

# Newsletter of The Bean Residents Association

Our 49th Year

December 2014  
4 / 14

## BEAN'S TALK

Issued free to every  
Household in Bean.

Web site: [www.beanvillage.org.uk](http://www.beanvillage.org.uk)

E-mail [beanra@waitrose.com](mailto: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**

wish all our readers



**A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

**Information and Dates for your diary.**

### **London Paramount, Bean Consultation**

Plans will be on Display from 6 to 8 pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
and at the Bean RA Meeting in the Community Centre at 8.15 pm.

**Ebbsfleet Garden City, Paramount Resort Centre and KCC/DBC**  
information on the schemes and Traffic management - see pages 5& 6

The Chairman's Annual General Meeting report - Page 2

Application for Change of Use at Drudgeon Farm - pages 5/6&14

An Appeal by Northfleet Lions Club -page 22

Crime figures for September and October for Bean - page 27

To contact the editor; e-mail: [thebeanstalk@btinternet.com](mailto:thebeanstalk@btinternet.com)  
Telephone 01474 704062 1 School Lane, Bean DA2 8AL.

**THE COPY DATE FOR THE MARCH 2015  
BEAN'S TALK is FRIDAY 30th JANUARY.**

## Common abbreviations used in the newsletter

<b>Cllr.</b>	Councillor	<b>KCC</b>	Kent County Council
<b>DATPC</b>	Dartford Association of Town and Parish Councils	<b>KHS</b>	Kent Highway Services
<b>DBC</b>	Dartford Borough Council	<b>NPM</b>	Neighbourhood Panel Meetings.
<b>BPC</b>	Bean Parish Council	<b>PCSO</b>	Police Community Support Officer
		<b>RA</b>	Residents Association.

The 1<sup>st</sup> September Residents Special Association Meeting was the Annual General Meeting, and the 6<sup>th</sup> October Special Meeting was devoted to speakers from Paramount, the Department of Communities and Local Government and KCC's Economic Development Officer, and discussion on the Drudgeon Farm Application for Change of Use. The Notes of these Special meetings are on **Pages 4 to 6**

## Chairman's Report for AGM 1st September 2014

As usual the last 12 months have been busy for the Bean Resident's Association.

With regard to planning matters we have had reasonable successes, At Ashwood Place the house is now complete.

The site between Beacon Drive and Drudgeon Way, where we had previously succeeded in getting the development plans reduced from 14 houses to 5, has yet to be started, but after pressure put on the developers. They have started to treat the Japanese knotweed.

We have had various meetings with Mayfair Construction, Moat Housing, Dartford Borough Council and the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Royal Oak site. The two applications were refused by DBC and the 1st dismissed at Appeal. The 2nd would have built on the Village Pond, but Moat Housing came up with a scheme that would retain it. However, we have recently been told that, "Mayfair construction have decided not to sell the site to Moat". We will continue to seek a solution to our, and its neighbours wishes, and try to enhance the Pond.

We opposed the building of a detached garage in front of a home in Bramble Avenue which would have encroached on the building line.

A shorter forward extension and garage conversion in Stonewood, has been recommended for approval.

DISCLAIMER: The Editor and Association Officers of the Bean Residents Association do not necessarily agree with all the views and advice expressed within this newsletter and whilst every care has been taken to ensure accuracy of the information cannot accept liability from erroneous information published herein.

Ken Jeavons is currently drawing up an Outline Bean Village Design Statement; a very difficult and complicated task for which we thank him. Once completed and approved this should add weight to our suggestions regarding future planning applications. If anyone can assist it would be appreciated.

On subjects other than planning, our objections to the Lower Thames River Crossing being at Swanscombe seem to have been listened to, so this should not now affect Bean Interchange. Meanwhile our complaints about both traffic and air pollution at Bean Interchange are ongoing and we must wait and see what effect the planned Ebbsfleet Garden City, the Paramount Theme Park Project at Swanscombe and the new housing at St. Clements Way will have.

After our correspondence with City Airport, they have agreed that in future their flights over Bean, which were at 3,000 feet above sea level, will take into account that Bean is 300 feet above sea level.

Kent County Council had advised us they propose to safeguard small sharp sand and gravel deposits in Bean. After our objections they have admitted that they had used a geological map, but in further consultation we argue it would be uneconomical to extract these deposits.

Parking continues to be a problem. School Lane and Southfleet Road being very bad at drop-off and pick-up times during school terms. The police are very limited in what they can do and Dartford Borough Council only have 4 Parking Enforcement Officers and these mainly concentrate on the town centre.

Our Press Officer has had talks with Darenth Valley Hospital about improving their parking to try to ensure that the queues don't block the St James's Lane roundabout. This is still ongoing, but cost of new car parks seems to be the main problem.

Although fibre optic lines have reached Bean, as yet broadband connections to houses is unaltered. The start dates on the BT website have been put back more often than Frank Sinatra retired! We are in contact with two high level managers at BT and keep harassing them.

As you can see tonight, we continue to have good relations with Bluewater and thank them for their ongoing help and understanding.

I would like to thank the following people for all their help and support; Linda our very hard working and knowledgeable secretary, Ashley our assistant secretary for his research and hard work, Irene our treasurer for her clarity and accuracy, Peter our press office for his contacts and hard work and Bill for editing the entertaining Bean's Talk which raises the RA's only source of income with its advertisements.

PC Tony Quilter, various PCSO's, and PSE Lorraine Sylvester, plus Yvonne and Ashley our neighbourhood watch contacts, all of whom contribute to the informative Quarterly Neighbourhood Panel Meetings. June Conway, the Local Historian has been brilliant in preparing articles for Bean'sTalk and responding to questions from the Committee and residents and from people outside of Bean, surfing our Web Site, interested in tracing their local ancestors.

Last, but not least, Cllr. Ian Armitt and Cllr. Dave Hammock plus Clerk to the parish council Jan Becket for keeping us up to date about Dartford Borough and Bean Parish Councils.

Finally, lots of villagers care about Bean and contribute, in different ways, to keeping it a pleasant place to live. Many have spoken to me and my colleagues on the committee about their wants, needs and fears, all of which have been discussed at our meetings.

Please continue to do so, I thank you all.

#### **The Special Meeting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October.**

104 people attended the meeting with 17 attending an overflow meeting on Monday on Monday October 13<sup>th</sup> 2014.

- **Ebbsfleet Garden City**
- **Paramount**
- **KCC & DBC**
- **Planning Application for Travellers Site on Drudgeon Farm**

#### **Ebbsfleet**

Those attending were told that the DCLG (Department for Communities and Local Government ) would take on the planning powers of Gravesham, Dartford and KCC with some compulsory purchases. They would push forward the brown field sites. The Bean Triangle had only been included because of the entrance into Eastern Quarry which would need to be improved. Some areas would be kept for leisure activities. Concerns were raised on the impact on the local health services in the

area (doctors, hospital etc.). Concerns were raised over the time already taken on this project as well as the boundaries and wider area.

#### **Paramount:**

Andy Martin (Paramount) told those attending that the overview was to create the best entertainment resort centre. Talking with Gravesham and DBC. Hope to create 27,000 jobs when completed - all age groups. Parks and hotels on site and an open aspect to the river. Paramount has written to 90,000 homes in Dartford/Gravesend. Have said that they would return to the RA Meeting to do a presentation when invited back. Will let people know when other consultations are to be held over the next 6-9 months before planning applications are put forward. Currently funded by outsiders not local boroughs. Jobs will go to locals if up to it - make sure you have got the right qualifications.

The proposed Waste Disposal Unit has been put on hold by the Government. Paramount are talking with businesses on land that will be needed.

#### **KCC & DBC:**

Stephen Dukes (KCC) talked about the Strategy Plans for the Bean/Ebbsfleet area.

Said that the public would be shown plans of schemes for the area. Highways Agency would do them quicker. As Paramount want to open in 2019 the 2024 timeline for improvements would be brought forward. Ebbsfleet Garden City has also helped to bring matters forward. Mr Dukes was questioned over the widening of the bridge over the A2 to Bluewater. Worries were raised over problems with new junctions - will they be right first time or would they need to be adjusted at a later date?

Following the presentations the guests left the Hall with the exception of Teresa Ryszkowska (DBC) who agreed to remain while the matter of the Planning Application was discussed.

#### **Planning Application - Drudgeon Farm:**

A planning application has been submitted for change of use at Drudgeon Farm – from agriculture to a Travelling Showmen's Site.

*When the proposal was discussed the Village Hall was full to capacity with 104 people present. It was unanimously agreed, by a show of hands, to Object to the Showmen Travellers Application.*(continued)

- Concerns were raised over using Green Belt land for a site
- Roads through Bean are not suitable for HGV as stated by road signs.
- Extra burden on school and health services
- Ugly boundary fence proposed
- Possible loss of footpath along proposed boundary
- Possible friction with other Travellers site in Claywood Lane
- Site would be used to repair vehicles and equipment - extra noise for those living close by.

The Residents Association sent an objection to this planning application, and advised all those who object to send their objections/comments individually to the DBC Planning Department, either by letter or on the website, by 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014.

*The meeting closed at 10 10 pm.*

=====

**Other Items**

**Broadband**

Duncan Wood reported that the dates for faster broadband were as follows: September for those on the Longfield exchange, later for those on the Southfleet exchange. However KCC “make Kent Quicker”, say Bean is in Phase 5 January to June 2015. The RA is in contact with BT trying to clarify the situation.

**Royal Oak Site**

DBC Environmental Health have written to the owners reference the safety aspects of the building, easy access, gaps in the fencing etc.

**THE BEAN COMMUNITY BUS**

**Kindly NOTE that the MORRISONS Shopping Bus Will Be on TUESDAY 23rd BEFORE Christmas and Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> before New Year, NOT WEDNESDAYS, and also that the THURSDAY BUS WILL NOT RUN.**

**THE COMMUNITY BUS Planned trips, generally start at 10 a.m. Admission fees where applicable are not included in the Bus Fares**

DATE	VENUE	Bus fare
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Canterbury	£10-00

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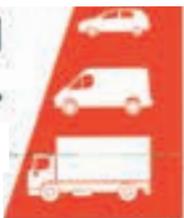
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**for more information.**

### Sans Mini Market - Bean

Hello we are the Parameswaran family, we have recently taken over the village shop from Frank Miles. As you can see there have been many changes and it looks completely different to how it used to. We have increased the amount of items available and have many different special offers on every month. The Post office has also been through a change and is now located at the front of the shop, we still offer most services however there are a few that we no longer do. One significant change to the Post Office is that we no longer take cheques.

The opening hours of the shop are:

Monday - Saturday 5.30 am - 10 pm  
Sunday 6am - 7pm

The opening hours of the Post Office are:

Monday- Saturday 8am - 7pm  
Sunday 9am - 1pm

Thank you.

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**The Bean's Talk. - How it works for contributions and adverts.**

Approximately 2 weeks from the copy date a reminder will be sent to advertisers and selected villagers by e-mail or note with a read receipt request. If there is no response a second reminder will be sent, however this will be the **final reminder**.

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With the numbers of wild birds falling drastically you can help reduce the trend.

**In Winter the birds need our help.**

If you enjoy the sight of birds feeding in your garden, it is nice to know that by putting out seeds, fat balls and regular bird foods you are helping them survive. (Bread is not a very healthy food because it lacks the nutrients required.)

However this can have a downside in the remains left since rejected or spilled seeds grow into ‘weeds’ and the husks need to be cleared up. This problem occurs where the feeder is situated above a lawn or cultivated area.

A solution is to place the feeder above a concreted area which just needs sweeping up, or above a separate bird seed plot area where the ‘weeds’ can grow and be cut down as necessary. Some of the resulting flowers are quite pretty.

You can buy seeds or make up your own ‘seed cakes’ by melting suet or lard and mixing in seeds, bits of cheese, bacon or porridge oats and other scraps and when set place in a half coconut shell or fir cone and hang it up.

Remember that birds love red berries so do not cut them back TOO SOON- whilst still ripe.

## St Nicholas at Bean



It seems like last week that I was writing the quarterly letter for the last issue. The first thing is to say a very big thank you to all those who have supported the Shoe box appeal. One of the most rewarding things for us is the response we get from the village of Bean to our Charitable appeals. In that connection we research each organisation that you support and only subscribe to those whose 'Administration Costs' are not excessive. Thank you for your continued support.

The build - up to Christmas begins at 10 o'clock on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December when we shall be holding our Annual Toy Service at the Youth & Community Centre. The toys will then be taken to the Ellenor Lions Hospice. They will distribute them to Very sick children or where there are children in a family where a member is desperately ill. We ask that your gifts are unwrapped, but with a piece of wrapping paper so that the appropriate toy may be given to the child.

At 6.30pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December we will be holding our Carol Service at the Centre. Come and join us in singing the popular well known Carols. We hope, as usual on this occasion to fill the hall. Come early to make sure of a seat.

There will not be a service at the Centre on Christmas Day. Christmas Services are held at the Parish Church Southfleet as follows:-

24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3.00pm	Crib Service Bring the whole family
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.15pm	Midnight Communion
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.30am	Family Service.

The Rector and Bean Fellowship wish all of the readers a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year.

*Don White*

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**Land At Drudgeon Farm, School Lane, Bean**

**Change Of Use From Agricultural Land To Provide A Permanent Site For Travelling Show People, Including The Alteration Of Site Access –**

Most people will know that the village has recently been targeted by a highly sophisticated attempt to sabotage our prized Green Belt land on the southern edge of the village very close to our excellent primary school – in the national top twenty –well done!

I use the word ‘sabotage’ for good reason. That application, so apparently well presented, was in fact a paper exercise full of deliberately misleading legalese put together to bamboozle both the villagers affected – us – and – which is far worse – Dartford Borough Council Planning Department, into believing that the applicant’s case for breaching the National Planning guidance was watertight. They must have paid a lot of money for it.

The case has been aired in the Residents Association meeting held in early October and I don’t intend to rehearse what I said there and put in writing as my comment in response to DBC’s request for our reaction. Many of you will hopefully have responded with well-thought out objections. What I do want to commend to you is the village spirit that was so well ‘demonstrated’ at that first meeting on Monday 6th October. Again, I use the word in inverted commas advisedly. It was very nearly a demonstration from a very angry group of protesters excluded from the RA meeting because of the mischievous Elfin Safety limits on numbers in the village hall.

Well over a hundred people attended and made their objections volubly clear. The unfortunate member of DBC, who had stayed on to see if she could clarify any difficult points for the assembled audience, was surely left in no doubt of the scale of feeling against the proposed change of use of ‘our’ green fields.

At this point, we still await the result of the first stage of the application, which is DBC’s response. If they do the right thing and throw it out, the applicant will undoubtedly appeal the decision, in the belief, deliberately fostered by the company that produced that seemingly professional application, that there is sufficient case

history (much quoted in the application) available to make an application to the National Planning Appeal court (or whatever it is) a certain success.

We can only hope that the new guidelines sent out to local authorities by the Local Government Agency on the Secretary of State, Mr Eric Pickle’s authority on Tuesday 7th October will be properly taken into account. These are very clear in their wording, making it totally unacceptable to change Green Belt boundaries once settled in the Local Plan without public assent and giving assurance that there can be no acceptance of ‘very special considerations’ for the establishment of gypsy, traveller or travelling showpeople sites on Green Belt land while there are legitimate public objections.

*JWT, Bean, 8 October*

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### **The Houses on the Hill - the final 1911 update (part 4),**

#### **No 13 EC Cottages Bean**

Thomas Dann was still living at No 13. Aged 64 he was a furnace stoker at the EC Powder Works and had remarried the previous year to Mary Elizabeth Carver who was then aged 32. Their son William was then a month old, and also living with them was Mrs. Mary Carver, Thomas' mother in law. Thomas Dann, aged 82, died during May 1928 and is buried at Stone Cemetery. Mary Elizabeth Dann died during November 1933 aged 55. and at the time of her death was living in Stonewood Road, Bean. She also is buried at Stone Cemetery. Thomas's son William Thomas married Violet Amelia Griffithsin 1934 and I think they had a son. William died in Southwark in 1960 and Violet died in the Dartford area in 1998.

#### **14 EC Powder Cottages**

Living next door was Arthur William Carver. aged 37, a labourer in the EC Powder factory with his wife Mary Ann Hurst. Arthur was the brother of Mary Dann, and the son of Mary Carver. He and Mary Ann Hurst were married on the 6th April 1901 at Stone Church, and had three children at that time, all of whom survived childhood: Albert William, aged 9; Edward Arthur aged 5: and Wilfred George aged 3. Both Edward and Wilfred married and had daughters, bhut both died very young. as did Wilfred's eight month old baby girl, and all within months of each other and of their mother. That must have been a very sad household in the early 1930's.

#### **15 EC Powder Cotts Bean**

Come 1911 and Thomas Austin and his wife Harriet were still living at No. 15. They said they had been married 24 years and had six children, five of whom had survived. The two youngest, Eva aged 5 and James 9 months were living with them. Eva married Albert Bennett and raised her family in the Dartford area dying in the Gravesend area in 1991. James married Clara Tarrant and raised a family, dying in the Gravesend area in 1984. Of the three children living with Thomas and his wife in the 1901 census: I cannot trace Thomas; Ellen (who I wrongly called Ethel in my previous artices) married James Loader Smith and raised her family; Minnie married Joseph Day and died in Coventry.

#### **No 16 EC Powder Cotts Bean**

Thomas Percy Fleming, aged 25, an explosive packer, born in Horton Kirby, was living here with his wife of two years (Miriam) Ada Prior. They had married on the 18th April 1908 at Stone Church and as of 1911 they had no children. Ada came from from Femoy Cork.

They both died in Dover, he in 1951, and she in 1953. **J. C.**

*The March 2015 edition will continue with history of the occupants of Archer Cottages.*

## LETTERS OR E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

### Broadband

Dear Editor,

According to my previous letter from June apparently I “stirred activity from residents of Bean to create uproar about Broadband” - but to no avail.

Well BT still have not produced any information or fibre-optic Broadband, and have disappointed and misled the residents of Bean - again. I was sent an email where Bean maybe able to get something from [www.vfast.co.uk](http://www.vfast.co.uk),\*\* so all residents have to do is go online and petition we want it here in Bean. The more who do it the more chance there is of maybe having this as a solution to fibre-optic for the time being.

I would like to know how the youth of Bean actually manage to do anything online which is school related, play video games with people across the world on the PS4 or Xbox, upload images & videos to Facebook etc with a diabolical broadband speed? I know I can't!

It was fantastic to see a great turn out at the Bean Residents Meeting on the 6th October, if only every meeting was as full! I think its safe to say, all the talk from the London Paramount, KCC, and the Dartford Council was rather vague and it didn't explain too much, but safe to say the residents of Bean will suffer at the hands of these multi million pound businesses who really don't care about how Bean and its surrounding area and it's residents will suffer. These businesses don't seem to have any real idea of how the roads will be clogged with traffic

### \*\*Further information.

At present vfast internet are unable to provide their award winning Air Fibre Service to the Bean Area, however , if you would like to receive information when coverage is available you need to register your details, name, address and postcode on line.

However, you need to carefully consider the options before committing to changes- check out the forums on line. *Ed.*

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### Find the missing Vowels

The clues are the answers with the vowels omitted, eg TR could be Tree, Tire or Tore, complete the box so that all words read correctly.

Across: 1 - SMHW; 5 - CHPS; 8 - FFR 9 - CRMSN;  
 10 DRZZL; 11 - SPK; 12 - DPND; 14 - MKP;  
 18 - QT; 20 - NCHN; 22 - CBRG; 23 - VK;  
 24 - LBBY; 25 - XTNCT.

Down: 1- SCLDD; 2 - MFT; 3 - HRZN; 4 - WCKT;  
 5 - CNS; 6 - NSPR; 7- SNS; 13 - PRVRB;  
 15 - NCNT; 16 - PNGNT; 18 - QLL; 19 - VRY;  
 21 - CRN

In some instances there are alternative answers

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8						9						
10								11				
12		13					14	15				16
						17						
18				19		20				21		
22								23				
24						25						

Answers are on page 27

### The Dartford Crossing

New payment arrangements will come into effect on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

From 6am on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November you will no longer pay at the barriers,

The current “Dart Tag” payment arrangements will continue until the Dart Charge goes live,



The Dartford-Thurrock River Crossing is a vital economic link. We are committed to delivering improvements that will help traffic flow at this crucial gateway, both now and in the future.

#### From November 2014:

- New remote payment arrangements will be introduced, known as Dart Charge, which will change the way you pay. You will no longer be able to pay the Dartford Crossing charge at the barriers.
- You can pay in advance of your journey or by midnight the following day.
- You can save up to one-third on every crossing by setting up an account and keeping it topped up.
- Alternatively you can pay the charge online, by phone, at selected retail outlets or by post.
- Drivers who don't pay the charge will face a penalty.
- It will still be free to use the Crossing between 10pm and 6am.
- Existing Dart-Tag holders will be contacted before the changes take place about moving their accounts.
- There will also be changes to the road layout at the Crossing.

Subscribe to receive updates at [www.gov.uk/highways/dartford](http://www.gov.uk/highways/dartford)  
 Media Services S140472 GOV.UK



## **Northfleet and Ebbsfleet**

### **Lions Club**

**00**

**Please join us *in our efforts* to provide help for individuals, charities and organisations across our community that need support in their day -to -day life and work**

**00**

**We need new members to help with our fundraising activities and local projects including the EllenorLions Hospices & ChYps**

**Please contact Roger on 01474832105 or Sandy on 01474358487 or visit our Website [www.northfleetlions.co.uk](http://www.northfleetlions.co.uk)**

**For further information about our club**

**Also Facebook Northfleet and Ebbsfleet Lions Club.**

### **Last to get Electricity; Last to get Fast Broadband?**

Bean was described in the 1939 Chronicle as a “museum place” or a “Cinderella” village; the place that time forgot! Bean did not get electricity supply until 1947. Previously, villagers had to resort to the use of paraffin for heating, cooking and lighting. This earned the village the nickname “Paraffin Island”. The village also lacked mains sewerage and gas lighting. See also:

[http://www.users.waitrose.com/~beanra/history03\\_in1949.html](http://www.users.waitrose.com/~beanra/history03_in1949.html)

BT Openreach seem coy about giving a firm date when Bean will get Fast Broadband, but the schedule seems to have slipped again. Is history repeating itself? See:

<http://www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/where-and-when/>

## **Beacon Woods**

We are extremely fortunate to have Beacon Woods within our Parish and it is a beautiful woodland area offering peace and tranquillity, a place to clear your head and relax and enjoy a natural environment.

It's used by many people with young families, dog walkers, bird-watchers and botanists, and those just out for an invigorating walk to keep fit or just a leisurely stroll!

Bean Parish Council and the “Friends” group took on responsibility for managing it as an amenity for the local community and visitors from all around.

It was in quite a neglected state when we started and an ongoing and a major job is improving the condition of the footpath network and board walks in the woodland areas. The task is a huge undertaking and needs many hands and loads of enthusiasm.

We have a good group of regular volunteers who meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month between 10-2pm , but could always use more, so if any of you feel able to devote a few hours a month to helping at Beacon Wood, this would be marvellous.

We are also urgently looking for volunteers to become part of a rota to open and close the woods each day so, if you are a regular dog walker or visitor to the woods and you think you could help out please contact the Parish Office on 01474 832999 or [beanparishcouncil@btinternet.com](mailto:beanparishcouncil@btinternet.com)

The website is <http://beaconwood.webeden.co.uk/>

### **Bean Sonic Boom**

Did you hear the huge boom that shook West Kent at 4:45 pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October? Two Typhoon jets from RAF Coningsby broke the sound barrier as they raced to intercept a Russian-built Latvian cargo plane which had failed to respond to air traffic controllers. The RAF say, “Apologies if we startled you during the successful intercept this afternoon - we only go supersonic over land when absolutely necessary.”

## Thoughts on Armistice Day

Grey our England's mantle on this November day;  
Grey the Guardsmen's coats as they stiffly march away;  
Grey my thoughts are churning as I turn myself to go,  
White remembered headstones standing row on row

Tears ran down my cheeks then, my throat too tight to speak.  
'Tears for whom?' I wondered; 'For self,' the answer bleak.  
Tears for childhood loss that took away so much,  
A father's hand to guide me, a gentle loving touch.

Young again, I stood there 'neath a sultry tropic sky.  
Young he was when death came, passing others by.  
Young and brave, my mother, left to carry on,  
Pride her only weapon; support and comfort gone.

Hard those years of growing, oft times bitter too.  
Hard forever facing the struggles that she knew;  
Hard maintaining standards of a life so gaily earned,  
In days when such things mattered; so many backs were turned.

Long her life of caring 'neath her mother's lashing tongue,  
Long the life of waiting for the praise so seldom sung.  
Long I dwelt in her love and the never mentioned debt  
Of the sacrifice she made then, a gift I treasure yet. JWT

### VEHICLE TAX CHANGES,

With the abolition of the vehicle tax disc taking effect from 1 October 2014 you will no longer be obliged to display it and are free to remove and destroy it.

You will still need to buy vehicle tax to keep any vehicle on the road. You will still receive a reminder from the DVLA, and you can continue paying using the previous methods. However now you will be able to pay by continuous direct debit — meaning there will never be a risk of forgetting to pay, and driving with an out-of-date disc.

The direct debit will continue as long as there is a valid MOT for the vehicle.

You can apply online to tax your vehicle using the 16 digit reference code from your vehicle tax renewal reminder (V11) or 11 digit reference number from your log book (V5C).

**One major change** the new road tax rules has created is that vehicle tax can no longer be transferred with the vehicle if you sell it. If after 1 October you sell a vehicle and have notified the DLVA, you will automatically receive a refund for any full months remaining on that vehicle tax.

You will now always have to buy new vehicle tax when you purchase a new or used vehicle.



## STEEPHILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

For children aged 3 to 11 years old

**EXCELLENT** Class sizes  
No class has more than 16 pupils

**EXCELLENT** Pastoral Care  
Judged excellent; ISI inspection 2012

**EXCELLENT** 11+ Results  
Pass rate over 72% for the last 10 years

**EXCELLENT** Music and singing  
Multiple winner; Gravesham Arts Festival  
2010 2011 2012 2013

**EXCELLENT** Meals  
Meat delivered daily from local butchers  
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appointment  
Tel. 01474 702107

Every day is **OPEN DAY**

Just ring for an appointment to have a personal tour of  
a normal working day.



**BEAN 8 REPORTED CRIMES IN AUGUST 2014**

- 4 x Theft from Motor Vehicle
- 2 x Bean Commuter Car Park, Bramble Avenue and Watling Street,
- 2 x Theft Miscellaneous — Stonewood & Beacon Wood Country Park
- 1 x Affray — Drudgeon Way

**13 REPORTED CRIMES IN SEPTEMBER 2014 COVERING THE AREA OF BEAN**

- 1 X BURGLARY DWELLING - Drudgeon Way
- 2 X VEHICLE INTERFERENCE - Beacon Wood Country Park & Beacon Drive
- 1 X BURGLARY OTHER THAN DWELLING - Beacon Drive
- 2 x THEFT MISCELLANEOUS - Page Close & Southfleet Road
- 2 x COMMON ASSAULT - Watling Street
- 2 x ASSAULT BY BEATING - Beacon Drive
- 1 x ASSAULT OCCASIONING ACTUAL BODILY HARM - High Street
- 2 x CRIMINAL DAMAGE - Beacon Drive & High Street

**Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)**

To help protect your property all valuable items should be registered, for free, on [www.immobillise.com](http://www.immobillise.com) - Logging details helps the police to return items if they find or seize them i.e.

- Expensive Jewellery and antiques,
- Bicycles,
- Laptops, desktop computers and tablets,
- Mobile Phones and MP3, and later, players etc.
- Home entertainment systems including TV's and games consoles.

Also consider:

Light dark or hidden entrances with low wattage security lighting, Use timer switching to turn on radio or lights,- invest in a 24 hour segment timer for under £5 and remember to use energy efficient light bulbs.

**Keep up to date with policing**

Visit [www.kent.police.uk/enews](http://www.kent.police.uk/enews) for your local news letter and we'll send it your inbox every few weeks.

For Sale

**MANGELS Land Rover modular wheel**

**T-8JJ X 16 Steel**

**£15**

**Anthony on 01474 704062**



**Crossword Answers From page 20**

- Across** 1 Somehow 5 chips Offer 9 Crimson 10 Drizzle
- 11 Spike 12 Depend 14 Makeup 18 Quote 20 Unchain 22 iceberg
- 23 Evoke 24 Lobby 25 Extinct.
- Down** 1 Scolded 2 Mufti 3 horizon 4 Wicket 5 Coins 6 Inspire
- 7 Sense 13 Proverb 15 Ancient 16 Pungent 17 Jungle 18 Quill
- 19 Every 21 Acorn

**Would you like to advertise in The Beanstalk?**

**The news letter is delivered to all of the 654 houses in Bean four times a year, in March, June, September and December.**

**If so please contact The Editor on 01474 704 062**

**2014 ADVERTISING RATES per issue Or buy 4 get one free.**

**Full page £35-00**  
**2/3 page £29-00**  
**1/2 page £26-00**  
**1/3 page £18-00**  
**1/4 page £12-00**

**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 Bean Community Centre.**

**All residents of Bean are welcome to attend.**

