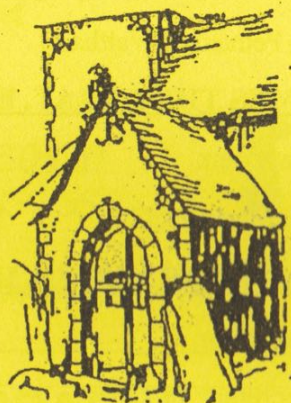


*Elmsted with Hastingleigh*

# *Community News*

*St. James the Great*  
*Elmsted*



*St. Mary The Virgin*  
*Hastingleigh*

*June 2013    40p*



## THE UNITED WYE BENEFICE

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01233 812450

Ravi.Holy@wyebenefice.org.uk

### **Associate Priest**

Revd. Madi Strong

(with special responsibility

The Vicarage, Hastingleigh

For the parishes of Hastingleigh,

01233 750260

Elmsted, Petham & Waltham)

Madi.Strong@wyebenefice.org.uk

## ST. JAMES THE GREAT, ELMSTED

Churchwarden:

Mr Chris Jeffery

01233 750223

Hon. Secretary PCC:

Mrs Ann Burton

01233 750430

## ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, HASTINGLEIGH

Churchwarden:

Mrs Roz Bacon

01233 750327

Hon. Secretary PCC:

Mrs Selina Farnfield

01233 750450

## PARISH WEBSITES

[www.elmstedpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.elmstedpc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

[www.hastingleighpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.hastingleighpc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

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4, The Bowl Field, Hastingleigh

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01233 750072

Little Gains Cottage, TN25 5JU

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

[elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk)

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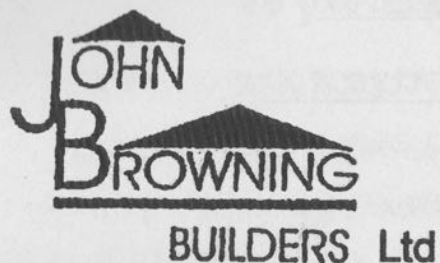
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**Sat 6th July  
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**Bodsham  
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# BODSHAM SUMMER FAIR

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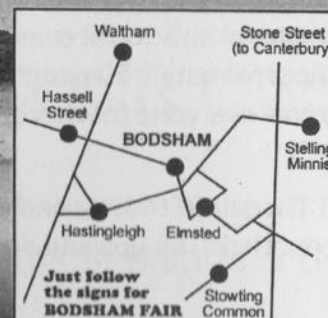
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### FOOTPATH WALK

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of May five walkers set off on a sunny but breezy afternoon. We went past the football field and through the woods, admiring the bluebells and wood anemones. The wild garlic smelt strongly and the first white flowers were just showing. As the path to Shrub's Wood rose steeply there were clumps of wild violets, celandine and stitchwort on the banks. We took the path to the left through meadows filled with bluebells and primroses. We skirted the wood, crossed the Bodsham Road and walked round the edge of the field before crossing the Waltham Road and continuing towards Park Wood where we saw a pair of Buzzards. The steep banks of Park Wood were covered in bluebells and we turned left up the rise towards Hassell Street, stopping to take in the view towards Crundale.

We turned right at Hassell Street and opposite the last cottage took the footpath to the bottom of the field and turned left passing banks of cowslips before joining the bridle path past Little Coombe. We then turned left along the edge of Newlands Woods, back over the Waltham Road, through the woods and across the field where red campion were in flower, towards the football field again. As we neared the dip, eight deer ran from the back of Beckett's Close across the field and into the woods. A wonderful end to a walk through beautiful countryside.

V. K

### HASTINGLEIGH WITH ELMSTED WI

Thirteen members met for their WI 88th birthday meeting on Thursday 2nd May at the Devils Kneading Trough near Wye.

We discussed the Resolution which was passed by a majority and then enjoyed a very pleasant meal.

We also held a very enjoyable Meal and Social evening on Friday 10th May in aid of Kent Air Ambulance. Approximately 50 people attended our annual fund raiser and our thanks go to everyone for coming to support us and the charity.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 6th June and the speaker will be Mr John Yarrow with a talk entitled "The ups and downs of a wedding photographer"

CC

THE GUILD OF ST. JOHN OF BEVERLEY FOR THE DEAF

## ANNUAL SUMMER BARBECUE EVENT



Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Food served from 5pm – 8pm

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## A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF HASTINGLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL ON 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2013

There was some discussion over the future of Parish Councils and what the "devolution of power" really means to us as a Parish Council.

The correspondence had been circulated and it was agreed that, following their email, the Parish Council would invite Biffa to attend the AGM.

William Howard reported that there will be a bi-election for the leaders seat in May. He has funding available for community grants in 2014 of up to £500 per village - Hastingleigh is welcome to submit an application for funding.

The issue surrounding planning applications was discussed. William Howard is to be contacted regarding any applications that the Parish Council has a strong feeling over, he is happy for parishioners to contact him if there is a problem they do not wish to be named over.

If you walk your dog in the area, please be considerate to others and dispose of your dog waste responsibly.

THANK YOU!



## SPRING FAIR 2013

The Evington Community Project held its ninth Spring Fair on 6th May at the Football Field, Hastingleigh. The weather was just perfect with sunshine all day and a temperature of over 20°C. The turnout was terrific and it was great to see so many people enjoying themselves.

We raised the amazing sum of just under £1,300 after expenses, our best ever 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 Bodsham School Choir for entertaining us and the Art Group for organizing a splendid Art and Craft exhibition in the Evington Hall during the afternoon.

RH

Evington Community Project

### ADVANCE NOTICE

#### Completion of the Boundary Lane Renovation Project

As you may have noticed, Boundary Lane (the lane leading to the Football Field) has recently been renovated, thanks to grants obtained by ECP from KCC and Awards for All, part of the Big Lottery Fund. The Official Opening of the improved Boundary Lane will take place on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

**at 12 noon.** All residents of Bodsham, Elmsted and Hastingleigh will shortly receive an invitation to attend.

Please make a note in your diary.



## NEWS FROM WYE SURGERY

The measles outbreak will I suspect become an epidemic. It serves as an interesting example of the complacency with which we treat once common diseases which have been suppressed by immunisation of the population.

Measles is one of the most transmissible diseases and is passed on from mucus droplets in saliva and nasal secretions. It is only suppressed in a population where 90% of the populace is immunised, an unusually high requirement, other diseases are much less easy to contract.

Because of Andrew Wakefields very poor publication that was picked up by the media, the number of children immunised fell sharply and we are now reaping the results.

Otherwise intelligent people are heard to claim 'well it didn't do me/my children (delete as appropriate) any harm'. My answer would be, how do you know. Many people develop permanent lung damage in the form of bronchiectasis which may manifest in later life. Others get more immediate complications, an otherwise fit 25 year old man died in the welsh outbreak and others are likely to die. Other complications include inflammation of the brain, pneumonia and a late complication occurs several years later in the form of a fatal brain disease SSPE. Otherwise it's just a really unpleasant illness for those lucky enough to get an uncomplicated form of the disease.

Diseases do not disappear, the only known exception is smallpox which was eradicated by immunisation worldwide. What they do is circulate in a community at low level without causing symptoms because of immunity and when the levels of immunity drop they reappear. There are outbreaks of polio, typhoid and diphtheria in the world where immunity is low.

There is an awful lot of ill-informed gibberish from plausible commentators with axes to grind on the Internet and a suggestion of complicity in an evil scheme by doctors aimed at injuring children with their evil vaccines. Others suggest homeopathy can immunise your children, a criminal untruth with no evidence base. HOMEOPATHY does NOT immunise! It may help in other ways but if your homeopath suggests they can immunise report them to their governing body.



## VILLAGE TRIP TO FRANCE OR BELGIUM

We are hoping to resurrect the Village Trip to France or Belgium on 14th September this year. There are two possible destinations for the visit:

- a) Gravelines, which is a small town located between Calais and Dunkerque just inland from the North Sea coast of France (about a 40 minute drive from Calais)
- b) Bruges in Belgium (about a 1hr 45 min drive from Calais)

We would travel by coach from Evington Hall, departing around 7.30 am and returning around 8.30 pm. We would stop at a French supermarket on the return journey, as usual.

The cost would be approximately £20 per adult, children 16 and under travel free.

If you are interested in coming on this trip, then please could you let Robin Helmer know as soon as possible, stating how many adults and children and whether you would prefer to visit Gravelines or Bruges. The actual destination will depend on which is the most popular choice.

Robin Helmer

Tel: 01233 750236

Email: Robin.Helmer@btinternet.com



## HIGHLIGHTS from United Wye Benefice

During the month of April, I spent quite a bit of time looking back over the last year (bearing in mind that church years, like tax years, run from April to April) and having done that, the following is a list of highlights (in chronological order). Obviously, lots of these happened in Wye church but equally, some, such as the confirmation service were very much benefice events...

18th May 2012: Jo Brand in conversation with the Reverend Richard Coles. What an evening that was! As Richard said afterwards, a fresh expression of church if ever there was one. And it raised nearly £5,000 for church funds. I was very grateful to Linda for arranging it in the first place, Karen Mitcalfe for project-managing it (superbly) and to Jo and Richard themselves for doing it free of charge. And we hope to put on similar events in the future.

3rd June: Jubilee service in Wye. A joyful day which we will never forget thanks to the great photo Richard Bartley took of us in our red, white and blue outfits. God save the Queen!

9th June: The wedding of supermodel Jacquetta Wheeler at Chilham Castle. Technically, this was nothing to do with the Wye benefice but it was still part of my ministry in the deanery. And I had my picture taken with Vivienne Westwood (which subsequently appeared in both the U.K. and the U.S. editions of Vogue, as I may have mentioned before...).

27th October: Wendy White-Thompson's 80th Birthday Party. A musical extravaganza master-minded by Mark Deller, Matthew King and Wendy herself. A real family celebration and just the sort of thing that should be happening in church, in my opinion. The only question is, why can't a woman be more like a man...?!

12th November: The launch of the Heal For Life Foundation in the U.K. This fantastic event took place at the London offices of Saatchi and Saatchi (thanks to Lucy and Francis Huntington's son, Richard, who is the Director of Strategy there). Over sixty people attended and we have since run our first 'healing week' for adult survivors of childhood abuse and trauma which was a great success and we will be running another in September. We are also planning an evening event for people in the benefice who would like to know more about the project but we are very grateful for the generous support we've had already (both prayerful and financial).

29th November: Confirmation service. Seven adults (one from Brook, two from Waltham and four from Wye) were confirmed by Bishop Trevor who said that adult confirmations are one of the best indicators that the church is alive and well and growing. Can we beat seven this year? If you or any of your family or friends would like to take your faith to the next level, I'd love to hear from you...

24th December: New, improved Crib service in Wye. Deputy Churchwarden, Alex Harris, and Warden, Ali Poole revamped the already-popular crib service to make it even better. Obviously, we still had Jane Gow's fantastic youth orchestra but the service was much shorter. At first, I was worried it was now too short but literally everyone I spoke to said it was just right so I'm delighted to have been wrong!

10th March 2013: Mothering Sunday service in Wye. As well as being a great service all round, Kevin Rall gave an incredibly-moving sermon honouring his mother, Clare, who had died literally a fortnight beforehand. I felt proud to be part of such an open and loving community and know that the sermon was hugely appreciated by all who heard it.

21st March: The enthronement of our new Archbishop. Like several of you, I was present in the cathedral for this historic event. I know there's already too many Old Etonians in positions of power (Prime Minister, Mayor of London, Vicar of Wye) but I think ++Justin will prove himself to be a worthy successor to ++Rowan and I'm looking forward to his first visit to Wye...

30th March: Holy Saturday in Elmsted. A great service with lots of (appropriate and cheerful) noise (bells, whistles, drums etc) followed by hot chocolate and fireworks. This should definitely become a tradition...

31st March: Easter Sunday in Wye. The biggest festival of the Christian year and another wonderful service. It was great to have both our fantastic choir and Jo Rall's worship band in the same service and someone who was worshipping in Wye for the first time told me afterwards that they'd never been to a service where the whole breadth of the Church of England was so visible with (pretty much) something for everyone. Again, I felt proud to be part of such an inclusive community and want to see this 'unity in diversity'

continue and develop. To paraphrase one of my favourite parts of the communion service, 'Though we are many [and have different tastes and styles] we are one body; because we all share in one bread'.

So, that's the highlights; but two very sad things happened this year as well. To deal with them in reverse order of both chronology and scale: in March, Madi informed me of her decision to stand down as House for Duty Priest in the Benefice. Clearly, she will be very hard to replace (in two senses). However, I am convinced that she has made the right decision for her and that God will provide. Meanwhile, she has done a fantastic job in the nearly three years that she has been in the role and I have learnt a huge amount from her. Please pray for her as she begins a new chapter in her life and ministry.

However, it's hard to see the positive side of our beloved Dickie's diagnosis of terminal cancer back in July - although, having said that, how fantastic that she has continued to bless us with her ministry for so long. And I know that the way she has responded to her illness has been a real inspiration to many people; including me. I also know that she and Pete feel hugely supported by all of you so please keep doing exactly what you have been doing and let's all be grateful for every day we have because all of us are, ultimately, in the same position: we only have this day; this moment; so, as a popular prayer puts it, may God grant us the wisdom and the grace to use aright the time that is left to us on earth - however long that may be.

Ravi Holy



## Plan-It Ashford: Planning our Future together

Ashford Borough Council is embarking on the process of reviewing its adopted Core Strategy (which will now be known as Local Plan). The new plan will look forward to the year 2030 and will need to identify and address many diverse and complex challenges over this period.

However, unlike with previous Local Plans, this time we have no jobs or housing targets set out for us in advance. The council wants to work closely with parish councils to get a better understanding of any particular local issues that they feel will need to be addressed over the next 15 years. The role of the parish council is crucial in this and we want to build on any existing work undertaken previously (e.g. village design statement).

Taking the lead from an award-winning idea from Winchester, we have created a set of 'characters' to represent a cross section of a local community – all with different situations and issues that need to be addressed. The idea is that people can use these characters to communicate their own aspirations but also think about issues that might affect others in their community.

**Hastingleigh Parish Council will be discussing this at their meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 7.45. Please come along and add your aspirations, this is your chance to make a difference to the future of your village....**



## BOUGHTON ALUPH OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 16 June 12.30 – 5.30pm

Come and spend a delightful afternoon in this lovely old village, visiting some spectacular gardens. You can start anywhere, but probably best to start on the Green at Boughton Lees (TN25 4HX) where you can obtain your ticket and map and make your way along the Pilgrims' Way towards All Saints church, dropping in on gardens on the way. And to cap it all, wonderful teas will be served in the church from 3pm.

Tickets and map (on the Green or at any garden) £4, under 16s free.

Plenty of parking at the church. Phone 01233 623761, 640357 or 610479 if you require any further information.

Proceeds in aid of All Saints Church Restoration Fund

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[www.lordwhisky.co.uk](http://www.lordwhisky.co.uk)

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A fun evening suitable for over 12s - £3 to include tea/coffee





CANTERBURY CHORAL SOCIETY

## CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

BRITTEN *Company of Heaven*

VAUGHAM WILLIAMS *Lark Ascending and An Oxford Elegy*

Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm

Canterbury Choral Society and the Youth Choir will perform Britten's *Company of Heaven* and Vaughan Williams's *Lark Ascending* and *An Oxford Elegy* at Canterbury Cathedral on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 7.30pm. They are marking the centenary of the birth of Benjamin Britten, probably the finest of all British Composers. *Company of Heaven* was originally composed for the BBC and was first broadcast in 1937 at the outbreak of war – it was lost for 50 years and rediscovered in the 1990's and performed at Aldeburgh. **Many famous poets and writers text is contained within the piece** including words by John Milton, John Ruskin, Emily Bronte and William Blake.

*Lark Ascending* was sketched by Vaughan Williams whilst watching troop ships cross the English Channel at the outbreak of the first world war. He was observed and arrested as he was thought to be jotting down secret code. The work was premiered in London in 1921 and conducted by Sir Adrian Boult. The piece is probably one most popular works ever – chosen by Desert Island Discs as its number one choice and by Classic FM audience on two occasions as the most popular piece of Classical Music. The solo violinist for this piece will be Juliette Roos, one of the String Finalists in the 2012 BBC Young Musicians of the Year. *An Oxford Elegy* also has some narration and some of the text is from Matthew Arnold's *The Scholar Gypsy* and *Thyrsis*.

Soloists for this concert will be Nazan Fikret who studied at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She made her operatic debut at the age of thirteen as Flora in Britten's *The Turning of the Screw* which she also played for her debut performance at The English National Opera in the acclaimed David McVicar Production.

The tenor roles will be sung by Bradley Smith, recently graduated from St John's College, Cambridge. During his time there he was appointed as Musical Director of the internationally renowned ensemble The Gentlemen of St John's.

Tickets available from The Marlowe Box Office, 01227 787787

[marlowetheatre@marlowtheatre.com](mailto:marlowetheatre@marlowtheatre.com).

Further information on Choral Society [www.canterburychoral.co.uk](http://www.canterburychoral.co.uk)

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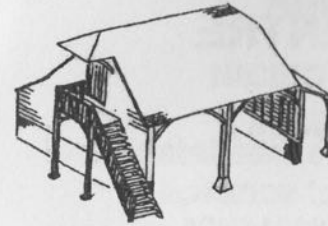
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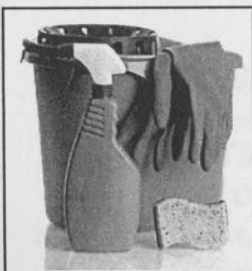
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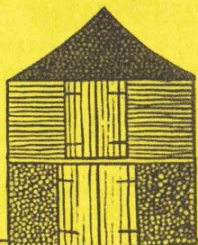
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