

Elmsted with Hastingleigh Community News



October 2021 40p



Elmsted and Hastingleigh Community Contacts

Elmsted Parish Council
www.elmstedpc.org.uk

Hastingleigh Parish Council
www.hastingleighpc.org.uk

Evington Hall (Bookings)
(www.evingtonhall.org.uk)

Evington Hall Committee Hon Sec

ECP Hon Sec

Evington Gardeners Hon Sec

Evington Community Choir

Footpath Walks

Mrs H Ransley 01233 750949

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

Tracey Block 01233 750415
clerk.elmstedpc@gmail.com

Tracey Block 01233 750415
clerk.hastingleighpc@gmail.com

Shelley 07401 908249
bookings@evingtonhall.org.uk

Mrs H French 01233 750483

Mrs S Boxall 01233 750206

Mrs H Ransley 01233 750949

Mrs C Jeffery 01233 750585



October

in Elmsted with Hastingleigh

Contents

In The Garden	11
ECP 100 Club	12
Farewell & Memories	13
W.I. Meeting	16
Walking Group	17
Stelling Minnis Stores	17
Breakfast	18
Dates For Your Diary	19
Evington Gardeners	20
Photo Competition	21
Farming Notebook	22
From The Vicarage	24
Flower Rota	26
Neighbouring Villages	26
Church Services	27

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.

Editor: 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.

PAINTING & DECORATING DAVID FARNFIELD

**FOR ALL YOUR DOMESTIC DECORATING NEEDS
INCLUDING SASH WINDOW RESTORATION
WALLPAPERING
FREE Estimates**



07710 130275
enquiries@davidfarnfield.com
www.davidfarnfield.com

Tree Work Contractor

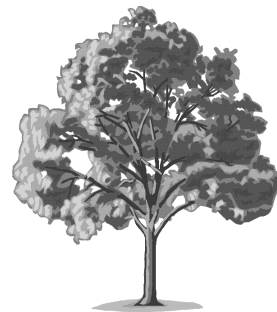
Tree Surgery: Trees shaped, reduced, or removed.

Hedge cutting.

Stump grinding.

Operated van mounted cherry
picker for hire by the hour
(60ft max height, IPAF qualified)

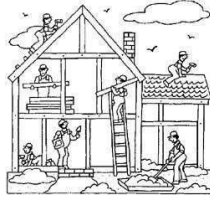
Fully insured with 25 years local experience.



Toby Gardener
Beriscolt
Hastingleigh

07831 473981
(Eve) **01233 750489**
tandrgardener@btinternet.com

General Builders and Property Maintenance



All aspects covered

Glenn Young

01233 750427



Seasoned logs available



free local delivery



Chris Dryland

Property Maintenance

Decking - concreting - sheds - pergolas - weatherboarding

Fencing - boundaries - minor electrical - decorating - guttering

small projects - large projects - emergencies

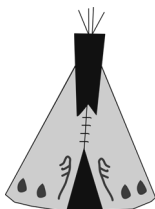
Most aspects of Household and Garden Maintenance

References available

Also

Tipis for hire

www.bighilltipis.co.uk



For reliable service tel: 01233 750350 or 07983 242787

Wye Beauty

Electrolysis hair removal, Anti ageing facials, Microdermabrasion,
Skin tag, red vein and milia treatment
Manicures/pedicures, Threading, Waxing
Ear piercing
Microcurrent face lifting
Chiropodist services
Sports massage, Indian Head Massage
Semi permanent makeup
Spray tanning

Tues - Fri 8.30am - 5 pm.

Sat 9am - 1pm (later by appointment)

Gift vouchers available

40years experience, Fully qualified staff

29 Bridge Street, Wye

TN25 5ED

Tel: 01233 811550

Email: wyebeauty@live.com

www.rtbs.co.uk

Major credit cards accepted

www.bodshamholidaylets.com

The SMITHY

Two Bedrooms
Beamed lounge with
wood burner
Fully equipped Kitchen
Bathroom
Enclosed garden

01233 750042

07989 584801



info@bodshamholidaylets.com



BUILDERS Ltd

**Restoration & Extensions of Period Domestic Property
House Building and Conversions
Design and Planning Services**

Prospect Farm House, Lees Road, Brabourne Lees, Ashford, Kent TN25 6QE

Directors: J.E. and C.M. Browning Bsc (Hons), MCIQB, MASI

Telephone: 01303 813459

Mobile 07770667238

VAT Registration No: 661 7887 90

john@browningbuilders.co.uk

DAVE YOUNG & PAUL HARRIS



Registered Electrical Contractors

**All types of installation work carried out
Fully Insured**

**New Install - Rewires
Fault Finding - Repairs**

FARM DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL

Dave 07830148333 daveyoung86@hotmail.co.uk

Paul 07940983052 paul_s_harris@sky.com

WYE PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC

Jo Bond MCSP

Member of the Organisation of
Chartered Physiotherapists
in Private Practice

tel/fax: 01233 812596

e-mail: jowyephysio@yahoo.com

The White House, 71 Scotton Street, Wye,
Ashford, Kent TN25 5BW

Nick Horton COUNTRY GRASSCARE

Lawn Care, Mowing, Strimming and Brush Clearing
For larger gardens, paddocks and orchards

Small business — Established 13 years
No VAT

Contact Nick on 07787 411685
01233 812848



CHILHAM FEEDS

01227 731159



10am - 1pm Monday - Saturday

Wide variety - Friendly service - Reasonable prices - Large stocks
For Horses, Dogs, Cats, Sheep, Goats, Pigs, Poultry, Rabbits, Birds, Fish etc.
Bedding - Vitamins - Supplements - Conditioners - Accessories

East Stour Farm, A28 Godmersham, Nr Chilham, Kent

ROZ BACON

Moonraker, The Street, Hastingleigh,
Ashford, Kent TN25 5HU

01233 750327 (ans)
roz.bacon@btinternet.com

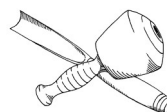
BED & BREAKFAST

*Qualified Guide to City of
Canterbury and
Cathedral Guide.*

*Delightful rooms in a
lovely village.*

MICHAEL RUST

ARTIST, SCULPTOR, PRINTMAKER



Sculpture and carving in wood
Architectural lettering in stone and wood
Fine printmaking and painting

**The Studio, Sycamore Barn, Tamley Lane
Hastingleigh, Ashford, Kent TN25 5HW
Telephone: 01233 750305**

WYNCOT KENNELS

and

CATTERY

(Hastingleigh)

**FOR COMFORT AND PEACE OF MIND
WHERE A WARM CARING ATMOSPHERE
IS ALWAYS AT HAND**

**HEATED KENNELS AND CATTERY
FULLY LICENCED, FULLY TRAINED & CARING STAFF
SPECIAL DIETS CATERED FOR**

*Set in 9 acres overlooking the picturesque Kent Downs, we have 3 large paddocks
where the dogs are individually exercised and played with*

INSPECTION WELCOMED

(8.30 - 11.30) - (2.00 - 5.00)

7 days a week

Phone 01233 750323 for any further details

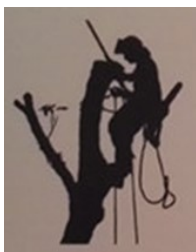
G.A. WATTS Electrical Installations Approved Electrician

NICEIC DOMESTIC INSTALLER

**New installations. Extra points. Complete rewires.
Appliance testing and electrical surveys.**

**Security lighting.
Specialist in sympathetic
Wiring for period properties.**

**For personal attention
And free estimates
(01227) 709376
(07973) 480241**



**City &
Guilds
NPTC
Qualified**

Cedar Tree Care

TOM LINCH

07769908027

linchlot5@gmail.com

All types of work undertaken

Fully insured and NPTC qualified with over 15
years of experience

- Crown Lifting
- Pollarding
- Hedge Maintenance
- Woodland Management
- Crown Reductions
- Dismantling and Removals
- Stump Grinding and Removal
- Mobile Saw Milling

All Year Round Seasoned Logs Available

**Flowers
Gifts
Weddings
Events
Funerals
Plants**

**The Granary
5 Bridge Street,
Wye, TN25 5EB**

**01233 812705
07776 161368**



www.eastkentflowercompany.com

**Opening Hours Tuesday to Friday 9am to 5pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm**

D Wallis Decorating



For all your painting and
decorating needs.

Call **Dougie** on

Home: 01233 750308

Mobile: 07853868901

Over 45 years' experience

Free estimates

FREELANCE HAIRDRESSER

Have your hair styled in the
comfort of your own home

Contact Lynne 07805087232



100% natural, handmade in

Hastingleigh....

* *Soap bars* * *Cleansing Balms*

* *Room Sprays & Neutralisers*

Gift boxes available

www.foxandbloom.co.uk

Call: 07765560275 or 01233 750513

LOGS

Dry, Seasoned Logs.

Ready To Use, Delivered To Your Door

And Stacked.



Vanessa London

01233 750427/

07539 369534



Perennial plants and seasonal
vegetable plants available year round
at The Stall, Mill Farm, Bodsham



In The Garden

You may think that, with the short days of October and a nip in the evening air, the year is over. Well not quite. Michaelmas Day – 29th September - is just past and is one of the ‘quarter days’, the others being Christmas (25th December), Lady Day (25th March) and Midsummer (24th June). They fall three months apart and traditionally they are the dates when servants were hired, rents due and leases begun or land exchanged. The Michaelmas Daisy, flowering between late August and early October, brings colour and warmth to our gardens through the autumn;

“The Michaelmas Daisies, among dede weeds,
Bloom for St. Michael’s valorous deeds.
And seems the last of flowers that stood,
Till the feast of St. Simon and St Jude.”

The Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude is 28 October. Although the flowers are dying down, all is not over in October and the autumn can finish in a blaze of colour with reds and golds typifying this time of year. Rudbeckia and Physalis, or Chinese lantern with their yellow and red flowers, prove the point. Asters, Persicaria, Cyclamen show the warmth of their colours; and among the shrubs and trees, with the concentration of sugars in their maturing leaves, the orange, burnished gold, crimson and bronze predominate. The Acers and Maples never fail to please – just imagine the intensity of the foliage caught in the rays of a setting sun. The true Virginia creeper (Parthenocissus quinquefolia) turns an outstanding red before the leaves fall; a self-clinging climber, as well as being grown on a wall, it can also be grown on an established tree.

Of the fruits, apart from red and rosy apples, (especially the Crab Apple, Evereste, with its small scarlet apples) there is no end to Cotoneaster and Pyracantha berries. If you get the chance, see if you can find a specimen of the Cornus kousa – the Chinese dogwood: the summer flowers are followed by amazing, decorative, strawberry-like

fruits.

Start planning for your next year. The prices for bare-rooted hedge plants will be attractive and the coming months will allow them to become well-established.

In the kitchen garden there can still be the last of the tomatoes in the greenhouse and even the odd cucumber if you grow these. Outside we still have some lettuce to harvest along with freshly-grown spinach. For some reason, this year, radish has been a total failure and unusually we have failed to harvest any. We reserve a few promising climbing beans and allow them to mature and ripen on the plant, finishing the drying on the bench in the greenhouse. Not many pods are needed to provide more than enough seed for next season's crop and, if you use open-pollinated varieties such as Sultana, they can be kept going for ever – I've lost count of the number of years since I needed to buy this seed and I'll swear that germination from such home-grown seed is superior compared to that bought in a packet. This year, probably because the weather has been kinder to our brassicas, we have promising crops of savoy cabbages (already eaten the first) and Brussels sprouts. These latter are a firm fixture on our menu for Christmas Day and we have never had a child who refused our home-grown ones!

Fred

Evington Community Project Club

The winning numbers for the August 2021 Draw are:

1st Prize: No. 106

2nd Prize: No: 78

3rd Prize: No: 9

Many thanks to all of the 100+ Club Members for your support.

Farewell & Thank You

! Recently, Hastingleigh lost a well-known couple of residents when Trevor and Dot Wye moved to Salisbury. Trevor is a world-renowned flautist, who published his own course in learning the flute; and who ran a Studio of players for many years from his home in Tamley Lane. He could be seen every night, patrolling the lanes of Hastingleigh, conversing with the local cats who would come out to receive the treats he carried with him. He and his wife, Dot, have contributed much to the village over the many years they lived here and on behalf of the community we would like to thank them for the many wonderful concerts which raised money for both our church and the village hall. They will be missed. Trevor has sent us some of his memories of their time in Hastingleigh.'

Hastingleigh Memories

It has been sad for us to be leaving the Village with so many memories of good times here. The first time I came was about 45 years ago to play a concert on Christmas Eve, long before we thought of living here. Phyllis Graham was in the Church in the afternoon doing odd jobs. She said, 'You can't rehearse in here. There's a carol service shortly'. We had to play the early evening concert without rehearsal. On moving here years later, the Studio students and I played at the Church each Christmas. The delightful candle decorations in the Choir were very pretty, done by Roz and the BVM – Blessed Village Matriarchs! The students used to rehearse for about 6 weeks before any concert and it was fun to play music related to different parts of the structure of this historic Church. Mulled wine in the interval was a treat too. Having Gordon's Crib was also wonderful and how very lucky the Church is to have that. It was a pleasure each year to help Gordon to put it up and finally taking over from him and

adding some electronics. Robin kindly filmed the concert and gave each student a CD to take home as a souvenir, which was much appreciated. We also played for the Gardeners' Society, at which Sarah's cheese board was outstanding.

Phyllis left some references to the local fields in the cottage which prompted me to make a map of the field names in 1839, which now hangs in the Village Hall. At tea with Gordon one day, I told her I had seen a poster for the Village play and Dot and I would like to go. 'You are NOT to go!' She told me. 'I know you. You will only laugh!'

Before the Christmas dinner at the Hall each year, I asked Avis, for a favour: 'Please can we have Bendick's Bittermints instead of After Eights?' After a few years, Avis gave in and just for one dinner we had half Bendicks and half After Eights. When there was a Village sale, we always went to the cake table first to get some of Jean Bowes' lovely cheese scones.

I often had to go abroad to play concerts and give classes and recently checked up and found that I had visited Japan 26 times in the 32 years at Hastingleigh and about the same number of times to the USA.

Long before we moved to Tamley Cottage, I used to visit Gordon and Phyllis for tea on Sundays. She told me her radio reception was bad. 'Its all those Heelio-Copters!' she said. We often used to have morning coffee and sometimes dinner with Bill Sedgwick and Gordon. One morning, Bill said he was looking for someone to read out the names at the Remembrance Service on Sunday. I told him, 'I'm used to talking in public. I can do it.' He said, 'You can't read out the names! You weren't an officer!' At dinner with him, each place had a silver cruet set. Before he came to dinner with us, he would phone and ask, 'Yumpers or Yackets?'

We had 173 students during the 30 years of the Studio, with some extra ones as daily visitors as well. A lot of Americans, Taiwanese, Koreans and Japanese came - and one only Englishman. A Studio Newsletter is still sent out 4 or 5 times each year to all those who still keep in touch with us. Several students are in fine orchestras around the world. Dot was the cornerstone of the Studio: always providing drinks, meals, sympathy and advice to everyone. We

couldn't have done it without her!

Because of Gordon, I got to know several artists in the area: John Ward, Gerry Norden, John Daley and many others. I decided to have a regular dinner two or three times a year of artists, musicians and composers. The first of several was attended by about 12 well-known people. Earlier, when I visited the pub to arrange for the private room, the landlord asked, 'What's the name of this organisation?' I hesitated and then saw a card on the notice board behind him advertising weight lifting. 'It's the Weight-Lifting Society' I told him. He looked astonished later when twelve elderly people arrived for dinner.

The students and I walked every night at 19.42, visiting various cats and dogs in Elmsted and Hastingleigh, and chatting. The students visited Carol and Andy for lambing - a great treat for those brought up in cities. Some brave ones even helped with the births. We also played to a few local schools to encourage the children to take up an instrument. In January each year, we visited Michael Rusts' workshop to observe his skills with wine to follow.

Having Sue and Charles, John Hughes, and Deirdre and Michael as good neighbours was wonderful; and also having Judy to help us at the house. Sue and Paul Boxall, too, who also became good friends with the students and entertained them. We shall also miss exchanging jigsaw puzzles with Pat and Ken.

For a few years, we had an annual master class at Wye College with Anne Nichols as the very helpful Secretary. Students came from all over the world to study there.

Many famous players visited the Studio to give a day's class at the Cottage including Sir James Galway, who stayed with us a couple of times. It was a great treat for the students when we had dinner together.

It was also a great pleasure to write and photograph a short Guide to the Church before leaving here.

We shall miss the Village folk, and Jelly, Kato, the cheery morning greetings from James and his crew with Ted, and especially Angel who came on long walks with me.

Greetings to everyone from Dot and Trevor

Hastingleigh with Elmsted W.I.

Hastingleigh with Elmsted W.I. met on Thursday 2nd September 2021 at the Evington Hall.
15 members attended.

This was our first meeting since March 2020! It was so lovely to be able to meet up again. As this was our first meeting back, we didn't have a speaker, but discussed some business and what we would like to do at meetings going forward. We welcomed back those that attended and had a catch up over tea and coffee. There was also a minute's silence held for lost friends and loved ones. We are looking forward to receiving speakers again, but will also be looking at having some speakers from further afield to talk to us over zoom.

Our Flower of the Month Competition was successfully moved online during the period we were unable to meet. This will return to normal at our next meeting, with members bringing in flowers from their garden to be voted on.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 7th October at 7.30 p.m., in the Evington Hall, where we will be having a talk on Suffragettes. Any new members will be made most welcome, and we hope to see more of our current members next month.

Marie Wenham

Walking Group

This month we were lucky with the weather again, and it was a lovely evening for walking. Five of us, plus a somewhat reluctant dog, met at the hall for an easy amble across the field to the crossroads then on to Staple Lees where we met a sixth member of the group. We walked over to Bass Close, across the harvested fields, then up the lane to the byway and back across to the Waltham road. We then went down Canterbury Lane as time was running out before it got dark and the insects started biting. After the heat of the day, it was pleasant to be out in the relative cool of the evening.

Our next walk will be on Sunday 10th October, meeting at the hall at 2pm.

HR

Stelling Minnis Stores

We are one of seven post office branches that are trialling “DPD pick up” service. If you are not available to receive a parcel then the DPD driver will drop off your parcel at our Post Office where you can collect it. Currently, this is the only DPD service we provide. Hopefully, more services may be available in the near future.

We have taken over the Post Office for a year now and we would love to hear from you. Please visit: www.postoffice.co.uk/feedback. Just enter “Stelling Minnis” and select our branch to get started. The purpose of this post office is to serve this community and it is important that we hear your voice so it can better suit your needs. Additionally, if you do submit feedback, you are entered into a prize draw for the chance to win a One4all gift card worth £100.

As peculiar as it is, Christmas is within viewing distance and we have already ordered this season’s turkeys! If you want to get ahead this winter, please speak to us at the counter or call us.

Have a lovely month and good luck to those involved in the harvesting season.

Xinyang and Sijia

4th Friday Breakfast

Do you fancy a delicious full English breakfast
(with coffee, tea, toast, etc.) on a Friday morning?
Evington Hall 9:30 – 10:30 starting FRIDAY 22nd October,
followed by 26th November and 17th December.

Come and have a chat and a meal
RSVP Roz.bacon@btinternet.com or 750327
so there is an idea of numbers.

Last month at Waltham Church we celebrated the harvest, so
we will have a harvest theme for the October breakfast.
All profits from the October breakfast will support the RABI
(Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution) charity,
which is in keeping with our harvest theme.

Dates For Your Diary

Tues	5th	Toddlers	09.30 - 11.30
Wed	6th	Coffee Morning	10.30 - 12.00
Thurs	7th	WI Meeting	19.30 - 22.00
Sun	10th	Walking Group	14.00
Tues	12th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
Tues	19th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
		Evington Gardeners	19.30 - 22.00
Wed	20th	Evington Community Choir	10.30 - 12.00
Fri	22nd	Breakfast	09.30 - 10.30
Mon	25th	Trustees meeting	19.00 - 21.00
Tues	26th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
Wed	27th	Evington Community Choir	10.30 - 12.00

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

All events at the village hall unless otherwise stated.



Library Van

The mobile library van will be at
the hall on

Tuesday 26th October,
09.45 - 10.15

Evington Gardeners

This month the Evington Gardeners' Society were able to arrange a visit to Hurst House, and despite the threat of rain, we had an interesting and enjoyable afternoon.

Although it is late in the season, there were still lots of flowers around, providing vibrant splashes of colour against the backdrop of shrubs and trees. It is very much a woodland garden, but with a couple of large expanses of lawn framed by interesting and well stocked borders. The tour started on the curvy front lawn and moved on past a vegetable patch to the stable yard which was crammed full of a huge variety of containers planted with a huge variety of plants. We then followed the path through the woods where the artistic talents of the owner and her family become very much apparent, from the painting of the owl on the back of the stable building, to the concrete sculptures and the paintings and decorations on the trees. Every log, tree stump, mound and tree has some kind of ornamentation to catch the eye, as well as statuettes of fairies and woodland sprites lurking in the undergrowth. Beyond the wood, there is an open grassy area with fruit trees and a (very) mini golf course and a spectacular view across the valley towards Elmsted and Stone Street. We wandered back to the large expanse of rear lawn, past a pond and shaded paved garden, full of figurines and other interesting objects. Here, on the lawn, we sat and admired the colours of the shrubs and flowers in the surrounding borders, while enjoying a cup of tea and a piece of delicious cake.

This really is a most impressive garden and is well worth visiting, and has to be one of the village's best kept secrets.

Hurst House, situated along the Waltham road, can be found under the National Gardens Scheme, and will be open next year during July and August. However, due to a lack of parking space, it is essential to pre book your visit.

Later this month, the gardeners will attend the annual dinner which is to be held at the Farriers in Mersham.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 19th October. The speaker is Ms Katherine Hook who will talk about her motorcycling life. She will also bring some of her sloe gin chocolates!



WIN UP TO £1,000 FOR YOUR VILLAGE HALL

The Village Halls Podcast
WONDERFUL VILLAGES
Photo Competition 2021

It's back! This year we're teaming up with The Village Halls Podcast to bring you our 'Wonderful Villages' Photo Competition.

Win up to £1,000 for your Village Hall and £500 for the photographer. Plus other cash prizes. Entry is free and no purchase is necessary.

To give you plenty of time, this year's competition will run until 21st November 2021. For more information and to enter visit:
www.thevillagehallspodcast.com/photo-competition



Allied Westminster

The home of VillageGuard®, the UK's most popular insurance policy for Village Halls. Visit: www.villageguard.com

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) - Registration number 308386

Farming Notebook

Well, we can finally raise the song of harvest home. “All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.” Words from one of the most popular hymns at harvest time, Come ye thankful people come.

We are indeed thankful for the harvest, but this year there is the added feeling of relief! Chatting to another farmer, and checking the diaries of past years it was agreed that this has been one of the most challenging harvests-but not quite the worst in my farming career. Summer, this year, seems to have gone missing. Absolutely no sunshine in June set the scene for lack of yield and quality. The damp, overcast weather just continued into July and then August. We had to wait until September to get a week or so of really hot, dry, sunny days.

Grass seed was the first challenge. Stormy weather had battered the crop and encouraged new growth. The combine had to tease the seed bearing stems through a tangled mat of new green shoots. The moisture content of the seeds was off the scale, but the crop at least was in the barn. Oilseed rape followed, again very wet, but harvestable. To delay would risk the delicate pods splitting open in wind and rain with the seeds shattering out and the crop being lost. Then on to the wheat. Although “fit” it was still damp and needed drying. One thing that I have learnt over the years is that you cannot rely on the weather. Once mid August arrives, if the moisture content of the wheat is below 20%, the combine rolls. You just cannot wait and hope that tomorrow will be a brighter day – it usually isn’t!

As September arrived we still had a little wheat to cut and most of the oats as well as starting the potato harvest. Tractors and trailers were at a premium but we managed to keep both harvests going. It was notable that the 6th September was the first and only day that we produced a dry trailer load of crop off the combine. In total for the 2021 harvest we had 5 hours of harvest where we produced a crop that did not need drying! Such a contrast to 2020 when the dryers

were not required at all.

Combining was completed on 9th September, and potato harvest two days later. A massive effort by all those involved. Thanks to them all.

Thank you too to those in the village and on the roads for putting up with tractors and trailers running back and forth to the grain store and for the holdups when the combine has to be moved. If the combine has to travel down Curtis Lane it is usual that I will drive ahead and stop the traffic for a few minutes to avoid vehicles meeting on the narrow lane with no passing places. 99.999% of the people I chat to whilst they wait are very understanding and would rather wait than have to reverse the length of the Lane. There is always one..... One evening a driver took exception to me asking if he would mind waiting for a few minutes whilst the combine was coming. "b*#^*# farmers blocking the roads all the time-shouldn't be allowed. In fact, you should be banned during rush hour!" I pointed out that for me every hour was rush hour and which one in particular had he in mind....

Last month I highlighted that there was only 5 days left before the optimum planting date for oilseed rape. At the time the wheat was still standing in the fields destined for the OSR. We missed the ideal sowing date but not by much. It took six days to cut the wheat, bale the straw, cart the straw, apply fertiliser, cultivate the ground, plant the crop and roll it in. The tiny rape plants now have two true leaves and we have our fingers crossed that soon the plants will be robust enough to withstand the pressures of flea beetle and slugs.

Tomorrow we will plant our herbage seed. A little late, but should be OK, especially if we get a shower of rain. This year we have decided to plough the ground because of the amount of chopped green straw left behind by the preceding oat crop. At least it has given Phill a chance to get his plough set and shiny in time for the local East Kent ploughing match which is now only a week or so away. By the end of the month we will be well into wheat drilling and the whole cycle starts all over again. Or to put it another way with another harvest festival favourite ..."We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land"

From The Vicarage

Well, here we are facing another autumn and it doesn't really feel like we actually had a summer! For some, who don't enjoy really hot weather, I know cool summers are not a bad thing. But for those of us who like to bask, there is a real sense of having missed out. Especially because we were only just out of restrictions and looking for something to brighten us up.

One thing for sure, buying new clothes wasn't going to brighten anyone's summer. I've never seen so many shops full of drab colours, shapeless clothes, and styles I distinctly remember my grandparents wearing. (And yes, I know that makes me sound old, but I wanted cheerful clothes post lockdown, not drab!) Likewise, I'm in the really unusual position for me, of going to a wedding on Saturday, as a guest!

This does not happen very often at all, so I thought, having lost so much weight, and there being no smart clothes in my wardrobe, I would go out with Abi and we would treat ourselves to a smart outfit each for the wedding, that would be suitable for future events as well. While we wandered around Bluewater, from shop to shop, we bumped into a lot of other ladies also looking for wedding/function outfits, and we had all come to the conclusion that there were none to be had.

Now it doesn't take a genius to realise that post lockdown there would be loads of weddings, and therefore lots of people trying to buy wedding outfits. But, apparently the post Covid clothes buyers had not achieved this simple feat. Whether this was because the designer/manufacturers had got it wrong or whether the buyers had, I wouldn't like to say, but considering the high street, judging by all the closed units and names that have disappeared from our options, is in danger of permanent decline, this outcome is not a good one.

Coming out of lockdown was the perfect opportunity to create a "new normal". A chance to start with fresh ideas, new points of view and many other things I don't have the word count to include, means that this really does feel like a missed opportunity.

I can, by this point, hear you crying, “what has this to do with the vicar’s article in the parish magazines?” Well the answer is that much of what I have been saying about the high street is also true for the church.

If I had come through the pandemic having lost people who were dear to me, with my mental health perhaps not quite as robust as it was, and with a strong sense of needing something new, I might think about visiting my local church.

However, if on attending, I found it to be drab, badly fitting and encountered others feeling equally disappointed, I would probably walk away as disappointed. As for clothes, we turned to the internet, but with church, we did that during lockdown and are now looking for something with actual human contact.

So why am I criticising my own institution you may ask. Well, I would like my post pandemic church to be lively, varied, welcoming, colourful and a good fit no matter what my needs.

To this end, those of us who make up the church are looking for new ways to work together, to support each other, to make newcomers feel at home, and most importantly, not to go back to what once was, in a bygone age. (Like the granny clothes come round again!)

If you would like to join us you would, I hope, feel very welcome, and more than that, invited to let us know what you would like to find in a service. In my four churches, we plan to continue offering communion, some services which look back and some that look forward, a family service which is great for kids and adults of all ages, and hope soon to be able to restart Messy Church, perhaps with a new format. We may even try the occasional modern song.

What would you like to find in a church service if you came along? What would entice you to return the following week or month? I’m happy to hear what you think, and happy to try and provide what you would like.

And as my gran used to say, “if you don’t ask, you won’t know!”
Happy Autumn everyone.

Lorraine

**CELEBRATION SERVICE FOR CLIVE MARSHALL
AND MELITTA (LORNA) HIS WIFE
(Late of Sole Street, Crundale)**

FOLLOWED BY THE JOINT INTERNMENT OF THEIR ASHES
At Crundale Church CT4 7EX
On Tuesday 12 October 2021 at 1.00 P.M.

All who knew them are welcome at the Service, and to
join the family for refreshments afterwards
Please wear cheerful clothes




Village Coffee Mornings.

Come and join us for coffee, tea and a biscuit
along with a chat and good company.

Every month, 1st Wednesday Evington Hall,
3rd Wednesday Waltham Hall,
4th Wednesday Petham Hall Foyer.

Starts 10.30.




This month's church flowers and cleaning volunteers:

	St Mary's	St James
Sep 25 th	Mrs Bowes	Mrs McFarlane
Oct 2 nd	Mrs Helmer	Mrs Hewson
Oct 9 th	Mrs Bacon, Mrs Geering	Mrs London, Ms Flitney
Oct 16 th	Mrs Sharp	Mrs Francesconi
Oct 23 rd	Dr & Mrs Lawson	Mrs Green
Oct 30 th	Mrs Day	Mrs Calcutt

Parishes up the Hill Rota – October

<u>Date</u>		
03/10	First Sunday	09:30 – Petham – Communion
10/10	Second Sunday	09:30 – Waltham – Communion
17/10	Third Sunday	09:30 – Elmsted – Communion 11:00 - Petham – Family Service with Harvest Festival
24/10	Fourth Sunday	09:30 –Hastingleigh – Communion
31/10	Fifth Sunday	10:30 – Benefice Service at Wye for all of Wye Benefice
<p>All communion services are for all four congregations to worship together.</p> <p>Please do not attend if you are at all unwell</p> <p>All are subject to it being considered safe for our church services to continue - For up to date service info after the magazine goes to print, visit the Wye Benefice website. https://www.wyebenefice.org.uk</p>		

*St Mary the Virgin
Hastingleigh*



*St James the
Great
Elmsted*



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: Roz Bacon
 01233 750327, Chris Cox 01227 700378. United Wye Benefice 01233
 813793 www.wyebenefice.org.uk

In aid of the LORD WHISKY SANCTUARY FUND
(Registered Charity 283483)
Park House Animal Sanctuary, Stelling Minnis CT4
6AN
Tel: 01303 862622

End of Year Boot Fair & Clearance Sale

Saturday 2nd October

at Park House Animal Sanctuary, Stelling Minnis

Boots from 8am - all boots just £5
Christmas Cards & Puddings ~ Tombola ~ Refreshments
Admission by donation ~ Ample free parking

Quiz Night - Saturday 18th December

From 6.30pm at The Lord Whisky Tea Room, Rhodes Minnis

£10pp to include a Ploughman's Supper

Prize for the winning team - Raffle

Teams of up to six. Ring 01303 862622 / 862349 to book

~~~ ~~~ ~~~ ~~~

## **Visit the Lord Whisky Tea Rooms Gate Lane, Rhodes Minnis CT4 6XY**

Open every day from 9am-4pm

Delicious breakfasts, lunches and snacks

Sunday Roast—booking advisable

Also open Friday evenings from 6pm-9pm for  
delicious Fish & Chips or Scampi & Chips

Eat-in or Take-Away

For more information or for reservations, ring 01303 862349

## Stelling Minnis Stores

New phone number : 01227 709306

E-mail: [dumptonpo@hotmail.com](mailto:dumptonpo@hotmail.com)

Opening times:  
Mon - Sat 7.30 am - 8pm  
Sunday 8.30 am - 2.30pm



POST  
OFFICE

Open when the  
shop is open  
01227 709639



Stocked by Co-op  
Fresh fruit and veg  
Fresh bread and  
Filled rolls  
Local honey, eggs  
Canterbury ale  
Logs Kindling  
Smokeless coal  
Preston's Forstal  
Marsh apple juice  
Korkers sausages

## Lady Painter



ALL ASPECTS OF PAINTING,  
INCLUDING FURNITURE

CONTACT CHRISTINE FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

01233 750378 07866 002627

Email: [cfoxelmsted@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cfoxelmsted@yahoo.co.uk)

## **C J LILLEY**

**General Building & Maintenance - Period Property Specialist**

Chimney Specialist • Roof Repairs & Alterations  
Leadwork • Small Extensions • Oak Framing  
Hard Landscaping • Fencing • Drainage  
Interior Alterations • Painting • Fully Insured

**H:** 01227 730209

**M:** 07908 553655

**E:** cjilley58@hotmail.co.uk

**W:** www.cjlilleybuilders.webs.com

**A:** Danewood, Crundale, Canterbury CT4 7EF



## **RICHARD GILBERT**

*PLUMBING & CENTRAL HEATING*

Established 25 years

**Oil & Gas Central Heating Specialist** – OFTEC & Gas Safe  
Registered Landlord's Gas Safety Certificates.

Wood Burning Stove Installations - HETAS registered  
Central heating installations and systems updates; oil boiler and  
oil tank installation and replacement; gas boilers, fires, cookers  
and hobs. Chimney sweeping and Flue Liner installations.

**All Domestic Plumbing including** – Power flushing, un-  
vented hot water systems, bathroom and showers including  
tiling, hot water cylinders, water softeners, sink, dishwasher  
and washing machine installations, replacement radiators  
and thermostatic valves.

01233 812566

07860 877836



# **Containerised Storage**


**available locally**

**Fully secure**

**Indoors or outdoors**

**Competitive rates**

Please phone 01233 720871 /email:  
info@tdenneandsons.co.uk for further details



## **K.P Decorating Services**

- Interior Decorating
- Exterior Decorating
- Floor and wall tiling
- Laminate flooring
- General house maintenance

pip\_peters@icloud.com

www.kpdecoratingservices.com

**Call: 07956455720**

## AFB ELECTRICAL LTD

Electrical Contractor



**All electrical work undertaken**  
**Electrical condition reports**  
**Heating controls - including the new**  
**smart "nest" thermostat**

Contact Andy Burchell:  
01233 632424 or 07739 259953  
[aburchell@afbelectrical.co.uk](mailto:aburchell@afbelectrical.co.uk)

## BOSSINGHAM GROUNDWORK & LANDSCAPING

EXCAVATION  
CONCRETING  
DRAINAGE  
CAR PARKS  
DRIVEWAYS  
BRICKWORK



PATIOS  
PONDS  
TURFING  
FENCING  
PLAYGROUNDS  
EQUESTRIAN ARENAS

M: 07894 007 660      W: 01303 890 704  
[WWW.BOSSINGHAMGROUNDWORKS.COM](http://WWW.BOSSINGHAMGROUNDWORKS.COM)



PLAY LEARN GROW

## **Bossingham** pre-school

- Children aged 2-5 years
- Experienced & friendly staff
- Quiet rural location
- Breakfast & after-school clubs

Situated in purpose-built premises, within the grounds of Stelling Minnis Primary School, we offer creative and stimulating activities to help the physical, social and educational needs of every child. There's an all-weather outdoor play area, optional breakfast club available from 8am and after-school club available until 6pm.

visit: **bossinghampreschool.co.uk**  
or call: **01227 709156**

**NAC Registered**

Fully Insured

Chimney Lining

Pots & Cows

Fireplaces Fitted

CCTV Surveying

Stoves Installed & Service



## **P J Sweeps**

**Phillip Joiner**

**Chimney Engineer**

**Over 12 Years' Experience**



**We are now Rotary Sweeping which removes soot and tar build up more efficiently than normal manual sweeping effective and deeper clean. We are one of the few sweeps in the area that offer this service.**

**01227 700 909    pjsweeps@hotmail.co.uk**

**WWW.PJCHIMNEYSWEEPS.CO.UK**



## Kent business owner?

**We can handle all your Trade Waste needs**

**0344 880 7700**

**COUNTRY**style  
RECYCLING

**AF** AJ Fortescue & Son Ltd  
BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS

EXTENSIONS, ALTERATIONS,  
REPAIRS, GROUNDWORK

Trustworthy, Reliable,  
Long established local business

Waterside Farm, West Brabourne,  
Ashford, TN25 5NA  
Tel: 01303 813108

E-Mail:  
office@ajfortescueandson.co.uk

## SARAH de ROUGEMONT UPHOLSTERY

*Established 1990*

Loose Covers - Fabrics  
Roman blinds  
*All commissions considered*



**07973 377817**  
**01227 455841**

## **Luci Pollard Ltd**

### **Book-Keeping – Payroll – Accounts**

Making Tax Digital – Workplace Pensions

VAT Returns – Purchase & Sales Ledger – Profit & Loss

Cash flow forecasting – CIS Returns – Payroll

150 Bridge Street, Wye, Ashford TN25 5DP

Tel: 01233 813213

Email: [lpollard@lucipollardltd.co.uk](mailto:lpollard@lucipollardltd.co.uk)

## **CD MORRIS**

### **Carpentry**

Renovations and General Building

Including erection of oak buildings

Full installations of Kitchen and Bathrooms

Tel: 01233 740242 or Mobile: 07895 806033

Spaces **BIG** and SMALL from £10 per week



Find us between Chilham and  
Wye on A28

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

Call us on 01233 812631  
or pop in for a chat

Monday-Friday 9-5

Saturday 8-1

& we will be happy to help



**NOW  
BASED IN  
WYE**



- Airport Transfers
- Cruise Holiday Transfers
- Large MPV available
- Reliable & Competitive

**Chauffeur Service**  
**01233 629 551**  
**07801 476 789**  
**info@etmcars.co.uk**  
**www.etmcars.co.uk**

**BOYS & MAUGHAN**  
Solicitors

**boysandmaughan.co.uk**

## Peace of mind

- Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Care fees planning
- Estate and tax planning
- Trust creation

Boys & Maughan has been providing expert local advice for over 200 years.

**Get in touch today:** Contact Simon Crooks at our Canterbury office.

**Phone 01227 207000 Email [stc@boysandmaughan.co.uk](mailto:stc@boysandmaughan.co.uk)**

**Boys & Maughan Solicitors, Court Chambers, 9-10 Broad Street,  
Canterbury, CT1 2LW**

# S.C.S.

*Cesspool / Septic Tank Emptying Service  
For That Quality Service*

***Southern Cesspool Services***



*All Types of Tanks Emptied  
Septic Tanks/Cesspool Tanks  
Treatment Plants  
High Pressure drain jetting  
Soakaways etc*

*Regular Automatic Bookings*



**01233 646767 / 07773 491356**



Card Payment  
Accepted



[www.southerncesspoolservices.com](http://www.southerncesspoolservices.com)   [info@southerncesspoolservices.com](mailto:info@southerncesspoolservices.com)

## LOGS & FIREWOOD

**For Good Quality,  
Seasoned**



**Ash or mixed logs  
(dry)**

**Ring John Austen**

**(01227) 700570**

# The Bowl Inn

at Hastingleigh in Kent

thebowlonline.co.uk

01233 750354

**'PUB OF THE YEAR 2012, 2017, 2018 & 2019!'**

A beautiful 1740's public house on the North Kentish Downs  
...581 feet above sea level.

15 consecutive years in CAMRA's good beer guide: 2007-2021  
Ashford, Folkestone & Romney Marsh pub of the year: 2012, 2017, 2018, 2019

Open from 5pm on Thursday and Friday, and open from midday over the weekend.  
Closed Monday to Wednesday. Families welcome. No dogs except guide dogs.

## Hastingleigh Garage

***Motor Vehicle & Agricultural Engineer***

***MOTs, Welding***

***Vehicle bodywork repairs & spraying***

***Hastingleigh Yard, Hastingleigh, Ashford, Kent***

***Telephone 01233 750413***