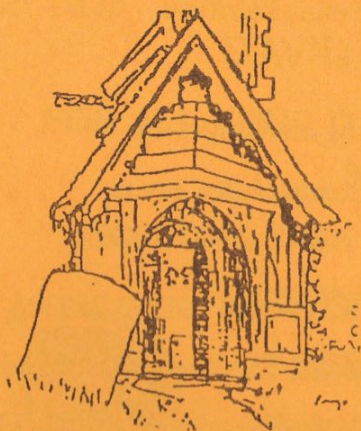
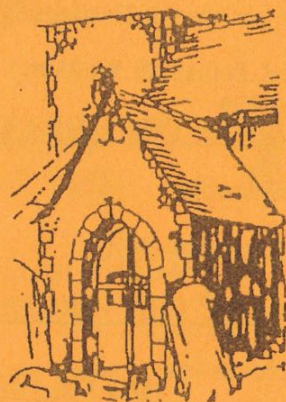


Elmsted with Hastingleigh
Community News

*St. James the Great
Elmsted*



*St. Mary The Virgin
Hastingleigh*

February 2014 40p

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(with special responsibility

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Churchwarden: Mrs Roz Bacon 01233 750327

Hon. Secretary PCC: Mrs Selina Farnfield 01233 750450

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

elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk

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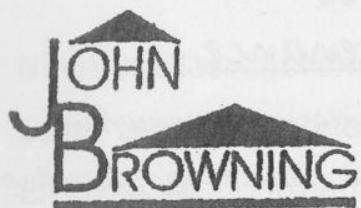
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EVINGTON GARDENERS

The gardens of Flanders was the subject of an interesting and illuminating talk given by Melanie Gibson-Barton at the November meeting. What this reviewer had not appreciated was the enthusiasm for plants and gardening in Flanders coupled with a very formal style of gardening, very different from the more free and naturalistic planting in English gardens and a style not entirely to the taste of some in the audience. Ms. Gibson-Barton showed pictures of front gardens, most very formal in design involving straight lines, textures and blocks of colour with espalier planting together with a lot of Box, all clipped very neatly. There were pictures of block planting on a municipal scale too in the parks of Bruges and in Brussels. Nurseries stock an excellent array of plants and also have their own gardens. Many plants are grown for export as well. There were pictures too of the botanical gardens at Meise, near Brussels, with some lovely Victoria Amazonica water lilies from Brazil like huge tea trays, the arboretum at Het Leen, the botanical gardens in Antwerp and at Ghent University and the largest Japanese garden in Europe in Hasselt. It was a good talk and encouraged members of the audience to look at Flanders with a fresh eye.

Members also enjoyed a Christmas party in December with music provided by the Studio Players. They played pieces by Barthomieu, Donjon and Bizet. Our thanks go very much to them and to Trevor Wye for organising the evening. The talk on 18 February is entitled, 'Less pain, more gain', and will be given by Malcolm Withnall. As always, everyone is welcome.

SUPPER TALK

Tuesday, 11th February is the date of the February 'Supper Talk' when we welcome Jon Sillett from the Pilgrims Hospice as our speaker.

THANK YOU

On New Year's Day the Evington Community Project hosted a morning with mulled wine and mince pies to say thank you for supporting their activities throughout the year. However, thanks are also due to Evington Community Project and in particular to Robin Helmer for the varied selection of activities they have organised from film nights, china painting, singing, May Fair and an enjoyable if rather wet day out to France and Belgium. Thank you ECP on behalf of the people of our two communities; we look forward to future events in the coming year.

SB



WI OPEN MEETING

We are so pleased that Ms Amanda Cottrell is coming to talk to us again that we would like to share this experience and have made our next meeting an **Open Meeting**.

Amanda is going to talk to us on the following subject:

“Kent on a Plate (Olympics Thrown In)”

Thursday, 6th February 2014

8.00 pm

in the Evington Hall

Everyone welcome. Just £2.00 per person (including light refreshments)

FOOTPATH WALK NEW YEAR'S DAY

Well now I know what they mean by community spirit! Would you believe that 33 people [plus two dogs] arrived to go on the Mince pie walk with a weather forecast that virtually guaranteed heavy rain.

There was no question of not going so this crowd of enthusiasts left the hall in the dry. Derek & Robin had been in constant contact during the days before trying to find a route that was passable and finally fell back on a mainly road walk.

So through the village towards Wye we went taking the footpath alongside the road when we could, soon turning left towards Cold Blow. Now the rain had started gently at first but by the time we passed through the kissing gate at Cold Blow to head back over the fields towards New Barn Hill the strong wind was driving the rain horizontal!

On reaching the road we could have made a short return but the intrepid crew all agreed to complete the walk which was then destined to go on the lanes past South Hill and up Tamley Lane back to the village. A bedraggled but cheerful group got back to Evington Hall to a very welcome glass of Mulled Wine and copious mince pies, sausage rolls, cake and crisps, a fine reward for all. Amazingly everyone seemed to enjoy the outing even if it meant going home to dry off afterwards.

Many thanks to Sue & Vanessa for sorting the refreshments and to all those who provided food and drink.

Next month [9th Feb] Jean will be leading us from Wye Church just after 2pm. There will be transport from the hall leaving around 1.55pm. So please come and enjoy the next walk and let's hope for a fine day.

Derek Harris

The Bowl Inn

Hastingleigh

£155 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support
on the night of the Christmas Carols.

Thank you for your kind donations.

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EVINGTON HALL COMMITTEE

The Hall Committee would like to thank everyone who supported the Christmas Bazaar by donating items for the stalls and helping on the day. A special thank you to Father Christmas and his two elves. With other donations received a sum of £926.23 was raised for Hall funds.

At the end of December the Christmas Concert in Hastingleigh Church given by Trevor Wye, Robert Scott and the Studio Players was followed by an excellent supper in the hall. This raised £792 to be divided equally between the Church and the Hall. Thank you to Trevor and everyone else involved in making this such a successful event – a pleasant introduction to the festive season.



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a real treat." Anna*

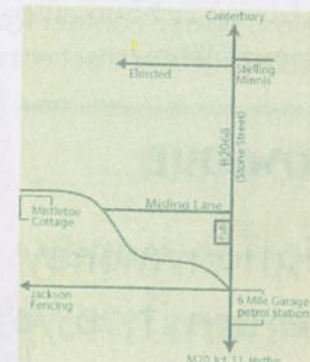
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8.15 pm - A Modern Oscar-Winning
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Our usual Fish & Chip van will be serving Fish & Chips, Sausage & Chips, etc. from 6.00 pm. Coffee and Tea will be provided but please bring your own drinks.

To find out more and / or to make a reservation, please contact Robin Helmer on 01233 750236 or email: robin.helmer@btinternet.com

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CHURCH SERVICES IN ELMSTED AND HASTINGLEIGH - FEBRUARY

2nd February Presentation of Christ	9.30 Hastingleigh: Cluster Service	
9th February 4 th Sunday before Lent	10.00 am Bodsham Family Service	
16th February 3 rd Sunday before Lent	11.00am Hastingleigh: Family Communion (CW)	5.00 Elmsted: Evensong
23rd February 2 nd Sunday before Lent	9.30 Elmsted: Parish Communion (CW)	11.00 Hastingleigh: Holy Communion (CW) 4 pm Sunday Teatime in Evington Hall, Hastingleigh

Sunday Teatime: At Sunday Teatime we have fun, do new things, create, chat and worship. Great food! Great people! And open to ALL AGES!

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CHURCH FLOWER & CLEANING ROTA

	St. Mary's Hastingleigh	St. James' Elmsted
Feb 8th	Dr & Mrs Lawson	Mrs Hursey
Feb 15th	Mrs Day	Mrs Pearce
Feb 22nd	Mrs Young	Mrs Fox
Mar 1st	Mrs Courtney Mrs Jerrom	Mrs Leutner



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 31st Jan	Crafts at Mistletoe Cottage	9.45am
Tues 4th	Crafts at Mistletoe Cottage (Page 17)	9.45am
Wed 5th	Coffee Morning Community Choir	10.30am 7.00pm
Thurs 6th	WI Open Meeting (Page 14 & 22)	8.00pm
Sun 9th	Footpath Walk (Wye Church) (Page 15)	2.00pm
Tues 11th	Hastingleigh Parish Council Meeting Supper Talk, Bulltown House (Page 13)	7.45pm 7.30pm
Wed 12th	Community Choir	7.00pm
Fri 14th	Whist Drive	7.00pm
Sat 15th	Film Night (Page 18)	4.00pm
Tues 18th	Gardeners Society (Page 13)	7.30pm
Wed 19th	Community Choir	7.00pm
Sun 23rd	Sunday Teatime	4.00pm
Thurs 27th	Evington Players	7.30pm
Fri 28th	Evington Players	7.30pm
Sat 1st March	Evington Players	7.30pm

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

HASTINGLEIGH WITH ELMSTED WI

Hastingleigh with Elmsted W.I. met on Thursday 2nd January at Evington Hall. Eleven members attended and we paid our annual subscription. The business was dealt with and then our President, Mrs. Argar, introduced the speaker, Dr. Geoff Turner, who spoke about Van 132 - Soldier, Sailor, Spy.

Van 132 was a railway luggage van that carried the bodies of the Unknown Warrior (Soldier), Captain Charles Fryatt (Sailor) and Edith Cavell (alleged Spy) from Europe to England via Dover after the First World War. The stories of the three people carried in the van were very interesting. The Unknown Warrior was chosen from one of four bodies of men who had died in battle. Their bodies were covered in Union Jacks - one body was chosen and the other three were buried nearby. Captain Charles Fryatt was in the Merchant Navy and attempted to sink a German U-Boat in 1915. Fifteen months later his ship was captured by the Germans. He was court martialled and later executed. Edith Cavell nursed wounded British servicemen and helped about 200 to escape. She was betrayed, tried and executed in 1915. In 1919 her body was exhumed and about 100,000 watched her funeral procession (including van 132) come through Dover. The van was stored at Robertsbridge and then transferred to the Kent and East Sussex Railway who launched a £35,000 appeal to restore it. It is now to be found at Bodiam station.

Next month we will be having an open meeting. Our guest speaker will be Mrs Amanda Cottrell whose talk is entitled 'Kent on a plate (Olympics thrown in)'. Mrs Cottrell has given us several talks in the past and they are always enjoyable and entertaining. The meeting will be at 8 p.m. in Evington Hall, price £2. All are welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there.

FLU OVER THE URINE SAMPLE

Themes of the month. First Flu, we have not yet seen any flu but it comes every year to one degree or another. I am concerned that quite a number of high risk patients are not yet protected. Some have had immunisations at Tesco or another provider, if you have could you possibly let us know so we do not keep bothering you? For those that have not had the immunization, it is really important. Many tell me 'I have never had flu, so I cannot see the point' or 'it gives me a cold'. As regards the first, you might say the same about being run down by a bus, but it is no less damaging when you do. In the case of flu, the fact you have not had it markedly increases your risk. 10% of over 65's die of flu if they contract it. If there are two of you, how will you cope when both of you contract it?

Every year we are faced with couples, both bed bound and very sick, perhaps one hospitalized because they chose not to have the jab. In the modern parlance hash tag justsayin!

Now the urine sample. We struggle to get urine samples tested for micro albumin each year in those with high blood pressure and diabetes. What's a bit of protein between friends and why do we make you pee? Well, it turns out that it's quite important. Micro albumin, or more accurately the ratio of protein to creatinine in the urine is a very early marker for kidney disease which can lead on to kidney failure. If we catch it early with these tests, we can take measures to avoid or delay such disease. But we do need the wee back in order to assess your risk so please let us take the

Anyway, happy new year, try and follow NICE guidance regarding exercise this year, at least three sessions of 30 minutes of activity a week, plenty of fruit and vegetables, keep alcohol to sensible levels and come and see us about stopping smoking. It really does make a difference to your health but equally importantly, to your feeling of wellbeing. Anxiety and depression undoubtedly improve with regular exercise, it is impossible not to feel uplifted by a walk around the beautiful countryside that surrounds us. I might do a piece about diet soon, I have read some interesting facts about fats that dispel some of our previously held beliefs. What is undoubtedly true though is that processed foods, no olive oil, vegetable oils and anything containing trans fats are to be avoided as they have a very significant impact on your risk of heart disease.

Dr A Fox

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, HASTINGLEIGH

Many people who come to visit St Mary's Church in Hastingleigh often query why the church was built so far from the major part of the village. Only a few houses, such as Court Lodge, its cottages and converted farm buildings, lie in the neighbourhood of the church itself. Moreover other villages in Kent and elsewhere have the same feature. For instance Challock church lies at an even greater distance than does Hastingleigh's church from its village. Then there are the Romney Marsh churches, with some, like Fairfield, having no village at all nearby.

The usual explanation for all this is that at the time of the Black Death, there arose a fear of contracting the plague from the churchyard, where burials of diseased bodies took place. So, the argument goes, the houses were situated away from the church to be in a much healthier position.

I have been asked to write in the Community News about another explanation for this phenomenon, which I have arrived at after many years of visiting sacred sites all across Britain, and also abroad. Many years ago I came across a book called 'The Pattern of the Past', by Guy Underwood. At the time when he wrote it, he was a museum curator. He therefore published it posthumously, as his findings would have caused him some trouble with his scientific colleagues, as his findings did not accord with any known science. He showed in his illustrations the so called 'energy lines' that he had found by dowsing under churches and other ancient sites. It was an extension of the well-known ability of dowsers ability to detect underground water. As a dowser myself, I was able to check on all this information, using my faculty. It appeared that our ancestors marked these 'telluric' energies by erecting stone edifices, which were adapted especially for these sites. We do not know for certain what form these took, but they were based on the Old Religion of Nature. Standing stones is one possibility, and one of these may indeed be incorporated in St Mary's on the South side.

But what we do know is that Pope Gregory the Great ordered St Augustine

and his followers not to destroy what he would have called the 'heathen temples', but to build on top of them. The new converts could thus stay and worship on the same sites that they had already occupied. This would keep everyone on the side of St Augustine and his Christian religion.

Thus the first Christian churches were not built for a village. They were erected on the same sites which had previously been marked out by the old sacred places. Church spires were constructed by the masons to embellish and perhaps magnify the effect of the spiral energies, described by Underwood as 'Blind Springs.' Masons kept their trade secrets, but it is likely that dowsing was used by the Master Masons. Other 'dowsable energy lines' affected the construction of the rest of the buildings, such as the angle of the knave to the chancel and the position of the doors. Dwelling houses then came to be built around some of these churches in the rural areas, but the church was already there.

Even primitive societies leave behind some relics or traces of their existence. As our family farm adjoins the Hastingleigh church, I had expected to find some evidence of former human habitation in its environment to turn up. But nothing has ever appeared. Once, I was excited to learn that one field nearby had been called 'Six Houses', only to be told that it was due to the six chicken houses which formerly occupied the site. Thus so far no evidence has come forward to make me change my mind. Certainly the Black Death could be an explanation for the isolation of the church from the rest of the village. But I put forward my personal solution of the problem as one worthy of consideration.

Charles Jessel

FROM WYE CHURCH

I am, of course, one of a dying breed, brought up in the war and the austerity of rationing years after. I resonate with the "brown paper packages tied up with strings" in the "Sound of Music", on yet again at Christmas! As we undid them, all the paper and string was carefully preserved for future use. Thrift was the order of the day.

The story is told of a very old Scotsman, (perhaps one of my ancestors?), proud of his lifelong prudence, who was nearing the end of his life. His family gathered round him. "Wife, where are you?" "I'm here my darling", she replied, taking his hand. "Son, where are you?" "I'm here too Dad." "And daughter where are you?" "I'm here Dad, right by your side". "OK", says the old man, "then why is the light on in the kitchen?" I used to be very irritated by my step-father who went round the house turning off the lights. Now, I do the same, and so should we all.

*Reduce, re-use, recycle.**

WyeCycle point out that moving garden waste to the household-waste site and then to the composting site some miles away, uses valuable resources and emits a lot of carbon gas rather than the relatively small cost of doing it locally. Things are improving but we still have far to go.

But I am only allowed 400+ words, so I had better get to the point!

More and more of us are mobile phone and computer users. I am using ink writing this. Mobiles and the like use rare earths, that is, unusual materials and minerals. Presently China has is the main source of supply. One by-product of the extraction of some is radio-active waste.

Each phone contains up to a few grams of rare earths. That might not seem like much, but when you add up the over 500 million retired cell phones that live in desk drawers, closets, and shoe-boxes, you see the possibilities. Recycling old electronics will not only free up valuable rare earths, but also copper, gold, palladium, and platinum. Think of your used cell phone as a miniature gold mine. Currently only 1% get re-cycled.

On-line you may find that you can get a good price for some makes. In Ashford you can get money for taking your ink-cartridges back. How much better to help those in our one world in great need. Please use the enclosed envelope. If you have nothing now, keep it till you have or pass it on.

Yours,

Alan Ramsay

*Some of you may like to think about an expanded version from Arocha.

Re-read the Bible

Repent

Rejoice in God's creation

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Respond



PANCAKE PARTY

Unfortunately, there will not be a pancake party in the Village Hall this year. Hopefully it will go ahead in 2015.

Evington Community Project

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Evington Community Project will be held in the Evington Hall on Monday 3rd March at 7.30 pm

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM EVERYONE AT GODINTON HOUSE

Below are a list of our workshops and courses for 2014, please remember the workshops have limited availability. On arrival at the beautiful gardens of Godinton you will be welcomed with coffee and home-made refreshments. Having enjoyed a morning in and around the gardens a light lunch of soup and a roll will be provided, reviving you for the afternoon session. Workshops £55.00 unless otherwise stated.

COURSES AND WORKSHOPS 2014

Rose Pruning – 15th February, 9.30am – 2.30pm

Demonstration of pruning techniques and hands on session to give you the confidence to tackle your own roses producing the best display from your climbers, ramblers and shrubs.

Spring Propagation 1st - March, 9.30am – 2.30pm

A practical session learning techniques to fill your garden with plants for free, taking home some of Godinton's choice plants.

Spring Pruning and Garden Tasks – 15th March, 9.30am – 2.30pm

Prepare your garden for the growing season with practical advice on the pruning of shrubs and climbers, preparing herbaceous borders, glasshouse work and seasonal planting.

Right Plant, Right Place – 26th April, 9.30am – 2.30pm

Liven up those areas in your garden where nothing seems to thrive. Learn how to select plants for difficult places and go home brimming with ideas. Please bring photos of areas that need inspiration to discuss.

Plant Support Workshop – 3rd May, 9.30am – 3.00pm

Viv Hunt, Head Gardener, will demonstrate various different methods of plant support in the gardens, then make your own willow obelisk or frame with local craftsman, Alan Sage.

The Beginner Gardener – four day course

Friday 5th September – Friday 26th September, 9.30am - 1.30pm

Understand how to get the best from your garden with this four week course giving hands on, practical experience of essential gardening skills and the knowledge to make the plants in your garden thrive.

With Fiona Abrahams from Hadlow College. Price £150.00 (lunch not included)

Autumn Propagation – 13th September, 9.30am – 2.30pm

A practical session learning the secrets to fill your garden with free plants. Taking home a selection of plants from Godinton's borders.

Grow Your Own – 27th September, 9.30am – 2.30pm

Make your garden, big or small, more productive and enjoy a bumper harvest of fruit, veg and cut flowers.

Autumn Garden Tasks – 4th October, 9.30am – 2.30pm

Topics to include pruning of shrubs and climbers, mulching, winter protection and plants of seasonal interest.

In Aid of Lord Whisky Sanctuary Fund

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Park House, Stelling Minnis, Kent CT4 6AN

Tel: 01303 862622 Fax: 01303 863007

Email: lord.whisky@btinternet.com

We would like to wish you all a very happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you all again.

We hope to see you all at our Fur, Feather & Exotic Exhibition and Craft Fair

on Saturday 22nd February, 10am - 4pm

at Boughton-under-Blean Village Hall, Nr Faversham.

Come and meet some unusual and exotic species
and have a chat with the experts.

Craft Stalls ~ Tombolas ~ Hot & Cold Refreshments

Tables available £10, phone 01303 862622 to book

Our first event at Park House is our

Boot & Spring Fayre

on Saturday 3rd May

Boot Fayre from 8am, entertainment from 12noon

At Park House, Stelling Minnis CT4 6AN

Visit our website at www.lordwhisky.co.uk for the dates of all our events this year, details of animals needing homes, locations and times of our low-income veterinary clinics and general sanctuary information.

Find us on Facebook: The Lord Whisky Sanctuary Fund Kent

Follow us on Twitter: @lordwhiskykent

Fri 29th 11am-6pm & Sat 30th 10am-5pm November:

CHARLTON PARK CHRISTMAS FAIR

30 stalls of desirable gifts on sale, artisan goods & food.

Chives Christmas Café Entrance: £2.50 (under 16 free)

Wed 18th December 6-8pm: **FAMILY CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG**

Festive songs & carols with Trish Vella-Burrows

£7.50 children £5 inc. mince pies, sausage rolls, mulled wine & soft drinks

Sat 21st December 3pm: Whizz Bang Pop presents

"HERLOCK BONES & THE PRIZED CHRISTMAS PUDDING"

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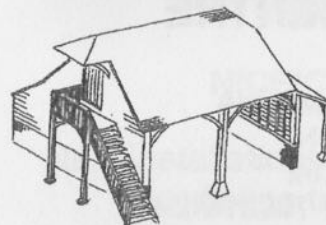
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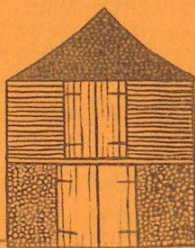
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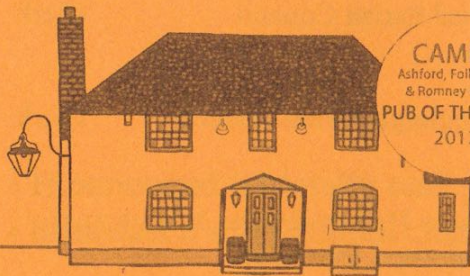
LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

Elmsted Parish Council	Clerk	Tracey Block 01233 750415
Hastingleigh Parish Council	Clerk	Tracey Block 01233 750415
Evington Hall (caretaker & bookings) (Treestumps, Elmsted)		Mrs Avis Ball 01233 750231
Evington Hall Committee	Hon Sec	Mrs S Lawson 01233 750288
Evington Community Project	Hon Sec	Mr D Farnfield 01233 750450
Evington Gardeners' Society	Hon Sec	Mrs J Pearce 01233 750382
Evington Players	Hon Sec	Mrs C Batcheller 01233 637955
Art Group	Contact	Mrs V Kerry 01227 700843
Footpath Walks	Contact	Mr D Harris 01233 813711
Women's Institute	Contact	Mrs J Bowes 01233 811875
Parent & Toddler Group	Contact	Mrs H Wade 01233 750032
Neighbourhood Watch	Hastingleigh	Mr G Block 01233 750415
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