



Linda White

I've lived in the village of Herne since my marriage in 1990, having grown up in Herne Bay, and my husband has lived here most of his life. Together we've raised three sons who all attended the local primary schools.

A sense of community has always been important to me, as I grew up very involved in my local church and youth group. When my children were born I became active with the childminding associations at local, county and regional levels, which was my first experience at editing newsletters.

I've known Carol Davis since her days raising funds for a swimming pool in the town, and first started helping the local parish with things like delivering newsletters, before becoming involved with the plans for the new community centre, as a resident member of the committee. I was part of the team that helped shape the plans for the building and was privileged to be invited to tour it during the building works as well as being present at the formal opening.

I'm immensely proud of the Herne Centre and love to see the way the community are getting involved with it and the variety and number of events that it houses. I help out occasionally when the Parish Council put on their own events, and love popping in for a chat with the friendly staff. The tea and cake are nice, too!

I joined the committee of the Herne and Broomfield Allotment Society (HABAS) shortly after the site was opened, and as well as working my own plot on the site, I have been secretary there for over ten years. As the main contact between the committee and ploholders, it's my job to maintain the waiting list, show potential ploholders around the site and organise all the paperwork, as well as the duties of taking minutes at the meetings and helping out around the site generally.

A couple of years ago, I decided it was time to take the plunge and join the Parish Council formally. I wasn't entirely sure at that point what I could offer apart from time and labour, but it wasn't long before I was offered the chance to take on the parish newsletter! That's a daunting task, but the articles come in and somehow I've managed to fill every issue so far!

At the beginning of this year, I also took on the leadership of 1st Broomfield Guides, after the previous leader took a well-deserved retirement. It's exciting being able to

help shape the lives of young girls, but a little scary too! Especially since I was never in Brownies or Guides as a child (although I was in Girls' Brigade!), so most of the girls there have more experience of Guiding than I have...

I'm lucky to work for myself, as a freelance editor and proofreader, which means I can choose my own hours. A few years ago I qualified as a teacher, but these days the only teaching I do is tutoring in English and Maths for GCSE.

In my spare time, I enjoy amateur theatre, and am taking acting and singing lessons. I took part in Canterbury Shakespeare Festival during the summer, and am currently busy with rehearsals for my second experience on the King's Hall stage as part of the ensemble in the local pantomime, Dick Whittington.

I also run regularly at parkrun Whitstable and volunteer with the Herne Bay Memorial Park junior parkrun.

I love being busy!