

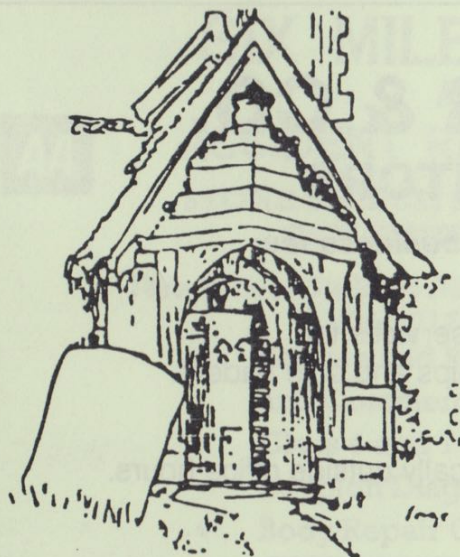
ELMSTED With HASTINGLEIGH

DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY

Community News

JANUARY 1998

St. James The Great
Elmsted



St. Mary The Virgin
Hastingleigh

DEANERY OF
WEST BRIDGE

DECEMBER 1997 **25p**

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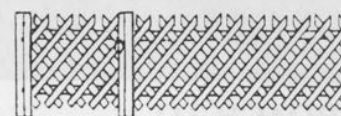
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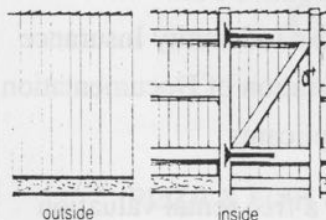
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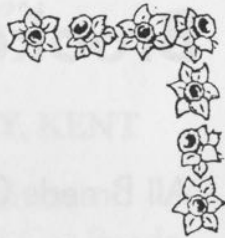
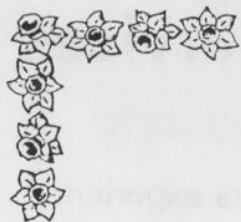
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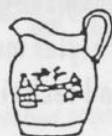
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with

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, HASTINGLEIGH

Parish Priest

Vacant

Assistant Priest

The Revd Richard Bateman, AKC
The Rectory, Stelling Minnis
Tel: 01227 709318 or 01227 700440

Assistant Curate

The Revd Paul Filmer
The Rectory, Stelling Minnis
Tele: 01227 709884

ELMSTED

Churchwardens

Mrs.J.Browning
Tel: 01233 750238

Hon.Secretary PCC

Mrs.A.Nichols
Tel: 01233 750272

HASTINGLEIGH

Churchwardens

Mr.A.Marsh
Tel: 01233 750355

Assistant Churchwarden

Mr.B.Moorhead
Tel: 01233 750556
Mr.Terry Mose
Tele: 01233 750346

Hon Secretary PCC

Mrs.P.Young
Tel: 01233 750520

Community News Editor:

Mrs.S.Burrage
4 The Bowl Field Hastingleigh
Tel: 01233 750375

Advertising Manager:

Mrs S.Hayden Tel: 01233 750426

Closing date for material:

15th of the month prior to publishing

Revd Paul Filmer
The Rectory
Curtis Lane
Stelling Minnis
Tel: 01227 709884

Revd Richard Bateman
The Rectory
Curtis Lane
Stelling Minnis
Tel: 01227 709318

Christmas Greetings

My dear friends

"We hope and pray - indeed we insist - that we have seen the last of violence. We demand the right to solve our own problems by dialogue and the noble pursuit of consensus." These are the words of Mary McAleese, the eighth Irish President. They were tucked away on page nine of a national newspaper.

Tragically, the longer an evil persists, the more we become accustomed to its presence and learn to live and accept as normal what may be profoundly destructive. The violent and brutal murders and calculated destruction of property is an evil. Sadly we become so accustomed that the prayers and determination of an Irish president only make a page nine. In some papers it may not have been reported at all.

Christmas is God's reminder that there can be no accommodation with evil, but that this way is not one of repression, punishment and violence but through a new relationship and a continuing dialogue to establish justice and peace in which God through His Spirit plays a part.

The Christmas story has all the evils that should be addressed. The census reminds of the repression many experience in many nations. The poverty of the stable jerks our conscience to the plight of the homeless and the refugee, the slaughter of children by Herod, to the cruelty and inhumanity of leaders in pursuit of power. In a baby born in a little known village about 2000 years ago is God's word to us. It speaks of reconciliation, of forgiveness and of peace and the cost was borne on a cross.

Can we continue to pray for those who share the cost but seek reconciliation and peace.

May I wish you and your families a blessed Christmas.

In His service

Richard Bateman

ELMSTED CHURCH

Church Cleaning - We are having our Annual Pre-Christmas clean-up of the church on Wednesday 3rd December at 10am. Please bring dusters, brushes etc. We are not sex discriminating so men are very welcome! - and please not just the faithful few. It is important that our church shines and looks cared for - it indicates a caring church.

CAROL SINGING

We shall be singing carols in Elmsted on Tuesday 16th December (whatever the weather!). Please meet at the church at 7pm and bring a torch. This year we are collecting for the Demelza Childrens Hospice and this is also our christmas charity for the collections at our christmas services.

SUPPER GROUP

There is no meeting in December but we meet again on Tuesday 6th January at Bulltown House, West Brabourne at 7.30 pm. Directions from 813711. The subject for discussion will be "How can the church influence people's lives and our community?"

All welcome but names please to 750238 or 813711 by Monday 5th January for catering purposes

Elmsted P.C.C wish all parishioners a HAPPY and BLESSED Christmas.

JDB

PAM TOPPING

At the end of October we bade a reluctant farewell to Pam when she and Bertie left Misling Farm after 37 years, to move to Wadhurst to reside near their daughter Caroline and her husband Stephen, and grandson Ben (soon to be joined by another two grandchildren).

Pam had been churchwarden at Elmsted for 4 years and had served on the P.C.C for much longer. She has been involved with the music of both Elmsted and Hastings churches for many years. We thank her for her contribution and dedication to the church and parish and we wish her and Bertie good health and every happiness in their new home and many years of contented "baby sitting"!

JDB



CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND SUPPER

with Trevor Wye and his students accompanied by Robert Scott

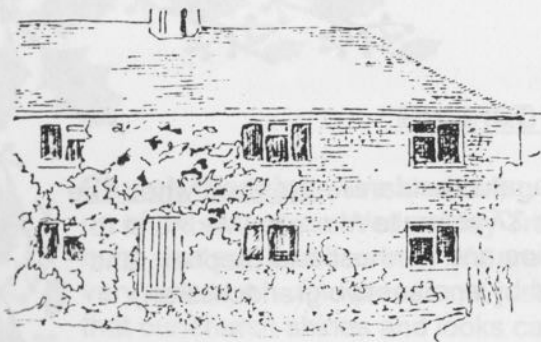
Friday 19th December

7pm in St. Mary's, Hastingsleigh followed by supper in Evington Hall

Tickets (at the shop, by 17th December please)

£4 for concert with mulled wine

£4 for hot supper with carol singing (please bring your own wine etc)



COLDBLOW FARM HOUSE

MINCE PIE WALK

The first village event in 1998 will be the mince pie walk starting at Cold Blow Farm on New Year's day at 11 am. Once again we hope to arrange a short and not so short walk for all ages. No steep hills this year. On our walk the children can feed the tame sheep. 'Black Spot' has seen eleven annual walks whilst for the black lamb 'Baa Baa' it will be her first time. After the walk we hope that all will crowd into Cold Blow for punch and mincepies so please come and join us.

Jean and Mike



FOOTPATH WALK

Only the leader and her daughter turned up at Evington Hall on a wet Sunday afternoon (9th November) so the walk was abandoned. Let us hope for better conditions for the next walk which will start from Evington Hall at 2.00pm on Sunday 14th December.

EVINGTON GARDENERS SOCIETY

New members would be very welcome to our meetings which are held on the third Tuesday of the month from September to April and are not wholly devoted to gardening matters. An outing is usually arranged in the summer and a yearly show is held.

Mr. Tim Bowes is Chairman (750273)

Mrs Eileen Philpott has announced her intention to resign as secretary at the AGM in April. The Committee would be very glad to hear from anyone who is prepared to "step into her shoes".

The next meeting on Tuesday December 9th will be Christmas Plants with Mrs Bryant followed by a cheese and wine party.

On Tuesday 20th January, 1988
Mr Ken Stroud will talk on "Ponds"

LIBRARY VAN

A reminder and information for those who may be new to the area that the Kent County Council mobile library visits Bodsham and Hastingsleigh every week on WEDNESDAYS.

Timber Batts - Bodsham	10.25 - 10.45 am
Bowl Field - Hastingsleigh	10.55 - 11.20 am

NEXT MEETING OF ELMSTED PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will be held in Evington Hall on Wednesday 10th December 1997 at 7.00 pm. A full meeting agenda will be displayed on the noticeboards a few days before the meeting takes place.

Keith Griffiths (Parish Clerk)

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

The Magazine Committee would like to thank Evington Players for their donation to the magazine and their continued support over the years.

SEASON'S GREETINGS



Paul and Jenny send greetings for Christmas and the New Year to all the parishioners.

The last three months, since leaving the Vicarage at Hastingleigh, have passed very quickly -most probably because Paul is very busy in the parishes and Jenny in the garden.

We very much appreciated having so many of you with us for the Installation at Biddenden. It has been lovely to have friends visit us here -please do call in if you are in the area, we promise not to get you digging!!



COMRIE, PERTHSHIRE December 1997

Despite being away for over 14 years now our time at Hastingleigh Stores remains among our most cherished memories - and so to all of you who still remember us our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy year to follow.

Elsie & Keith Noakes



TO ALL OUR GOOD FRIENDS
AND NEIGHBOURS WHO SAVE
NEWSPAPERS FOR OUR
FOUR LEGGED FRIENDS

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR

BARBARA AND LYNNE
AND ALL AT:-
WYNCOT KENNELS





Christian
Youth in
Stone
Street



Stone Street now has its own Christian Youth Groups.

CYSS-AM (pronounced KISS-A.M.) is an 'Activity Meeting' for school years 7 - 9 (Secondary 1st - 3rd yr) and meets every Tuesday evening from 6.30 to 8.30 in Waltham Village Hall.

CYSS-FM is a Fellowship Meeting' for school year 10 (Secondary 4th yr) and above, meeting every Sunday evening from 8 till 10 at the Rectory in Stelling Minnis.

Please make your teenagers aware of the groups - we already have over 20 in each group. Phone Paul Filmer on 01227-709884 for further information.



FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA

	Hastingleigh	Elmsted
December 6th-13th	Mrs Bracher Mrs Young	Mrs Browning Mrs Jeffries
December 20th-27th	Mrs Bowes Mrs Mose	Mrs Wood Mrs Hayden
January 3rd-10th	Mrs Bacon Mrs Gorell-Barnes	Mrs Nichols Mrs Jakeman
January 17th-24th	Mrs Ball Mrs Barkaway	Mrs Fletcher Mrs Pearce

SEARCHWORD

NAMES USED FOR OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

SAMUEL
JOSHUA
RUTH
EZRA
NEHEMIAH

ESTHER
JOB
ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
EZEKIEL

DANIEL
HOSEA
JOEL
AMOS
OBADIAH

JONAH
MICAH
NAHUM
HABAKKUK

ZEPHANIAH
HAGGAI
ZECHARIAH
MALACHI

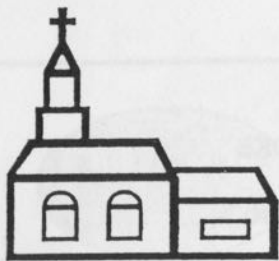
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J	Z	Q	A	D	H	H	A	E	S	O	H



EVINGTON HALL COMMITTEE

The Hall Committee would like to thank everyone for supporting the coffee morning at the beginning of November, held to collect items for the Christmas Bazaar. In addition, a handsome sum of £180.20 was raised from the sale of cakes, raffle and bric-a-brac. The outcome of the Bazaar will be reported in the next issue of Community News. There will be a Jumble Sale on Saturday 31st January 1998 at 2.30 pm in Evington Hall. Offers of jumble and help would be much appreciated. To arrange to leave jumble or for collection contact Avis Ball (750231) or Sheila Burrage (750375)

S.B



SERVICES IN DECEMBER **St. Mary the Virgin, Hastingsleigh**

December 14th	11am	Holy Communion ASB	Rev R. Bateman
December 21st	11am	Holy Communion ASB	Rev A. Soar
December 24th	4pm	Crib Service	Rev J. Hewes
December 24th	11.15pm	Midnight Mass	Rev A. Soar
December 28th	9.30am	Holy Communion BCP	Rev J. Hewes

SERVICES IN DECEMBER **St. James The Great, Elmsted**

December 7th	9.30am	Christingle Family Service	Rev P. Filmer
December 14th	9.30am	Holy Communion ASB	Rev A. Soar
December 21st	6pm	Carol Service	Sylvia Geen
December 25th	9.30am	Family Communion	Rev J. Hewes

Mid week communion Wednesday 3rd & Wednesday 17th at 8.15am
Evensong Wednesday 3rd & Wednesday 17th at 5pm in the church.

Prayer Group on Wednesday 10th at 4.30pm followed by Evensong at 5pm at Maxted Street Farm (Pam Cameron)

December 14th and 21st Sunday Seekers 9.30 am Evington Hall

SERVICES IN JANUARY 1998 **St. Mary the Virgin, Hastingsleigh**

January 11th	11am	Holy Communion ASB
January 18th	11am	Holy Communion ASB
January 25th	9.30am	Holy Communion BCP Rev J. Hewes



SERVICES IN JANUARY 1998 **St. James The Great, Elmsted**

January 4th	9.30am	Family Service	Rev P. Filmer
January 11th	9.30am	Holy Communion ASB	Rev A. Soar
January 18th	9.30am	Holy Communion ASB	Rev J. Hewes
January 25th	5.00pm	Sung Evensong	Pauline Round

Mid week communion Wednesday 7th & Wednesday 21st at 8.15 am

Evensong on Wednesday 21st at 5pm in the Church.

Prayer Group on Wednesday 14th and Wednesday 28th at 4.30pm followed by Evensong at 5pm at Maxted Street Farm (Pam Cameron)

There will be no Evensong on Wednesday 7th January.

January 18th Sunday Seekers 9.30 am Evington Hall

DECEMBER



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

3rd	Wednesday	Elmsted Church Cleaning	10 am
4th	Thursday	Art Group, Evington Hall W.I Meeting, Evington Hall	9.30 am 7 pm
6th	Saturday	Christmas Concert Upper Hardres Church	7 pm
7th	Sunday	Christingle Service St James the Great, Elmsted	9.30 am
8th	Monday	Wye Cylce collection, Evington Hall	8.30am-10am
9th	Tuesday	Evington Gardeners Meeting Evington Hall	7.30 pm
10th	Wednesday	Elmsted Parish Council Meeting Evington Hall	7 pm
11th	Thursday	Art Group, Evington Hall Elham Valley Lions Christmas Float	9.30 am Evening
12th	Friday	Whist Drive, Evington Hall	7.30 pm
14th	Sunday	Sunday Seekers, Evington Hall Footpath Walk, Evington Hall	9.30 am 2 pm
16th	Tuesday	Carol Singing in Elmsted - meet at church	7 pm
19th	Friday	Christmas Concert & Supper St Mary's Hastingleigh & Evington Hall	7 pm

21st	Sunday	Sunday Seekers, Evington Hall Carol Service St James the Great, Elmsted	9.30 am 6 pm
24th	Wednesday	Crib Service, Hastingleigh	4 pm
31st	Wednesday	Chiropody Clinic, Evington Hall	



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY

1st	Thursday	"Mince-pie" walk, Cold Blow Farm	11 am
6th	Tuesday	Supper Discussion Talk Bulltown House	7.30 pm
8th	Thursday	Art Group, Evington Hall W.I Meeting, Evington Hall	9.30 am 7.30 pm
9th	Friday	Whist Drive, Evington Hall	7.30 pm
12th	Monday	Wye Cycle Collection, Evington Hall	8.30am-10am
15th	Thursday	Art Group, Evington Hall	9.30 am
18th	Sunday	Sunday Seekers, Evington Hall	9.30 am
20th	Tuesday	Evington Gardeners Meeting Evington Hall	7.30 pm
22nd	Thursday	Art Group, Evington Hall	9.30 am
28th	Wednesday	Chiropody Clinic, Evington Hall	
29th	Thursday	Art Group, Evington Hall	9.30 am
31st	Saturday	Hall Jumble Sale, Evington Hall	2.30 pm



HASTINGLEIGH WITH ELMSTED W.I

At the 72nd Annual meeting on 6th November Mrs Freda Nancollas was re-elected President. Other officers will be announced next month. The Treasurer's report showed a slight reduction in capital. It was decided to make extra efforts at fund raising in the coming year. The Secretary was able to tell of the usual busy and successful 12 months.

In her address Mrs Nancollas said how much she had enjoyed her Presidency. She thanked everyone for their support. There is a very happy atmosphere within the Institute and all work well together. Especially singled out for thanks were Di Mose (Secretary) Jill Argar (Treasurer) and Jean Bowes who runs the whist drives and helps in many other ways.

Fifty per-cent of members now hold certificates from the Life Saving Support Course and are proficient in the A.B.C of saving life.

The recent jumble sale made a profit of £76.88. Several surplus hand-bags were collected and are to be sent to Customs and Excise who use them when training drug sniffer dogs.

Nominations were made for the Federation Executive Committee. Eileen Parrett told of the dinner at Hothfield to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the forming of the Women's Institute and Marion Collins reported on the Council Meeting at Folkestone.

Jean Bowes won the flower of the month competition.

Members were reminded that the December meeting will start at 7pm and that contributions are needed for the Christmas Hamper.

Eileen Parrett

AGE CONCERN ELHAM RURAL

Hospital Release Scheme

Invicta Lifeline have introduced a new scheme to help vulnerable patients being discharged from hospital. Any patients discharged from a hospital in Kent will be eligible for a free Lifeline operating 24 hours a day for four weeks. For more information contact Age Concern - Mrs Sheila Woods on 01303 862364.

Age Concern Elham Rural wishes everyone A Very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year.

Sheila Woods (Area Organiser)

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP?

One of my hobbies is collecting postcards, in particular ones depicting our local villages (Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Waltham and Petham). As you can imagine they are few and far between. I enjoy spending time sorting through boxes of cards in junk shops, fairs etc.

I even found one in the local market while visiting my brother in Lincolnshire. It is of 'The cricket ground and park Evington Place, Elmsted' and was posted in Wye in 1914 to somewhere in Kent, but most of the writing which was in pencil has faded.

One postcard or photograph I would particularly like to find is of the old school at Waltham which used to be on Church Hill next to the churchyard.

I collect both old and modern, used and unused cards.

In the early part of this century, with very limited means of communication the postcard seems to have been used widely to inform family and friends of impending visits or thanking them for their hospitality and informing them of their safe return home.

If anyone has any local postcards that they no longer require, please contact me:

Pat Wood at Ittinge Farm, Elmsted - Telephone no. 750282

AGE
Concern

Parish Newsletter.

Drinking and driving, when will people learn? I think this poem says more than I ever could. Together, lets make it happen.

Death of the innocent.

I went to a party, mum; I remembered what you said.
You told me not to drink, mum, so I drank soda instead.
I really felt proud inside, mum, the way you said I would.
I didn't drink and drive, mum, though the others said I should.
I know I did the right thing, mum, I know your always right.
Now the party is ending, mum, as everyone is driving out of sight.

As I got into my car, mum, I knew I'd get home in one piece.
Because of the way you raised me, so responsible and sweet.
I started driving away, mum, but as I pulled into the road.
The other car didn't see me, mum, and hit me like a load.
As I lay here on the pavement, mum, I hear the policeman say,
The other guy is drunk, mum, and now I'm the one who will pay.
I'm lying here dying, mum, I wish you'd get here soon.

How could this happen to me, mum? My life just burst like a balloon.
There is blood all around me, mum, and most of it is mine.
I hear the Medic say, mum, I'll die in a short time.
I just want to tell you, mum, I swear I didn't drink.
It was the others, mum The others did not think.
He was probably at the same party as I
The only difference is, he drank and I will die.

Why do people drink, mum? it can ruin your whole life.
I'm feeling sharp pains now. Pains just like a knife.
The guy who hit me is walking, mum, and I don't think it's fair.
I'm lying here dying and all he can do is stare.

Tell my brother not to cry, mum, tell daddy to be brave.
and when I go to heaven, mum, put 'Daddy's girl' on my grave.
Someone should have told him , mum, not to drink and drive.
If only they had told him, mum, I would still be alive.

My breath is getting shorter, mum, I'm becoming very scared.
Please don't cry for me, mum, when I needed you, you were always there.
I have one last question, mum, before I say goodbye.
I didn't drink and drive, mum, so why am I the one to die?

Let everyone enjoy their own Christmas time, DO NOT drink and drive.

Dave Pollard

Community Inspector, North Weald

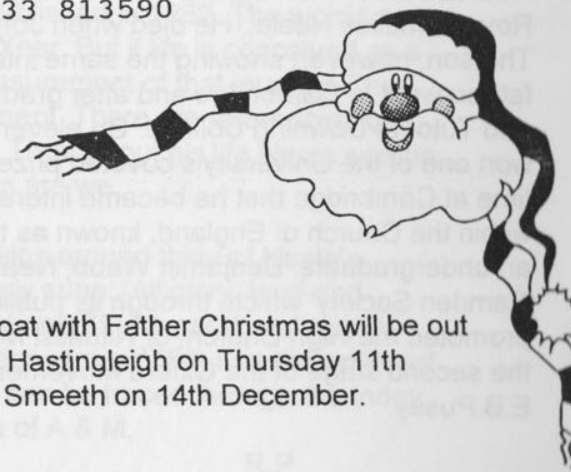
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Elham Valley Lions Christmas float with Father Christmas will be out and about in East Brabourne and Hastingleigh on Thursday 11th December and in Brabourne and Smeeth on 14th December.

HYMN WRITER OF THE MONTH

The intention of this article and following ones throughout the year is to present a monthly pen portrait of a hymn writer whose birthday occurred within the current month. Unless stated otherwise hymn numbers refer to the hymn book used by our Benefice which is Hymns Ancient and Modern New Standard. This month the hymn writer is:

John Mason Neale b. London 24 January 1818 d. 1866

Hymn 208 O happy band of pilgrims
 if onward ye would tread
 With Jesus as your fellow
 to Jesus as your head

In a busy, relatively short and far from easy life, John Mason Neale is remembered for two outstanding achievements. The first can be seen at East Grinstead in Sussex - the Convent of the Sisterhood of St. Margaret, an Order he founded at Rotherfield, then eventually moving to its present location. The second achievement is the immense contribution he made to English hymnody. His total output of hymns was around 400. A few were original compositions, although only a handful are in common use today. The main bulk of Neale's genius is revealed in his translations of early Latin and Greek hymns. It is a selection of these that predominate in Neale's contribution to our hymn books. Such was his skill as translator, that, when it came to the Latin hymns, he retained the original metre in order for the English words to be sung to the ancient plainsong.

How about the man behind these achievements? His father was the Rev. Cornelius Neale. He died when John was only five years old. The son, however, showing the same intellectual prowess as his father, went to Cambridge and after graduation was elected a Fellow and Tutor at Downing College. On eleven consecutive occasions he won one of the University's coveted prizes in poetry. It was during his time at Cambridge that he became interested in the Catholic movement within the Church of England, known as the Oxford Movement. With an undergraduate, Benjamin Webb, Neale founded the 'Cambridge Camden Society' which, through its publication of 'The Ecclesiologist', promoted the High Church, or Ritualist Movement associated with the second stage of the Oxford Movement whose apostle was E.B. Pusey.

Neale's life seems to have become problematical when he left the safe confines of his Cambridge college. He became incumbent of Crawley, Sussex, in 1843, having married and, as was the rule in those days, relinquishing his Fellowship. He was not long at Crawley; ill health forced him to resign and he had a long convalescence until, in 1846, Lord Delaware presented him to the Wardenship of Sackville College, East Grinstead. The old buildings still remain in the High Street. Here Neale stayed until the end of his life. It was here that he produced much of his amazing literary work. But another problem was confronted, this time in the person of the Bishop of Chichester. It was still a risky business to tamper with the Church's worship for the purposes of introducing Catholic ritual. Neale's active support of ritualism had become bothersome to the bishop and he issued a prohibition on Neale which lasted fourteen years. Nonetheless, with other leading lights of the Catholic Revival, Neale was able to spearhead the movement nationally. At Sackville College he used much of his time concentrating his efforts on the small group of sisters at Rotherfield, ably supported by the Rector's daughter ministering to the sick and needy. After removal to East Grinstead in 1856, and prior to the building of the Convent, the work progressed with the founding of an orphanage, a school for girls and a House for fallen women at Aldershot. Even so, things were not easy. There were always mobs, vehemently against the ritualists, that made the work far from easy. On one occasion a mob attacked a funeral of one of the sisters taking place at Lewes.

The hymn, 'O happy band of pilgrims', although one of his original compositions, was heavily influenced by an ancient Greek hymn by one Joseph the Hymnographer, a ninth century monk who founded a monastery in Constantinople. The hymn is included in Neale's 'Hymns of the Eastern Church' published in 1862. The words are not usually associated with New Year. But if life is conceived as a pilgrimage, another year is a measurement of that journey. The hymn gives plenty of encouragement. There are references to suffering and deprivation as well. Throughout his life Neale was no stranger to these. Neither at times are we.

Hymns A&M New Standard contains around thirty of Neale's translations. Some are still regularly sung; 'All glory, laud and honour' (60), 'The day of resurrection!' (75), 'A great and mighty wonder' (43). 'The royal banners forward go' (58) has the option of the plainsong setting. The others can be traced through the index of authors in the full music edition of A & M.

Autumn's Feast

Fungi arise, early the morn,
Shimmering in low shot sun
Up and about since break of the dawn,
These new lives have begun.

Late-picked round and swollen chestnuts,
Fresh gathered from the Grove;
Such harbingers of Autumn,
That bedeck November's stove

And there and here and here and there
The Squirrels' nuts from the Cob,
That on a day as this, so fair,
It seems a shame to rob.

But God is good and God is kind,
His larder's overflowing;
Thus in a year or ten from now
Our faith should still be growing.



BM
Autumn 1997

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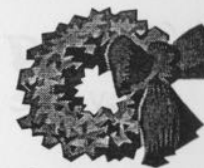
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Saturday, 10th January 1998 Bach : Christmas Oratorio Parts
1, 2 & 3

Saturday, 21st March 1998
Beethoven : Coriolanus Overture
Mozart : Ave Verum
Schubert : Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished"
Mozart : Requiem

Saturday, 20th June 1998
Finzi : For St. Cecilia
Rodrigo : Concierto d'Aranjuez
Ireland : Greater Love hath no Man
Debussy : Clair de Lune
Fauré : Cantique de Jean Racine
Holst : The Hymn of Jesus

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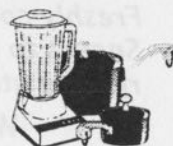
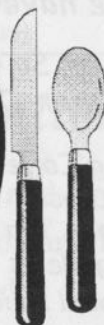
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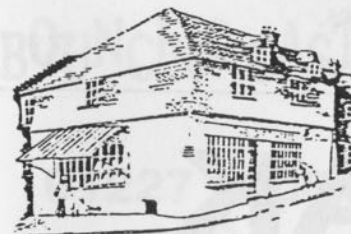
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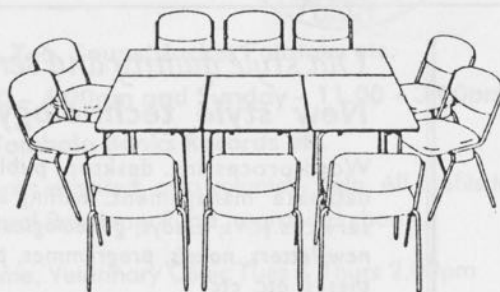
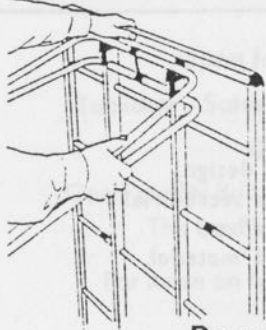
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