

Elmsted with Hastingleigh

Community News

Lest We Forget



*St James the Great
Elmsted*



*St Mary the Virgin
Hastingleigh*

November 2020

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

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Women's Institute

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Mrs S Boxall 01233 750206

Mrs H Ransley 01233 750949

Mrs C Jeffery 01233 750585



November

in Elmsted with Hastingleigh

Autumn is here with leaves, conkers and chestnuts littering the ground. This time of year is normally a busy time, with a number of events happening, sadly most aren't able to happen this year. Bodsham CEP School isn't able to run their normal open days for children starting school in September 2021 but they are able to offer private social distanced tours of one family at a time, contact the school office on 01233 750374 to arrange a tour of our beautiful local school. On the 8th November, the Remembrance Sunday service will go ahead at the memorial, but it will be a socially distanced event; please wear masks (unless exempt) and use hand sanitiser.

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.

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Advertising: advertising.communitynews@gmail.com

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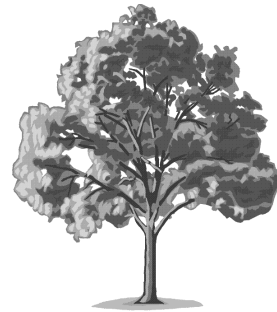
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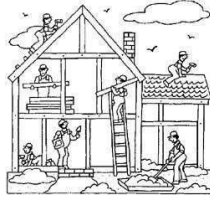
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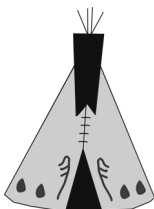
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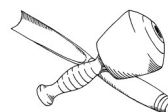
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Hastingleigh with Elmsted WI

I have been given Parish Magazines covering the last three decades, and I'd like to share some of the W.I.'s news from there. Many things have not changed in that time – interesting talks from speakers, raffles and competitions, but some other gems have popped up too.

Baby bonnets were knitted for a raffle in June 1989, and members continued to make them for the William Harvey Hospital. The Institute entered a team for the Village Quiz and 'got within three points of the winners'.

Also in June 1989, there was a report from our national A.G.M. The National Treasurer ended her report with a plea to make the W.I. 'an organisation that no woman can afford not to join'. A speaker at that meeting, Joanne Foster from the Equal Opportunities Commission, felt that women were 'still discriminated against, in spite of more opportunities, and urged us to be proud of our skills, and to be more positive and self-confident'.

Our half-yearly Council meeting was held in October that year, with talks about the Channel Tunnel and the Rail Link, and a special meeting was to take place in Godmersham to discuss the future of the W.I. and ways to encourage new members. At our Institute's Annual Meeting in November, the President, Mrs. Gunn, said that although our Institute was small, there was a great team spirit which was very much appreciated.

A Christmas card was received from Frau Purie in Hamburg. She, her husband, daughter and grandson had been adopted as a Displaced Person family 35 years previously. They were supported with gifts of food, clothing, bedding and money for several years, and members felt they knew them all well. They no longer needed help, but news was occasionally heard from them.

Fiona Steward

In The Garden

November is upon us and we can reckon this is the start of winter for the garden. Earlier on the temperatures were above average and some vegetables that I had planted out ready to stand through the winter to come to harvest in the spring were growing dangerously fast such that I feared winter lettuces, for example might heart up before Christmas. May be not with a frost or two. The bonus was second flowering of roses, winter flowering Jasmine and Ceanothus.

Heavy rain has, at last softened the ground after the long spells of dry weather this summer which does mean that I can now lift carrots without them breaking off although the sweet corn plants had developed such strong root systems that they were a job to lever out with a fork through the soft soil.

So what needs doing? Where perennials have finished flowering they can be cut back and annuals cleared away making things nice and tidy. Apples should have been picked and stored away in boxes in a hopefully cool shed. Long ago my Dad had an old orchard with all sorts of old varieties of apples that he got identified through the Smallholder magazine. He then built and insulated a shed as his apple store and I can still remember the wonderful aroma of stored apples as you opened the door to get supplies for the house. The difficulty is that they need to be stored at cool temperatures and we gardeners do not have the luxury of a temperature controlled store and as far as possible the fruit need to be sound. I store ours in cardboard trays with each fruit separated by a moderate amount of screwed up newspaper, but not covered. It's then an easy matter to keep your eye on them so that any that start to deteriorate can be weeded out and consigned to the compost heap.

Our apples are stored in our mower shed along with strings of white and red onions hanging from the beams. Also, for the first time, we are storing squash. Nine Sweet Dumpling are in there, each not touching the next. In October three butternut squash were late laggards and we were not sure if they were even going to ripen

properly, so we covered them with glass leaving a gap so any rain that fell would fall on the heart of the plant and help keep that alive. As I am writing this mid October I can't tell you if this was successful.

From November onwards is a good time to take hardwood cuttings from shrubs, climbers and fruit. Most deciduous shrubs such as Abelia, Deutzia, Dogwood, Forsythia and roses can be propagated this way after the leaves have fallen. Select healthy shoots that have grown this year and remove the soft tip. These can be cut into sections 15 – 30 cm long cutting a sloping cut just above a bud at the top to shed water. The other end can be cut straight across. A trench of friable soil enriched with garden compost is prepared and the cuttings can be dipped in rooting hormone before being placed in the trench soil leaving a few buds above ground level. They should be left undisturbed to allow roots to develop below ground before lifting them in the spring once signs of growth appear, but don't be in too much of a hurry.

Cuttings from soft fruit bushes can be treated in just the same way and if you are short of time in the autumn this method can be used in the spring before buds break out.

Fred

EVINGTON COMMUNITY PROJECT



The winning numbers for the October 2020 Draw are:

1st Prize: No. 19

2nd Prize: No. 27

3rd Prize: No. 48

Next draw to be held virtually on **Saturday 7th November at 11am.**

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

History Enthusiast

More items of interest from Elmsted Parish Council meetings 1907-1916

1907: Rev T Hill elected chairman, Walter Weatherall elected clerk and assistant overseer; T Nickolls of Dundas Farm elected councillor vice Sir J Honeywood, J Vickers and W Brice; F Brice to be school manager following death of Sir J Honeywood. Councillor R Pilcher was now of Great Holt farm.

1908: Call made for overseers' expenses of 18s 10d; Clerk's salary to be £13; District Surveyor to be advised of neglected state of hedges at top of Dean Hill and to open disused road behind Six Mile House. Committee formed to deal with government poultry lectures.

1909: Clerk's salary revised to £11; Post Office to be asked to make a second delivery and collection; Hastingleigh sub post office to be a money order, savings bank and licensing office; pillar box to be placed near Elmsted church; G Fagg to be school manager.

1910: Little recorded.

1911: Call made for £1 5s 0d to defray parish expenses; T Nickolls and F Brice elected overseers.

1912: Little recorded.

1913: J May, W Spillett and E Young elected councillors vice G Fagg, F Brice and J Newman; all councillors were stated to be farmers; T Nickolls to be school manager.

1914: Precept made to overseers for 16s 0d comprising Returning Officer's fee 5s 0d, parish expenses 10s 0d and stamps and stationary 1s 0d; minute book stamped by Kent audit office; Mrs Irby of Evington Place appointed to the Kent county relief committee; T Nickolls and W Spillett elected overseers.

1915: Vote of thanks to Walter Weatherall for 29 years of office; F Naylor elected clerk and assistant overseer; scheduled rates 1s 6d in £ on agriculture land and 3s 0d on buildings producing £216 7s 0d.

1916: Scheduled rates 1s 1d on agricultural land and 2s.0d on buildings.

(To be continued) History Enthusiast

Church Recording

For many years the national organisation, NADFAS, through its local societies, has promoted very detailed recording of our historic churches. This has not been done for St. Mary's Hastingleigh and a group of us are now going to do this for our special historic building. If you would like to join us please contact Roz Bacon asap. (This may take a year or more, and we shall meet mornings as well as doing research at home).

Roz Bacon 750327

November Happenings

2nd November, 1936 - The first regular TV service was started by the BBC. An estimated 100 TV owners tuned in.

4th November, 1843 - The 5.5m statue of Lord Nelson was hauled to the top of its 60m column in Trafalgar Square.

10th November, 1871 - Henry Morton Stanley tracks down missing Scottish explorer and missionary David Livingstone to the shores of Lake Tanganyika.

16th November, 1724 - Highwayman Jack Sheppard is hanged at Tyburn, London in front of an estimated crowd of 200,000.

18th November, 1852 - A massive state funeral for the Duke of Wellington is held in London.

20th November, 1947 - Princess Elizabeth married her cousin Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten at Westminster Abbey.

22nd November, 1963 - The world mourns at the news that President John F Kennedy had been shot and killed in Dallas, Texas.

24th November, 1859 - Charles Darwin publishes his book Origin Of The Species.

26th November, 1922 - Archaeologist Howard Carter and the Earl of Carnarvon gaze into the tomb of Tutankhamun for the first time.

30th November, 1936 - One of London's best loved landmarks, The Crystal Palace burned down.

Wood For Burning

Beechwood fires burn bright and clear
If the logs are kept a year:
Chestnuts only good they say
If for years 'tis stored away:
Birch and firwood burn too fast,
Blaze too bright and do not last.
But ashwood green and ashwood brown,
Are fit for a Queen with a golden crown.

Oaken logs, if dry and old
Keep away the winter's cold:
Poplar gives a bitter smoke,
Fills your eyes and makes you choke:
Elmwood burns like churchyard mould,
Even the very flames are cold:
Applewood will scent the room:
Pearwood smells like flowers in bloom:
But ashwood wet and ashwood dry,
A King may warm his slippers by.

ANON

One Mystery Solved!

On good authority the ring in the hill field above Evington House was the lunging area for the Honywood horses. Being on chalk it was drier than lower down.

RB

Stir-Up Sunday

Stir-up Sunday is an informal term in Anglican churches for the last Sunday before the season of Advent. It gets its name from the beginning of the collect for the day in the Book of Common Prayer, which begins with the words, "Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people". But it has become associated with the custom of making the Christmas puddings on that day. The Christmas pudding is one of the essential British Christmas traditions and is said to have been introduced to Britain by Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria (the reality is that the meat-less version was introduced from Germany by George I in 1714). Most recipes for Christmas pudding require it to be cooked well in advance of Christmas and then reheated on Christmas Day, so the collect of the day served as a useful reminder.

Traditionally, families gather together in the kitchen of their homes to mix and steam Christmas pudding on Stir-up Sunday. Parents teach their children how to mix ingredients for the pudding. Everyone takes a turn to stir the pudding mix for each person involved is able to make a special wish for the year ahead. Practically, stirring the mixture is hard work, therefore as many as possible are involved. By tradition the pudding mixture is stirred from East to West in honour of the three wise men who visited the baby Jesus. In some households, silver coins are added to the pudding mix. It is believed that finding a coin brings good luck.

In recent times, two-thirds of British children surveyed, revealed that they had never experienced stirring Christmas pudding mix. It comes with their parents' preference for ready made-mix of puddings available in grocery stores.



Church Services

<u>Date</u>		
01/11	First Sunday	09:30 – Hastingleigh – Communion
08/11	Remembrance Sunday	10:45 for all services Petham at memorial outside Waltham inside with social distancing (Numbers may be restricted) Elmsted & Hastingleigh at Memorial
15/11	Third Sunday	09:30 – Waltham - Communion
22/11	Fourth Sunday	09:30 – Elmsted – Communion
29/11	Fifth Sunday	09:30 – Petham - Communion
<p>All communion services are for all four congregations to worship together, and please bring your own bread (and wine if you would like).</p> <p>Please do not attend if you are at all unwell</p>		

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
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Treasurer - Community News

The Poppy Appeal

This year is going to be very different. Due to COVID-19 reasons there will be no traditional door-to door collections anywhere. Please look out for pop-up stalls for extra items, including enamel 2020 poppy lapel badges, and commemorative VE75 badges. As an entirely safe alternative to handling cash, the Poppy Appeal will be very grateful to receive your donation direct by text - just set up 70545 as a new contact, then send a text.

** To donate £2 please text POPPY2 to 70545

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This month's church flowers and cleaning volunteers:		
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Nov 7 th Nov 14 th	Mrs Bacon Mrs Geering Mrs Sharp Mrs Hill	Mrs London, Ms Flitney Mrs Francesconi
Nov 21 st Nov 28 th	Dr & Mrs Lawson Mrs Day	Mrs Green Mrs Calcutt

Wye Surgery PPG

Staying Safe

Although we are often told to 'stay safe', there are many regional, local and personal variations in the interpretation of how that can be achieved in any given situation.

The Covid 19 crisis is continuing into the winter, further exacerbated by winter flu and other seasonal health pressures, so patients may be forgiven for contemplating the coming months with some trepidation. The major shift to online clinical and other health related services happened at great speed and has left some people, particularly those with long term health problems, feeling rather distanced from direct sources of medical advice and reassurance.

As the number of cases rises, so does our individual and collective anxiety and that includes anxiety about the safety of hospitals and clinics, which can lead to harmful delay in seeking the medical intervention or treatment we really need. Covid 19 has made us all painfully aware of our own vulnerability, the vulnerability of those around us, and our dependence on health professionals, who are providing services at a time of unprecedented pressure. On the plus side we now know more about the virus and which treatments may be most effective.

NHS England has carried out a consultation on a “Framework for Involving Patients in Patient Safety”, which looks at how healthcare professionals can encourage patients to be partners in their own healthcare safety. The consultation found that patients’ inclination to speak up might be shaped by how worried they are, the perceived importance of their needs, relative to those of other patients, staff workloads and priorities, their confidence in their grounds for concern and the likely consequences of speaking up.

However, although patients may be concerned about how any greater engagement could be received, they themselves are uniquely qualified to raise concerns about their care, given that they are the only ones present throughout their treatment. They and their

relatives know best what is normal for them and can often pick up subtle signs of physical or mental change before they are clinically apparent. If for some reason, patients are unable or reluctant to ask questions, friends and family members can be encouraged to ask questions on their behalf.

Asking the right question at the right time may not only help you to 'stay safe' but can also contribute to the safety of others and of the wider community.

Judith Timms
PPG Chair

‘So they do Say.!

Look overhead on a clear night: the W-shaped group of stars is called Cassiopeia. The faint smear of fog a little below the second bump of the W (counting from the left) is the Andromeda Galaxy. It is moving towards us at 64 miles a second and will eventually collide with us.

In West Sussex last spring, six storks were born, the first for 600 years.

A piece of tinfoil wrapped around the stalk of a banana will make it last several days longer. It works!

Contrary to common belief, the experts are telling us to make tea with boiling water which has been allowed to cool for about two minutes. Twinings stipulate adding a little cold water to the pot or cup before adding boiling water (Daily Telegraph). It does seem to make a little more flavour.

We breathe 25,000 times each day.

TW

Farming Notebook

There seems to be an element of De'ja vu with our October weather. The rainfall pattern is almost identical to last year. In 2019 the weather broke, after a long dry spell on 24th September. This year it was 26th September. Already we have had 5 inches (125mm) of rain in the first two weeks of October, and again drilling is a very stop start affair. Very frustrating...

Prior to planting we have spent a great deal of time repairing the damage caused to our soils during last winter. After a very long dry spell the soils were in an ideal condition for subsoiling. We have been through almost every field. Deep tines, spaced half a metre apart, have lifted the top 30-45cm of the soil profile and caused it to crack and fissure allowing both air and water in deep down, restoring the structure.

Over 2000 tonnes of farmyard manure have been spread in good dry ground conditions, some from our cows and some from Thomas Castle's dairy farm in Petham. All has been very well rotted and will provide nutrient, but more importantly, organic matter to the soil. It will be the equivalent of rocket fuel for the following wheat crops. The manure was incorporated into the top layer of the soil as soon as possible after the spreaders to avoid any nutrients escaping into the air, and to conserve moisture.

I am very nervous about getting the ground after the potato crop planted before it gets too wet. It can turn into a bog very quickly. I was thwarted this year because the wheat variety/fungicide trial plots were due to go in one of the ex-potato fields, and not all the variety samples were ready until the 8th October. The ground was already wet, and very greasy on top. Our usual cultivation was just not possible, so we decided to plough directly in front of the drill. It did a fantastic job.

Planting the trials is very time consuming. The plots are drilled at right angles to the tramlines. 75 metres long and 12 metres wide for each variety. Thank goodness for our GPS steering! After every plot the drill has to be cleaned out. A new seed is then loaded, the

metering roller primed with seed, empty collection bag weighed, a calibration sample delivered into the bag, bag weighed, weight entered into the control box and the required weight in Kg/Ha set. The calibration process works out how much seed is delivered per rotation of the metering wheel in grammes. Every sample varies as each has a different TGW (thousand grain weight). All the plots were drilled at 300 seeds per metre square. So, for a variety with a TGW of 54 grammes, that is $54 \times 300 = 162 \text{ Kg/Ha}$. For a variety with a TGW of 49 the required rate is 147 Kg/Ha. As you can imagine, this process takes several minutes, and had to be done 21 times!! It took as long to calibrate each variety as it did to drill it. Over all it took five hours to plant 1.8 Ha (<5 acres). Very slow, especially when the storm clouds are building...

Thankfully after a lost day with rain we managed to get the whole field planted around the plots. In a few days we will be able to see the fruits of our labour.

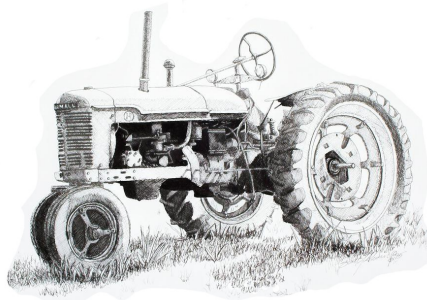
The cold store is now down to the storage temperature of 3°. The potatoes will remain in good condition and dormant at this temperature. The tubers are a living thing so must not ever get any colder as any frosting will kill them and cause decomposition into a horrible mess. The store temperature probes have a SIM card and broadcast their readings straight to my laptop in the kitchen. First job of the day, over my muesli is to check the temperatures...

Although there is still a bite of grass in the fields, the cows are keen for some dry food. We keep the rings topped up with hay. This is particularly important as the weather turns colder and wetter. With full tummies the cattle are alright outside, but they are beginning to make a mess around the feeders and water troughs. We are gradually bringing the cattle closer to home, and getting the yards ready. Soon bulls, cows and calves will all be snug in the barn. It is too early to wean the calves, so for a couple of months we will keep them with their mums. The creep feeders will be brought in so the calves can still help themselves to a bit more grub. It is important to keep the calves growing and not let them lose condition when they come off grass. All the animals have done well, despite the long hot summer. We need to maintain the cows and not let them get too fat.

To start with we will feed our thrashed hay. They will be quite happy with that and nibbling their straw bedding. We will save the silage until later.

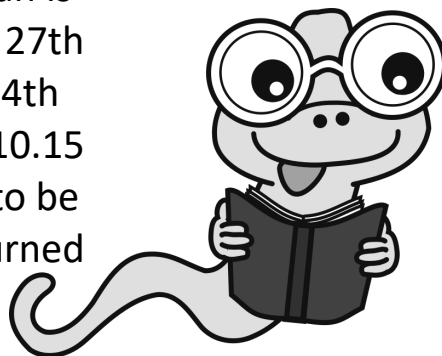
In the next couple of days we will know if there is a Brexit deal with Europe. The end result of the negotiations will have a profound effect on what the future holds. Not De'ja vu, more a leap into the unknown...

W Wilson-Haffenden



Library Van

The mobile library van is now due to come on 27th October and then 24th November. 9.45 to 10.15 at Hall, books have to be pre-ordered and returned in a plastic bag.



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