

***EAST
HANNINGFIELD
NEWS***

*Winter 2012
No. 142*



FROM THE ACTING EDITOR

East Hanningfield News is published by East Hanningfield Parish Council and delivered by volunteers free to all homes in the parish. Inclusion of articles or advertisements does not signify endorsement by the Parish Council.

Copy date for the next edition is Friday, 15th. February

for publication on 1st. March. Please continue to send articles & advertisements to me at karen.plumridge@btinternet.com or 2 Clinton Close.

COVERS

Congratulations to Elena Williams for her Robin in the Snow, the winner of this year's Christmas Cover Competition. There were 35 entries this year, and they were all really good, which made judging a difficult task, but the judges enjoyed all the various depictions of Christmas and Winter in East Hanningfield.

The runners-up for each class are shown on the back cover. A few of the other entries can be found decorating the inner pages and in colour in the version of this News published on the Parish Council's website.

Thank you to all the entrants: you all did very well. Also, thank you to our local School for participating again this year. Lastly, thank you to the judges.



Snowman by George Hall

PARISH COUNCIL

At the request of a resident we return to the unpleasant subject of dog mess. I think we all know that it is an offence, in both senses of the word, for dog faeces to be left in public places. It is also dangerous because you can slip on a deposit if you are unlucky enough to tread in it and faeces carry a multitude of pathogens which remain in the environment when the poop has dispersed. The darker evenings make it tricky to avoid getting the stuff on your shoes when walking around the village. So, please clear up after your dog and put the waste in one of the many dog bins we have here. This applies to grassed as well as paved areas.



On a related matter, some dog owners seem to think that the signs prohibiting dogs from the fenced play area on Hanna's Field do not apply to them. However placid your dog might be with your children, it might not react so well to strange children, but more important, some children are terrified of dogs and will not use the play area if there is a dog there. Please respect the ban and do not take your dog in there.

Did you know that you can take a bus from East Hanningfield straight to Broomfield Hospital and then on to Great Dunmow? If you know someone who has missed a hospital appointment whilst driving around the car park looking for a space, you will appreciate the value of this service. It seems that Service 1 from East Hanningfield turns into Service 11 in Chelmsford and then carries on to Broomfield Hospital terminating at Great Dunmow Tesco. For up to date timetables and route map please see www.cartogold.co.uk/Essex_Public_Transport/

A few years ago, PC was approached by the Land Registry to voluntarily register any land it owns. This was thought a good idea by

PC and Hanna's Field Charity in order to prevent encroachment, which is a particular risk for public open space. Processes in real life are never as simple as the publicity would suggest, and various problems were one by one resolved so that Hanna's Field and its access are now registered.

Having noticed some die back on one of the trees at the south end of the Tye, I asked the arboriculturist at Chelmsford Council to inspect it. Unfortunately she advised that the tree in question and another should be removed, there being a danger that they might fall over. It is a requirement that trees that are removed from the conservation area should be replaced within two years, so you can be assured that the gaps will be filled. The *Pyracantha* on the Tye will also be cut back severely as it has spread well beyond the area that it was intended to occupy and has been colonised by a vigorous bramble.

If your property has a boundary which is skirted by a road, pavement or footpath, please could you check that there is nothing growing out which will impede the progress of passers-by? In particular, brambles seem to grow for most of the year, and pop out of hedges when you think you have everything under control. This is the time of year for hedge cutting, as mentioned by Penny on page 29, and what you need to remember is that they grow from the point to which you have cut them back, so if you cut your hedge to the edge of the footpath it will soon grow across it. You will probably remember that I have mentioned this subject before, but that is because it does generate complaints from residents.

When the traffic calming was installed in the village, the PC, and probably most residents, were surprised that the 30mph speed limit did not extend down Old Church Road as far as the junction with Pan Lane. A 40mph speed limit presently runs from that junction to the Geoffrey Close junction. Since that time PC has been receiving complaints from residents of Old Church Road about speed problems there and has been pressing the County Council to reduce the

limit to 30mph. This repeated request was thought to have fallen on deaf ears, but a recent review of such requests by the County Council has resulted in that one being proposed for action. There has to be a consultation for such changes, and PC has already responded in support.

You might be wondering what happened about the proposed closure of the Payne Place and Catherine Close play areas. PC invited the Chelmsford Council officers to a meeting which also included Colin Warren as Chairman of Hanna's Field Charity. Negotiations are going to be protracted, but PC knows the strength of feeling of residents and users of the play areas and is doing all it can to retain this provision for the youngest children.

The role of Parish Clerk is wide and varied. I recently attended an event which included a briefing on blocked sewers. It seems that the manufacturers of tampons, baby & hand wipes and other similar items are misleading us when they say their products are flushable. Yes, they do flush away, but then they block the drain somewhere down the line. It seems the only manufactured article that should be flushed down the loo is toilet tissue. Blocked sewers should be reported on 08457 145 145. If the blockage is beyond your property Anglian Water will clear it, but if it is on your property you will have to pay an independent drain clearing company to do it, so it is worth remembering how not to block it in the first place!

Last Winter when we had a covering of snow on the ground, a few residents took it upon themselves to spread some of the grit on to pavements from the salt bins we have around the village. Thank you for doing that. If anyone should decide to do the same this Winter, please note that I am advised by the County Coun-



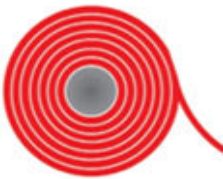
**Snowman by
Dominic Williams**

cil who supply the grit that it is ineffective on snow deeper than 1cm, so it has to be cleared first, and it is unlikely that the bins will be refilled before the Spring, so please use sparingly. If you need grit for your garden/driveway, please do not use the grit in the bins, which is provided specifically for use on pavements and roads. You can buy bags of grit at do-it-yourself/garden centres.

Parish Council Meetings are usually held on the 4th. Thursday of the month, but the forthcoming meeting will be on 13th. December and will be the Budget Meeting, the Budget having been delayed in order to take into account awaited Government pronouncements on the Council Tax.

Karen Plumridge,
Clerk to the Parish Council 400628
karen.plumridge@btinternet.com
www.essexinfo.net/easthanningfieldparishcouncil

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NEIL POULSON

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BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Whilst we Christians celebrate Christmas, people of different faiths and of no faith enjoy it with us. It is very easy to see the shortcomings of individuals and organisations and wholly right that we highlight them and demand their improvement. However at a recent meeting I attended, and I attend many, a colleague was asked to justify foreign aid. He said that in the third world a child, otherwise healthy dies from malnutrition, starvation and associated problems every two minutes day in, day out. Here in Britain a group of veterinary scientists has been commissioned to deal with the growing problem of obesity in pets. He developed the argument no further so neither will I.

Let us be happy with our freedoms and our comforts and support each other where we can. Thank you for the privilege of serving you all as a City Councillor and a very happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful 2013.

Sincerely

Mike Harris
michael.harris@chelmsford.gov.uk



Decorations by Charlie Worf Kirk

HANNINGFIELD MOTOR CO

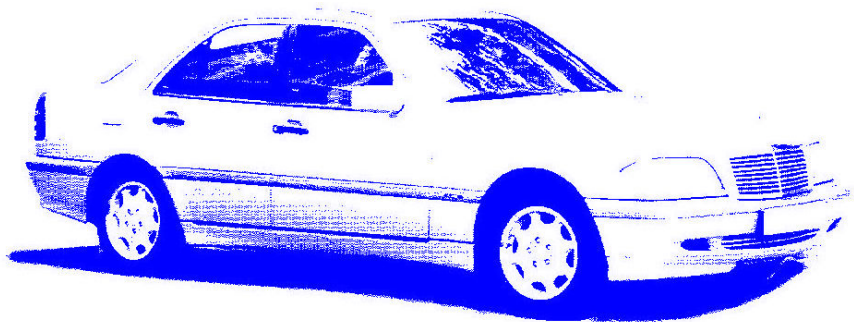


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VILLAGE FETE 2012

September 8th was gloriously hot & sunny, continuing an almost unbroken tradition of fair weather fete days in East Hanningfield. £3680 was the final total raised, which will be shared between Hanna's Field Charity & All Saints' Church. Thanks are due to all those many people who contributed, in a multitude of ways, to making the fete such a success. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the invaluable support of our principal sponsors- J Gard & Sons, David Chennells & Co, Carol Phillips at Intercounty, Paul Edwards at Chelmer Site Investigations & Chelmer Drain Fix Ltd.

There are photos of the fete on the village website (<http://essexinfo.net/easthanningfieldparishcouncil>), which show all aspects of the Olympic themed event, from the fiercely competitive annual 5 A-side football competition & our old favourite, Ali Barmy, to this year's 'have a go' activity – archery! Perris Archery, with a shop on the outskirts of the village, was keen to become involved in the fete; thus joining an ever-increasing number of local businesses which have supported us in recent years, by donating draw prizes, offering sponsorship or practical help. We are grateful to Fordhams, East Hanningfield Motors, Communicate, CP Printing, The Windmill and Ash at the village shop for their continued participation.

After heading the committee for 5 years, I am handing over to Jenny Ash, who will, from now on, be the voice urging readers of this magazine to contribute to the fete. This summer there's been much talk in the media, & by politicians, of the importance & value of volunteering. The Games makers at the Olympics received a great deal of public praise, but there are many unsung heroes in communities all over the country, who give of their time willingly, & without whom lots of activities just wouldn't happen. East Hanningfield has its share of them – running the bowls club, Rainbows or Edward Bear club; being a school governor or Church Warden; keeping the village hall funded & maintained. It can be hard work, but it's also rewarding, sociable & often great fun. Especially if you're involved with the fete! Just one day in the year – try it in 2013!

Jackie Feehan and the 2012 Fete Committee

EAST HANNINGFIELD W.I.

What a super day. The Village Fete had everything including great weather. We had a lovely time talking to villagers and produced a stall brimming with many craft gifts. Thank you to everyone who came to see us and purchased goods from the stall. We are already designing and planning our crafts for next year's Fete and hope you will come and see us again.

The W.I provides hospitality teas for other W.I's who visit the area and organisations that are on a days outing visiting nearby attractions. We provided one such tea in July for an organisation from Chelmsford who holds a weekly club for the elderly and those who live on their own. Their summer outing was a trip to Dedham and they wanted tea on their return home. We catered for 30 ladies & gentlemen and in true W.I fashion the tea included home baking. We had a super afternoon, humour abounded from table to table and we celebrated eight birthdays that day. We are delighted that they wish to repeat the experience again next year and look forward to their return.

Our Harvest Lunch in October was again a great success. Our usual invitation to our neighbouring W.I's swelled the numbers even higher this year. A piping hot lunch was followed by a mouth watering array of the most sumptuous puddings. Crowd control had to be put in place. It was a relaxed afternoon giving everyone an opportunity to chat and laugh and catch up on news. The afternoon concluded with an excellent raffle. I think our numbers may grow even greater next year for this event.

Your Village W.I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind support this year to our village events, this is very much appreciated. We would also like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year.

If you would like to trial our company then please come and see us,

we are sure you will decide to stay. We have a very full programme throughout the year with some very interesting speakers as well as activities, food being our forte of course. Our meeting dates are in this magazine's calendar and you would be most welcome.

Flora Virgoe



Children & Snowman
By Honor Fletcher

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Stephen Bryan

EAST HANNINGFIELD SCHOOL

Another half term has passed & we look towards the festivities of Christmas. Autumn saw us hold our re-scheduled Summer Fair and the rain managed to hold off until the very end. I would like to thank those of you who were able to attend & make it a success.

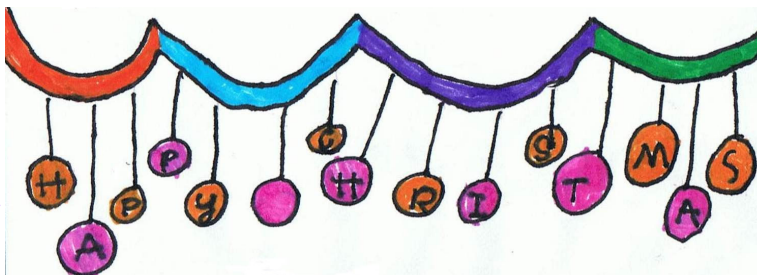
This term we held our Harvest Festival at the church which was well received by the parents. Then just before half term we held an Art week and children and parents had the opportunity to get messy, to help make and construct our British Wildlife display that now proudly adorns our entrance and hallway. The children are all very proud of their work and have become avid bird and animal watchers. The children also took part in printing, clay modelling and are in the process of painting a mural for our school hall, with the help of one of our parents.

In the coming weeks we have a whole school trip to the Civic Theatre to watch the Panto 'Dick Whittington' Then Key Stage 2 children will be performing their own Panto of 'Puss in Boots' to parents and Key Stage 1 children will be holding a Christmas Service in the church. With visits from Santa, Christmas lunch, decorating the Christmas tree and the school choir and class 4 singing at Hyde Hall's Christmas shopping evening on 22nd November, another busy but enjoyable term will have flown.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas from everyone at East Hanningfield C of E Primary School.

Kerry Collins
Headteacher

*Decorations
by Oscar
Worf Kirk*



REVEREND PAM

Just recently I found something, an unusual Christmas decoration in a shop in London. It was a carved nativity scene, complete with animals, but carved onto a cross. I had never seen a nativity scene like this before. The decoration was a reminder that the Christmas story is also part of the Easter story, that Christmas is the beginning of a story and not an end in itself. It reminds me that the baby Jesus had a destiny before him and a purpose which included a cross. It reminds me that Jesus chose to be vulnerable as a baby and chose to be vulnerable as a man. I bought the carved nativity in a cross as a reminder that Christmas is a time for being grateful not only to family and friends for their gifts, but also to God for closing the distance between heaven and earth, between God and us.

In our church we try, in our services, to help close the distance between God and us, so that we experience contact with Christ in some way. At the same time, we are also trying to make the church more hospitable and welcoming by providing toilet and kitchen facilities. To this end we have a meeting arranged with planners of various relevant organisations to consider the possibilities of two options which may provide these facilities.

The church exists to provide a meeting place for Christ and the community. This Christmas we will be celebrating Christ's birth and in expectation that He will be among us. We will celebrate in expectation that our Christmas services will not be an end in themselves, but mark the beginning, or deepening, of our faith.

May your Christmas be peaceful and joyful. May you meet the risen Christ as well as the baby. May God bless you this Christmas.

Revd Pam

...AND FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

The Village Fete is our starting point - first to thank everybody concerned for All Saints' share of the proceeds. This most welcome annual contribution to church finances helps us with our ongoing task of keeping our 128 year old, now Grade II listed building fit for purpose. But we are especially aware of this responsibility . Firstly because we have recently received the 5 yearly annual survey report, with its usual list of work to be carried out during the next 5 years. Secondly, and more dramatically, because a recent inspection of the belfry found that all three bell wheels are beginning to break up. This means no more bell ringing whilst a full assessment is made by the experts. Fortunately there are no further weddings booked for 2012 so no bride and groom have had to be disappointed by silence as they emerge from the church.

Community Service Teams have continued to give valuable help with the churchyard maintenance during the past "summer", but it has been a difficult year for them to put teams together, as well as for us all to cope with the adverse weather conditions. As a result, we have not kept on top of the job as well as we usually do, and we offer apologies to those who have visited the graves area and found things looking not so good. We really would appreciate any help the community can offer from time to time, particularly with strimming round the graves. Parish Council keeps the open areas well mown for us and that is a great help.

Christmas appears over the horizon with our All Age Christingle Service, combined Bethel & All Saints' carol singing in the village, a Children's Christmas Craft morning and the Nine Lessons & Carols Service followed by mince pies and a cuppa. Please join us if you possibly can for this very special occasion, and of course we shall hope to see you at one or more of our other Christmas services, Christmas Eve, Midnight and Christmas morning. Details in the Village Diary on pages 15 – 17, or on our website – www.easthanningfieldchurch.org

VILLAGE DIARY

www.essexinfo.net/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/village-diary-2012/

DECEMBER

- Sunday 2 8.30am **HOLY COMMUNION** (BCP), Advent Sunday at All Saints' Church
10am **ANNUAL CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** followed by refreshments at All Saints' Church
10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
- Mon-day 3 2-3.30pm **HANNA'S TOTS** for ages 0-5 and their carers at the Village Hall. Enter by kitchen door. £2 donation
- Sun 9 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saint's Church
- Wed 12 2.35-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Ashley Green
3.15-4pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at the Village Hall car
- Thur 13 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the first floor meeting room at the Village Hall. Use the side entrance.
- Sat 15 **CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS CRAFT MORNING** in All Saints'
4pm **CAROL SINGING** around the Village. Meet at Bethel Church at 3.45pm. Refreshments after.
- Sun 16 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **NINE LESSONS & CAROLS** at All Saints' Church
- Mon-day 17 2-3.30pm **HANNA'S TOTS** for ages 0-5 and their carers at the Village Hall. Enter by kitchen door. £2
- Sun 23 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saint's Church
6pm **FAMILY CAROL SERVICE** at Bethel Church.
- Mon 24 4pm **CRIB & TREE SERVICE** at All Saints' Church.
11.30pm **MIDNIGHT COMMUNION** at All Saints'
- Tues 25 10am **CHRISTMAS MORNING FAMILY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church.
10am **CHRISTMAS SERVICE** at Bethel Church.
- Sun 30 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Ch
11am **FIFTH SUNDAY SERVICE** at All Saints' Church.
Details yet to be announced.

JANUARY 2013

- Sun 6 8.30am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church
10am **ALL AGE SERVICE** - Epiphany at All Saints' Ch
10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
- Mon 7 2-3.30pm **HANNA'S TOTS** for ages 0-5 and their carers at the Village Hall. Enter by kitchen door. £2 donation per session.
- Wed 9 2.35-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Ashley Green
3.15-4pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Village Hall car park
- Thur10 8pm **PRAYER GROUP MEETING** venue to be advised
- Sun 13 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints Church
- Mon 14 2.15pm **EDWARD BEAR CLUB** at All Saints' Church
- Wed16 2pm **WOMENS INSTITUTE MEETING** in the WI Hall
- Sun20 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints Church
- Mon 21 2-3.30pm **HANNA'S TOTS** for ages 0-5 and their carers at the Village Hall. Enter by kitchen door. £2
- Wed 23 2.35-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Ashley Green
3.15-4pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Village Hall car park
- Thurs24 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the first floor Meeting room at the Village Hall
- Sun 27 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints Church

FEBRUARY

- Sun 3 8.30am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church
10am **ALL AGE SERVICE** - Candlemas at All Saints' Church
10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
- Mon 4 2-3.30pm **HANNA'S TOTS** for ages 0-5 and their carers at the Village Hall. Enter by kitchen door. £2 donation per session.
- Wed 6 2.35-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Ashley Green
3.15-4pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Village Hall car park
- Sun 10 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints Church

- Mon11 2.15pm **EDWARD BEAR CLUB** at All Saints' Church
- Thur14 8pm **PRAYER GROUP MEETING** venue to be advised
- Fri 15 **COPYDATE FOR EAST HANNINGFIELD NEWS**
- Sun 17 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints Church
- Mon 18 2-3.30pm **HANNA'S TOTS** for ages 0-5 and their carers at the Village Hall. Enter by kitchen door. £2 donation per session.
- Wed 20 2pm **WOMENS INSTITUTE MEETING** in the WI Hall
2.35-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Ashley Green
3.15-4pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at Village Hall car park
- Sun24 10.45am **SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints Church
- Thurs 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the first floor Meeting room at the Village Hall

All Saints Church & Bethel
Evangelical Church
Invite you to join us for

Carols in the Village

On Saturday 15 December
Meet at Bethel Church at
3.45pm

If you cannot join us, listen
out for us as we
may be down your street.



Angel by Ellie Cheek

MESSAGE FROM ASH

It's an exciting time for the village store and the post office, as you are all already aware we have just completed the shop Refurbishment with added facilities of Lottery and Off-Licence.

Ever since I took over from Tom Wright in 2007 I have been considering ways to improve the Village store not just from business point of view, but for it to serve its purpose as a Community store & post office and to make it viable and sustainable for the future. Along with Hanna's Field Charity we developed a plan few years ago with the help of Paul Garner to extend the shop along with the Village Hall to have a Cafeteria & extended Village store, but unfortunately we could not go ahead with the plan mainly due to financial reasons. Therefore I went with a second option of refitting the village store to make use of the small space that's available, after a lot of planning and effort over a year we have now completed the shop make-over.

I would like to thank everyone who helped make this possible: ECC Big Society Fund for their match-funding towards the refurbishment; Hanna's Field Charity for their contribution towards the replacement chiller; Members of Hanna's Field Charity and East Hanningfield Parish Council for their co-operation; my colleagues Terry Tricker & Jane Brunt for their work and, most of all, the Village residents who keep this shop going.

I would like to point out that although we have a Lottery and Off-licence in the premise, our main focus will be on essential goods and post office services & I welcome any feedback from customers.

Also, I would like to point out that we will be extending our opening hours over the weekends. Starting from 1st of December the Village store will be open until 6pm on Saturdays and 1pm on Sundays.

Kind Regards.
Ashraf Rahman
Sub Post Master

HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY

The Charity has had a busy summer with the refurbishment of the small hall. The small hall is now well insulated and lit with efficient low energy lighting. The doors and windows in the kitchen and the small hall have been replaced with new double glazed units. This refurbishment work has cost £22,000 funded by grants from Essex County Council (£6,000), Essex Community Foundation (£3,000), Tom Amos Charity (£3,000), East Hanningfield Parish Council (£4,670) and the balance by our own fundraising efforts. We intend to replace the room divider between the small and large halls and refit and redecorate the kitchen early in the New Year which will complete this phase of the refurbishment.

The two major fundraising events for the Charity are the Art Show and the Fete which has been chaired for the last 5 years by Jackie Feehan. Jackie has now passed the baton to Jenny Ash who will be the new fete committee Chairman. A big thank you to Jackie for her successful chairmanship and good luck to Jenny for the future.

The major item of expenditure for the future is the replacement of the main hall roof which after 25 years is reaching the end of its natural life. We have recently assisted with the refurbishment of the village shop and are actively seeking funding for improvements to facilities on the field including the sports courts, football pitches, mountain bike track, outdoor fitness track and sports wall. Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey on the future of the sports courts.

We are also liaising with the Parish Council over the future of the toddlers' playgrounds in Catherine Close and Paine Place offering our support for their long term retention in the village.

We have reviewed the Hall, meeting room, sports field and sports court hiring rates and new rates which incorporate a 3% rise will apply from January 2013.

The Hanna's Field Charity Committee is always looking for new members to join the committee and assist in the running of the Village Hall & sports facilities. If you would like to find out more about the Charity please contact me or any member of the committee.

The Charity's AGM will take place in April 2013 when a new committee will be elected. Villagers are particularly welcome to both come to the AGM and also to stand for election to the committee.

The hall, field and sports courts can be booked via Dan and Jessica on 400965. Please make use of the facilities which are available at a discounted rate to residents of East Hanningfield.

Colin Warren
Chairman
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FROM YOUR VILLAGE AGENT

Preparing for winter – a few tips:

- Have your heating system serviced and your chimney swept
- If you have wood-burning, coal or gas heaters, make sure that you have adequate ventilation
- Fix draught excluder strips on ill-fitting window and door frames
- Check that your water stopcock is working properly
- Make sure your smoke alarm is working, and consider installing a carbon monoxide detector, in case air vents become blocked
- Keep a mixture of salt and sand handy to put on steps or paths in icy weather
- Don't forget your flu jab, and make sure you have sufficient supplies of prescribed medication and simple cold, and sore throat remedies in the house
- Stock up with store cupboard foods that will keep you going – long-life milk, pasta, baked beans and canned fish
- Dress in plenty of layers and make sure that you have some warm shoes or boots with non-slip soles.

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*Reindeer by
Lidia Williams*



Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room Bethel Church

The thing I enjoy about Christmas is the build up, the anticipation, the expectation. My wife Kate, prepares and plans it with military precision because if, heaven forbid, the 'pigs in blankets' have been overlooked, there would be mutiny in our house. And of course there is the advent calendar - which counts down the days to the big day itself. The first one up in the mornings gets to eat the chocolate.

But as we take a closer look at advent itself, we realise that it has significant meaning. Advent comes from the Latin word, adventus, meaning "coming." It is a season to prepare for the coming of Christ in various meanings: the promised coming of the Messiah to the Jews, the coming of Jesus being born in Bethlehem, the promised return of the risen Christ in final victory, and the continual coming of Christ into the lives and hearts of believers.

And whilst I enjoy the build up, I'm very aware that Christmas for some isn't always a happy time, something that many do not look forward to. Therefore advent takes on even greater significance, because Jesus' coming into the world was to fully identify with those who are alone, those who are in poor health and poor in spirit.

Jesus himself said, "The thief comes only to steal and kill & destroy; I have come that they may have life, & have it to the full." **John 10:10**

I'm also reminded of the old Christmas carol:

Joy to the world, the Lord is come

Let earth receive her King

Let every heart prepare Him room

Whatever your preparations for this year's festivities, we hope that it will be a happy, healthy & peaceful time for you. Please come & celebrate with us. We also will once again, be joining with our friends at All Saints Church to sing carols around the village. Please listen out for us.

Can I take this opportunity on behalf of all your friends at Bethel Evangelical Church, to wish you a very merry & joyful Christmas.

Roydon Hearne

HANNA'S TOTS

We are still open but we have changed the opening time and days. Hanna's Tots is now open every 1st & 3rd Monday of the month from 2:00 to 3:30 pm at the Village Hall (via the kitchen door).

We are a friendly volunteer group open to parents/guardians for children 0-5 years.

We have toys for all ages with song time at the end and plenty of tea & biscuits too, for a small donation of £2.00 per family.

Please feel free to come along and enjoy. Hope to see you there.

Jenny 403245

Yoga Course for beginners and people with experience of Yoga.

Starting on Tuesday 15/1/13 at 7:30-9:00pm

East Hanningfield Village (Small) Hall.

Qualified Teacher (British Wheel of Yoga)

Please contact Caroline for more information:07986003833

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all who contributed to the £510 raised at "Millers" on 24th. October, proceeds of which go to Farleigh Hospice and Alzheimers Research UK charities.

Pam Kenton

CAN YOU PLAY

BADMINTON?



If so and you are over 18 we would love to see you on Tuesday evenings in the village hall from 8.30pm. to 10pm.

For more details call Rosemary on 01245-224168

Pacific IFA

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Financial Wealth specialists Pacific IFA have had their UK headquarters in East Hanningfield since 2009.

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Pacific can offer advice on anything from a simple ISA (Individual Savings Account) to a group pension plan, school fee planning or inheritance tax mitigation.

Complimentary Personal Financial Health Checks are available to local residents at their cost and without obligation.

Please feel free to pop in for an informal chat and a coffee, their offices are in the village at The Tye next to J.Gards timber.

Pacific IFA, Pacific House, The Tye,
East Hanningfield, CM3 8AA Tel: 01245-403500
www.pacificifagroup.com

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM NhW

Winter brings long nights and the Christmas and the New Year holiday. Unfortunately, burglary offences traditionally rise during the winter months. Some precautions to avoid becoming a victim:



We all love Christmas time with a decorated tree surrounded by presents but you may unwittingly give an invitation to unwanted “visitors”.

Don't leave presents on display to be seen by passers-by: its a magnet to the unscrupulous looking for their own Christmas presents.

And ... what about those empty boxes?

Once the celebrations are over, think about how you dispose of the wrappings. Leaving the carton for that new top of the range laptop out on the pavement for refuse collection may also be an invitation for someone to collect the laptop whilst you are out!

- With the dark evenings here now a house left with no lights on is an open invitation to thieves.
- If going away over the holiday make sure your neighbour is aware.
- When leaving the house or going to bed, check that your UPVC front and or back doors are “double locked” (i.e. that you have pulled the handle up before locking it with your key). The police say its surprising how many people don't do this making entry for “visitors” far more easy.

And, if you see something suspicious or a crime in progress call 999. Call new short code 101 for non urgent incidents. You can also give information anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



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The next East Hanningfield NhW Meetings: 8pm on Wednesday 12th December at The Bethel Church. All residents are welcome to attend. It's usually attended by a police officer.

East Hanningfield NhW E-mail Alerts: If you want to report an incident or receive local NhW crime alerts please call or e-mail me. Geoff Dickman 403175/07968-112179 geoff.h.dickman@gmail.com.

The NhW team wish you all a **Happy Christmas and a Prosperous (and Crime free) New Year.**

Snowman by Layla Roberts



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* Free from a landline/mobile charges can vary

HEDGES, PLANTS AND OTHER CREATURES

Now, coming up to midwinter, is the time to reshape your hedges, not springtime when habitat for creatures to grow and multiply is so needed on our crowded island. When a hedge is bare of leaves, as most of our native tree/hedge plants are now, its shape can be seen. Look for nesting small mammals in bundles of leaves. Show them to your children & grandchildren, the real magic, and leave them be.

How does it need to be shaped? Always best to shape it like a tree, wide at the bottom to a point(ish) at the top. You could always get artistic and weave your living hedge as it grows.

When the branches are bare it also enables one to see how to help to increase the density of the hedge for cover and food for creatures, planting English honeysuckles (surely one of the sweetest smells to waft up you nostrils on an early summers day) and/or other climbers.

When reshaping hedges keep in mind it is the ultimate growth of a hedge that your pruning is interacting with - you know approximately how much your hedge grows in a year. Hedges do not have to look like a block and let your "weeds" (Anglo-Saxon word for small herbaceous medicinal plant) grow at the bottom so that you can harvest them along with what the rest of the hedge can give you: the more plants the more butterflies and others.

Nettles harvested in spring are a specific herbal tea for hayfever. Hawthorn, flowers and leaves in spring and berries in autumn, is restorative to the heart being used for high blood and also stagnation of the stomach in traditional medicine. Rosehips are also good for the heart, as long as there is no material damage to the heart, works more on the emotional heart.

Also if there is a demand - I have been medically trained - an honours degree - I would sit and talk with people about their health & nutrition & plants.

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REMEMBERING EAST HANNINGFIELD'S WAR HEROES

Many of us will recently have bought poppies and made donations to remember those killed and injured in both World Wars and more recent conflicts, and of course the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War is now less than 2 years away.

With this in mind, All Saints' Church is launching a project to find out about the men whose names are on the War Memorial in our church yard. We already have access to all the Find My Past databases, Commonwealth War Graves and the British Newspaper Archive. If you have information, documents or pictures about any of the following, please would you contact Sue Edward (Tel: 403091; email: sue.edward@yahoo.co.uk).

First World War

Edward Bambridge	Horace J Horton
Herbert Bambridge	Charles Johnson
Gerald Barclay	Frederick W King
Edward Cox	Maurice Linnett
Frederick Cox	Lawrence Picking
Ernest Daines	Ernest C Saffill
Frederick Doe	Herbert Thorogood
Charles Eaton	Charles Wilkinson
William Eaton	William C Wilkinson
Ernest Holtom	

Second World War

William Allen
George Byam
Ernest Mayhew
On graves but not on the War Memorial
Edward Harknett (WW1)
Ben Thorogood (WW2)

Also if you know of any local service people killed in more recent conflicts please let us know. We hope to present this information back to the Village at our Remembrance Day service next year and to publish a small booklet as a memento of those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom.

Finally, the Acting Editor is looking into the history of some soldiers from the Birmingham area who were stationed or billeted here in early 1915. If you have any information that might help please send to karen.plumridge@btinternet.com or phone 400628.

CHRISTMAS COVER COMPETITION RUNNERS-UP



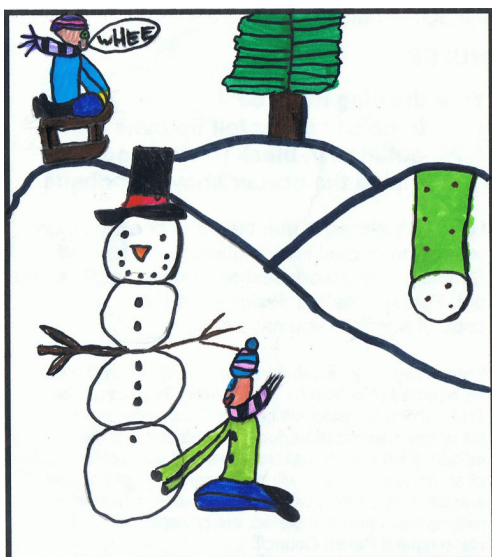
Class 1 Runner-up
Emma Kingsnorth



Class 2 Runner-up
Nate Denham



Class 3 Runner-up
Isla Sewell



Class 4 Runner-up
Philippa Aldridge-Ward