

Newsletter of The Bean Residents Association

Our 53rd Year of Publication

December
4/18

BEAN'S TALK

Issued free to every
Household in Bean.

Web site: www.beanvillage.org.uk

E-mail beanra@waitrose.com

We welcome all new residents to the village and to the Residents Association's Quarterly Newsletter.
Please feel free to contribute your thoughts, ideas and comments.



The Residents Association would like to extend seasons greetings to every resident within the Bean Community.

Wishing everyone Merry Christmas and

Happy New Year



**The Next Bean Residents Association meetings will be Held on
Monday 3rd December at 8:15 PM**

**Preceded by a Meeting at 7:30 PM with the Police
in the Village Hall**

Bean Residents Association Meetings Pages 2 to 6

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St Nicholas in Bean Page 13

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Try a little stargazing Pages 24 - 25

To contact the editor; e-mail: thebeanstalk02@gmail.com
Telephone 01474 703 129 Lesleigh Cottage, High St DA2 8AS.

**THE COPY DATE FOR THE March 2019
BEAN'S TALK is the 1st February 2019**

Common abbreviations used in the newsletter

KCC Kent County Council

Cllr. Councillor

EDC Ebbsfleet Development Corporation

DBC Dartford Borough Council

KHS Kent Highway services

HE Highways England

RA Residents Association

PCSO Police Community Support Officer

Items of interest from the BRA meeting's held on the Monday the 4th June and Monday the 2nd July 2018

Secretary's report:

Ashley Johnson (Assistant Secretary) reported that there had been 40 items of correspondence on 12 topics since the previous meeting:

- 2 x Police
- 1 x KCC
- 4 x Highways England
- 1 x LRCH/HE A2/PINS
- 3 x Peninsular Group
- 13 x DBC
- 1 x BeansTalk/History
- 7 x BPC & Country Park
- 3 x EDC
- 3 x Bluewater
- 1 x Meeting Notices
- 1 x Village Design Statement

Updates:

- Three vehicles still dumped in Watling Street. DBC informed and they contact KCC to get them moved - Yellow container, trailer with tyres and trailer by Brickfield entrance. People have climbed into the yellow container – someone has pictures.
- Bluewater Forum - Ashley and Linda attended - topic was 'Social Action'.
- Bluewater Beach - Bean RA raised objections over plan to double the size. Concerns about loss of parking spaces. Also, other spaces blocked off for refurbishment.
- Alkerden Farm - application to demolish farm buildings was withdrawn on 2nd May. Applicant asked to bring up a new scheme to retain some of the farm buildings.

- DR19 footpath - difficult to follow due to abandoned vehicles and poor signage. KCC Footpaths Officer has agreed to walk it with representative of Bean RA and Bean PC.
- Pepperhill Waste Disposal - Site closed until August. Residents should use the Dartford Heath site until then.

Consultations:

- Comments invited on DBC Bean & Darenth Homes & People 'Profile' - see website.
- DBC Housing Land Allocation – Bean RA have submitted the eleven Ightham Cottages to be moved to another part of the Bean Triangle.
- 16th May - HE Cycling/Walking Workshop. Atkins called the meeting regarding cycle paths, but only belatedly invited Parish and Town Council who knew the area.
- Bluewater Meeting - to update their 'Neighbours' - Monday 18th May at 11.30am.

Parish Council:

- Memorial Tree for Cllr. Sakellariou – a Dedication Service took place on 2nd June.
- Bean War Memorial - will be placed on the triangle of land between the High Street and Shellbank Lane. It will list the names of Bean Residents who died in Wars.
- Community Bus - paperwork has been sent to KCC. Awaiting receipt of the bus. Drivers are still needed.

18 Reported Bean Crimes in April 2018 At or Near:

- 1 x B255 Public Order
- 5 x Bean Lane - (1) Anti-social behaviour, (1) Vehicle crime, (3) Violence & sexual offences
- 2 x Fallowfield – (1) Anti-social behaviour, (1) Public Order
- 3 x Pedestrian Subway – (2) Burglary, (1) Vehicle Crime
- 1 x Sandy Lane - Violence & sexual offences
- 2 x Sports/Recreation Ground – (1) Anti-social behaviour, (1) Violence & sexual offences
- 4 x Turner Road – (2) Anti-social behaviour, (2) Other Crime

AOB:

- Skips in residential areas.,Where one skip removed it was replaced by empty one. Skips are regularly in Bramble Ave and Beacon Drive.
- A concerned local resident emailed and asked for support for places where children could ride their bikes off road - suggested trails in the Country Park and/or Recreation Ground. Cllr Keith Burgin said cycling in the Country Park would be in conflict of the lease agreement. It was agreed that both suggestions be put to the Parish Council. Also Bean RA to seek EDC comments.
- Suggested that cameras be installed to catch criminals. Must be able to recognise the person. Who will monitor them? Car insurance is high in the area because Bean is lumped in with both Darenth and DVH = same DA2 postcode.

July 2018

Secretary's report:

- Ashley Johnson (Assistant Secretary) reported that there had been 33 items of correspondence on 11 topics since the previous meeting:
- 4 x Police
- 7 x Highways England
- 3 x Peninsular Management Group (Businesses affected by London Resort)
- 1 x DBC
- 3 x BeansTalk & History
- 6 x BPC & Country Park
- 1 x Bean Triangle
- 4 x EDC
- 2 x Bluewater
- 1 x Meeting Notice
- 1 x Village Design Statement (Cycling)

Updates:

- Abandoned vehicles in Watling Street - EDC met KCC on 11th June and raised the matter.
- RA Meeting with Bluewater - Ashley and Linda met with Robert Goodman and Jaqueline Passey to discuss RA concerns. PC

couldn't attend, but were sent a copy of questions put and replies from Bluewater.

- Footpath DR19 - Ashley met with John Pelham (KCC) on 22nd June to walk the route. Bean Lane end well used, but not 3m wide. Barren area by woods probably damaged by motor bike riders. Parts of route through The Thrift woodland varies from map as it is not close to A2. Mr Pelham attached yellow tape to trees to show acceptable route. If landowner objects to variations, they should contact him. Other tracks from Bramble Avenue are not approved. Several burnt out vehicles nearby.
- Waste Centre - Pepperhill Waste & Recycling Centre will remain closed until at least August.

Consultations:

- A2 Bean/Ebbsfleet Improvements - HE Webinar date tbc - July 2018?
- DBC Local Plan Strategic Issues - ends 20th July 2018
- KCC Big Conversation re Rural Transport - ends 8th August 2018.
- KCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan ends 12th September 2018.

Parish Council:

- Bike riding in Recreation Ground totally inappropriate.
- Met with Tarmac and raised cycling in Country Park - reply same as above.
- Slow worms' relocation from Beacon Drive/Drudgeon Way - Tarmac agree to translocation to an area of Beacon Wood Country Park.
- Community Bus - Will take ownership of new bus on 12th July at 12.30 pm.

AOB:

- Parking on full width of Footway - Bramble Avenue and Turner Road. Photos sent to Parish Council asking if it was a matter for Community Warden or Police.
- BeansTalk item on Bus Shelters - nothing decided as yet. One suggested for junction of Beacon Drive/Stonewood but residents don't want it there. Not ideal at junction.

- Stonewood - black rubbish bags dumped in parking bays , reported to DBC as its believed it was left behind by their contractors.
- Mr Tweedie said that Janet Horton, of Beacon Drive, had recently passed away. Her funeral was to be held on 3rd July at 11.45 am at Southfleet Church.

LOWER THAMES CROSSING – EAST OF GRAVESEND

Reminder: Consultation ends 20th December 2018

Please use the link below to make comment

<https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/ltc/consultation/>.

New crossing is due to open in 2027. Ask, “What traffic is forecast at Bean during incident at Dartford when M25 users divert via A2?”

Where would you like to go in The Bean Community Bus. ?

Following a great summer with trips in our community bus, I am asking you where you would like to go next year?

The coast has been popular this year but some people have asked for other destinations, such as gardens and stately homes.

Where have you been before and where would you like to go next, please let me know so I can plan for next year. Tickets are on average around £10 per adult and £5 per school child, with infants travelling free. Car seats need to be provided by you, where appropriate.

Please have a think and contact me on 01474 703 129 where you can leave a message or e-mail on bctbus@gmail.com

Any offers to drive a day trip are always welcome, just let me know on the above details.

Two landlords for the price of One!



This photo is (reading from left to right) of Alf Blakesley (landlord of the Black Horse from about 1940 until his death in 1959), Bill Lucking (who lived at 14 High Street), Leslie Ribbens (who lived at 12 High Street) and Harry Wood, Landlord of the Royal Oak. Taken in 1953 and with the men in smart clothes and the Union Flag in the background, I should imagine that this was part of the celebrations for The Queen's Coronation.

(With thanks to Ron Ribbens)



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Dear Reader,

It was on the night of October the 4th at just after 10:30 pm I learned of Colin Smiths death, following the Cygnet club party, which had he been well he would probably have been in attendance. Please find below a few words from his family.

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for your wonderful kind thoughts, at my loss of Colin.

I know how much everyone liked Colin and the work he did in Dean, he just loved helping people. His motto was 'Help when and where you can'.

He had a dreadful year but was thinking of others to the end. His last hours with us were so very peaceful.

Thank you all

Monica Smith and Family.



This photo was taken in Bean at the school, probably in the 1950s
With thanks to Ron Ribbens. for the following information.

Back row

Mary Bushell, Mrs Carrick, Mrs. Coumbe, Mrs Bowman, **Mrs Biggs**,
Mrs Ribbens, Mrs Ludlow, **Mrs Austen/Austin** (Bean Hill Cotts)

Front Row

Mrs Bushell (no relation to Mary) **Unknown lady with boy**, **Mrs Grist**, **Mrs Smith**, **Unknown**

This could have been a craft afternoon of some sort, with the lady in the middle, Mrs Grist, having won the rose bowl which presumably was the 1st prize. Mrs. Bowman seems to be holding a bouquet of flowers. I have highlighted the ladies in the photo who I cannot trace. I know Mary Bushell was a long-time resident of Bean who died earlier this year, but I cannot trace her back.

Do you know the little boy sitting on his mother's lap.

If you can give any information on the ladies in the photo, particularly those I have highlighted, perhaps you would kindly contact the Editor.

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St Nicholas at Bean



It is time for the Christmas edition of the Bean's Talk. A very busy time for most people with all the Christmas shopping etc, but also a time when families get together and remember and celebrate the real meaning of Christ's birth in a lowly stable.

This village has a lot to be proud of. The Woollies collection was very good again this year. Hopefully by now, if it is at all possible they will be on their way to Syria. The shoe box collection also is on its way to Moldova.

Many thanks to all of you who have been so generous in supporting these charities. We make it our business to ask what the overheads are for the charities we support. Mustard Seed's administration costs are a mere £12,000.

We will be holding our annual Toy Service on the 2nd December at 10 o'clock in the Village Hall. We would welcome gifts of toys together with a piece of wrapping paper. The toys will be taken to the Ellenor for distribution to the children of sick families in need in the area.

Once again this year our Carol Service will be shared with Bean Primary School. This will be at 6.00pm on 16th December and will take place in the school hall.

The Christmas service of Holy Communion will be held on Sunday 23rd December in the Village Hall at 10 o'clock. All are welcome to join us for this very special service.

The Fellowship of Bean Church wish you all a very Happy Christmas. and peaceful New Year. If you have not worshipped with us on a Sunday Morning at 10 o'clock then give us a try in the New Year. You would find a very warm and friendly welcome.

Don White

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Down on the Allotment

This year's autumn harvest was not as abundant as previous years with a much smaller potato crop and many of the brassicas not reaching their normal size, all due to the extremely dry hot summer. However sweetcorn did very well and the runner beans, despite a poor start, rallied in the autumn to give a reasonable crop.

During the winter months from December to late February we are at the mercy of the weather. If the ground is not frozen or too wet it can still be dug with the inclusion of plenty of well-rotted manure.

Other areas, already dug, can be covered with plastic sheeting to protect it from heavy rain, suppress weeds and warm the soil ready for early sowing from March onwards. Winter brassicas will still be in the ground with parsnips, leeks and swedes so there will still be fresh



vegetables to harvest providing the ground is not frozen.

The winter months are a good time to clean all your tools, pots and seed trays to help prevent any diseases infecting next year's seedlings. Consider what you will be growing in the next

season and buy the seeds ready, as well as deciding where each crop will be planted.

By February seed potatoes should be available and these should be laid out in a cool light room to chit, before planting in March.

If you would be interest in taking on an allotment plot please contact Elaine on 07941760428 or visit the site and speak to Ted or Jim who are normally on site most mornings

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Social Club, Bean, taken during the 1950s

Back Row

Mrs Hibben: **Ted Newman:** George Davis; Mrs Austin; Bert Knox;
Mrs Bowman; **Pat Coker:** **Ede and Elvie Ludow**

Front Row

Mrs Cumber: **Mrs Ribbens:** **Mrs White;** **Mrs Carrick**

(With thanks to Ron Ribbens .)

Lizzie Hibben was the wife of Edward Thomas Hibben. The two were cousins to some degree and I have written about them in the articles in Bean's Talk under 13 Archers Cottages.

In 1946 **Ted (Edward) Newman** was living at 6 Hope Cottages with his wife Eva (Emily Elizabeth Rose Daniels). Eva came from a Greenhithe family and Ted from Southwark. They were married at St Pauls Camberwell on the 27 August 1921 when both gave their address as Rolls Road Camberwell. Ted died during Dec 1983 and Eva in 1992, still living at 6 Hope Cottages.

Mrs Bowman (headmistress of Bean School). She and her husband lived at 5 Ightham Cottages, Bean. Article on Mrs Bowman and her husband in a previous Beans Talk.

Pat Coker. (Nee Patricia Frances Upton). Born 4 Sept 1924 and living with her family in 1939 at 3 High Street Bean. She married Cyril Stanley T Coker in 1947. Cyril Stanly Coker was born 3 Sept 1923 and died in the Gravesend area during 1988. Patricia died during 2001 again in the Gravesend area.

Ede (Edith Ludlow) lived at Prospect Place in 1937-8 with her husband Elvey Ludlow who she had married in 1931, her maiden name being Edith May Bowyer. The couple were living at 12 Hope Cottages Bean 1939-1946. Edith died in 1995 and Elvey died 29 Sept 1972 and was cremated at Eltham Crematorium on the 5 October.

Mrs Cumber. Born 11 July 1922 in Kingston Surrey, Constance Cumber lived in the Post Office Bean with her parent in 1939. She married Frederick G Coumbe in 1944, and she may be the one referred to. Constance died during March 2003 in the Epping Forest area. In 1939 there were two **Mrs Whites**, one living at 1 Barnsfield Cottage Stonewood and the other at 2 Barnsfield Cottages and this lady could

be either. There was another Mrs White living at 4 Barnsfield Cottages, but I think this lady was possibly the mother of the women's husbands. I think the Mrs White in the photo could be Lena S M White, the wife of Donald F White, She was born in 1912 as Lena S M Firth and married Donald in 1935. Lena died 1985 Donald in 1987 and they were still living at 1 Barnsfield Cottages.

Mrs Ribbens (Frances) and her husband Leslie were living at 12 High Street Bean. This couple featured in the article in the Bean's Talk of March 2017.

Mrs Carrick (nee Doris D Butcher) and her husband Harold were married 10 Oct 1934 at Stone Church when their address was given as Brialeigh Bean where they were still living in 1939. By 1946 they were licencees of The Royal Oak. By the time of Harold's death in 1982 the couple were living 79 Watling St Dartford where Doris died the following year. Both were buried at Stone Cemetery.

If you know anything about the people I have not been able to find information about, perhaps you would kindly inform the Editor. JC

Try a Little Stargazing

A few days ago I found myself in the small hours of the morning admiring the most brilliant full moon shining so strongly through my bathroom window that it actually cast a moon shadow of me on the opposite wall. Over the next few nights I had the usual old man's reason to be up again in the early hours and continued to watch the gradually waning moon as it rose slightly later every morning.

They say you should never look on a new moon through glass as that brings bad luck. I must say I like to apply that rule to any moon in a clear sky, so I almost always open the window for a second or two and admire it for a few moments. As it reached half size, rising in the East above the trees, I was surprised and delighted to see the beautiful constellation of Orion in all his glory rising above the trees in its wake. Eagerly awaited, his arrival always takes me by surprise. Orion the Hunter as he stands in the sky with his arms stretched heavenwards was recognised by the ancient Egyptians as the supreme

god in their much-populated pantheon. He was their god of the underworld and there is popular argument that the three bright stars of his belt as we see them in the sky are reproduced on the ground as the three great pyramids of Giza close to the Sphinx.

The brightest star in the sky that can be traced by following the line of those three stars – about two and a half times the belt-length down to the left – is the dog star or to give it its proper name, Sirius. This star represented Isis to the ancient Egyptians, Osiris's beloved wife and saviour. She it was who brought him back to life after he had been murdered by his jealous brother Seth, who dismembered the body and distributed its parts down the length of the Nile valley. In doing so Isis managed to get herself miraculously pregnant – that's another story – and bore him a son, Horus, who became the principal 'living' god in Osiris's place.

From the cult of Osiris arises the ancient Egyptians' obsession with the afterlife and their custom of embalming the dead as mummies to preserve them for their journey through the underworld – a very real place for them. This would enable them to rise again and live on as a star in the heavens for evermore. To achieve that re-birth they had to have led an unblemished life of truth and virtuosity. If they failed the forty-two tests to which their spirits were subjected they were delivered into a form of hell (not dissimilar to that of the Roman Catholic religion) and obliterated for evermore.

For me the appearance of Orion in the sky – basically in autumn and winter – is a favourite time of year, when the night sky is often clearer – if colder – than at other times and full of opportunities for stargazing away from the dazzle of city lights. Here in England today we will never be able to see the stars as the ancients saw them in all their brilliance, but with a little self-education it is still a joy to try and trace the signs of the zodiac as they appear in turn in the sky, my favourite being the distinctive Leo, my own birth sign. Go on, have a look for your own.

JWT, Bean, October 2018



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To all those residents who have recently moved to Bean. With the cat on the sign.

We extend a huge welcome and hope you enjoy your new home. We would welcome you all at both the residents association and at the Bean Parish Council meetings to help keep Bean a great place to live. The Residents association meet on the first Monday of the Month, where as the Council meet on the second Monday of the month (except August).

Oasis Counselling Service

Oasis Counselling Service

As of January 2018, the service is based at Bizniz Point, Crown House, Home Gardens, Dartford DA1 1DZ, telephone number 01322 424509 / 07749 948407, website address www.oasiscounsellingservices.co.uk, email address info@oasiscounsellingservices.co.uk.

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VILLAGE ACTIVITIES and USEFUL NUMBERS.

The Bean Village Web site and e-mail addresses are on the front cover.

POLICE

Emergency calls 999 /112	Non emergency calls	101
Neighbourhood Police Officer	Awaiting new information	
PCSO	Linda Down	07772 226125

Dartford Borough Council and Kent Community Wardens

Crime Support Unit DBC	Mark Sailsbury	01322 343434
Community Warden.	John Newton	07974183693
Community Warden	Control Centre	01732 885712
Crime Stoppers		800 555 111
Power Cut		105

Bean Village Hall Bookings

	Bean Parish Council	01474 832 999
Tuesday 4:00 - 7:00pm. Dance fever	Jo Regan	07927 196307
Tuesday 7:30 - 8:30pm Zumba	Laura	07731 303925
Wednesday 1:30 - 4:00pm. Young at Heart		Contact the committee
Wednesday 5:00 - 6:15pm. Cubs	Amanda King	07715 169250
Wednesday 6:30 - 8:00pm. Scouts	Neil Warburton	01474 707382
Thursday 5:00- 6:30pm. Brownies Sabrina	1stbeanbrownies@mail.com	07789647970
Thursday 7:30 - 8:30pm Fitsteps	Kay	07751 497716
Sunday 10:00 - 11.00am. St. Nicholas Church,	Don White	01474 705430
Mon - Fri 9:15 - 12:00 noon. Tues, Thurs & Fri 12:30 - 3 pm Jumping Beans Pre-School		
Karen Hastings	07981520446	

Doctors

Swanscombe and Bean Partnership	Bean Surgery, High St. Bean	01474 707236
Dr. Bora	Beacon Drive, Bean	01474 708672

Church

St. Nicholas Southfleet Serving Bean, Betsham, New Barn and Southfleet.

Priest in Charge: Rev'd Josh Young 07484154613 01474 833252

Sunday Service is held in the Bean Village Hall at 10am

Bean Residents Association

Bean Residents Association meets on the first Monday of the month at 8:15pm. in the Bean Village Hall. All Bean residents are welcome to attend.

Bean Parish Council.

E-mail Beanparishcouncil@btinternet.com

Web Page <https://www.hugofox.com/community/bean-parish-council-13254/bean-parish-council/>

Bean Parish Council meet on the second Monday of the month at 7pm. in the Bean Village Hall. All Bean residents are welcome to attend. 01474 832999

BEAN'S TALK is published by the BEAN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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

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