

# Elmsted with Hastingleigh Community News

*St James the Great  
Elmsted*



*St Mary the Virgin  
Hastingleigh*

April 2020

40p



# Elmsted and Hastingleigh Community Contacts

Elmsted Parish Council

**Tracey Block** 01233 750415

Hastingleigh Parish Council

**Tracey Block** 01233 750415

Evington Hall (Bookings)  
([www.evingtonhall.org.uk](http://www.evingtonhall.org.uk))

**Shelley** 07401 908249  
[bookings@evingtonhall.org.uk](mailto: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 750949

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 L Lawrence** 01233 750987

Neighbourhood Watch Hastingleigh

**Mr G Block** 01233 750415

Neighbourhood Watch Elmsted

**Mr J Argar** 01233 750311



# April

## in Elmsted with Hastingleigh

**T**he daffodils have opened and are a very welcome sight coming into Hastingleigh. We have some new advertisers this month, welcome to Tom Linch - Cedar tree care, Dougie Wallis – decorator, and Paul Boxall – window cleaner. We would love to see new content in the magazine, so please do send us any articles, puzzles or recipes you would like to share. Due to the extraordinary times we find ourselves in our printers may need to close, so we are putting in a contingency plan to email a copy to our readers where possible. If this becomes necessary and you would like receive an electronic copy please send your email address to the newsletter secretary at secretary.communitynews@gmail.com

### Contents

The WI	11
In The Garden	12
ECP 100 Club	13
Footpath Group	14
Whist Drive	14
ECP AGM	15
VE75	16
Elmsted Church	17
In April	18 & 19
St Mary's Talks	20
So they do say	21
Easter flowers	21
Wye PPG	22
Farming Notebook	23

### 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.

**Editorial:** elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk

**Advertising:** advertising.communitynews@gmail.com

**Secretary:** secretary.communitynews@gmail.com

**Or write to:** The Secretary, 1 Bowl Field, Hastingleigh, TN25 5HT.

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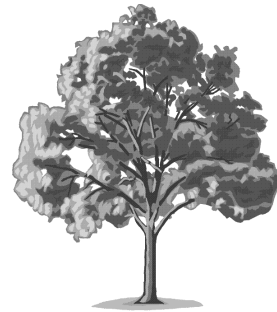
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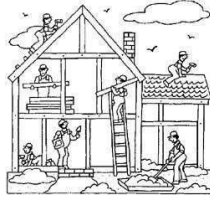
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*small projects - large projects - emergencies*

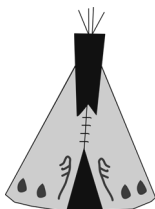
**Most aspects of Household and Garden Maintenance**

*References available*

*Also*

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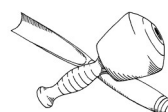
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# Hastingleigh with Elmsted WI

**H**astingleigh with Elmsted W.I. met on Thursday the 5th of March 2020 at the Evington Hall. 18 members attended.

We discussed various items of business before our speaker, Ms Sheila Caulfield, gave us a talk entitled How to Declutter and Organise your Wardrobe. Sheila started by telling us that women wear 20% of their wardrobes 80% of the time. The purpose of clothing, apart from keeping us warm, is to empower you to look, sound and feel confident. Colour in clothing is important as it is the strongest indicator of who we are, who we think we are, and who we want to be. Decluttering isn't about clearing out things only to replace them with more things. Sheila advised us to start by thinking about what activities we spend most of our time doing, and the acceptable dress code for these activities. Once you are ready to begin decluttering, you should start by taking everything out of your wardrobe, and sort it into 3 piles; suits me and I wear it, don't currently wear it and never wear it. The 'suits me' pile will go straight back in the wardrobe and everything in the 'never wear' goes, either to charity or sell it. The 'I don't currently wear' pile needs to be sorted by asking questions such as 'does the colour suit me?', 'does it fit?', 'impulse buy?'. If the answer to the first two questions is no, then they need to go. Once you've sorted you need to become a better shopper and only buy if you need, rather than just want. Sheila also advised that accessories are a great buy as they can be used to change the look of an outfit, making it suitable for many different occasions.

The Flower of the Month winner for March was Sally Morley-Smith, and the winner of the March competition, a useless item you can't bear to throw away, was Sara Nixon, with a large wooden bobbin.

Our next meeting, on Thursday the 2nd April has been cancelled in accordance with the guidance on social distancing. We will be reviewing the situation as it unfolds, as to whether or not the May meeting will go ahead.

Marie Wenham

# In The Garden

**L**ast month I was writing about mowing lawns. Ha! Now I am writing mid March and still the rainy wet weather has not stopped so the mowers are firmly shut in the shed – but ready to go.

I'm still behind with pruning trees, shrubs, soft fruit bushes and also mulching with compost and wood chips. All because of the wet weather is my excuse and so when the rain does stop and the ground dries up it will be all 'systems go' just as it will be for our neighbouring farmers.

With Coronavirus expanding apace it looks as though a lot of us are going to be staying at home more than usual and this will give us an opportunity to make the most of our gardens. April is a busy, busy month anyway. Order bedding plants or plugs and for hanging baskets. If not already done clean and scrub the greenhouse and fumigate it to remove unwanted bugs. Preparing beds by forking over and applying well rotted manure or compost has been a bad joke up to now, but it will not be too late as the soil starts to dry, it will appreciate it and everything will begin to catch up. I've been able to cover my compost heaps with waterproof sheets and those that were made last summer heated up nicely which will have killed a lot of weeds and should not be too wet to spread.

Perennial plants can be lifted and divided; this will improve their vigour and create new plants for your garden or to give away. Hostas can be divided before they come into leaf and primroses once their flowering is over. The dampness in the soil still means that feeding your shrubs and perennial flowers with a slow release fertiliser, hoed in if possible, will do them some good. Generally, winter and early flowering plants, such as forsythia and heathers can all be pruned back as flowering finishes to keep their sturdiness and shape good. Other plants like clematis and honeysuckle will be growing away and need tying in so that their later display of flowers will be seen at their best – you can see that I am an optimist and really do expect some marvellous spring and summer weather to arrive.

If you are incarcerated at home with one person designated to do the shopping etc., may be they can be persuaded to bring back some bags of seed or multi-purpose compost to help propagate some vegetable seeds

on window sills or the greenhouse, if you have one. The autumn sown broad beans looked rather miserable all winter even though they grew quite a bit whereas the spring sown beans in the greenhouse look great and some of this may be due to an improved temperature there due to a good electric heater and, for the propagator, a new thermostat. All the broad beans were covered with a lightweight fleece as they were planted out laid straight on the plants for a while for this holds the heat close to them and counteracts the lack of full light at this time of year.

The first more hardy round seeded peas have been sown together with early carrots and radish. And a word about sowing carrots – I make a shallow drill and do my best to sow the carrot seeds about a centimetre apart (to reduce the amount of time spent thinning as they grow). Instead of raking the soil over the seed drill I back fill it up to soil level with bought multi-purpose compost before watering it well. Seems to help germination a lot. Not my idea but one I picked up from Bob Flowerdew on the radio Gardeners' Question Time. Now, with me, do you really believe that is his real name – seems almost unbelievable for a gardener! Lettuce and French Breakfast radish from modules are planted out in the warmth of the greenhouse and the first tomatoes have been planted on in small pots before they go out in the greenhouse except for one variety that I have never grown before – Crimson Crush – that, it is claimed is highly resistant to blight and therefore good for planting outdoors as well as undercover.

Fred



## Club

Winning numbers for March  
ECP 100 Club Draw

1st - 76

2nd - 19

3rd - 33

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Manual Petrol

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# Footpath Group

**A**fter last month's walk was cancelled due to storm Dennis, we were hoping for better weather for our March walk. However, just before I was due to leave for the village hall, we had a very heavy shower, which together with the strong, cold wind, did not make for ideal walking conditions. I was surprised to find some hardy people ready to walk.

Six of us and a dog set off, having decided that a short, easy walk would be enough, even though, by then the rain had stopped and the clouds were beginning to disperse. Apart from the chill wind, it was pleasantly warm in the sun as we walked down Tamley Lane, then beside the road to the crossroads and up to Staples Lees, where the seventh walker was waiting patiently in the shelter of a hedge to join us. Across the muddy field to the Waltham road, through the woods, and over the fallen tree left across the path by the afore mentioned Dennis and back to the village past the reed bed.

As I said, not a long walk, and those of you who read your magazine thoroughly, will realise that this was the same walk we did on the first of January, for which I apologise. We did however, finish the afternoon with tea, cakes and chat in the comfort of my kitchen.

HR

# WHIST DRIVE

**T**he whist drive scheduled for Friday 10th April has been postponed as it clashes with Good Friday and the Easter Holiday. As this is usually a Charity whist drive we will hope to start the season earlier on Friday 11th September.

(Covid 19 permitting) SB





# Evington Community Project A.G.M

## Chairman's Report for 2019

**T**he ECP has now completed fifteen years of service to the communities of Elmsted and Hastingleigh.

We held another successful Spring Fair on the 6th May 2019, this time taking a slightly different approach by inviting local organisations to run a stall. ECP retained all of the money these stalls raised and then awarded each stall a grant towards a particular project identified by the organisation. This model seemed to have worked well and certainly achieved our aim of increasing the Spring Fair's footfall.

Our 100+ Club Raffle, which is now in its 6th year, continues to be very popular and we would like to thank all of those who support this venture.. Our Film Shows continue to be well supported and we have received many complements on our choice of films. Many thanks to those of you who suggest titles / supply films to be shown. In October we ran a Pottery Painting Workshop in the Evington Hall in association with Kippys. We continue to assist financially with the maintenance of the Playing Field. Our annual Seasonal Thanks morning was held in December and was combined with £100 worth of bonus draws of our 100 Club.

I should like to take this opportunity, once again, to thank the Evington Community Project committee. I should also like to thank, on behalf of ECP, The Powell Family for allowing the use of their field; Sarah Pell for checking our accounts; Elmsted and Hastingleigh Parish Councils and all of you who have generously supported and assisted with our events throughout the year.

Robin Helmer



# **VE75 Celebration**

**You are invited to the Hastingsleigh and Elmsted Celebration of the**

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day  
8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at Evington Village Hall**

**From 2.00pm - Small 1940's style fair**

**3.00pm - A Nation's Toast**

**3.10pm - An Afternoon Tea Party**

**Please bring a plate of sweet and a plate of savoury to share**

**1940's Style Clothing is optional**

**Songs led by Evington Choir to follow**

**At Elmsted Church**

**6.55pm - A Ring Out for Peace**

**7.00pm - Lighting of the Beacon**

**At Evington Hall**

**8.00pm - Soup served followed by a Wartime Film**

**There is to be a display of Wartime memories at the Village Hall.**

**If you would like to add to this, please contact**

**Tracey Block on 01233 750415 or**

**Robin Helmer on 01233 750236**

# ELMSTED CHURCH

## LUNCHES & TEAS



SUNDAY 24TH MAY, 2020

NOON - 4PM

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

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

Live music by Leon Hastwell  
Crafting Competition.



For further details please contact Vanessa London 01233 750427

## Church Services for April in the Parish Upon The Hills

<u>Date</u>		
05/04	First Sunday	09:30 – Waltham – Palm Sunday service with Bishop Rose - for Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Petham & Waltham.
10/04	Good Friday	10:00 Petham Easter Garden building 12-12:50 Hastingleigh Stations of the Cross 1-1:50 Petham meditative reflection 2-3:00 Waltham musical reflection
12/04	Easter Sunday	08.00 - Waltham – BCP Communion 11.00 - Petham – Family Communion
19/04	Third Sunday	09:30 Waltham Communion 11:00 Hastingleigh Communion 11:00 Petham Family Service (No Communion) 17:00 Elmsted Choral Evensong followed by Deans farewell afternoon tea
26/04	Fourth Sunday	11:00 Petham Family Communion 11:00 Hastingleigh BCP Communion

Please note that because of the covid 19 epidemic all services are subject to change. We will endeavour to regularly update all village Facebook groups and suggest you check yours before attending.

**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 mailto: revlorrainelawrence@icloud.com. **Churchwardens:** Mrs Bacon 01233 750327, Mrs R Doyle 01227 700296. **United Wye Benefice** 01233 813793 www.wyebenefice.org.uk

## Diary Dates - April

Wed	1st	Coffee Morning	10.30 - 11.30
Thurs	2nd	W.I. Meeting	19.30 - 22.00
Tues	7th	Hall Trustees AGM	19.30 - 21.00
Sun	12th	Footpath Group	14.00
Tues	14th	Library Van	09.45 - 10.15
		Hastingleigh PC Meeting	19.30 - 21.00
Mon	20th	Guild for the deaf AGM	20.00 - 21.30
Tues	21st	Toddler Group	09.30 - 11.30
		Evington Gardeners AGM	19.30 - 22.00
Wed	22nd	Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00
Tues	28th	Toddlers	09.30 - 11.30
		Library Van	09.45 - 10.15
Wed	29th	Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00

The above dates are taken from the Evington Hall website calendar  
([www.evingtonhall.org.uk](http://www.evingtonhall.org.uk))

***All events at the village hall unless otherwise stated***

**DUE TO CORONAVIRUS, PLEASE CHECK  
WITH ORGANISER THAT THE EVENT IS STILL  
TAKING PLACE**

### Church flowers and cleaning volunteers:

#### St Mary's

#### St James'

Mar 28 <sup>th</sup> Apr 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Bacon Mrs Geering Mrs Sharp Mrs Hill	Mrs London, Ms Flitney Mrs Francesconi
Apr 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr 18 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Bowes Mrs Helmer	Mrs Green Mrs Calcutt
Apr 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs Boxall Mrs Pell	Mrs Jeffrey

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS at ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, HASTINGLEIGH**



All events will be at 7pm for 7.30pm,  
with refreshments.

### **Friday 24th April**

A concert by

**The Chamber Choir of King's School**, Canterbury.

A varied musical programme, and a delightful  
opportunity to hear these talented young people.

Tickets £7.50 on the door.

### **Saturday, 16th May.**

A talk on

**Wildlife Conservation in Our Local Area**

by **Dan Tuson**, East Kent Manager of  
Natural England's Kent Downs.

### **Saturday, 13th June**

A talk:

**"Canterbury Goes Viral!"**

by **Father Rodney Schofield**.

2020 is the 800th anniversary of the removal of  
Becket's body from the tomb to the glittering shrine,  
which pilgrims visited for hundreds of years.

Talks are free, but there will be a bowl for donations

## St Mary's Church Hastingleigh



Anyone wishing to donate money for flowers at Easter in memory of a loved one, please contact Roz 01233 750327

## 'So they do say.!

**O**n the 1st August, 1754, a 23 year old woman from Hastingleigh was found guilty by the Consistory Court of Canterbury of fornication in Lyminge, and sentenced to do Penance in Lyminge Church by wearing a white sheet and carrying a white wand. She was required repeat the following confession before the clergy and congregation, *'Now I do here before God and his Congregation humbly confess and Acknowledge such my Great Wickedness for which I am heartily sorry and penitent beseeching Almighty God to forgive the same and my neighbours to be satisfied with this my penitent confession and I promise by God's Grace to live more chastely and honestly for the time to come which God grant I may perform. Amen'* This was standard wording for this crime. Eleanor died on the 27th October 1760 aged 27 and was buried at St Mary's Church, Hastingleigh, grave No105.

On the 7th January 1615, Adam Gosham, a labourer in Hastingleigh, broke into and entered the barn of Richard Hawke who lived at South Hill Farm, and stole 'one bushell of oates' worth 10d, belonging to the said Richard Hawke. He acknowledged the indictment and was whipped.

TW

# Wye Surgery PPG

## e-CONSULT ONLINE CONSULTATION

**O**n March 16 Wye Surgery went live with the new e-Consult online system for contacting your GP. e-Consult replaces 'Ask my GP'. It may be accessed through the surgery website ([wyesurgery.co.uk](http://wyesurgery.co.uk)) and it enables patients to submit their symptoms electronically 24 hours a day 7 days a week and receive a reply by the next working day either by text message, email or telephone. e-Consult was piloted by GP practices in the West of England and is now used by over 1200 GP practices, including other practices in the Ashford Primary Care Network.

The app requires patients to answer a series of questions and the answers will sign-post them to the most appropriate care, including a face to face appointment, self-help, advice from a pharmacy or a simple administrative response (a sick note or access to test results without the need for an appointment). e-Consult includes a Red Flag alerting system that identifies potential critical illnesses and fast-tracks GPs' responses.

One advantage of the new system is that it will remove the need to queue up on the telephone at 8 o'clock in the morning, as it can be submitted at any time of the day or night. It is also timely, as surgeries are facing unprecedented demand as a result of the corona virus pandemic. e-Consult will allow patients to have access to clinical advice from GPs without having to come into the surgery, reducing the risk of infection spreading to other patients and/or to surgery staff.

The new system should reduce waiting times before clinical decisions are reached and could release more GP time for face-to-face appointments. e-Consult is a more advanced system than 'Ask my GP' as it allows more space for free text to describe their symptoms. It is also safer for the patient allowing the Dr to identify urgent cases quickly, rather than risking them being the last in a telephone queue when all the appointments are gone for the day. Clearly, not all patients can use the Internet and there are separate arrangements for children under 6 months old.

Online consultation services do require a change of culture and mindset as we move away from the traditional face-to-face visits to the Dr, but online technology is capable of offering innovative new ways of maximizing the clinical resources we have available.

Judith Timms, PPG Chair



# Farming Notebook

**W**ell, it is official, and you heard it here first.... The sun shone all day yesterday, it was warm and the skies were blue. It really felt like spring. It felt good.

Another sign of optimism was the start of calving. Two cows have had calves, both very bonny bulls. Both mums gave birth unaided. One was a heifer - a first time mother – which can sometimes be problematic. The calves got up and found the milk bar all by themselves, and both offspring are charging around playing in the straw. Let's hope that the rest of calving goes as smoothly. Either way, it is a good start.

It all worked out very well. We had moved some of the Sussex cattle which had calved at Christmas time out on to some free draining permanent pasture, and then cleaned out the barn. The pen was strawed down as preparation for calving. Expecting a week at least before the first calf, it was a pleasant surprise to find two the very next day! Apart from wanting to prepare a nursery, we were also acutely aware that our straw and silage supplies are going to run out by the end of April. It has been such a long winter. Turning some of the cattle out early, even if it is really still a bit wet underfoot, will help conserve some of the bedding and forage.

On the arable side we are desperate to get some more fertiliser onto all the crops. Our view is, that with the saturated soils, and forecasts of yet more rain, that a "little and often" approach to feeding the crops will make best use of the nutrients. Everything had 40kg/ha of Nitrogen (+Sulphur) in February, and the intention is to go over everything again with another 40kg/ha of straight Nitrogen as soon as possible.

All the earlier sown wheats look fine, even the later sown fields look OK, but the oilseed rape is so slow getting away. The plants are there, but they are just not moving. I have a daily trek across the field putting out banger ropes to keep the pigeons away to give the crop the best chance. It really does need some warm weather. At the moment it is difficult to imagine the crop in full flower in 6 weeks time....

It was only a few weeks ago that all the discussion amongst farmers was how late was it safe to plant winter wheat. ( Winter wheat needs to vernalise, which basically means it needs a frost to trigger its

seed production phase). It is generally accepted that that window of opportunity is now closed. Ironically the discussion is now on how late can we plant spring crops! We are several weeks behind in planting spring beans. It is already past the time for spring wheat. We live in hope that the developing high pressure in the forecasts actually happens and that we do get a few warmer days without rain. It is interesting that, this year's crops that are poorer than we would like, are regarded as having potential. In most years we might consider ploughing them in and starting again. This year it is definitely "a bird in the hand....". Having a poor crop is better than having no crop at all!

The world around us is in turmoil. The markets are in meltdown. This includes commodities. We have yet to strike a price for our oilseed rape which was collected last autumn. The values have fallen sharply and I fear may not recover before I have to sell. Ho hum....I have to accept the situation-there is really nothing that I can do to alter it.

I do take issue with the media, broadcast media in particular. The government position on Covid 19 has been led by advice from the chief medical officer, who himself will have had advice from a wide range of experts. The guidance has been measured and, in my view, well explained. Always with a caveat that things may have to change at short notice. The media, however, go out of their way to find an "expert" who will contradict the advice given and propose alternative strategies. More air time and debate is given to this expert than the official view. All this leads to is scare mongering. It is the debate on the MMR vaccination all over again. The media have to take no small amount of the blame that mumps is on the increase, with occasionally fatal results.

While I am on the subject, who is it that shows rows and rows of empty shelves on every news bulletin, with statements that loo rolls may run out and food may become short? Do the media ever stop and think that they may be the cause of the panic buying. They, of course would never agree.... ( One Australian newspaper had an eight page centre "pull out" relating to the loo roll shortage. Each page was clearly marked as to where to cut it and where to punch the hole for the string! - I had to laugh...)

Forever the optimist, I am looking forward to being busy next week getting on with field work at last. Now where is my factor 30.....

W Wilson-Haffenden

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