

Elmsted with Hastingleigh Community News

*St James the Great
Elmsted*



*St Mary the Virgin
Hastingleigh*

March 2019

40p



Elmsted and Hastingleigh Community Contacts

Elmsted Parish Council

Tracey Block 01233 750415

Hastingleigh Parish Council

Tracey Block 01233 750415

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

Shelley 07401 908249
bookings@evingtonhall.org.uk

Evington Hall Committee Hon Sec

Mrs H French 01233 750483

ECP Hon Sec

Mrs S Boxall 01233 750206

Evington Gardeners Hon Sec

Mrs H Ransley 01233 720152

Evington Community Choir

Mrs C Jeffery 01233 750585

Art Group

Mrs V Kerry 01227 700843

Footpath Walks

Mr D Harris 01233 813711

Women's Institute

Mrs J Bowes 01233 811875

Parent and Toddler Group

Mrs L Lawrence 01233 750987

Neighbourhood Watch Hastingleigh

Mr G Block 01233 750415

Neighbourhood Watch Elmsted

Mr J Argar 01233 750311



March

in Elmsted with Hastingleigh

Signs of Spring are springing up around us, daffodils starting to bud, crocuses blooming and warmer weather. There are some suggested gardening jobs, on page 5, now that the weather is encouraging us to spend time outside. The History Enthusiast has been able to find out more about the mystery of the painting from Elmsted church (p15).

Donations are being requested for Easter flowers (p21), new toys for the Toddler Group (p23), and the Spring Tombola (p23), please give generously if you can. The Jumble Sale was a great success, raising approximately £600, thank you to everyone that supported the event. As always letters, articles and comments are very welcome.

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Submissions

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

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

Editorial: elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk

Advertising: shepandali@hotmail.com

Secretary: secretary.communitynews@gmail.com

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

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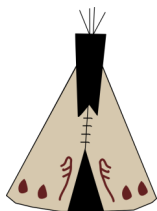
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References available

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Hastingleigh with Elmsted Women's Institute

The real Mr Selfridge

Hastingleigh with Elmsted W.I. met on Thursday the 7th of February 2019 at the Evington Hall. 21 members attended, and we also welcomed 1 guest.

We discussed various items of business before our speaker, Mr Ian Porter, gave us a talk on The Real Mr Selfridge and the History of Shopping. Mr Porter gave us a very interesting talk on Mr Selfridge and his contribution to modern shopping. Mr Selfridge moved from the United States to England in 1906, aged 42. He wanted to open a new style of store. Existing stores were built up from smaller business, no one had opened a brand new store from scratch before. He built the store in Oxford Street the land was cheap but the area also had potential, especially with the newly built central line. Mr Selfridge performed cutting edge market research to ensure his store would be viable. In

1909 the store opened. He employed 1800 staff, personally picked from 10,000 applicants. Selfridges was the first store to openly display goods. There was a rifle range on the roof to entertain the men whilst their ladies shopped. When Louis Bleriot became the first man to fly the Channel, his plane was displayed in Selfridges for 4 days, during which time 150,000 people visited the store to view the plane. To counteract unpleasant smells such as horse dung, Mr Selfridge placed a perfume counter at the front of the store, something that is still common practice to this day. In 1912 during the suffragette riots every store window was smashed, except Selfridges; which had a display using items in the suffragette colours. He was very good to his staff and was the first to reward rather than fine. The store was extended in 1924 to the store that exists to this very day. He coined the phrase "the customer is always right".

The Flower of the Month winner was Barbara George and the winner of the February competition, a shopping container, was Yvonne Helmer.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday the 7th March at 7.30 p.m., in the Evington Hall, where we will be having a talk entitled Travels with my Chicken. Any new members will be most welcome.

Marie Wenham

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In The Garden

Time to prune the roses

March winds may blow, not half on these hills, but the days are lengthening fast now. Bird song changes as though they sense the coming warmth and breeding season and energetic uplift of the cosmos – I don't just mean the flower. It's a definite time to start some sowing and, may be, catch up with those essential garden tasks that you put off when the wet winter weather was no temptation to get in the garden. (Note to self: I really must tidy the garden shed!)

Our clump of snowdrops, that herald of the spring, gave a good showing last month and the catkins were filling the hazel branches. A few days of warm weather in the middle of February brought our Christmas Box fully into flower with its creamy white flowers and heady scent that attracted, not only ourselves, but also pollen collecting honeybees, two ladybirds, some small pollinating flies and one butterfly. It's not too early to sow some hardy

annual flowers now. The Honeywort (*Cerinth major Purpurascens*) can be sown under glass or indoors now ready for planting out in May for the bees who adore it. If you love it too then that's OK for it readily self seeds which ensures a continuity of supply year after year. Another hardy annual attractive to bees is Sweet Alyssum with its honey-like fragrance and long flowering season. The seeds germinate readily but need light so barely cover them with a scattering of vermiculite.

Roses should be pruned and cut back, harder than you think, so you will be rewarded with vigorous growth as the plant fights back. Cut to outward facing buds and feed and mulch with 3" of strawy manure if you have some to hand. For the hybrid teas reduce all growth to about 30 cm above ground and open up the centre of shrub roses and shorten the shoots by one third.

In the vegetable beds plant onion setts, shallots and first early potatoes such as Arran Pilot or Pentland Javelin. These could have been set up in light from early February to chit which is said to bring them on earlier to harvest, but if you haven't then don't despair, just plant in friable soil and once they are up they should be protected from frosts with a fleece or flower pots large enough to cover the foliage.

Brussels Sprouts can be sown in modules under glass or in the green-



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In The Garden cont.

house for they need a long growing season to reach their potential of the most flavoursome dish for the autumn and not forgetting Christmas dinner. Lettuce too can be sown under glass on an inch or so of well watered compost with the small seeds covered with only a trace of vermiculite and gently pressed down. Do not over water the lettuce or they will be in danger of suffering from 'damping off' and disappearing

almost overnight. As soon as these small plants can be handled they can be potted on into a general purpose compost in individual small pots to keep then growing well until the weather warms some more and they can then be hardened off over time ready to be planted outside. Sprouts especially benefit from planting deep so that the first leaves are level with the compost to make sturdy plants.



‘So they do say...!’

A Russian biologist wrote that the air in a pine forest is almost germfree due to the ‘phytoncides’ released from their needles. This substance is also found in spices, onion, garlic and oak trees.

Walnut trees also have a substance in their leaves which is

dangerous to insects. Long ago, garden designers were advised to plant a walnut tree with a seat underneath which would provide both a comfortable place to sit and for folks to be able to relax almost mosquito free.

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Evington Gardeners

In November, Mr Philip Oostenbrink gave an illustrated talk about the Gardens and grounds of Canterbury cathedral, past and present, tracking the history and development of the cathedral grounds since the land was first given to the church by King Ethelbert.

In December, the gardeners held their Christmas party with a musical performance by Trevor Wye and the Studio Players followed by cheese and wine.

At the January meeting, Lorraine introduced Melanie Gibson-Barton, who gave a talk entitled "From Passchendaele to Peace? – did the war end in 1918 or did it only pause." This was the 3rd time that Ms Gibson-Barton has spoken to Evington Gardeners about topics inspired by her long connection with Belgium, especially Bruges, and her fascination by the first World

War. Through her meticulous research, fascinating facts and statistics were presented through a series of photographs, maps and charts, but in no way like a history lesson. The photos, old and new, depicted scenes from the war interspersed with photos of the many memorials erected to commemorate brave deeds by individuals, events and emotional representations, such as the statue of a soldier comforting a wounded horse. The next set of photos carried the viewer through the years following WWI, showing scenes of devastation, the rebuilding of France and Belgium, including the gathering of munitions and the use of artefacts by the local people, and events during the years leading up to WW2, and Hitler's pilgrimage to the battlefields in 1940. The final set of photos showed the incredible strength of spirit of the people who were involved in the horrors of these years. It was a truly inspirational and thought-provoking presentation.

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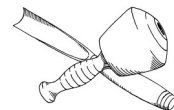
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The Evington Hall Jumble Sale 2019

The 26th January saw a queue forming outside the Hall
ready for our Annual Jumble Sale.

A busy few hours raised over £550.

With some late sales to come in, we should top £600,
a fabulous result.

All proceeds go to Hall funds.

Huge thanks to everyone responsible for this success – those
who donated, who sorted and set up, served on the day
and cleared up afterwards.

Please contact me if you would like to be involved in next
year, it is more fun than it sounds!

01233 750 495/07831 127192 Kate Day

Evington Community Group

The 2019 AGM of Evington Community Project
will be held on Monday 4th March at 7.30pm
in Evington Village Hall.

We are a small group who organise events for the
community throughout the year ie. Film Nights,
craft events, London trips etc. all funded through the
Spring Fair and the 100 Club.

If you would be interested in joining us or are interested to
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Nature Notes

Season's Meetings

Fallow Deer stand like silken beige silhouettes against the greening winter wheat and woods, one always standing at attention – often the stag. Whilst listening to trees a Buzzard emerges, silently but clumsily; not to circle and soar on the thermals as in Spring and Summer making its plaintive cry - so seemingly fit for a much smaller bird – now more content to lurk on the fringe of a wood seeking out voles and rabbits or road casualties. Bushy-tailed, skipping, fearless Squirrels are the young ones; still hiding food that they may well forget.

In January under a waning moon vixens and dog foxes are calling menacingly at midnight. The vixens are in season now and beginning to seek out a territory. The cubs will arrive with their cloudy blue eyes in March and April. The dog fox will bring food to the nearby earth. There are

separate covies of ten English Partridge and nine French Partridge in Bodsham. The English are survivors in a world where they are punished by lack of good habitat, lack of insects and a surfeit of crows and magpies. Each covey represents a family from the Summer. They roost in a circle in the middle of a large field all looking outwards, on guard. In January and February the parents will tell their young to move on, to find new fields and hedges. The English Partridge is one of the most endangered birds in Great Britain. We have a duty to preserve them. Huge flocks of Linnets lift away from the forage-rich stubble on the one hundred acre Gordon field in Bodsham.

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From The History Enthusiast

Mary Honeywood

Last month's article 'So they do say' referred to a picture in Elmsted church inscribed with details about Mary Honeywood of Charing and the 367 children that had descended from her. It asked the question where is that Honeywood picture now. The mystery is solved. Sir Filmer Honeywood 11th bt. is the keeper of the Honeywood records and has commented: "I, too, would like to know its present whereabouts, as I sent it with others to a picture restorer in London in 1969, who did not return it with the others and claimed that it went missing after a party in a house or flat close to his studio. It is rather a long and complex story and, although I have a copy of the police note of the report to them at their London West Central station, they subsequently closed

it and lost or destroyed their records. The portrait did eventually surface around '94 in Whitstable, but, despite photographic and other detailed information, a Kent Police Inspector said that they did not consider there was sufficient evidence that a crime had been committed; and, in the meantime, it was smuggled out of the country!

I registered the portrait with The Art Loss Register, and am sending a colour photo of it separately.

There are several similar, but not necessarily identical, portraits, of Mary, including one in Lincoln Cathedral Library and another owned by the Earl of Radnor, as well as a bad copy in my own possession. The stolen one was painted around 1600 by Marcus Gheeraedts the younger."

The painting Sir Filmer has sent can be seen using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ybue4lsl>

History Enthusiast

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Thank You

On behalf of my family and myself I would like to thank so many of you for your support to us at the loss of our dear Peggy. We have been so buoyed up by the many cards and letters of condolence, but especially by the joyous farewell she was given at St Mary's on January 23rd.

I also want to offer my thanks for the cards and greetings for my major birthday on the 31st. These last few months have not been easy, but I feel personally very grateful for the amount of support which I have received from so many quarters. Sunday,

the 3rd February, was happily a sunny day, as I presided at the Holy Communion at the culmination of my ministry here. It was a joyful event, followed by a delicious lunch with many of you from the village and the Benefice. My thanks go to Roz, who masterminded it, but also to all who provided such a wonderful choice of mouth-watering desserts.

Peggy and I certainly made the right choice, when we chose to retire to Hastingleigh and this quarter of the North Downs, and these last weeks have certainly confirmed for the family and me the rightness of that choice.

With my sincere thanks,
John Hewes

Community News Subscriptions

Please return the enclosed envelope along with your £4 annual subscription to your distributor as soon as possible.

Many Thanks.

I apologise for not enclosing the envelope last month

Church services in the Parish Upon The Hills

03/03	First Sunday	09.30 - Elmsted - Group service for Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Petham & Waltham.
10/03	Second Sunday	08.00 - Waltham - BCP Communion 10.00 - Bodsham School - Messy Church 11.00 - Petham - Communion
17/03	Third Sunday	09.30 - Waltham - Communion 11.00 - Hastingleigh - BCP Communion 11.00 - Petham - Family Service (no communion) 17.00 - Elmsted - Choral Evensong
24/03	Fourth Sunday	09.30 - Petham - New Family Communion 11.00 - Hastingleigh - Communion
31/03	Fifth Sunday	10.30 Wye Benefice Service Mothering Sunday Communion 10.30 Waltham, Mothering Sunday family service. No communion

This month's church flowers and cleaning volunteers:

St Mary's

St James'

Mar 2nd Mar 9th	Mrs Boxall Mrs Pell	Mrs Gregory Mrs Pay
Mar 16th Mar 23rd	Mrs Young Mrs Jerrom	Mrs Fox Mrs Leutner
Mar 30th Apr 6th	Mrs Bacon, Mrs Geering Mrs Sharp, Mrs Hill (Mothering Sunday 31st)	Mrs Green Mrs Calcutt (Mothering Sunday 31st)

Diary Dates - March

Tues	5th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
		Library Van	09.45 - 10.15
Wed	6th	Coffee Morning	10.30 - 11.30
		Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00
Thurs	7th	W.I. Meeting	19.30 - 22.00
Fri	8th	Whist Drive	19.00 - 22.00
Sun	10th	Footpath Group	14.00
Tues	12th	Toddlers	09.30 - 12.00
		Hastingleigh PC Meeting	19.45
Weds	13th	Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00
Thurs	14th	Elmsted PC Meeting	19.30
Tues	19th	Toddler Group	09.30 - 12.00
		Library Van	09.45 - 10.15
		Evington Gardeners	19.30 - 22.00
Wed	20th	Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00
Tues	26th	Toddler Group	09.30 - 12.00
Weds	27th	Evington Community Choir	19.00 - 21.00
Sat	30th	ECP Film Night	18.00

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

All events at the village hall unless otherwise stated

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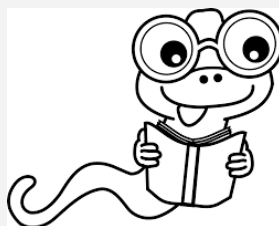
Club Draw

The latest winning numbers
for the Evington
Community Project 100 club
draw are:

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3rd Prize: No:



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Tuesday 19th March 09.45 -
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Easter Flowers

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for St. Mary's church, Hastingleigh please contact
Jean Bowes 01233 811875



Whist Drive



Friday 8th March, 7pm start in the village hall.
Proceeds split between the hall and the W.I.

Police Contact

There is now a general number that can be used to contact
the Rural Liaison Team in our area

07980 978202

There is further information available on the notice board
in the Evington Hall

Diocesan Lent Course

Starting on Tuesday March 12th, there will be a lent course
in Hastingleigh Vicarage, 10.00am.

A chance to follow the diocesan lent course in an informal
setting, with refreshments, and friends.

Do come along and join us.

For more details or to sign up, contact Drew on 01233 750987 and
leave a message, or email, andrew.lawrence99@icloud.com



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Requests For Donations

Hastingleigh Toddler Group is your local toddler group, run by volunteers for children up to 4-5 years of age. We have a number of different toys for the children to play with but as is to be expected some of these are starting to wear with use and we would like to introduce some new toys.

We are making a shop to introduce a new element to the imaginary food play. As such we are asking for donations to enable us to introduce different items to the kitchen that are new and exciting. This will include items such as pretend tins of food (already made), whole wooden

food such as fruit and vegetables, a set of scales (already purchased) and shopping bags (already purchased).

In order to achieve this, we are asking for donations to allow for the purchase of new items for the shop. All donations gratefully received no matter the size, as every little helps. If you would rather purchase an actual item rather than give money, then let us know and we can give you a link to the toys we are looking at.

Donations can be given to Marie Wenham at 1 Bowlfield, Hastingsleigh.

Thank you in advance.

Evington Community Project Spring Fair Tombola Prizes

Please start collecting items for the Tombola such as

Food & Drink (please check it is in date)

Gifts & Toys (new)

Please give your donations to either

Sue Boxall (Quackers, Hastingsleigh)
or Tracey Block (The Briers, Hastingsleigh)

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Indeed They Do Say!

Following on from last month's 'So the do say!..' the following might be of interest. Remarkable really that there appears to have been such fecundity locally in the 17th century; also a connection with the Honywoods. The photo is of a marble memorial in Smeeth church dated 1654 to the two Mrs Scotts.

The inscriptions to the ladies is as follows:-

*Priscilla Scott Daughtr to Thomas
Honywood of Elmsted Knight wife
To Robert Scott of Mersham Esq by
Whom shee had Nine Children
Whereof foure now living: Shee
Died in ye 52 Yeare of her age
Ano Dni 1648*



*Mary Scott Daughtr of John Moyle of
Buckwell
Esq wife to Robert Scott of Mersha Esq who
Died Decembr 30th 1652 aged 54 being formerly
Maried to Richard Godfrey of Wy Esq
By whom she had 22 children whereof 16
Baptized being ye first yt Mrs Honywood
Of Charing a Great Grandmothr in ye 5th Generatio*

Who lived to see 366 issuing out of her loines

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Farming Notebook

February is probably the bleakest month of the year. Often wet and windy, sometimes snowy, but usually with not much going on in the fields.

We choose February to get through our annual inspections for the Assured Combinable Crops Scheme (ACCS), Farm Assured British Beef and Lamb (FABBL), and this year, for the first time for a long time Assured Produce (AP). The latter is for the sale of our ware or eating potatoes into the super-market outlets.

It is a time when literally weeks are spent collating information in preparation for the inspection. So much seems obvious, but we have to write it down and have a record. Grain storage is a major part of ACCS. Records have to show that moisture content and temperature of the grains have been monitored and controlled. Moisture content is important because the market demands less than 15%, but temperature is also critical. Temperatures below 10 degrees C practically stop any insect activity in the stored crop. There are "pit fall" traps buried in the grain to check

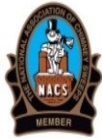
for insects and the inspection of these has to be logged. Cleaning records for all the machinery have to be kept and presented. It is quite clear that we look after our equipment, it is clean and well maintained, but we must write down each time the pressure washer is used and each time the engine oil is changed.

Fortunately most of the cropping records can be retrieved from our agronomy programme. All our work plans are generated by this programme and once the plan is complete it becomes a work record. All soil testing, operator details, crop analysis and field histories are kept and can be retrieved by the touch of a button. This saves a great deal of time and paper.

We have a similar programme which will manage the grain and potato stores. We have not used it for the last couple of years because the stores are full for a relatively short time and it seemed an unnecessary expense. Now that we are having to comply with Assured Produce we will bring this programme into play for the coming season.

We must have certificates of lawful disposal of farm plastics including triple rinsed chemical containers. There must be a licence granted by the Environment Agency for a designated area where we can wash off the sprayer and have a bonfire-only for the burning of material generated

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Farming Cont...

on the farm such as hedge cuttings. The burning of a broken pallet is a real no no!

FABBL requires all the livestock movements throughout the year including birth and deaths are recorded and written down. Cleaning records of the livestock trailer with the correct disinfectant have to be shown. Calculations for barn area and trough space provided for each animal have to be worked out and written down. Drug records including drug batch numbers and vet dockets have to be kept and shown.

Staff training records which include certificates showing competence for spraying, fertiliser application, quad bike usage, slug pellet application, chain saw use, rodent control, first aid, and forklift operation have to be current. For most, annual refresher courses are needed and the resulting certificate produced for the inspector.

Assured Produce requires a whole new level of compliance. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCPs) have to be undertaken for every step of the potato production process. From "what would you do if a hydraulic pipe burst on the potato planter?". ("Mend it" is not an acceptable answer!) Right through to ensuring

that any staff involved with grading the potatoes do not have mobile phones , watches or jewellery which could be lost and appear in a bag of potatoes on the supermarket shelf. The latter, despite the fact that any potatoes destined for human consumption are sent off the farm in bulk and will be graded again...

Everything that is required of us to get our "red tractor" accreditation for cereals, livestock and produce is justifiable. Most of it obvious. That is the problem! We just have to get into the mindset to write down and record everything, even the obvious. So much for my aspiration of a paperless office!

Another issue that has been occupying February days is the steady stream of agrochemicals which are having their licences withdrawn. As a result many chemical active ingredients which allow the levels of crop productivity of recent decades are no longer available to us. The frustration is that often decisions are made politically and not scientifically. Alternatives which are far less effective will have to be used. The irony will be that we will have to spray more not less with every chemical withdrawn. In the past there was always a new product about to come on stream to replace lost or ineffective chemicals.

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Farming Cont...

This is no longer so. Business does not want to invest the multi millions required to develop a new product and risk it failing due to a political whim.

On the herbicide front we are about to lose Diquat, a vital tool in growing seed potatoes. This will provide us with a real challenge, and I am convinced that as a result some potato varieties will disappear. Roundup (Glyphosate) is again under threat. There is no alternative except to wind the clock back forty years and control grass weeds with multiple cultivations. Using more metal and more fuel despite Mr Gove saying he wants us all to direct drill and throw away the plough! Joined up thinking? I think not!

My concern is that the government will be desperate to avoid food inflation post Brexit and will allow food in that has the benefit of using all the chemistry which we domestically have chosen to ban. To me, it seems logical that if we choose a standard of production for domestic food production the same rules should apply to imports. This will not happen. It does not happen. GM, chlorine treated chicken, hormone treated beef will flood in because they are cheap and allow us to trade manufactured goods with the US and others. I live in hope that we will value our food, for its quality, its safety and provenance rather than cost.

Soon it will be March. Spring will be on its way. Crops will start to grow and optimism will return...

W Wilson-Haffenden

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