

# Weald News

Week beginning 21 August 2017 - Editor: Sue Gidman, wealdnews@hotmail.com

## An apology

I'm afraid I read the information Maureen Carter sent me about SWAG too quickly last week and, in my haste to get the newsletter out, I said that Peggy had painted a picture of her husband Gordon...oops...it was Barbara who painted a picture of her husband Gordon....SORRY

## A community comes together

We had been on tenterhooks, waiting to see if Knole Estates would give us permission to put a converted container at the side of the Memorial Hall to act as our Community Shop. The Memorial Hall has been a wonderful venue for the shop as well as providing plenty of space for the prodigious amount of produce from the allotments from damsons, plums, blueberries and apples to runner beans, onions, marrow, courgette and tomatoes as well as a lovely crop of bay leaves. It also allowed us to stay on and spread ourselves out, forming small 'chat' groups around little tables or just a group of one to read the paper...BUT, in September the hall reverts to its primary use as a venue for village meetings, activities and parties.



A week ago we heard the great news that permission had been granted, so stage 2 of 'project shop' now begins! If we can keep the level of interest and community action at the level we have now, the project will be a great success. Do pop by if you have some free time one morning the shop is open from **08.00-12.00 Monday - Saturday and 09.00-11.00 on Sunday** (if you want fresh runner beans you have to get there early). We are now just a week away from the end of the month and the container will be arriving on Friday (I think). In the meantime Marchants will be putting in some footings so that the container will be stable and a new era will begin.

## Artists forum

I'm sorry that this information comes late...I heard about it after the last newsletter had been sent out and getting this one completed has taken longer than I had thought...I'm getting hooked into family trees of 19th century families in the village - marriages, births and deaths and when I surface another day has come and gone BUT please come up to the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 29th in the morning when the shop is open to have a coffee and view the arts and crafts that villagers have been working on. People are invited to bring something to put on show. If it is a picture you need to have a stand or just to put it on the table. I'll be there with something...I'm still trying to think what would be suitable...probably the design of 'the book' or a photo-book - it's all that I'm involved with at the moment. I know there is a lot of talent in the village and I'm looking forward to seeing some of it! I'm sorry if you are out of work but, hopefully, something can be organised sometime over a weekend.

## 10K and Fun Run

Early September is going to be busy. On **Sunday morning, 3rd September from 10.00**, Weald will welcome over 400 runners who have registered for the annual Weald 10K and Fun Run. First organised in 2005 to help raise funds for the building of the extension to St George's Church, the event now contributes to many village and local charities - perhaps it can become a fundraiser for another building project, a NEW village shop!

I have written many times about the volunteering spirit in the village and this event tops them all with around 80 villagers giving their time in one way or another. In my mind I can already smell the charred edges of a beef burger and banger in a bun with fried onions...yum, yum.

It is always a wonderful event and I'm not sure what I like the most...the obvious exhaustion and delight of the winning adult runners or the teeny weenies running with their mums or dads. I'm hoping to take a lot of photos again this year which is just as well as I hear that Paul Goozee, who was usually on medical and photographic duty, is running in the event himself this time around...good luck Paul and everyone!

## A grand thank you party

Large party on **Sunday, 17th September from 12.30 to 15.30** to thank Barbara and Carol for all that they have done in the village - Barbara for running The Old Bakery as well as being the contact point for so many village activities. I can't count the times I have written 'give your names to Barbara in the shop' or 'hand in your form to Barbara in the shop.'

The party is also the thank Carol for running the post-office which had already moved to The Old Bakery by the time Richard and I had moved to the village. I know Carol worked at the Post Office on the corner of Windmill Road and Church Road before that. As people often say, 'you only know what you've got when it's gone.' (or something like that!)

The organisers of the Celebratory Party are keen to know how many people are likely to come so, please, either put your name on the list at the community shop or send Sally Jones an email [sally48@gmail.com](mailto:sally48@gmail.com) Everyone is welcome AND, if you can volunteer to make sandwiches or cake please step forward AND/OR give some help on the day. The organisers would also love to hear from anyone willing to provide some live music.

There will be two 'Memories' book in the shop so please write down any incidents, anecdotes or thank you's of the time Barbara and Carol have served the village and it will be given to them at the event.

### Summer's coming

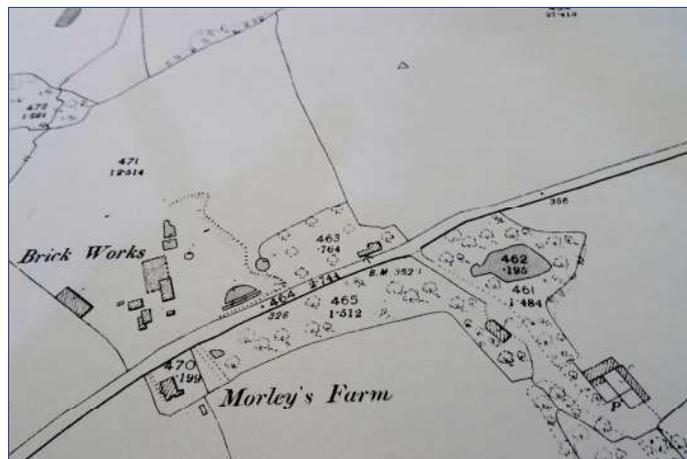
I know that's rather a strange heading for an end of August posting especially as I'm talking about events coming up for September but, as an ex-schoolteacher, I know that as soon as school term starts after the summer break the weather will turn blisteringly hot - it used to happen to me every year. Sorry teachers, sorry kids that's just the way it is!

In Weald we are going to be getting back on track with our regular events...WOW who meet together the first Wednesday afternoon every month, CAMEO who meet the second Monday afternoon and SWAG who meet every Friday morning as well as the exercise class on a Monday morning. I'm smiling because the use of acronyms is useful for villagers 'in the know' but for newcomers or people living in other places it can be bewildering so - WOW stands for Women of Weald; CAMEO for Come and Meet Each Other (a group for retirees); SWAG for Sevenoaks Weald Art Group and exercise is the same in many languages!

If you are interested in finding out more about our village and the wide range of clubs, societies and other activities on offer please see our website at <http://www.sevenoakswealdpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/> It also has a list of contact details.

### The Changing Face of Weald

This map of Morley's Farm appeared on the 1822 sale details of Nizels' Estate along with many of our other farms. It was amazing to match it up to a photo I had taken of the pond in the spring. The pond is still in the same place almost 200 years later! The brickworks here is the land where a house now called 'Bricklands' has been built. The pond on their land is in the same place too.



Another discovery in our search for our history of Weald was quite upsetting...I found out that the first people to be buried in the graveyard were Adam Paris aged 4 and his brother Adam Paris aged 8 months. They had died in February 1832 only 10 days apart from each other. The following year their mother, Sarah, had twins Joseph and Caroline but Joseph died at 4 days old and Caroline at 23 days old. Sarah herself died the following year age 27. Phew! There's more....lots more!

If you haven't yet bought your copy of 'The Changing Face of Weald' at the pre-publication price of £13.50 rather than post publication price of £14.99 then please contact me at [wealdnews@hotmail.com](mailto:wealdnews@hotmail.com)

The picture at the top of the newsletter is in North Yorkshire. No one won the free coffee!!