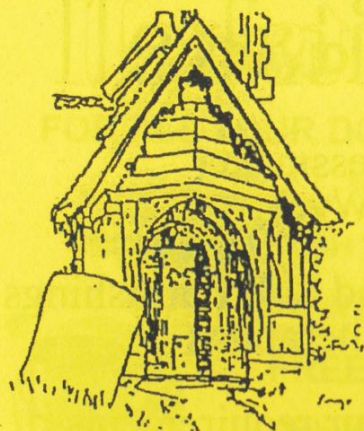
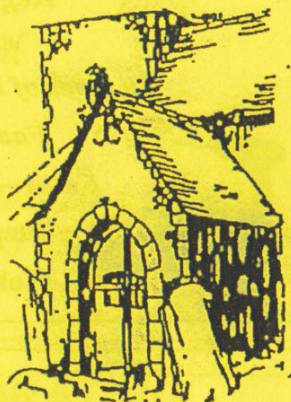


Elmsted with Hastingleigh

Community News

*St. James the Great
Elmsted*



*St. Mary The Virgin
Hastingleigh*

July 2012 40p



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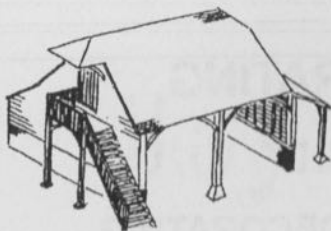
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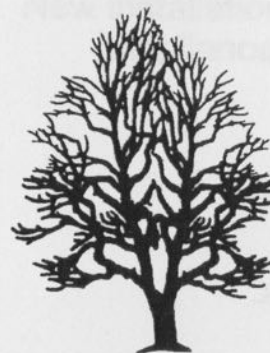
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Hon. Secretary PCC:	Mrs Ann Burton	01233 750430

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

www.hastingleighpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

COMMUNITY NEWS

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	4, The Bowl Field, Hastingleigh	
Advertising Manager	Mrs Sarah Pell	01233 750296
	Little Coombe, Hastingleigh	

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

elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk

FROM WYE BENEFICE

As you all know, Rowan Williams will stand down as Archbishop of Canterbury in December to become master of Magdalene College, Cambridge. And I'm sure he can't wait! I don't think he ever wanted to be archbishop in the first place – who in their right mind would? – and I'm sure he'll be much happier back in his natural habitat, the world of academia, where he can say whatever he wants, what he actually thinks, without being hauled over the coals by the tabloid press or, even worse, different groups of Christians who are upset that he hasn't unequivocally backed their particular agenda when the whole point of his job is that he has to represent everybody. Which is why it's impossible.

But I have theologically-liberal friends who feel betrayed because, having been a supporter of equal rights for gay people prior to becoming archbishop, he hasn't pushed that agenda in office. Meanwhile, some of my more evangelical friends don't even think he's a Christian. 'Isn't he a druid?' one of them asked me a few years ago and that is a misunderstanding that has frequently been repeated in the press. He *is* a druid but he's a druid in the Gorsedd of Wales which is effectively a literary society for Welsh poets rather than anything pagan. He doesn't take part in solstice rituals at Stonehenge (at least not as far as I know!) But it'd be like thinking that *Sir* Alex Ferguson (who is, for some reason, a *knight* of the realm) spends his weekends jousting and rescuing damsels in distress which of course he doesn't. He's too busy chewing gum and throwing boots at Wayne Rooney...

But on the subject of football, I think there are clear parallels between the top job in the Church of England and the equivalent position in the F.A., the manager of the England team. In both cases, what normally happens is that people start calling for the head of the current incumbent in the pages of The Sun saying 'This bloke's useless, what we need is... whoever' so there's a long campaign to elect whoever and, if he wins the first game, he's promoted to sainthood. But as soon as he loses one – which he inevitably will - you're back to calling for his execution. It's almost biblical: 'Hosanna to the son of David one minute', 'Crucify him the next'. And it was exactly the same with Rowan: ten years ago, everyone wanted him to be archbishop because 'What we need is someone with the intellect to make Christian faith credible in this post-Christian world; someone who can stand up to the likes of Richard Dawkins' (as Rowan did recently and has done before) but of course within five minutes of him being installed, people had decided that 'Being extremely clever is all very well but we don't want some ivory-tower academic and what we *really* need is a man of the people, someone with the common touch...'

Well, John Sentamu the Archbishop of York and former bookies' favourite to replace Rowan certainly has that. I was particularly impressed by his performance on the Chris Evans breakfast show last year and so were the producers of the show who subsequently recorded their Christmas special at Bishopthorpe, the Archbishop's Palace. That's what I call engagement with contemporary culture and he would say that that's why he agreed to write a column in the new Sunday Sun but then a lot of people were upset by that because of the whole News of the world phone hacking scandal. I don't know what you think about his decision there: did he sell his soul to the devil by doing that or was he, like Jesus, eating with the Pharisees and tax-collectors in order to win them over to the side of the angels...?

It's a tricky one. But there is now an anti-Sentamu lobby which is why he's the *former* bookies favourite. He's now dropped into third place behind the bishops of Coventry and Norwich respectively (with odds of 3 to 1 from Paddy Power at the time of going to press!) and there are lots of theories as to why that is. Some people think that it's the same unadulterated racism that made many Americans say 'We're not ready for a black present' (although not enough to stop Obama being elected, fortunately). Others see that as 'playing the race card' although I have to admit I'm always nervous when I hear that phrase and the fact is, Archbishop Sentamu has received overtly racist hate mail throughout his ministry including letters with dogpoo in them. I don't know if I'm allowed to say 'dogpoo' in the parish magazine but 'excrement' sounds too formal and I think it would be a sad state of affairs if we were more offended by the word poo than the fact that someone chose to send some of it to the Archbishop of York...

Meanwhile, Dr Sentamu's blackness is a positive advantage for others. The Archbishop of Canterbury is not just the 'deputy head' of the Church of England (the Sovereign being the titular head) but also the spiritual leader of the worldwide Anglican communion. However, the Anglican communion is effectively the former British Empire at prayer and I think it's reasonable to question whether an Englishman should still *automatically* be the leader of it. So someone who was born in Africa (even if they now live in England) might be a step in the right direction for some people...

Ultimately, what matters is that the person that *God* wants in the post is elected, regardless of the colour of his skin so I would encourage all of you who pray to pray that He will raise up the right man for the job (and sadly, at this stage, it can only be a man. Maybe next time...) But to that end, our Bishop, Trevor, has produced the following prayer and I hope you will join me in saying it:

Father and Eternal Shepherd of your people, you never cease to lead your Church with unfailing providence and to guide and nourish your flock.

In your goodness, grant to your Church a holy shepherd to serve as our next Archbishop under whose watchful care we may grow in love and grace.

We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Ravi Holy

BODSHAM SUMMER FAIR



Saturday 7th July, 12 noon-3:30pm

Bodsham Primary School field

(Next to Froggies at the Timberbatts)

Cake Stall

Tin Can Knockout

Inflatable Sumo

Toys Plants and Books Stalls

Face Painting and Nail Art

Tombola

Coconut Shy

Craft Activities

Raffle with Amazing Prizes

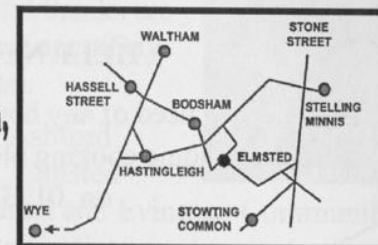
Obstacle Course

BBQ - Ploughman's - Teas

Bouncy Castle

And much much more, so come along and have some fun!

**Follow the Bodsham Fair signs
from Waltham, Wye, Hastingleigh,
Elmsted and Stone Street.**



HASTINGLEIGH WITH ELMSTED WI

Fourteen members attended Hastingsleigh with Elmsted WI on Thursday 7th June at Evington Village Hall.

The meeting was opened by the President who welcomed everyone and introduced Ms Christine Dolby to talk about "Healthy Lifestyle and relaxation techniques"

Ms Dolby has been a yoga teacher for 30 years and a very inspiring speaker who taught us some basic relaxation techniques that could be practised whilst sitting in our chairs. She explained that everyone has some stress in their lives which is not always a bad thing but it is how we deal with it that matters. Having a healthy lifestyle and a positive attitude will hopefully enable us to cope with everyday stresses and problems.

The business of the meeting was then dealt with and Miss Steward told the meeting about her recent trip to Denman College with East Kent Federation WI. This was her third trip and she took "Upstairs Downstairs" as her subject for the three days, visiting several country houses and hearing how the servant /master hierarchy operated.

The competition for an Individual Salad had only one entry !

The raffle for a lovely fuchsia plant was won by Miss Bain.

Flower of the month was won by Mrs Bowes with a scented peach rose.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 5th July and will be an outing to Crabble Corn Mill and Shop at the Mill which is organised and run by two of Hastingsleigh with Elmsted WI members, Miss Steward and Mrs Crees.

Cheryl Crees

HELP NEEDED ???

If you are in need of any housework, baby-sitting or help with some home cooking please contact Eleanor Thrupp on 01233 750243

HASTINGLEIGH WITH ELMSTED JUBILEE PARTY

Around 200 good citizens of Hastingsleigh and Elmsted gathered outside Evington Hall on Monday, 4th June to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a bring-and-share tea party. In spite of the overcast sky and odd drop of rain, a great time was had by all. The tables groaned under the weight of a feast fit for a Queen, and despite the best efforts of everyone present, there was still plenty left at the end!

The Jubilee Hat competition produced some wonderful entries, and the winners of the different age categories were: Under 4: Fern Farr; Age 5-7: Keziah Block; and Age 8-11: Oliver Block. A challenging quiz was set by the Boxall family, the winners of which were the Weyman's team from 'Crab Apple'.



Thanks go to all who brought food, those who helped set up and clear away, the ladies with the tea trays, Richard Dray and Larry Klatzko with Graham Jenner who provided music, Jeff Higgins of Wooden Spoon for donating the delicious jam and finally a big thank you to Robin Helmer and his team who organised the whole thing and without whom the event would never have happened.

The evening of the same day found around 90 folks at Cold Blow waiting for the lighting of the Elmsted and Hastingsleigh Official Jubilee Beacon and what a splendid beacon it was. At precisely 10:15 pm the beacon burst into flames and once established, those present were treated to a fabulous firework display. Grateful thanks are due to Crispin & Amanda Beale, Will & Rupert Day and everyone who helped with the beacon.



Funding for our celebrations came from Ashford Borough Council, Kent County Council, Elmsted Parish Council, Hastingsleigh Parish Council and Evington Community Project. Our grateful thanks to these organisations.

ELMSTED CHURCH LUNCHES & TEAS

Sunday 28th May 2012

We would like to thank everyone who attended the above event, on what must have been the warmest Sunday we have had since the event has taken place.

The many photographs were just amazing. Our local area depicted in so many ways, by so many different pairs of eyes. All the photos were a joy to view. Thank you to all who entered.

The results were:

SPRING — 1st Jack Luck, 2nd Lucy Bullows, 3rd Joshua Block

SUMMER — 1st Jack Luck, 2nd Tony Durrant, 3rd Christine Flitney

AUTUMN — 1st Luke Leutner, 2nd Vanessa London, 3rd Kathy Wright

WINTER — 1st Tony Durrant, 2nd Jack Luck, 3rd Malcome Castle

The culinary delights were as scrumptious as ever, soup, ploughman's lunch, quiche, home-made coleslaw and salads, yummy desserts, cakes.....all were enjoyed in the wonderful grounds of our beautiful church.

Wide selections of plants were available to purchase, which would defiantly brighten up any garden.

The event raised just over £700.

Both **Bodsham School** and **St James the Great** will receive this amount, thanks to Barclays Bank kindly matching the total raised.

VL

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION WINNERS

SPRING



Jack Luck

AUTUMN



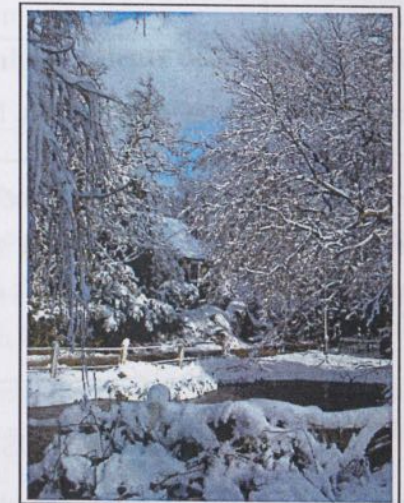
Luke Leutner

SUMMER



Jack Luck

WINTER



Tony Durrant

The top three photographs from each section will be used to make the Elmsted with Hastingsleigh calendar for 2013.

CHURCH SERVICES IN ELMSTED AND HASTINGLEIGH

1st July Trinity 4	9.30 Elmsted: Family Holy Communion (BCP) Preacher: Revd. R Holy	Hastingleigh: As the church is closed, the service will be shared with Elmsted at Elmsted
4th July	9.30 Elmsted: Midweek Holy Communion	
8th July Trinity 5	10.00 Bodsham Family Service at Bodsham School	
15th July Trinity 6	11.00 Hastingleigh: Family Holy Communion (CW) Preacher: Revd. R Holy	6.30 Elmsted: Evensong Preacher: Revd. J Hewes
22nd July Trinity 7	9.30 Elmsted: Holy Communion (CW) Preacher: Revd. M Strong	11.00 Hastingleigh: Holy Communion (CW) Preacher: Revd. M Strong
29th July Trinity 8	10.30 Hastingleigh: Benefice Service Preachers: Revds. M Strong, D Cleveland, L Cross	

Every Monday evening at 6.15pm: Celtic Prayer in the Vicarage, Hastingleigh. You are welcome to come for a cup of tea from 5.45pm.

St Mary the Virgin, Hastingleigh is closed for refurbishment works, which should be finished by 8th July.

ST. MARY'S—MUSIC AND DECORATION

Leonnie Saint has kindly agreed to play the organ on the 4th Sunday of each month, so please make an effort to support these services.

By the time you read this, the church will be redecorated and look lovely once again.

RB



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 4th	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 5th	Women's Institute (Page 16)	7.30pm
Sat 7th	Bodsham School Summer Fair (Page 15)	noon
Tues 10th	Hastingleigh Parish Council Meeting	7.45pm

Note: All events at Evington Hall unless otherwise stated.

Parent & Toddler Group meet every Tuesday - 9.30am

Art Group meet on Thursdays 9.30am - 12.30pm

Mobile Library every Wednesday 10.55am - 11.20am

Housegroup every Tuesday (Hastingleigh Vicarage 812280) 10.00 -1.30am

The Guild of St. John of Beverley for the Deaf

Summer Draw and Barbecue

Despite the weather being against us (again!) we soldiered on, this year de-camping from the garden at Rayshalay to the very much less windy village hall.

A good number of customers and a barbecue outside with stalls and other food inside meant a very blustery evening turned out to be a very warm, happy few hours with plenty of lovely plants for sale and a number of side shows.

Well done to the Guild team, once again all of your hard work paid off and a great sum of just over £600 was raised to support local deaf people.

Being a small but very local charity, the Guild of St John of Beverley for the Deaf is very grateful to those who support our fund raising events.

CHURCH FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA

	St. Mary's Hastingleigh	St. James' Elmsted
Jun 2nd	Mrs Hewes	Mrs Wright
Jun 9th	Mrs Healy	Mrs Thrupp
Jun 16th	Mrs Bowes	Mrs Browning
Jun 23rd	Mrs Helmer	Mrs Jeffery
Jun 23rd	Mrs Ball	Mrs Argar
Jul 7th	Mrs Pell Mrs Homer	Mrs Francesconi

FROM THE EDITOR

The new colour printer and flexibility offered in the production of the "news" in its new form has been well received. Certainly from my point of view there is an enormous amount of time saved on a very tedious job as the machine also collates the pages in order, folds and staples the finished product. One of the consequences of our new printing procedure and the fact that most people now send in their articles ready typed or emailed is that there is now very little or no typing for my team of typists; I would like to thank them for their work over the last few years since I took over as editor.

I must apologise to the Guild of St John of Beverly for failure to include their item in last month's magazine and to the few subscribers who did not receive a loose flyer in their issue.

June has been a busy month so far and at the time of writing summer still seems to have deserted us. At the beginning of the month was the most successful jubilee tea, beacon and fireworks. Our thanks must go to Robin Helmer for masterminding the tea party which we all agree was a great success despite the weather.

EVINGTON GARDENERS

The logistics and complexities involved in running a large commercial nursery were brought home to members during a very interesting visit to Palmstead Nursery in Wye on a beautiful sunny Saturday morning in May. The nursery started at Palmstead, near Bladbean, with just three acres, and after twenty years moved to its present site of 123 acres in Harville Road in 1988. It supplies only the commercial trade, such as councils, universities, large estates, landscape gardeners and, this year, the Olympics. The director, John Langman, conducted the tour round the site, explaining in detail all the workings of such a large operation. He started in the propagation unit where 85% of plants propagated by cuttings (one million a year!), the rest by seed, division (bamboos and some herbaceous plants), and grafting. He moved on through various enormous greenhouses containing thousands of pot-grown plants of varying sizes and where everything is biologically controlled and the watering system computerised. 500 tons of compost a year is made, and some of the machinery involved, such as the automatic pot-filling machine, intrigued some members. After the tour, which lasted one and a half hours and involved a walk of a mile, members were given the opportunity to purchase plants. Our thanks go very much to John Langman for his most interesting tour and for all the trouble he took.

By the time this review appears, members will also have enjoyed a BBQ very kindly hosted by Chris and Sarah Pell at Little Coombe. Our gratitude goes to them also. There is an outing to the Hampton Court Show on 6th July and our Annual Show is on 1st September. As always, anyone is very welcome to come and join us. Further details can be obtained from me, Jane Pearce, on 01233 750382.

JP

Evington Community project

COACH DAY TRIP TO LONDON

Saturday 22nd September 2012

£5 adult, £2.50 child

(payable in advance)



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IN THE GARDEN

The garden has slipped from spring to summer. The Dianthus and Delphiniums are in full bloom and the red currants are already ripening. We seem to have been lucky with the rain, enough but not heavy enough to damage the plants. The cool conditions have also meant the flowers last well. The only downside has been the high winds which damaged some of my Delphiniums although getting in some supports in February and March has helped a lot.

The dry weather in March enabled the aphids to establish in some plants. In my case particularly on the fruit trees, red currants, apples and gooseberries. As the weather warms up they begin to multiply rapidly. This is mainly on the young new growth which curls up protecting them from the elements. This is fine for the aphids but stunts the growth of the plant. I could spray but I am averse to spraying chemicals on food crops. An alternative is to summer prune the crops. This is quite a simple process; new growth is shortened to 3-4 buds, very much like the treatment of Wisteria in the autumn. Later in the year these shoots can be shortened further to 1-2 buds. The lower 2 buds are generally the fruiting buds for next year's crop. This has also the added advantage of allowing better control of the plant shape. The aphids are crafty and as a survival instinct they drop off the plant when the leaves are shaken and walk back up the plant later, so grip the infected region when you are cutting and place the branches in a bucket for composting. Perhaps the main culprits are the ants. They carry the aphids to the top of the plant where they milk them for their honeydew and protect them from their predators. Perhaps I should attack the ants?

The rain has stimulated the growth of weeds, hoeing now is essential before they have a firm hold and start seeding for next year's crop. A good sharp hoe is important and sharpening the hoe and keeping it clean of soil will make hoeing easier, quicker and more effective. Cut the weeds off just below ground level taking a small amount of root to prevent re-growth. Standing on wet soil also tends to compact it, so action with a hoe after weeding is a good idea. A quick hoe in dry weather will control the weeds with least effort. SB

OBESITY, JOIN MY SPONSORED SLIM

I am going to talk about a subject close to my heart this week, obesity. I say close to my heart as undoubtedly some of my excess adipose tissue surrounds the heart in the pericardial sac, more surrounds my abdominal organs, the very worst type of obesity as it relates to risk of developing diabetes and heart disease. That is why during a medical the insurance company want a measurement around umbilicus level, they can then read your risk of death off a chart.

Well I am going to do something about it; already many people have indicated to me that I don't have a snowflake's chance in hell of achieving significant weight loss given my dedication to food and fluid of a certain hue. I propose to lose three stones in the next six months, 17% of my body weight, through increased exercise and decreased consumption of said fluid and food. It would be nice if others joined me in this aim and sent in their weekly weights so I can plot their progress in the weighting room, anonymously or publicly. Remember though to use the same scales throughout or it becomes impossible to be accurate.

Why bother? Well more people are dying in Britain due to being overweight or obese than anywhere else in Europe and around one in every 11 deaths in the UK is now linked to carrying excess fat. The number of fatalities due to obesity may soon, for the first time, exceed those caused by smoking.

Around half of British adults are overweight, and 17 per cent of men and 21 per cent of women are obese.

The difference between being overweight and obese lies in a person's Body Mass Index, which is calculated from weight and height. An adult with a BMI of more than 25 is classed as overweight and one with a BMI of more than 30 is obese.

If you would like to sponsor me in this endeavour, I will be donating proceeds for every pound lost to Fynvola, a local charity caring for people with serious diseases who are in need of respite and to the air ambulance. Total weight loss planned is 42 pounds.

The following are diseases linked to obesity;

Diabetes, many Cancers, Ischaemic heart Disease, Pulmonary embolism, Polycystic ovarian syndrome, Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease, Fatty liver disease, Erectile dysfunction, Urinary incontinence, Chronic renal failure, Lymphoedema, Cellulitis, Stroke, sleep apnoea, Depression, Osteoarthritis, Gout and Gallbladder disease.

So do not allow obesity to take over your life or indeed to shorten it, join me!

Dr Allan Fox, Wye Surgery

A LOOK AT LOCAL RESTAURANTS

Brabourne: The 5 Bells. After a vigorous makeover this popular pub/restaurant starts serving at 6pm, perfect for those not wishing to eat too late. It often has a couple of welcoming open fires. It is a mixture of quirky and professional, and as someone remarked, almost as though there is an obstacle between the good food prepared in the kitchen and the customers, the chief suspect being in all probability, someone trying to be trendy. Our beer battered fried fish – we suspect frozen – was served on a short thick lump of wood with the oil running off the sloping sides onto the table top. When vinegar was applied, this too ran off the board onto the table, thence to the floor. The potato wedges, perfectly cooked and delicious, were served in a half-pint glass and runny mushy peas in a mini kilner jar, difficult to consume with the fork provided. “Use your wedges to dip into the mush”, we were told, obviously a trendy way to eat. That said, some very good cooking goes on here, freshly prepared and with skill and imagination. The menu changes frequently, often with surprising results such as chicken gizzards with poached egg and ham hock ballotine with jellied piccalilli, both greatly enjoyed. The soup of the day has included parsnip, mushroom and tomato, all were first class and imaginative as well as generous; sadly not matched by the tame offerings from the dessert menu. The daily specials are displayed on the wall board and far easier to negotiate than the quirky “*our very own*” trendy menu fondly designed, but hard to read, including misused apostrophes, though the staff retire to the kitchen to chat, kindly allowing plenty of time to navigate through it. The trendiness extends to their membership of the “*square plate*” club, designed by someone who commonly wears waterproof clothing to dine as the eating implements habitually slide off. A round plate will be provided on request to the young and helpful staff. Other meals included a hamburger and various steaks, all delicious. Offers to taste the exceptional beers on offer welcome the customer on arrival and the wines are of a good quality from Chapel Down though the “Bacchus” white was unusually flat. A complimentary plate of bread with oil and balsamic vinegar are offered before the first course and the final bill is always reckoned as good value. A curious combination, the diner feeling that between the kitchen and consumer, an imp intervenes. Remove him and The 5 Bells really would have little competition locally.

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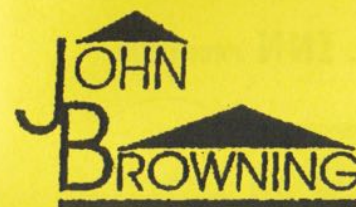
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