

Elmsted with Hastingleigh **Community News**

*St James the Great
Elmsted*



*St Mary the Virgin
Hastingleigh*

May 2017

40p

May

in Elmsted with Hastingleigh

BY the time you read this the Spring Fair will be over. It's my favourite village event, being as it is a coming together of all Elmsted and Hastingleigh's cliques, clubs and societies.

Last year a visitor to these parts told me how impressed he was with the fair, saying that it reminded him of how 'things should be'.

I queried this statement and he went on to suggest that many places have lost the will and impetus to come together and celebrate in such a traditional way. He admired our 'spirit of community'. So he should.

And in that vein the magazine committee would like to give a warm welcome to our new secretary Marie Wenham, who is taking over the role from Sarah Pell. Many thanks go to Sarah for her time and efforts.

Marie has lived in Hastingleigh with her husband Leighton for five years. She has a daughter, Sophie, aged seven months. They moved to the village from Ashford.

The Editor

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Submissions

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

Please send promotional literature for your event in Word format rather than pdf or Publisher.

Editorial: elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk

Advertising: shepandali@hotmail.com

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small projects - large projects - emergencies*

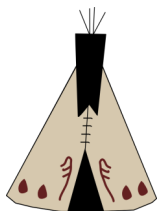
Most aspects of Household and Garden Maintenance

References available

Also

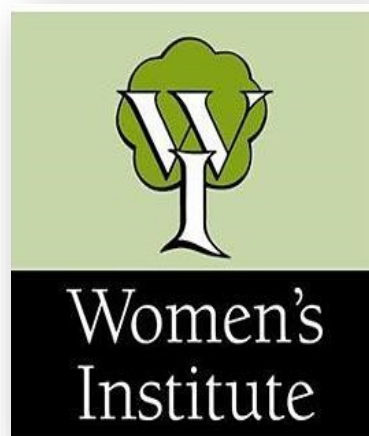
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Hastingleigh with Elmsted Women's Institute



Minutes from last month's meeting

WE started our meeting by discussing various items of business. Members were asked to make cakes for the May Fair on Monday, 1st May. Marden WI (our twin in west Kent) have suggested a joint June meeting.

Our speaker was Dr Gehad Homsey who presented a talk on Mercy Ships, a charity that provides free surgery and medical care, and partners with communities around the coast of West Africa to improve healthcare, offering training and advice, materials and hands-on assistance.

In 1978, Mercy Ships began with the purchase of a retired Ocean liner which was converted into a hospital. Since then

volunteer staff have performed more than 61,000 life-changing operations such as cleft lip and palate repair, cataract removal, orthopaedic procedures, facial reconstruction, etc.

Dr Gehad Homsey was a trained anaesthetist and spent many of his holidays working on board. Since retiring Dr Homsey spends his time promoting the Mercy Ships charity.

Mrs George won the competition and Mrs Arger won the Flower of the Month.

As an election will be taking place in the Hall, our birthday meeting in May will be at The Chequers Inn, when we will discuss and vote on annual resolutions.



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Walkers get in step for joint excursion

LAST month the Hastingleigh Footpath Walkers joined with the Romney Marsh Group and had a lovely walk led by Helen.

After meeting in Bonnington, the walk led us through woods magnificently carpeted by white and pink wood anemones, yellow celandines, bluebells and several stunning early purple orchids.

We followed the well-defined paths that wind through Stockshill and Blackthorn woods reserve.

The walk then cut across to Poulton Wood, just below Aldington village, which is open to the public, and is criss-crossed by beautifully marked paths.

As we entered the site, past the garden area, we stopped to

admire the woodland workshops, and all through the woods there is evidence of the crafts practised.

Marked letters of the alphabet show key features – including C for a magnificent wild Cherry and F for Frog!

The weather was beautiful for early April and meant that the views in the woods with the dappled sunlight were quite stunning.

We walked the perimeter of the wood, exiting onto the road leading to Aldington.

Crossing the road we then wandered through the play area finally taking another path across an arable field back to the house for a well-earned cup of tea and some fantastic cakes!

• Next month's walk on Sunday 14th May will be led by Christine and Jack.





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- They will be judged at the Lunches and Teas.
- Please make sure they are at the church by 1.30pm on Sunday 28th May or leave them in the Bodsham School office by Friday 26th May.
- Please attach your details to the bottom of your beautiful jar.
- Prizes will be awarded on the day.

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Monday 29 May: Midday to 9pm

Tuesday 30 May: Closed

Wednesday 31 May: 5pm to 9pm

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Gardeners hear of old Ashford

AFASCINATING, if rather sobering, talk entitled, "Old Ashford", was given by Richard Filmer at the Evington Gardeners' meeting in March.

Mr Filmer chose to take a nostalgic look at Ashford, rather than a straight history, focussing on local trades and businesses as well as the architecture of the town.

The quality of the pictures he showed was excellent. There were photos relating to the milling industry, one of the oldest industries in Ashford – Pledge's mills together with their lorry, the mill at Kennington where only the base survives today and the handsome Corn Exchange, dating from the 1850s, which could seat 1200 people and where corn was sold by sample rather than in bulk.

After milling went into decline the Corn Exchange was

pulled down only to be replaced by an indifferent office building.

Woodland of oak and Spanish chestnut on the edge of the town was reflected in pictures of timber-framed buildings, with the bark from oak being used in the tanning industry, in existence since medieval times.

Ashford at one time had the second largest tannery in Britain. Hops were grown in most of the villages round about with the earliest known hop garden, dating from 1520, established at Great Chart.

There was an interesting picture from 1908 of a demonstration in the town asking the government to levy duty on hops imported from abroad.

Both beer and cider were brewed in the town up until the 1920s. There were photos of ladder-makers, agricultural basket-makers using willow from the osier beds along the river and one from 1888 of tile-makers.

The wide high street was used for the market, the charter having been granted in 1243. Wool was an important local commodity, employing graders and staplers.

The railway opened in 1842, with the railway works also

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involving many different trades. There were pictures too of bicycle-making, of wheelwrights (wheels are still just about made today) and Ashford even had a sweet factory and a piano factory.

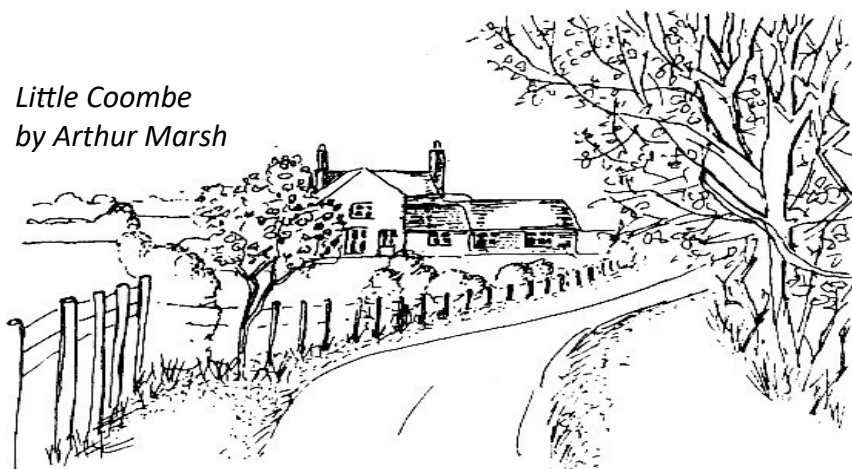
Mr Filmer's wealth of photos provided a real insight into the range of businesses carried out over the centuries in a town which was not large and how

questionable decisions have led to a loss of attractive architecture. His talk was very much enjoyed by members.

The new season begins in May with a plant sale at the May Fair on 1st May. As always everyone is welcome and further details are available from me, Jane Pearce.

JP

*Little Coombe
by Arthur Marsh*



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The Parish upon the Hills

LAST year the Archbishops of Canterbury and York invited the Church of England to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ.

This simple invitation has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer, with thousands of people across the world pledging to pray.

Archbishop Justin Welby recently said about the movement: "I cannot remember in my life anything that I've been involved in where I have sensed so clearly the work of the spirit." Most of us grow up learning

the Lord's Prayer and most of us have probably prayed the words – Thy Kingdom Come.

I wonder what it would look like if heaven were to touch earth today on a massive scale across this country or even the world?

The idea behind the Thy Kingdom Come movement is for Christians to pledge to pray that more people will come to know the life transforming love of Jesus. I have pledged to pray.

At Wye Parish Church we have created a prayer station in the church and our hope is that many

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All are invited to pray

people will visit the station – particularly over the 10 days of ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ from 25th May to 4th June.

There are some suggestions and resources to help. Prayer can take many forms, you may want to be creative as you pray or sing your prayers or just be still – you might want to pray on your own or with a group of friends. However you choose to pray we encourage you to come.

It doesn’t matter if Wye Church isn’t your normal church, or you don’t usually go to church, it is about joining together as a community across the world – “join the global wave of prayer”.

We are faced with a rapidly changing world where we are continually bombarded with things that are beyond our control, which can be both worrying and upsetting.

Some days when you watch the news – “Thy Kingdom Come, on

earth as it is in heaven” can seem further away than ever. It can be easy to feel overwhelmed and powerless to do anything.

For me, despite these feelings, I am very grateful that I can pray and that I have hope. Hope in the Lord and hope in things to come. Thy Kingdom will come.

If you want to pledge to pray or want to find out more visit:
www.thykingdomcome.global



Hymns and teas for funds

COME and sing a verse or two of your favourite hymns at St Mary’s on Tue, June 6 at 2.30pm.

This is followed by at 4pm by a tea. Please bring your friends.

The cost is 5 which will go towards church funds.

If poss please RSVP Roz Bacon:
01233 750327 or
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Church services in the Parish Upon The Hills		
7 May	First Sunday	9:30am Petham – four churches Communion (Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Petham & Waltham)
14 May	Second Sunday	8am BCP Communion Waltham 10am Messy Church Bodsham CP School 11am Petham Communion
21 May	Third Sunday	9:30am Waltham Communion 11am Hastingleigh Communion 11am Petham Family Service (no Communion), 6pm Elmsted Choral Evensong
28 May	Fourth Sunday	9:30am Elmsted Communion (with Waltham), 11am Hastingleigh , 11am Petham Family Communion.

This month's church flowers and cleaning volunteers:		
May 6	Mrs Courtenay/Jerrom	Mrs Calcutt
May 13 May 20	Mrs Bacon Mrs Geering Mrs Sharp	Mrs London Ms Flitney Mrs Francesconi
May 27 Jun 3	Dr & Mrs Lawson Mrs Day	Mrs McFarlane Mrs Hewson

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 4034409 lorraine_lawrence@btinternet.com. **Churchwardens:** Mrs Bacon 01233 750327, Mrs Ten Hove 01227 700460. **United Wye Benefice** 01233 813793 www.wyebenefice.org.uk

Diary dates

From the Evington Hall website:
www.evingtonhall.org.uk

May

1 Spring Fair at Football Field	12.30
1 Art & Craft Exhibition	14.00
2 Toddler Group	09.30
2 Library Van at Hall Car Park	09.45
3 Coffee Morning	10.30
3 Evington Community Choir	19.00
4 Hastingleigh Polling Station	07.00
9 Toddler Group	09.30
9 Hastingleigh Parish Council	19.45
10 Evington Community Choir	19.00
11 Art Group	09.30
11 Elmsted Parish Council	19.30
13 Cinque Ports Scribes	09.00
14 Footpath Group	14.00
16 Toddler Group	09.30
16 Library Van	09.45
17 Community Choir	19.00
18 Art Group	09.30
23 Toddler Group	09.30
23 Joint Annual Parish Meet	19.30
24 Community Choir	09.45
25 Art Group	09.30
28 Elmsted Church Lunches	12.00
30 Library Van	09.45

June

1 Art Group	09.30
1 W.I. Meeting	19.30
6 Toddler Group	09.30
7 Coffee Morning	10.30
7 Community Choir	19.00

Info on social care

At the AGM of Wye Patient Participation Group, on 11th April, there was a talk about Social Care from Andrea Fridd and Frances Morgan John of Kent County Council.

There are leaflets on this topic in the Wye Surgery waiting area that provide a lot of useful information:

Published by KCC

- Your Guide: To accessing adult care services.
- Your Guide: To adult social care in Kent .
- Your Guide: to funding yourself in residential and nursing care .
- Charging for Residential Care.

Charging for Care provided in your own home and support in the community.

Published by NHS

For You: Adult Protection –
What happens

Leonie Saint
Secretary to Wye PPG

Question time at hall

THE Joint Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 23 May in Evington Hall at 7.30pm.

Your District/Borough and County Councillors will be represented and there will be plenty of opportunities for questions. All members of public are welcome.

Breakfast...

THE annual village breakfast will be held on Bank Holiday Monday May 29.

Come and have a delicious English breakfast with good company at Moonraker, The Street, Hastingleigh from 8.30am to 10.30am. They cost £6 with all profits going to charity. RSVP if possible to 750327.

100 Club

THE latest winning numbers for the Evington Youth Project 100 club are:

1st Prize: No. **3**
2nd Prize: No: **51**
3rd Prize: No: **32**

Thanks to the 100 Club
Members for your support.

News from Godinton

THE combination of our beautiful new sculpture Tempesta and some fabulous spring weather has meant the garden has already welcomed lots of visitors this year.

The amazing work of Emily Young is now on show for all to enjoy, standing proudly against the back drop of spring flowers in the famous wild garden.

The gardens are burgeoning as massed tulips and early flowering shrubs fill the borders. The white narcissus share the wild garden with anemones, Leucojum and snakeshead fritillaries and the trees take on their fresh coats of spring green leaves. The fabulous pink and white blooms of the huge magnolias lend an almost tropical glamour on a sunny day.

Come and enjoy the garden in the coming weeks.



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From the archives...

A meeting place built on community spirit

IN 1895, the Reverend Anthony Collett, Vicar of Elmsted and Rector of Hastingleigh, funded the building of a Mission Room at the top end of Tamley Lane. It was built on Glebe land (Church land) which had been rented by a Mr Stickles.

Its purpose was to provide a place of worship for the elderly of Hastingleigh, and the Evington Lees end of Elmsted Parish, who would be unable to get to their respective Churches because of the distances of the Churches from their homes, and the difficulty in harsh winters.

The Hall was a focal point of village activities for 65 years until it was replaced by the current village hall 1960. The building was used as a reading room, for church meetings and activities. It was a jam factory during the war, and hosted whist drives, theatrical and other events.

It was hired by the Youth Club, the Welfare Dept., the Women's Institute, Evington Sports Clubs, Wedding receptions, and in war-time, was the distribution centre for Ration Cards at a rental charge of 15 shillings to the food office.

The responsibility of the hall was held by two trustees, one of the Tappenden family and the incumbent Rector/Vicar of Hastingleigh

and Elmsted. Before WW2 the trustees were the Rev Reuben Coverdale and Mr Cubison Tappenden (aka Mr Q Tappenden), from 1943 the trustees were Mr G.P. Tappenden and the incumbent Rector of Hastingleigh (Mr Stevens, Mr Hill, Mr Wells and Mr AE Prior.)

After Mr GP Tappenden's death in Oct 1960 the trusteeship was handed to his widow until the Parish Room was sold. Various villagers were on the committees as secretaries, treasurers, vice-chairmen and so on.

In 1948 talks on replacing the Hall with a modern larger building were underway, though it would be another 12 years before it would come to fruition.

In 1948 an upgrade to the old hall facilities was necessary and it was registered as the Polling Station for Hastingleigh. In 1948 the cost to hire the hall was 7 shillings and 6 pence without the use of the Piano, and 10 shillings with the Piano. With a view to raising revenue to pay for the urgent repairs these rates were increased to 1 Pound. If the hall was being hired for a minimum of 6 occasions in advance, then a 50% discount was applied.

A questionnaire was drawn up

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and sent to every household in the two parishes to ascertain people's preferences for re-building the old hall or building a new hall on a site near the war memorial, and also to get an idea about how willing the parishioners would be to fund-raise

By 1949 it was decided that building a New Hall was the most popular option, though there were some who disliked the idea. Commander and Lady Findlay of Court Lodge Farm were approached with regard to building the New Hall on their land at Evington Lees.

The Findlays agreed to sell the land for the site of the New Hall. The estimated cost for the New Hall (to seat 250 people) was £5,000 and half this sum would need to be raised by the communities of Elmsted and Hastingleigh, in advance of any work. The rest of the cost would be covered with a grant from Kent Education Committee.

The old hall was still needed, and had to undergo repairs. The windows were broken, the paraffin lamps were dangerous, the stove was faulty, the toilet doors needed refitting; costs that the Parish could barely spare in the post-war years.

Mr Tappenden from the village stores and several other chaps and ladies mucked in to lend their skills to getting the hall fit for purpose. To avoid confusion with the New Hall's fund-raising efforts, the old hall or Mission Room was renamed The

Parish Room in 1949. The Kitchen roof had a close call in 1950. It needed replacing, and Mr Tappenden offered to supply asbestos sheeting at cost price to cover 17ft x 12ft. Mercifully they didn't fit and corrugated tin sheets were used.

The committee offered a discount of the hire fees in exchange for volunteer labour from the men of the Evington Sports Club, to get the kitchen roof installed. Five Gallons of green paint were bought for the exterior and cream for the window wood.

The window curtains would be made from the old serge drapes which had been used to partition the Parish Room before the war. However it was discovered that the fabric had past its usefulness and was scrapped. Mrs Tappenden bought 10 yards of new fabric and sewed all the curtains herself.

She donated these free of charge to the Parish Room. New crockery, jugs and cutlery were bought and these were available for hire. The Cricket Club which played matches at New Barn farm regularly hired the crockery for use during matches to supply teas to the home and visiting teams.

Even the furniture could be rented. A trestle table cost 6d to hire and a card table 3d a day. The piano was tuned twice a year by Burnages of Ashford. In 1950, after struggling with paraffin lighting for

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55 years, it was decided to raise funds to purchase an electric light engine. This was at a time when Hastingleigh was still not supplied with electricity.

A raffle was held at the Bowl Inn on 6th September 1950 raising 16 Pounds, and the Evington Dramatic Society were asked to give a percentage of their takings from the next show. An engine was bought for £15 and it used about 1 gallon of petrol to supply one evening's lighting. However, in 1951, reports show the petrol supply kept being stolen.

The same year, the Evington Players requested permission for a beam at the front of the stage, from which to hang stage curtains. In 1951 mains electricity arrived. Mr Tappenden agreed to supply the wiring at cost price and Mr Chandler and Mr Ron Marsh volunteered their services to wire free of charge.

The Electric Lighting Machine was sold at auction. In 1952 14 new chairs were donated to the New Hall (which was still not built) and these were on loan to the Parish Room until the New Hall was completed.

In 1953 was the Coronation! The Parish Room features throughout the celebrations. 1954 saw the closing of the Youth Club (to the obvious relief of the Parish Room committee as the Youth Club had been responsible for three broken windows in the previous year).

It was also the year that the

Parish Room got its first fire extinguisher.

The next 6 years saw a struggle for funds for urgent repairs to the Parish Room foundations while the greater emphasis of fund raising activity was aimed at the New Hall.

In 1960 The New Hall opened. The Parish Room plus 3 acres was sold for 100 Pounds to Mr T.H. Young. Commander and Lady Findlay offered 4 acres of land behind the New Hall in exchange for the Youngs field. Mr TH Young agreed to the land being made over to the Evington Sports Club.

At the closing of the Parish Room it was proposed by Mrs Edna Young that some of the funds be used to buy an electric clock for the New Hall with a plaque dedicating it to the memory of Mr George Pibus Tappenden, the trustee of the Parish Room from 1943 to his death in October 1960 in honour of his outstanding contribution to the communities of Hastingleigh and Elmsted. The Parish Room was used as a general store room for a while and eventually it was pulled down when it became unsafe.

- Anyone with photos of the Old Mission Hall should contact the author, Lesley Young, at hastingleigh@hotmail.com. Lesley is a niece of Ken and Pat Young of Slip Hill Cottages, and of Bob Young at Welldene.

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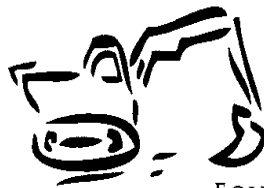


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