed for towed outfits.

New limits for car and caravan or trailer with combined gross weight over 3.5 tonnes are 90 kph on motorways and dual carriageways, 80 kph on ordinary roads and the standard 50 kph in towns.

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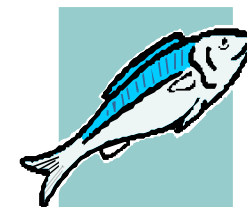
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Monday - Friday 11.30 - 2.00 & 4.30 - 10.00

Saturday 11.30 - 2.00 & 4.30 - 9.00



Would you like
a Garden to
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The Old Wood
Yard, Watling
Street (A2 / A296)
Bean, Dartford,
Kent
DA2 8AH

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Café on Gravesend
bound slip road to the
A2 at Bean. Use
"Roman Road" in your
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www.forestrall.co.uk

A message from Bean Post Office.

In June we had a visit from Trading Standards. They had a report informing them that an adult had purchased alcohol from our premises and passed it on to a minor.

The official refused to say who had made the purchase, or on what date or time (as we are now covered by digital CCTV).

Imagine the frustration of making a legal sale to an adult, only for it to become illegal due to this idiot passing it on to minors, i.e. a "proxy purchase".

We take great care in ensuring that alcohol and/or tobacco is not purchased by minors, but proxy purchasing is impossible to deal with unless we are Informed.

Making a proxy purchase is an offence with heavy penalties for the Purchaser.

If anyone witnesses such a crime, not only report it to the authorities, but also inform us. We can then take action ensuring that these individuals no longer purchase age restricted goods from our shop.

Frank Miles

Post Office News.

On the 4th August the Post Office launches the new electronic multi - store gift card.

These can be used in many of the UK's top retailers covering fashion outlets, beauty products, department stores, toys, entertainment, home, garden, jewellery and travel.

Recipients can use the card in full, or part payment, when making a purchase.

The one big advantage is the gift cards come with no purchase fee.

Holiday reminder.

Don't forget we hold euros in stock - all other major currencies can be ordered for next day delivery.

FOR SALE

Rover 60 - P4 Cylinder head inc. Inlet valves and rockers, £40
Range Rover Classic 4 door, four bare door shells - fair condition £30 the lot.
Mini front Adjuster Rides - brand new in box £40. Fits all classic shape
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Where there's a Will there's a way...

My name is Ashley Coshan and I have been a financial advisor for 7 years. I also live in Bean.

But now, I have a new job, which I believe in passionately. I am an estate-planning consultant. If you are not aware of what this, I specialise in helping people protect their assets and families... by making their Wills.

On a weekly basis I save families thousands of pounds and lots of pain by ensuring that their assets pass to the people that matter most to them.

Contemplating your own death is hardly an enjoyable experience but making a Will is a vital part of financial planning, whatever your circumstances and I try to make the whole process straightforward and uncomplicated.

Many people do not realise that by not making a Will the government will make one for you and they'll take any money due to them first.

People living with their partner outside marriage or civil partnership are most at risk if no Will is in place. This could result in an unmarried partner being overlooked in favour of a relative - or even the Treasury - and not receiving a penny, which happened to a close friend of mine who sadly died unexpectedly.

But, making a Will is more than dividing your estate among loved ones. It is there to safeguard the interests of your children and makes clear what your wishes are. It is also important to realise the various stages in life when making a Will is an important consideration, another area I can help with.

Now may be a good time to do this as the economic situation is rendering thousands of Wills out of date. As property values plummet and other investments struggle to produce profits, many assets in a person's Will have fallen in value. It is vital to keep your Will up to date

We offer a home service and take the time to discuss a client's individual needs in the comfort of their own homes with no pressure and no rush.

We call daytime or evening, weekdays or weekends, and our consultants cover most of the UK.

For every Will written for members of Bean village I will donate 5% to Bean School, & Youth Centre.

Don't let your situation be a battle of wills....

For more information contact

Ashley Coshan,

Estate Planning Consultant

Willcraft Services Ltd.

Email:

ashley.coshan@willcraft.co.uk Mob :07895853158 Willcraft:

Tel: 01305826826

Freephone: 0800 781 9406

John Newton KCC Community Warden (Support Team) Bean

Firstly I would like to thank the residents of Bean for their assistance and support since I have been in the area.

I have been covering the area as part of the Support Team for the Community Warden Scheme.

The role of a Support Warden is to maintain a continuous highly visible uniformed presence in an area during times when a Warden is on long-term sick leave or where an area is vacant. We are there to help solve problems (with the help of other agencies) and lower fear of crime and improve quality of life. We are a team of ten Wardens who support all Community Wardens through the whole of Kent.

Logistically we sometimes have to move areas and this means in some cases you will see a different member of the team with-in the period of cover. Our role is to maintain a high and valid standard of work for the community during this period of time until the return to work of the regular Warden or the vacancy is filled. We will undertake all of the normal duties of a regular area Warden and in doing so strive to maintain the high level of service you have come to expect until things return to normal.

The majority of my time has been spent walking the roads and Country Park of Bean. During my time on duty I have been able to provide valuable information to the Police on a number of vehicle related crimes which the Police gave a rapid response to. On another occasion I was able to assist an elderly gentleman who was lost and confused. I requested medical assistance from paramedics who then took him to hospital. I was able to contact his relatives to reassure them of his condition and whereabouts.

Following reports of a 'Peeping Tom' in Beaconwood Country Park, I allocated more time to give a greater visible presence and give reassurance to the people wishing to enjoy this area for dog walking. I also attend regular meetings with the Police to share information about the area to help pinpoint possible problems in order to task resources to address the issues. I have also given safety talks to the under fives at the Community Centre and generally been on hand to give assistance to any member of the public that I can, by sign posting them in the direction of the many services offered by Kent County Council and the many other agencies that I work closely with. During this time I have also been covering Darenth.



Forgotten your MOT?

Every year an estimated 6.5 million people forget their MOT test date. A new website, **MOT-REMINDER.com** has launched a free service that will remind you via e-mail, or paid for SMS service, one month prior to the test date as well as one week before.

The aim of this free-to-use site is to make motorists aware of their test date to prevent them being fined up to £1000.

Application to Build Houses on Land Between Drudgeon Way and Beacon Drive

After their appeal was rejected in December last year Vision Homes bounced in an alternative planning application in March of this year. This new scheme was for fourteen houses where the one rejected was for twelve! They asserted that their new proposal was identical to those submitted in 1993 and 2000 and not refused on planning grounds. They also inferred that since the appeal inspector didn't say they couldn't do this then it must be acceptable.

Having agreed a few modifications the Dartford planners recommendation was approval of their application in June. This decision needed confirmation by the Development Control Board, which duly met on 9th July. We, the objectors, were allowed two three-minute slots. Your correspondent put the case incorporating as many residents' objections as time allowed. In his slot, our Councillor Dave Hammock spoke very persuasively and his input was probably pivotal in furthering our case. Vision Homes then presented their case in a rather low-key manner.

A lengthy discussion then ensued between the Board members – we had to keep silent! Early in this discussion our Councillor Ian Armitt asked Vision some very leading questions, which did not seem to be answered satisfactorily – particularly their failure to consult with us the villagers. Vision had claimed that the new proposal was a smaller area than the scheme rejected at appeal. We were able to show that this was not true. Other points discussed focused on our contentions that issues involving privacy and overlooking, loss of amenity, flooding and drainage, road safety and a suspiciously low projected profit would present serious problems were the application to be approved. There was also a lot of criticism about the size and slope of the gardens of the proposed houses and that too few of them were 'affordable'.

Eventually, after an hour of torture, it was proposed to reject the application and this was unanimously agreed. At last we could uncross everything and breathe normally again.

The Council's grounds for rejection were listed as – out of scale and character with the village location; excessively overbearing nature and loss of privacy; inadequate private amenity space for occupants of the proposed homes and insufficient affordable housing.

Given that the Planners recommended approval, we did very well to get the proposal rejected. Much of the credit for this must be due to Councillors Hammock and Armitt. The big crowd of residents who gave up their evening to attend the Board meeting clearly showed we meant business.

continued

Yet again, many residents, local organisations, councillors and an MP showed opposition, writing letters and lobbying – many thanks to all.

It's now Beanites 2 Vision Homes 0 but watch out for future attempts by Vision, or others, to spoil our village. The village is in good shape as objectors, the village Bus and the Magazine underline our community strength.

Irene and I would like to thank all of you who weighed in to oppose this application.
Peter Luker

If anyone hears of plans for development in the village please contact the Residents Association or attend the first available meeting.

Bean Parish Fair

Will take place again this year on Sunday September 13th, 12 – 4 pm. This year we are pleased to announce that in addition to the activities we had last year we will be including rides for young children, an exhibition of Birds of Prey and Ferret Racing!

We would like to emphasise that this is a non-profit making event, in fact after covering costs for last year the Parish Council was left with a small profit of £70 which has been “ploughed back” into this year's event. It is the Council's intention, for the short-term, to continue to use any profits to benefit the fair for the following year/s. In the event that we reach a point where a substantial profit is made, over and above what would be needed for the following year's event, the Parish will be consulted on how this money should be spent.

Local organisations and charities are not charged to have a stall but are asked to make a donation whilst commercial/profit making stalls are charged a set fee.

Motoring Fines.

The government is cracking down on illegal number plates to prevent drivers evading speed cameras.

Drivers with personalised number plates who illegally space the numbers and figures, or use an illegal font which can not be read by automatic number plate recognition systems, will see the penalty rise from £30 to £60.

Failing to wear a seat belt will incur a fine rising from £30 to £60.

The government say that the increases are to save lives and are not about taking money.

Neighbourhood Watch is 25 years old this year and is one of the biggest and most successful crime prevention initiatives ever.

Behind it lies a simple idea that getting together with your neighbours can help cut local crime and create a better place to live, work and play.

There are other benefits to Neighbourhood Watch schemes too: Most insurance companies will give a discount if you are in a registered NHW scheme.

(See the panel below for more information).



Neighbourhood policing in Kent

We are rolling-out neighbourhood policing across the county and now have established teams serving your area.

Neighbourhood teams are already working closely with residents, businesses and community groups to address local problems such as anti-social behaviour and environmental nuisance.

The importance of your call

You may feel that your call is not all that important to the Police, but it can in fact be the missing piece of information that we need to make an arrest or report a person. Your call is vital in assisting neighbourhood policing, and it will not go unnoticed. So please help us to make your area safe again.

Contact your neighbourhood team

If you would like to speak with your local neighbourhood officers regarding any issues or problems you may have in Bean you can contact:

PC Gemma Pawley on 07870 252526

Or your PCSO

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

What can Neighbourhood Watch do for you?

Cut crime and the opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour

Provide reassurance to local residents and reduce the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

Encourage neighbourliness and closer communities

Improve the quality of life for local residents

Are you interested in joining or setting up?

Contact Jill Mendham on

01474 366360

07800 675330



nhw.northkent@kent.pnn/police.uk

THE ROYAL OAK

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Graham



and Karen

Families and children welcome
Dog friendly

Pool and Games room

Pool Team - Wednesday evening at 8.00 pm
New members most welcome !

Darts Monday and Wednesday evenings

New Quiz every Tuesday at 8.30 pm

Live entertainment most weekends

WHAT's ON AT THE OAK?

Saturday 12th September 8.00 pm.	Karaoke with Martin
Saturday 19th September 8.00 pm.	Soul and Funk D.J. Ray
Saturday 17th October 8.00 pm.	Super Sonic Ray the D.J.
Saturday 31st October	Halloween Party
	Karaoke with Martin (Fancy Dress)
Friday 20th November 8.00 pm.	Motown with Ray D.J.
Saturday 28th November 8.00 pm.	Karaoke with Martin
Friday 18th December 8.00 pm.	Karaoke with Martin
Saturday 19th December 8.00 pm.	Party

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BEAN PARISH COUNCIL

A number of residents have asked what is a Parish Council and what do they do so I thought I would give you a brief outline as follows.

Powers and duties

Parish and town councils have a large range of powers, and the activities parish and town councils are involved in are immense. Many parish and town councils are involved in planning, promoting tourism, licensing, community halls, representation, management of town and village centres and providing community halls.

A full list of powers and duties can be found on Powers and Duties on www.nalc.gov.uk

How parish councils work

Parish councils are statutory bodies. Members are elected for a term of four years and councils are funded principally by an annual precept. Income and expenditure for the next financial year are calculated in the form of estimates. The net amount (the precept) is added to council tax, collected by the county, borough or district council (principal authorities) and paid to parishes in two six-monthly instalments. To put Bean's Precept into perspective the total increase in precept since 2000 is 26.6% (£2,628). Parish and town councils can apply for other funding such as grant and funding awards, but they do not receive funds direct from central government, as principal authorities do.

What is a councillor?

Councillors are elected to represent an individual geographical unit on the council, known as a ward or - mainly in smaller parishes - the entire parish or town council area. They are generally elected by the public every four years.

What do councillors do?

Councillors have three main components to their work.

1. *Decision making* - Through meetings and attending committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented.

2. *Monitoring* - Councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working.

3. *Getting involved locally* - As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available, and may include:

Going to meetings of local organisations such as tenants' associations,

Going to meetings of bodies affecting the wider community,

Taking up issues on behalf of members of the public,

Running a surgery for residents to bring up issues, *Continued on page 14*

Call Rollo Parsons
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The Successful Marathon

For all those who have been following my London Marathon run earlier this year and the fundraising efforts on behalf of Age Concern, Swanscombe and Greenhithe, the final total raised from sponsorship was £1600 with a late further £500 donation from GlaxoSmithKline my employers.

Martin Nicholls.

Policing and Neighbourhood Watch.

Darren Coote has been promoted to a post in Essex and Laura Cook has also left us.

PC Gemma Pawley mentioned that there were still a few nuisance motorbikes around. and that the police were not able to do speed checks on the hill between Beacon Wood Country Park and School Lane, as it was too dangerous. It was down to KCC to install speed cameras or speed display signs.

Car wheels have been stolen in Lane End. A television and handbag were stolen in Drudgeon Way, the handbag being found empty in Stonewood.

MUSTARD SEED RELIEF MISSION SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2009

EXHIBITION OF WORKS

10am-2pm

Bean Youth + Community Centre

As mentioned in previous Beanstalks this appeal has been running for a number of years now and is very popular with many supporters in this village. It is an easy way to help others less fortunate than ourselves not by giving money, but by connecting with their needs and giving of our time and using our talents.

For those who are knitting or crocheting we will once again exhibit your splendid items in the Youth Club for all to enjoy then bag them up for delivery in Eastbourne (charity HQ) on Monday 7th September.

The shoebox appeal will begin after this date and our collection this year will be on Sunday November 15 at 3 pm. but you can still drop your boxes off at 29 Page Close



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**Professional Stylists offering a wide range of
Treatments at affordable prices.**

We look forward to seeing you.

QUIZ NIGHT

BEAN VILLAGE HALL

HIGH STREET BEAN

SATURDAY 19th SEPTEMBER

7.30pm START AT 8PM

£ 4.00 per person

Teams of 6 – 8

**TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE COMMUNITY BUS AND
VILLAGE HALL IMPROVEMENTS**



Continued from page 12

- Meeting with individual residents in their own homes.

Visiting your council is the best way to find out what happens there. Bean Parish Council meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm. The next meetings are September 14th, October 12th, November 9th and December 14th. By law, ordinary people are allowed to be present at most council business.

Contrary to rumour there is very little business discussed at Bean Parish Council Meetings without members of the public being present. In fact since May 2002 with the exception of discussions regarding the budget, which usually take place at the December and/or January meeting, only the following items, due to their confidential nature, were discussed without members of the public present: 13 legal matters, 6 finance matters, 2 police matters.



Black Horse Pub Bean

LARGE BEER GARDEN

BBQ AREA

BOUNCY CASTLE

TUESDAY
Munch crunch - all meals £1 12 - 8 pm.

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