

Elmsted with Hastingleigh Community News

*St James the Great
Elmsted*



*St Mary the Virgin
Hastingleigh*

September 2018

40p



Elmsted and Hastingleigh Community Contacts

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Hastingleigh Parish Council

Tracey Block 01233 750415

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(www.evingtonhall.org.uk)

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bookings@evingtonhall.org.uk

Evington Hall Committee Hon Sec

Mrs H French 01233 750483

ECP Hon Sec

Mrs S Boxall 01233 750206

Evington Gardeners Hon Sec

Mrs H Ransley 01233 720152

Evington Community Choir

Mrs C Jeffery 01233 750585

Art Group

Mrs V Kerry 01227 700843

Footpath Walks

Mr D Harris 01233 813711

Women's Institute

Mrs J Bowes 01233 811875

Parent and Toddler Group

Mrs N Phipps 01233 750221

Neighbourhood Watch Hastingleigh

Mr G Block 01233 750415

Neighbourhood Watch Elmsted

Mr J Argar 01233 750311



September

in Elmsted with Hastingleigh

As we reach the beginning of September summer is already turning into Autumn, the leaves on our maples are already starting to turn. The Hastingleigh footpath walks will recommence in October, so if you fancy an enjoyable walk check out page 15. On the 5th October, what promises to be an interesting talk on the lead up to the end of WWI, and the fine balance trod as to who would win, will be taking place at Evington Hall, see page 9 for details. A new style family communion service will be taking place at Petham Church on the 23rd September, and every fourth Sunday after, page 17. The ride and stride for Kent churches is taking place on the 8th September, page 21. As always letters, articles and comments are very welcome.

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Submissions

The *Community News* takes no responsibility for misleading advertising or incorrect editorial supplied to us in good faith.

Please provide any promotional or editorial content in Word format rather than pdf. For length, grammar and style issues the Editor reserves the right to edit it.

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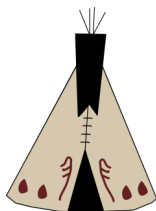
Most aspects of Household and Garden Maintenance

References available

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Hastingleigh with Elmsted Women's Institute

An evening of crafts

Hastingleigh with Elmsted W.I. met on Thursday the 2nd of August 2018 at the Evington Hall.

16 members attended, and we also welcomed 2 guests.

We discussed various items of business before having an interesting evening of show and tell, based around crafts that various members pursue, either currently or in the past. One member showed the group a large array of beautifully crafted items, from a stunning knitted jacket from a Kaffe Fassett pattern to glass pictures to carved wooden items. Another member showed some papercutting pieces, cutting intricate designs in paper with a very sharp scalpel. We

also had items that had been crocheted, decopatch items, button art and a sugar paste flower that was extremely realistic. It was a very interesting evening.

On the 20th July members of the WI met for a craft workshop on Papercutting. A member of the group, Marie Wenham, demonstrated the technique and then all attendees had a go at a practice sheet, then cut and framed a teapot design, with kind permission from the designer Digital Gems. Everyone did a wonderful job and there were a couple of members who found a new hobby to take up.

The Flower of the Month winner for August was Mrs Barbara George with a stunning gladioli.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday the 6th September at 7.30 p.m., in the Evington Hall, where we will be having a talk on The Eye and the Tongue (women are such good story tellers).

Any new members will be made most welcome.

Marie Wenham



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Parish Upon The Hills

Well, as I sit here, listening to the rain battering the windows and the trees whipping about in the wind, it's hard to imagine that just a couple of days ago, it was searingly hot, and the grass was brown. All the plants looked desperately droopy and the kids pool looked incredibly inviting!

These, however, are the vagaries of the British summer and by now I really should be used to them. The last time we had weather like this was the summer of '76', which I'm sure many of you remember. Drew and I had just sat our 'A' levels and now had three months off to enjoy before the realities of adult life kicked in.

It's really quite perturbing to realise that that summer was 42 years ago! As I watch it rain I realise that all those people who do not relish mowing, will be

groaning at the sight of the lawns greening up and fresh shoots appearing. Joy for some, disappointment for others.

Sometimes life feels a bit like a drought, we chug along, enjoying it well enough, but being stoic about the bad bits and wondering when something will break. Will the much needed rain, which my garden is loving, fall into our lives as refreshment and renewal, or just something different to feel bad or sad about?

When life gets tough, we look for someone to turn to, "a problem shared is a problem halved" as they say, and sometimes the things which bother us feel slightly less bad once we have verbalised them. Do you have someone you can trust with your problems? Many of us, these days, do not. Families can be far flung, friends can be busy or too long distance to see often, then who do we turn to?

I am aware that by now, many of you are groaning because you are thinking, "she's the vicar, so she's bound to say turn to God, isn't she?" Well actually, I'm not. Just occasionally talking to a stranger can be really freeing, but mostly they are shallow conversa-



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Parish Upon The Hills

Cont.

tions we just want to end quickly and get away!

So why would I tell you to talk to God, if he is a stranger? Many of us think of God as a Father or parent figure, but if you have no good experiences of parents, then that can be frightening and unhelpful. Some of us think of Jesus as our brother or more often a really close friend, but likewise, if you've never enjoyed a really good, close friendship with someone, that may not be helpful either.

I'm not naive enough to think that if I say turn to God, you will, if

that is not already your practice, in fact it would probably push you in the opposite direction. What I would like to encourage is to find or seek out someone who could be a really good friend. Someone you can rely on and who can rely on you. The person you instantly think of when you need a laugh, a cry, company or support. We all need friends, they are what make life enjoyable, rich and exciting. It's only when we are ready to be befriended that one will come along, and once we can recognise a good friend, then we might be just slightly more likely to notice that Christ could be one too, but only if we want him to be, and when we feel ready.

Lorraine



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A Special Talk on the Centenary of the **End of WW1**

WHO WILL WIN THE DREADFUL WAR?

by David Reece

at

Evington Hall, Hastingsleigh

Friday, 5th October at 7.30pm

David is a retired Brigadier, who served in the Intelligence Corps, working to identify and counter the threat to British interests in the UK and places as far afield as Hong Kong, Berlin and Cyprus. The talk concerns the critical balance of the First World War in its last few months: it was desperately close. An intelligence operation conceived in Folkestone, involving no more than a score of strangely-assorted individuals may have tipped the balance...

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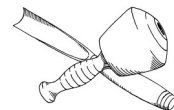
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Wye PPG

Electronic Prescriptions and Nominated Pharmacies.

You can now choose where you would like your prescription dispensed – just tell Wye surgery.

When you order a repeat prescription (in your usual way), there is now a new, hopefully more convenient system for dispensing. The doctor signs the prescription and it will then be sent electronically to your nominated pharmacy. You can change your nominated pharmacy by speaking to the pharmacy, dispensary or updating it online.

All the pharmacies are vying for business (as they do for Flu jabs) so are asking you to nominate them. You will probably have seen advertisements in supermarkets and chemists. If you live outside the village of Wye the Surgery can dispense prescriptions for you. They are keen to

keep your business as it brings in financial revenue to the surgery. There are some online services like 'Pharmacy to You', which provide a useful deliver to door service but are not connected to the NHS.

One of the advantages of this system is that if you are away from home (in England) and require a prescription, you can nominate the pharmacy in that temporary location and get your prescription there. You need to remember to change the nomination to your normal pharmacy when you are back home.

The online Patient Access holds your current information regarding prescriptions and you just have to tick which item you require, so you can order what you want, when you want it. If you are not yet signed up for Patient Access and would like to use it, speak to a Receptionist in the Surgery who will help you. When ordering your repeat prescription please remember to only tick the medicines you require, which may not be everything on the prescription !

Stay well.

Penny Haynes

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‘So they do say...!’

Graveyards are difficult to keep tidy due to the uneven ground and of course, the gravestones. But the charm of them is in the contemplation of centuries of lives gone and old gravestones. They should remain in this state however difficult maintenance becomes.

St Mary’s has a photograph album of most of the graveyard stones some of which are almost illegible by daylight, but at night,

when a torch is held sideways-on to the inscription, the lettering can clearly be seen. Curiously, even when the outer layer of stone has fallen away leaving a smooth surface, the effect of the engraving tool impresses the letters more deeply than we may realise. The torch beam at night will reveal the faint inscription. Thomas Hardy was a frequent graveyard visitor:

TW

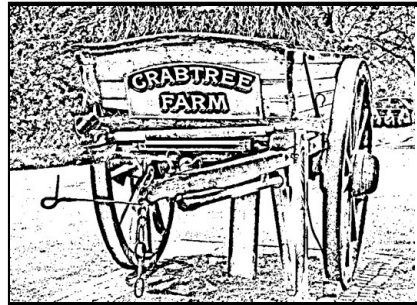
*I went by footpath and by stile
Beyond where bustle ends
Strayed here a mile and there a mile
And called upon some friends.*

*I spoke to one and other of them
By mound and stone and tree
Of things we had done ere days were dim
But they spoke not to me.*

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Hastingleigh

Footpath Walks

Well that was a sunshine summer to remember, so it's now time to look forward to the monthly walks. They all take place on the **second Sunday in the month**, beginning at **2.00 pm** normally starting from **Evington Hall**.

Details will be posted each month in the Community News including any change in the start point.

The following have kindly agreed to lead the walks

2018

- 7th October - Jean Bowes
- 11th November - Derek & Janet Harris
- 9th December - Robin & Yvonne Helmer

2019

- 1st January - Mince Pie Walk!
- 10th February - Hilary Pittock
- 10th March - Stan & Sheila Burrage
- 7th April - Helen Ransley
- 12th May - Val Kerry

If you have not been before, they usually last about two hours and provide a really convivial way to spend a Sunday afternoon, and help to keep you fit!

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Announcing a new service at a new time for

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Starting in September on Sunday the 23rd,
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This service will be for all ages,
not just children,
will include communion,
but be in a more accessible style,
with easy to engage with language
and imagery.

Do come along and join us,
there will be refreshments after,
and all are welcome.

Come and try our new service,
tell us how you found it,
and if you enjoyed it,
tell your friends.

Church services in the Parish Upon The Hills

02/09	First Sunday	09.30 - Waltham - Group service for Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Petham & Waltham
09/09	Second Sunday	08.00 - Waltham - BCP Communion 10.00 - Bodsham School - Messy Church 11.00 - Petham - Communion
16/09	Third Sunday	09.30 - Waltham - Communion 11.00 - Hastingleigh - Communion 11.00 - Petham - Family Service (no communion) 18.00 - Elmsted - Choral Evensong
23/09	Fourth Sunday	09.30 - Petham - Family Communion 11.00 - Hastingleigh - Communion
30/09	Fifth Sunday	10.30 - Wye - Benefice service at Wye Parish Church

Priest-in-charge: The Rev Ravi Holy: The Vicarage, Wye 01233 812450 ravi.holy@wyebenefice.org.uk **Associate priest:** The Rev Lorraine Lawrence (with special responsibility for Hastingleigh, Elmsted, Petham, Waltham): The Vicarage, Hastingleigh, 01233 750987 or 07894 034409 lorraine_lawrence@btinternet.com. **Churchwardens:** Mrs Bacon 01233 750327, Mrs R Doyle 01227 700296. **United Wye Benefice** 01233 813793 www.wyebenefice.org.uk

Diary Dates - September

Tues	4th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
		Library Van	09.45 - 10.15
Wed	5th	Coffee Morning	10.30 - 11.30
Thurs	6th	W.I. Meeting	19.30 - 22.00
Sat	8th	Ride & Stride (pg 21)	10.00 - 18.00
Tues	11th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
		Hastingleigh Parish Council	19.45
Weds	12th	Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00
Thurs	13th	Elmsted Parish Council	19.30
Tues	18th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
		Library Van	09.45 - 10.15
Weds	19th	Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00
Fri	21st	W.I. Workshop	10.00 - 13.00
Tues	25th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
Weds	26th	Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00

The above dates are taken from the Evington Hall website calendar
(www.evingtonhall.org.uk)

This month's church flowers and cleaning volunteers:

St Mary's

St James'

Sept 1st	Mrs Boxall	Mrs London, Ms Flitney
Sept 8th	Mrs Pell	Mrs Francesconi
Sept 15th	Mrs Young, Mrs Courtney	Mrs McFarlane
Sept 22nd	Mrs Jerrom	Mrs Hewson
Sept 29th	Mrs Bowes, Mrs Helmer	Mrs Wright
Oct 6th	Mrs Green	Mrs Thrupp



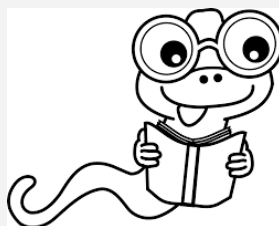
Club Draw

The latest winning numbers
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Community Project 100 club
March draw are:

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2nd Prize: No: 8

3rd Prize: No: 29



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for Churches

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Kate's Puddings

Lemon Meringue Pie

This is my husband's all-time favourite, and nobody can make it as well as his mother. There are many different recipes, but hers is definitely the best – a light pastry base, tangy, sharp lemon centre and a crisp meringue top which breaks to a softness underneath....

Rich Shortcrust Pastry:

8oz/225g plain flour, pinch salt, plus 4oz/100g butter, plus 1 egg, beaten

Lemon Filling:

2 tbsps cornflour slaked with 1 tbsp water

½ pint/300ml hot water

4oz/110g caster sugar

2 lemons, fine zest and juice

1oz/25g butter

3 egg yolks

Meringue top:

3 egg whites

6oz/150g caster sugar

Preheat the oven to 200 deg C.

Make the pastry and bake blind.

Allow the case to cool (you can do this part the day before).

Turn the oven to 160 deg C.

Heat the water in a pan.

Slake the cornflour in 1 tbsp cold water, and then add the hot water to it, before putting it all back into the pan. Add the lemon rind and juice, then the sugar. As the lemon mixture comes to the boil and thickens, add the butter and mix it in, then take the pan off the heat and add the eggs, one by one, mixing well (otherwise you get scrambled egg). If it is not already thick, put the pan back onto a gentle heat and stir the mixture until it is thick. Pour it into the pastry case.

Whisk the egg whites until stiff, then add the sugar slowly. Completely cover the pie with the meringue, making sure that none of the lemon filling can be seen. Bake for about 10-15 minutes or so until the meringue has hardened on the top but not browned – if it is starting to brown, turn the oven down further and put some foil over the top of the pie. Helen usually turns the oven off and leaves the meringue longer.

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Agricultural Museum Brook : Centre for Kent History & Heritage



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Wine reception from 6.30pm

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Canterbury Christ Church University, Longport CT1 1PL

The map as biography: maps, memory and the Kent landscape

Professor Peter Vujakovic

Professor of Geography, Canterbury Christ Church University

J. B. Harley wrote his essay 'The Map as Biography' three decades ago. While one of his lesser known works, it remains a fresh and inspiring piece of writing. This lecture takes Harley's essay as its starting point, to explore the speaker's own engagement, as a teacher, researcher and resident, with the rich history of cartography and changing landscapes of East Kent, with a focus on Wye and its surroundings.

Professor Peter Vujakovic is co-editor of the *Routledge Handbook of Mapping and Cartography* and an expert contributor to *The Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World*.



Organised jointly by the
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and the Agricultural Museum, Brook



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Farming Notebook

Rain at last!

There is much to celebrate...

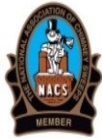
Rain. The long hot summer was brought back to normality with some significant rainfall on the 10th August. We had pushed on with combining and managed to bring in the oilseed rape, winter barley, herbage seed and all the wheat by the 9th! All very dry, but also very hot. Some of the wheat came into store at 36 degrees C. This gave us the unusual challenge of getting the temperature down rather than the moisture content. A pile of unventilated hot grains can be just as problematic to store as a crop that is wet.

Harvest. Not a record breaker, but generally a good one so far. Oilseeds have been a little disappointing. Having looked good all year, it seems as though the rape suffered the most from the extreme temperatures. The moisture content was only 6% - one percent above the minimum allowed, and the seeds very small.

Barley was very respectable, with a good grain size. Our first foray into herbage seed was easy and with a good yield. We used a stripper header for the first time. Not a new concept but a very effective way of harvesting grass. In the old days, when selling a combine the salesman would ask if it had been used for grass seed. This was because the crop was always green and strained every component of the machine and effectively halved its value! The stripper header does exactly what the name suggests. It strips the seeds from the stems by using what can best be described as high speed back combing. All the green stems remain standing and only the seeds pass through the combine. Once the seed has been harvested the grass is then mown and baled as thrashed hay. Wheats were very pleasing with a good yield and a lovely sample. Only spring oats and spring beans are left for the combine and they will both be harvested as soon as the weather allows.

And then there is me! I have reached the milestone of farming here at High Chimney Farm for forty years. On Friday 21st July 1978 I had formally completed my studies at Wye College and was now set on a new and exciting adventure. The weekend was spent planning the week ahead and my first job was to drive the "Thames" minibus (a fore-

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Farming

Notebook cont.

runner of the Ford Transit) around the locality collecting the strawberry picking ladies. A baptism of fire!!

Evenings were spent mastering wages, PAYE, VAT, book keeping and sifting through the trickle of paper from the EEC. (little did I know that the trickle would become a deluge of rules and regulation...) If I had any time left I would fine tune my five year plan! This involved a great deal of colouring in of maps to plan rotations. The plans never lasted for more than a few weeks before the "new" five year plan was needed. Although I still colour in maps, I quickly learnt that you have to be flexible and farm within the rules that apply at the time. As rules change then so does the farming.

It seems as though not much has changed, but in reality farming now is very different to farming forty years ago. Yes, the seasons come and go, the weather keeps you on your toes and there has always been a harvest. But for me the farm is a very different place.

In 1978 well over half the farm was in fruit. Mainly apples, but also strawberries and gooseberries. The gooseberries did not last long! Strawberries were grown for the fresh wholesale markets and for

processing. I used the same minibus to transport trays and trays of freshly picked fruit to the jam factory at Sittingbourne having taken all the ladies home first. This enterprise lasted for several years and the apples right through until 1991.

In 1978 I bought my first sheep. A hundred Kent ewes and tegs from Harry Hollands, who farmed at Mead Farm. I also got my first dog "Bess", a border collie. I learnt how to shear.

Farms have got bigger. 75 acres was a viable unit in 1978, now you need ten times as much - or even 300 Hectares! There are fewer farmers, and the numbers of people who earn their living working on the land reduces year on year. Tractors have got bigger, but fewer in number. Fields have got bigger. Cereal yields have doubled, and prices in real terms have halved.

Some of the biggest changes have been in plant protection. Chemistry has taken huge steps forward from the "sledgehammer to crack a nut" science of the post war years. Bayleton "Big ears" was the first of a new generation of fungicides that helped crops reach their full potential. Roundup was a new herbicide that killed couch grass down to the roots. No longer were we feeding the grass weeds as well as the crop.

Plant breeding too has raised the

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Farming cont.

bar year on year for quality and yield. Maris Huntsman, a record breaker of its day, is now eclipsed by Zyatt. A new high quality bread making wheat with a yield potential double that expected in 1978.

Every year margins are squeezed and higher levels of efficiency are required. Cutting waste and attention to detail are necessities. GPS guidance on tractors is now becoming the norm. With it comes auto section control for sprayers. Each nozzle individually controlled by satellite. Overlaps are now down to centimetres instead of metres. Less overlaps means higher levels of

safety and less waste. Less chemical, less seed, less wearing metal, less fuel, less time, less fatigue for the operator, higher efficiency and higher margins.

Change is a necessity, and is both exciting and interesting, but it is the things that don't change that are just as enjoyable. Forget the horizontal driving rain, the gales, the slushy snow, and the wet cold. Autumn colours with a heavy dew, a hard frost, spring turnout of the cattle and the dust and heat of harvest, these are what make me look forward to 2019...

W Wilson-Haffenden

Magazine Articles

Please ensure that all articles for the magazine are submitted by the **15th** of the month.

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