

Elmsted with Hastingleigh Community News

*St. James the Great
Elmsted*



*St. Mary The Virgin
Hastingleigh*

June 2016 40p

THE UNITED WYE BENEFICE

Priest-in-charge

Revd. Ravi Holy

The Vicarage, Wye

01233 812450

Ravi.Holy@wyebenefice.org.uk

Associate Priest

(with special responsibility

Revd. Lorraine Lawrence

The Vicarage, Hastingleigh, TN25 5HP

For the parishes of Hastingleigh 01233 750987 - 0789 4034409

Elmsted, Petham & Waltham) lorraine_lawrence@btinternet.com

THE PARISH UPON THE HILL

Churchwarden: Mrs Roz Bacon 01233 750327

Mrs Daphne ten Hove 01227 700460

Hon. Secretary PCC: Mrs J Smallwood 01233 750240

PARISH WEBSITES

www.elmstedpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

www.hastingleighpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

COMMUNITY NEWS

Editor Mrs Sue Boxall 01233 750206

Quackers, The Street, Hastingleigh

Advertising Manager Mrs Alison Shepherd 01233 750072

Little Gains Cottage, TN25 5JU

Closing date for material: 15th of the month prior to publishing

via email elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk

Please ensure all articles emailed are on A5 size please

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All aspects covered

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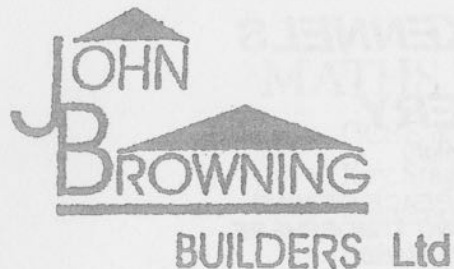
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Evington Community Project

100 CLUB

The winning numbers for the May Draw are:

1st Prize: No: 34

2nd Prize: No: 46

3rd Prize: No: 19

Many thanks to all of the 100+ Club Members for your support.

HASTINGLEIGH WITH ELMSTED W.I.

Hastingleigh with Elmsted W.I. met on Thursday the 5th of May at the Chequers Inn, Petham.

Ten members were present.

We discussed the Resolutions that had been put forward to vote on at our A.G.M. in Brighton next month. We had two resolutions – 'Appropriate care for hospitals for people with dementia' and 'Avoiding food waste, addressing food poverty'. After a lot of discussion, these were voted and agreed on.

We enjoyed a lovely meal, and had lots of chatting.

Our next meeting will be back in the Evington Hall, and our guest speaker will be Claire Ashby. Her talk is entitled 'Operating Nurse – front line at Camp Bastion.' This is an open meeting and all are welcome. We would love to see you at 7.30 p.m. on the 2nd of June, and the admission price will be £2.

Fiona Steward

Sat 9th July 12-4pm

Bodsham School field

(near the Timber Batts)

FREE
ENTRY

BODSHAM SUMMER FAIR

- 12.30 - COUNTRY DANCING
- 1.00 - BODSHAM SCHOOL CHOIR
- 1.30 - GYMNASTICS DISPLAY
- 2.00 - CHARLIE CHUCKLES (Clown/Entertainer)
- 3.00 - TUG OF WAR
- 3.30 - CREATE-A-HAT COMPETITION

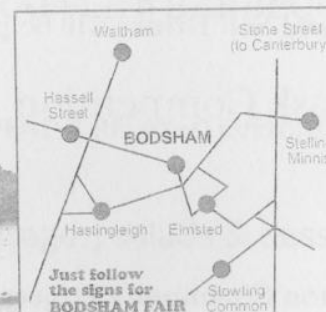
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An Afternoon Street Party to celebrate
HM Queen Elizabeth's 90th Birthday

Date and Time

Sunday,
12th June 2016
3.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Venue

Evington Village Hall
The Street, Hastingleigh

For more information, please contact:

Robin Helmer on 01233 750236

Please bring a plate of food to share
Tea, Coffee and Soft Drinks will be provided

Mask Competition

Sponsored by Evington Community Project, Elmsted Parish
Council and Hastingleigh Parish Council

THE GUILD OF ST. JOHN OF BEVERLEY FOR THE DEAF
**ANNUAL SUMMER
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Saturday 2nd July 2016

Food served from 5pm – 8pm
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SUMMER RAFFLE ✕ BARBECUE ✕ GAMES

COME AND SPEND A RELAXED EVENING WITH FRIENDS

Burgers, sausages, salads & desserts available

BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

FOOTPATH WALK – MAY 8TH

Seven walkers set off from the village hall on a very hot, still afternoon. What a difference from when I had walked the route to test it; I had just returned to my car when it started to snow!! We went down the road and turned left through the wood which was cool and admired the bluebells and wood anemones. At the bottom we turned left and then right behind Lyddendane and up the steep slope to Shrubs Wood where the ground on both sides was carpeted with bluebells. We went round the edge of the wood, across the Bodsham Road then round the field to the Waltham Road. A discussion started as to the virtue of going on the road or going through the wood and up a long incline. One of the walkers said that on a previous walk on an equally hot day his friend had suffered a stroke walking up this slope. The road now looked very inviting, so we walked to the Hassell Street crossroads and turned right. Opposite the stone cottage we went out into the field ignoring the "mind the bull" sign and walked to the gate at the bottom of the field following the brow of the slope among banks of cowslips on both sides. Through the gate we turned left past Little Combe and again opted for the road way back to the village to save walking up the hill in the field behind Becketts Close. Seven very hot walkers made it back to the village hall.

The next walk will be on the second Sunday in September.

VK

THE TIMBER BATTS, BODSHAM

We would like to welcome Sarah and Ross Berry who are moving into the Timber Batts in June. We all look forward to the pub reopening and supporting them in their new venture.



ELMSTED CHURCH

LUNCHES & TEAS



SUNDAY 29TH MAY, 2016

NOON - 4PM

There will be delicious home cooked lunches and an array of home baked cakes and deserts.

We will have a plant stall with strong, healthy plants for sale to cheer up your garden.



For further details please contact Vanessa London 01233 750427

90 yrs.

ROYAL
CELEBRATION
IN
FLOWERS

IN
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, HASTINGLEIGH
SATURDAY JUNE 18th — SUNDAY JUNE 19th
2pm - 6pm

ALSO

SOUTH HILL FARM

GARDEN OPEN
(by kind permission of Sir Charles Jessel)
SUNDAY JUNE 19th 2pm - 5pm

CREAM TEAS

ALL PROCEEDS TO ST. MARY'S CHURCH

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We would be very grateful for volunteers to make cakes, serve teas and steward the Royal Celebration in Flowers at Hastingleigh Church and South Hill Farm Garden.

If you can help in any way, please contact:

Sarah Morris 01233 750244

Roz Bacon 01233 750327

SPRING FAIR 2016

The Evington Community Project held its twelfth Spring Fair on 6th May at the Football Field, Hastingleigh. The weather the day before and the day after was beautiful, but on the day it was very damp and cold with a swirling fog! Despite such awful weather, the turnout was terrific and it was great, once again, to see so many people enjoying themselves.

We raised £1,345 after expenses, our second best total, all of which will be spent on our local community.

The organizing committee would like to thank all of you who helped before, during and after the day and all who came along and supported the event.

We should also like to thank the Evington Community Choir and the Bodsham School Merry Making Maypole Dancers for entertaining us and the Art Group for organizing a splendid Art and Craft exhibition in the Evington Hall during the afternoon.

RH



Monday 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd	10-11am: Tots and Tales at Elmsted (see below)
Sunday 1 st Sixth Sunday of Easter	9.30am Cluster Service Family Communion at Elmsted 5.00pm Evensong BCP at Petham
Sunday 8 th Seventh Sunday of Easter	8.00am Holy Communion BCP at Waltham 10.00am Messy Church Bodsham 11.00am Communion Service at Petham
Sunday 15 th DAY OF PENTECOST	9.30am Holy Communion at Waltham 11.00am Holy Communion at Hastingleigh 11.00am Family Service in Petham 6.00pm Evensong at Elmsted
Sunday 22 nd Trinity Sunday	9.30am Holy Communion at Elmsted 11.00am Holy Communion at Petham 11.00am Holy Communion BCP at Hastingleigh
Sunday 29 th First Sunday after Trinity	10.30am Benefice Service at Waltham

Tots and Tales: a free group for 0-4 year-olds and their grown-ups. All welcome: do come along! We have stories, craft, singing and fun! Tea, coffee, juice and biscuits. Every Monday, 10-11am at Elmsted Church.

Messy Church is now on the second Sunday of the month at Bodsham School.

Sun 29th May	ELMSTED CHURCH LUNCHES & TEAS (Page 17)	noon
Mon 30th	Village Breakfast (Page 22)	8.30am
Wed 1st	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 2nd	W.I. Meeting (Page 12)	7.30pm
Wed 8th	Singing	7.00pm
Sun 12th	STREET PARTY (Page 14)	3.00pm
Tues 14th	Hastingleigh Parish Council Meeting	7.45pm
Wed 15th	Singing	7.00pm
Sat 18th	CELEBRATION in FLOWERS - St. Mary's	2.00pm
Sun 19th	CELEBRATION in FLOWERS—St. Mary's OPEN GARDEN - South Hill (Pages 18 & 19)	2.00pm
Wed 22nd	Singing	7.00pm
Wed 29th	Singing	7.00pm

Note: All events in Evington Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

Parent & Toddler Group meet every Tuesday - 9.30am

Mobile Library every Wednesday 10.55am - 11.20am

Art Group meet on Thursdays 9.30am - 12.30pm

CHURCH FLOWER & CLEANING ROTA

	St. Mary's Hastingsleigh	St. James' Elmsted
May 28th	Mrs Young	Mrs Argar
Jun 4th	Mrs Courtney, Mrs Jerrom	Mrs Francesconi
Jun 11th	Mrs Morris	Mrs Hursey
Jun 18th	Mrs Waters	Mrs Pearce
Jun 25th	Mrs Hewes, Mrs Healy	Mrs Fox
Jul 2nd	Mrs Perez, Mrs French	Mrs Leutner

Thank you very much indeed to everyone who so generously sponsored me to run the London Marathon in aid of Marie Curie. The weather was perfect for running, the crowds were amazing and so supportive, every runner had a story and a cause. I completed the marathon in 4 hours 50min, lost several toe nails, could hardly walk for two days afterwards but despite this, I enjoyed the run and it was a fun day! I raised over £6000 which is more than I ever imagined I would raise and Marie Curie send their grateful thanks too.

Thank you again! Eleanor Thrupp

VILLAGE BREAKFAST

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at Moonraker, The Street, Hastingsleigh
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from 8.30 - 10.30am

Organised by St. Mary's for charity.

£5.00 - 11 & under £2.50

Roz 01233 750327

EVINGTON COMMUNITY PROJECT

have tickets available for

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DICK WHITTINGTON

Saturday 31st December, 2016

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FROM WYE SURGERY

We have a new number at last 01233 884585, not without blood, sweat and tears. It did not go smoothly. The installers decided that, although they insisted they did not need to survey the site as it 'would all go fine on the day', in fact we need to install a whole bunch of new equipment. During this process we had to divert the phones to the new number which we had already announced. In a twist of irony, we then proceeded to pay for all the divert costs of your calls to the surgery until it was fixed.

Once up and running the transfer failed and was fixed, then the server went down meaning we could not make calls out.

Anyway, fingers cross it is up and running. We have unlimited lines into the surgery, sadly we do not have unlimited staff to answer them so there will still be a degree of delay during busy times.

Dr Allan Fox

The Lorry Way Down (update to Beginning May After leaving the 2016).

After leaving the Namibian/Zambian border town of Katima Mulilo we returned along the Caprivi Strip to Ngepi Camp, ready to cross the border into Botswana. What we found when we got there really surprised us, the river level had risen by about 3 feet, effectively making the camp into an island. After a long chat with a member of staff that was loading guests into a boat to take them to the camp, we decided to give it a go, and drove across the fast flowing causeway that was up to 3-4 feet deep, the truck performed brilliantly with just the lockers full of water. After a few days at Ngepi, during which time we kept a close eye on the water level (using sticks stuck in the bank), we recrossed the river and headed for the border. The border crossing was very swift, and officials on both sides were very friendly and polite, taking less than an hour for both sides (why cant all African borders be like this?). After an overnight stop en-route, we arrived at the main Okavango Delta town of Maun, and found a really lovely campsite overlooking the river, about 6km outside of town. We really wanted to drive from Maun to Kasane on the sand route, but needed to find out if it was going to be possible in a 10 tonne truck, or indeed whether or not it was even allowed. We went into town, found a coffee shop, chatted to a few people, went into tour guide shops, just to gather information. We drove this route about 7 years ago in a Landrover Defender, and remember the very deep sand in places around Savuti and Chobe, so were quite cautious. We never did find anyone that had seen a truck on this route, or heard of one driving this route, but we decided we were confident enough to give it a go, what was the worst that could happen? We then got a shock..... The cost of a vehicle permit to drive into Chobe National Park for a regular 4x4 was 50 Pula (£3.33) per day, the cost of our truck (vehicles that weigh over 7 tonnes) was 1,500 Pula (£100.00) per day, this was plus 120 Pula per person per day! So we devised a plan..... We would camp just outside Mababe Gate (the entrance into Chobe, and the point at which you had to pay this crazy amount of money), for one night, and then enter the National Park early in the morning, and get to our pre-booked campsite in Savuti (mid point across Chobe, and you had to have a pre-booked and paid for campsite, before you were allowed entry into the Park), then this would give us a full day to get there. It is also better to drive on the sand earlier in the day, as it becomes looser and more mobile as it heats up.

The campsite we chose outside the gate was amazing (there are no fences in Botswana, and animals really don't understand the concept of national park boundaries), we had elephants walking through our clearing all day, and there were hippos and crocs in the river next to us.

Next morning we were up early (still dark), had a quick breakfast and headed towards Mababe Gate, on the way there we saw our first ever sighting of African Wild Dogs (or Painted Dogs), this was very special, and they were reluctant to leave their "kill", so we watched them for several minutes. This

again proved that in Botswana you don't need to be in a NP to have a great wildlife experience.

At this point Colonel K (our trusty Daf), must have gone on a diet, as we told the officials that it weighs 6.8 tonnes and so 'only' paid 1,000 Pula vehicle fee, but as we hit the first section of soft sand we were reminded that it really did weigh nearly 10 tonnes! We reduced the tyre pressures further (as much as we dared), and in 1st gear, low range, the truck dug in and slowly pulled us through the sand. We spent 2 days driving through the soft sands of Chobe, and sometimes the sand was very deep and soft for kilometres at a time, but we didn't get stuck once and the truck performed remarkably. We were both pleasantly surprised, and it was a great experience, the only problem was that somewhere along the route we wrecked a rear tyre, it didn't go flat, but a huge chunk of tread was cut away, exposing the steel bands underneath. It got us to Kasane, in the far north of the country, where we were planning to swap it for the spare (the wheel and tyre on the truck weigh in at 135kg).

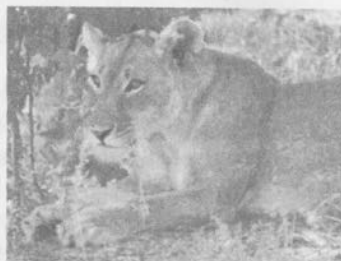
We spent a few days in Kasane, catching up on clothes washing, and a few jobs on the truck, then amazingly we managed to find two brand new tyres to fit the truck (we needed two really) in the next town along. Even in the UK our tyre sizes (old imperial) are hard to get, and we waited 3 weeks for our Michelins to be delivered to the dealer. We were extremely lucky.

Next stop was Elephant Sands near Nata, en-route to Francistown, this is a lovely lodge with a campsite overlooking a pumped waterhole. It is the only reliable source of water for hundreds of kilometres during the dry season, and so draws hundreds of elephants at certain times of the year. At the time we were there, there were a few elephants coming and going each day, but as the owners pointed out, all the natural waterholes are full at the moment so the elephants have a huge choice of water in other places.

The owners here are a lovely family, and they very kindly offered us the chance of bush camping on their land, next to one of the many waterholes that are dotted about. So armed with a sketched map, we set out into the bush, and ended up camping next to a large natural "pan" that was full of water. We had an extraordinary 24 hours, with huge numbers of elephants visiting the waterhole, both during the day and night. They were surprised and not entirely happy with the presence of Colonel K, especially the females with youngsters, but they all still drank and washed in the cool water. We were very lucky to have this experience, and we thank Elephant Sands for allowing us on their land.



We are now in Francistown (this is the 2nd largest city in Botswana), enjoying the modern comforts of a campsite with lovely hot showers, and a 3G signal on our "Mascom" Sim card, and catching up with the blog, emails, Facebook, and the usual stuff that comes with modern life. Tomorrow we will head for the border and cross into Zimbabwe at Plumtree, I hope that this border crossing will be as quick and easy as the last one, but somehow I doubt it!



You can view our full blog and lots of photos at www.lorrywaydown.com. We hope everyone back home in Hastings and Elmsted are well, and thanks to those that have taken the time to email us, it's always great to hear from home.

Vince and Jacqui Martin

jacmart5@icloud.com we would love to hear from you (new email address).



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FROM WYE BENEFICE

In a recent conversation I was reminded of a talk I attended at a Christian conference last August. The point was not so much the talk but the discussion that followed afterwards.

These are only half-formed and half-remembered thoughts (I have lost the notes I made at the time) but reference was made to an obscure part of the Old Testament section of the Bible. In this passage, a messenger of God appears to the prophet Daniel in a vision to explain why he had failed to respond to Daniel's prayer. In the vision, the messenger said that he had been detained by evil powers for 21 days (Daniel ch 10 v. 13). How can this be? Surely this doesn't square with the idea of an all-powerful God. To my surprise, the speaker (Principal of a theological college) said that he had come to believe that '*God doesn't always get his own way*' – or words to that effect. This is puzzling because we are encouraged to believe in an omnipotent (all-powerful) God. Why was a serious theologian saying something that seems to contradict a basic tenet of the Christian faith?

Both to me and my friend it seemed to be a helpful idea that not all that happens can be said to be God's will – or can be laid at his door. This is a problem most of us struggle with.

Perhaps the closest we can get to this is when as parents we deal with our children. As any parent knows – we don't always get our own way in bringing up our own children, even when we are pretty sure that we know what is best. This certainly leaves serious questions unanswered but perhaps it does throw light on the puzzle of the bad things that go wrong in the world and in our lives, and particularly where God might be at these times.

I still don't like to think that on a cosmic scale God can be defeated, after all we believe the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. But maybe Jesus' own life shows that 'bad things happen...'.

Food for further thought and discussion, I think – must find those notes ...

Ali Poole (a churchwarden of Wye)

WYE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Time to take stock?

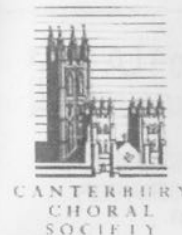
The Wye PPG had its initial meeting in 2011 under the guidance of Dr Roz Waller and Richard Beckwith from Kent LINK. Richard outlined the aims and objectives of PPGs, and these were; to contribute to the continuous improvement of services, to foster improved communication between the Practice and the patients, to help patients to take more responsibility for their health and to provide practical support and help to implement change. In some Practices PPGs developed from fund raising groups. Wye chose to have a PPG with no fund raising commitments. PPGs are now an accepted part of every Practice.

Fortunately the Wye Practice wanted a PPG whereas others saw them as an interfering nuisance. This view, whilst unfortunate, was quite understandable as PPGs have been imposed whatever the local situation.

In taking stock some 5 years later, perhaps it is time to look critically at what the PPG has done and ask "has it improved Patient Practice relationships, has it represented patients views in a balanced way and has the work of the group and the outcomes justified the efforts made by the Practice and its members?".

Openness and confidence between all sides is essential for a success. The PPG requires accurate information and time to debate issues in order to provide possible solutions to problems. The Practice must make judgements on where the involvement of a PPG will most help, avoiding the creation of unneeded work. In the past three years the Wye PPG has considered a large number of issues related to patients. These have included the Friends and Family test, appointment systems, the surgery telephone numbers, automatic doors at the surgery, the work and independence of the CCG, representation of patients through other groups such as the Ashford PPG and many more. The PPG has enabled local patients to have a voice in all of these matters and has helped to ensure that the patient view is heard. A successful group depends to a very large extent on effective team work with a clear understanding of the current situation by all parties (the Practice, the PPG, the patients) so that everyone involved can pull together to achieve a satisfactory outcome. By sharing information and by influencing the development of relationships, procedures and practices, a network of PPGs can be a great asset to Practices and patients alike.

I have now come to the end of my three years as Chairman of the PPG. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those in the Practice and the PPG for their support. There are too many to name but especial thanks go to Leonie Saint who has kept an accurate record of all the meetings. Please continue to support the PPG so that it can progress and always represent your views.



CANTERBURY CHORAL SOCIETY CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL Saturday 18th June 2016 7.30pm VERDI Requiem

Canterbury Choral Society will be performing Verdi Requiem at Canterbury Cathedral on the 18th June with the Canterbury Choral Society Youth Choir and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. This is the last concert of the season and will be a memorable event not to be missed.

Verdi was an ardent nationalist and there were recurrent themes in his operas of past Italian glories or struggle against political oppression. The Requiem was written as a memorial for Alessandro Manzoni, the great Italian novelist whose works helped forge an Italian national identity. The work was composed in 1874, when Verdi was 60, and first performed at the Church of San Marco in Milan. Verdi had already written *Libera me* which should have been used, together with contributions from other important composers, for an anniversary Mass for the great composer Rossini, the mass never took place but the director of the Milan Conservatory was so enamoured with it that he persuaded Verdi to write his Requiem.

Verdi is probably the most famous Italian composer with three of his works, *Rigoletto*, *Il Travatore* and *La Traviata* being performed in all the major opera houses of the world. Verdi has shown an extraordinary range in his composition and there is no doubt that the Requiem has something of the operatic in it, but the dramatic touch only strengthens its power. Verdi's Requiem has great depth and sincerity, is uplifting and triumphant, as well as intimate and intense. The eight trumpets which evoke the Day of Judgement will make a spectacular impact in the setting of Canterbury Cathedral.

Soloists for the performance will be Judith Howarth, described as one of the most successful British Sopranos, Katie Bray who will be performing in Garsington Opera's *L'Italiana in Algeri* and Sam Furness described by Opera magazine as "a lyrical tenor clearly going places plus the popular Michael Pearce who has performed many times with the society. The Royal Philharmonic Society originally formed by Sir Thomas Beecham will accompany the choir and soloists.

Tickets for all performances are available from Canterbury Ticket Shop (Marlowe Theatre) 01227 787787 or www.canterburyticketshop.com.

Full information on the website www.canterburychoral.co.uk

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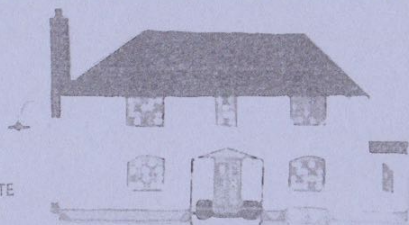
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