

***EAST
HANNINGFIELD
NEWS***

***Spring 2014
No. 147***



Speckled Wood

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
Saturday, 17th. May
for publication on 1st. June.**

Please continue to send articles and advertisements to me at karen.plumridge@btinternet.com or 2 Clinton Close.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Speckled wood butterflies can be seen from late March until October, there being several generations through the Summer, but individuals live only a week in their adult form. They lay their eggs on grass, and they can survive over the Winter as either caterpillars or chrysalises.

NGS GARDEN OPEN in East Hanningfield

This year The Limes garden will be open on **Friday 30th May** from **6 - 9pm** for you to enjoy a glass of wine while you wander round the different parts of the garden, enjoying the tranquil setting and hopefully the evening sunshine! The following day **Saturday 31st May** it will also be open, this time from **2 - 6pm** with tea and home-made cakes available. Entrance is £3.50, children free and monies raised go to NGS charities eg Macmillan Nurses, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Help the Hospices etc. Jam and chutney will also be for sale, made from our garden produce. Do come and support these charities, whilst perhaps getting ideas for your own garden and treating yourself to something from our Plant Stall. More information and photos on www.ngs.org.uk/The Limes

PARISH COUNCIL

The wet Winter has reminded us why the ancients took so much trouble to dig so many ditches around the parish: they would have been dug by hand after all. It has also shown us how pipes can be a poor substitute for the original open ditch. The precursor of the Parish Council, the Vestry, used to have the power to order landowners to “scour” their ditches, but all that can be done now is to appeal to everyone to check their ditches allow a free flow of water. There are several roadside ditches around the village which have been neglected and are filling in, and a couple I could name where someone has dumped what looks like builders’ rubble. The result is that water runs along the road instead of in the ditch, and this leads to the breaking up of the road edge and surface.



Two **Play in the Park** sessions have been booked for the Easter school break. They will take place at the Village Hall as usual, and both are on **Tuesday mornings, 10-12 noon**. In addition to the usual arts & crafts and sports the first session on **8th. April** will feature a Drama/Performing Arts Workshop. I am told that if you like Glee then this is for you! The second session on **15th April** will include a team to teach the basics of Street Dance. Play in the Park is aimed at 6-11 year olds.

Younger children may attend but must be accompanied by an adult carer at all times. Both halls have been booked, so even if the weather is wet there will be plenty of space for all the activities, so no need to stay bored at home waiting for the rain to stop! Get out your wellies and brolies and get round to the Village Hall.

Two Play in the Park sessions are also being booked for the Summer school break,



and confirmation of the dates is awaited.

Every year the Parish Council is required to organise a meeting for all electors of the Parish. Its official title is the Annual Parish Meeting, but is often called a village meeting or assembly. Its purpose is to give parish residents the opportunity to talk on any matters relevant to the parish. In East Hanningfield it is taken as an opportunity to bring representatives from all the various groups in the parish together so we can all hear what they have been doing and matters of joint concern can be discussed in an informal atmosphere. All electors are welcome. This year the electors' assembly will be held on **Wednesday, 28th. May, at 7.30pm** in the first floor meeting room in the Village Hall.



Another event held every year, but by choice, is the Village Tidy or Spring Clean. This year the chosen date is **Saturday, 10th. May**. Please make an appearance at the Village Hall car park at 9am to collect a litter-picker, some gloves, and a sack. If you are going to pick up litter along road sides you can also borrow a hi-vis vest. Volunteers have usually returned their filled sacks to the car park by 10.30am so there is still plenty of time to do all the other usual activities set aside for Saturdays.

If you see large or heavy items around the village or parish, please don't try to bring them to the car park. Make a note of where they are and they will be picked up later in a trailer.

If you see fly tipping around the parish at other times, there are mechanisms for reporting it so that it will be picked up by the City Council. You can go to their website www.chelmsford.gov.uk/report-issue and click on "Fly Tipping", or you can phone Recycling

and Waste on 615800. I recently reported some dumped rubbish in Pan Lane and it was gone within 24 hours.

In case you missed the information in a previous issue of the News about how to report a highways problem, such as a pothole, blocked drain, overhanging vegetation and so on, here it is again. Go to www.essex.gov.uk, scroll down the page and click on a blue box marked "REPORT IT". A new page will open giving you five options. Click on the top one called "View, track and report a pothole or highway problem". The next page that opens up is where you fill in the form. There is a facility to upload photographs of the problem being reported, which I am sure helps the highways staff to gauge the severity of the problem. For those technophobes amongst you who would rather telephone, the Highways number is **0845 603 7631** and the County Council's general enquiries number is 430430, but remember to ask for a report number, which won't necessarily be given unless requested, unlike the website reports which automatically receive a report reference number.

PC agreed the budget and set the Precept for the 2014-15 year at the December Meeting. Although the increase was only 1.53%, due to the reductions in the tax base and the Local Council Tax Support from the government the D Band council tax rate is expected to rise by 3.9%, from £61.44 to £63.84. The Budget can be seen appended to the end of the December Minutes.

The next two Parish Council Meetings are on Thursday, 27th. March and 24th. April. The Meeting on 22nd May will be the Annual Meeting of the Council when the Chairman is elected and roles and responsibilities allocated.

Karen Plumridge,

Clerk to the Council



400628 ✉ karen.plumridge@btinternet.com



www.essexinfo.net/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/

HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY

I have a confession: I cheat when writing these articles for the newsletter. I look back at the article I submitted the year before and update it. This time I checked out my articles for the previous two years and regret that I will not be saying anything revolutionary or startling in this edition. I am not sure whether it is sad or not that I keep repeating myself and hope that I do not bore you with the repetition. The Charity has achieved a great deal over a number of years, however I do think that the current committee, who have been in place for a number of years, are running out of steam. It is time for new village volunteers to raise their heads above the parapet and take a more active role in contributing to community life.

The Charity's **AGM** will take place at **7.30pm on Wednesday 23rd April**, in the first floor meeting room at the Village Hall, when a new committee will be elected. Villagers are particularly welcome both to attend the meeting and to seek election as trustees.

We are once again reviewing a number of large expenditure projects and establishing priorities for the maintenance and development of facilities at the village hall and around the sports field. During the February half term break the creation of a fenced outdoor area for the preschool should have been completed along with the installation of new insulated and sound proofed folding doors between the two halls. The former is weather dependent as is the work on the ditch which runs alongside the chase. Let's hope the weather dries up soon. The flooding on the field and along the chase will hopefully be reduced with the clearing of the ditch but we are hampered by the weather and the ground conditions; a little bit chicken and egg! We have also applied for permission to work on some of the trees that are the subject of Tree Preservation Orders and have to go through a formal approval process which takes time.

Major outstanding expenditure projects include:

Replacing the hall roof which is over 25 years old and leaking
Extending the main car park with a “green” overflow car park
Rebuilding the mountain bike mounds
Ploughing, levelling and reseeding the football pitches
Resurfacing the sports courts
Extending the sports wall
Completing a trim trail and dog walking path around the field to
include skate board ramps and exercise equipment.
Extending the entrance lobby and village shop
Creating a Community Suite above the small hall
Install CCTV

As you can see the list is long and does not include the many smaller day to day maintenance issues

Planning has already started for the **Village Fete on Saturday 13th September**. A new Fete Committee is being formed following an initial meeting on 19th February. If you would like to help with the fete please contact me.

The Hanna's Field Charity Committee is always looking for new members to assist in the running of the Village Hall and sports facilities. If you would like to find out more about the Charity please contact me or any committee member. The large & small halls, meeting room, sports field and sports/tennis courts are available for booking via Dan Crow on **400965**. Please make use of the facilities which are available at a discounted rate if you live in the parish.

More information about the Charity can be found on our website which is part of the Parish Council website www.essexinfo.net/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/village-hall/

Colin Warren
Chairman, Hanna's Field Charity
☎ 401050 ✉ cwarren132@aol.com



FROM REV'D SUSAN

I don't think All Saints Church (building) should be closed, but in keeping it open we should need to understand what we want our Church to be and what we understand God is calling us to be as a church (community of believers).



As the long nights of winter start to give way to the bright skies of spring we are trying to open our hearts and minds to what the future of All Saints might look like. We have asked members of the congregation and others that know All Saints as their church to reflect on their best experience of church and to begin to spell out what they understand as the most important aspects of church for them into the future. If you pop into All Saints Church on a Sunday during Lent, March and early April, you'll find a whole array of Easter wishes from people around the village. We will also have the display available at the Book Stall on Saturday 15 March (see village diary for details). Please add your own. We will be reflecting and praying during Lent for God to guide us in some serious decisions about the future of the Church:

- Should we invest in a toilet and kitchen point; a new heating system; and repaired & refurbished bells?
- What is the right pattern of worship for our current community?— weekly or less frequent communion?; more open worship; timing of services?; school church club?
- How can we best support one another? visiting elderly folk; building links with local organisations; and school?
- What are the real issues facing residents of East Hanningfield that the church could help with?
- We will need to share our vicar with other communities. Which ones and why would they want to share with us?

These issues will be discussed at our annual meeting on 29 April. So, if you feel All Saints is your Church building and/or your church community and you want to have a say, please talk to us. With love and prayers

Rev'd Susan Iskander Priest in Charge

...AND FROM THE CHUCHWARDEN

Quinquennial Survey of Church Building – the PCC are hoping that the priority work recommended in the Report can be carried out this year. It is almost entirely work related to keeping the rain out, so we are in no doubt about the timing. It will be a scaffolding and cherry picker job with an estimated cost including VAT of around £12,000 – which goes to show the proverbial wisdom of putting money aside for a rainy day. But as the Revd Susan's letter makes clear, we are not in business just to preserve a building. It's people who count, and we are trying to get our heads round what our priorities should be if we are to have a worthwhile presence in the village in the future. Currently there are too few people with too many responsibilities on behalf of too few users, putting a big question mark over our ongoing viability.

Children's Easter Craft afternoon Saturday 29th March – In the Village Hall (not the Church - see below) from 2pm to 4pm. Note the date and time – details will be in our Information Leaflet for March.

Spring Clean of Church Building – Annual 'open day' for sweeping away the cobwebs will be on **Saturday 29th March from 10am** until around lunchtime, with a break for refreshments. We offer hard but rewarding work in a cheerful atmosphere. No previous experience of the inside of a church required - but be warned that we shall have a bunch of experts with a critical feminine eye in church immediately following our work. Yes, it's our.....

...Mothering Sunday Service on 30th March at 10am which will be an All Age service replacing the usual Holy Communion Service. The earlier start will ensure that all who have special Mothering Day lunch events to get to afterwards should have plenty of time to do so. Traditional posies for Mum (including Mum's Mum of course) will be handed out to children for presentation as usual.

Our Annual Parish Church meeting on Tuesday 29th April at 8pm— We would welcome more people to come to this - see Rev'd Susan's letter for why. I would just add that, in line with normal practice, I should be standing down as Churchwarden, having completed 6 years in the post. This I would like to do, not least as age begins to tell - but I am painfully aware that this would leave not one but two vacancies to be filled, as I have had no colleague for the past year. However, in view of the current Consultations process described by Rev'd Susan, it seems appropriate to leave the matter open until nearer the time. There is clearly a very demanding year ahead for All Saints' Church, leading on in 2015 to the end of Rev'd Susan's time with us, and the start of new links with other parishes. The question remains – just how viable are we in these exceptional circumstances?

Our monthly Information Leaflet can be delivered to you without cost or commitment. Please let me know if you would like just to be kept in touch in this way, between issues of EH News.

Ron Attenborough

 **400361**

 **ronald304@btinternet.com**



PRESCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who entered the “Guess the Weight of the Christmas Cake”. This event raised over £37 and there were two winners, each receiving a cake.

Since the beginning of January we have been opening on a Friday afternoon as well as the morning, for the older children only and this session is proving to be popular, especially with the parents. This term we are learning about “People who help us” and so far we have been talking about our families, the doctor, the paramedic, the dentist and the fireman. We are hoping to have a visit from a fire-engine in the near future which is always hugely enjoyable for the children as they get the chance to use the hoses and squirt water!

East Hanningfield
Pre-School



We have also been taking part in the RSPB Bird Watch and talking all about the Chinese New Year.

Work is scheduled to start on our new outside area during February half term. We have obtained two grants, one from Essex Early Years for £5200 and another from Essex Community Initiative Fund for £13000. We have been supported by the Hanna's Field Village Hall Committee, Parish Council,

the City Councillors and the Children's Centre, and combined with money raised at pre-school we will have wet pour safety surface play area and a metal fence.

CASH FOR CLOTHES COLLECTION

We are collecting good quality clothes, paired shoes and bags which we can sell to a company that pays by the kilo and turn it in to cash for the pre-school.

DONATION DAY: Saturday 15th March 2014

DONATION POINT - Village Hall, 10am - 12.30pm

Please come inside and find someone from the table top sale team to take your donation.

Thank you in advance!

TABLE TOP SALE 10am - 12.30pm Saturday 15th MARCH 2014

We are holding a table top sale in the large hall. Tables can be booked for £10.

Take an opportunity to turn your unwanted items in to cash at this new indoor event! or come and buy a bargain!

Please contact to book by email ehps1@live.co.uk or telephone Lisa on 07841 595816 to book a table.

PAMPER EVENING : Friday 25th April, 7-10pm, Village Hall

The event is only a few months away and we hope you are looking forward to it! Tickets will be on sale in April. Everyone welcome. If you or a company you know would like to donate a prize for the raffle, or small items for the goody bags please contact the pre-school via Hollie - email lailah-lou@hotmail.co.uk.

If you would like to find out more about the Pre-school or would like to go on the waiting list please look at our website at www.easthanningfieldpreschool.org.uk or contact us on 07732951613 or email us at ehps1@live.co.uk.

Sue Belham

VILLAGE DIARY

<http://www.essexinfo.net/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/village-diary-2014/>

MARCH

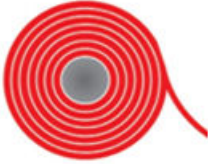
- Sun 2 8.30am **HOLY COMMUNION** (BCP) at [All Saints' Church](#)
 10am **ALL AGE SERVICE** at followed by refreshments All Saints' Church
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tues 4 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
 7.30pm **PANCAKES & PRAYER** at Bethel Church.
- Wed 5 4.15-5pm **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH CHILDRENS CLUB** in the School Hall
- Thur 6 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Sun 9 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
 11am **MORNING SERVICE** at All Saints' Church
- Tues 11 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
- Tues 13 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Sat 15 10am-12.30pm **BOOK SALE & COFFEE MORNING** in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall.
 10-12.30 pm **TABLETOP SALE & CLOTHES DONATION** at the Village Hall in aid of Preschool. See p.12.
 11am-1pm **CAFE BAR** at Bethel Church.
- Sun 16 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
 11am **MORNING SERVICE** at All Saints' Church
- Tue 18 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
- Wed 19 2pm **WI MEETING** in the WI Hall.
- Thur 20 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Fri 21 9.30-11.30am **HEALTH VISITOR** -Hanna's Tots - Village Hall.
- Sat 23 2pm **Grand Auction** in aid of St. Mary's & St. Edwards' church roof at West Hanningfield Village Hall. Viewing from 1.30pm. Catalogue £1. Enquiries ☎ 400509 ✉ bwcar-line@hotmail.co.uk .

- Sun 23 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
 11am **MORNING SERVICE** at All Saints' Church
- Tues 25 10.30am **COFFEE MORNING** at Bethel Church.
- Thurs 27 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the first floor Meeting room at the Village Hall. Please use the side door.
- Sat 29 10am **ANNUAL ALL SAINTS' CHURCH SPRING CLEAN**
 - All welcome.
- WI SPRING LUNCH**
 2-4pm **CHILDRENS EASTER CRAFT AFTER-NOON** organised by All Saints Church at the Village Hall.
 6pm **FILM NIGHT** at Bethel Church
- Sun 30 10am **MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE** at All Saints' Ch
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church

APRIL

- Tues 1 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
 7.30pm **PRAYER EVENING** at Bethel Church.
- Thurs 3 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Sun 6 8.30am **HOLY COMMUNION** (BCP) at All Saints' Church
 10am **ALL AGE SERVICE** at All Saints' Church followed by refreshments
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tues 8 10am-12noon **PLAY IN THE PARK** for ages 6-11 years. Younger children may attend but must be accompanied by an adult carer at all times. Activities include arts & crafts and sports. The extra activity for this day only is the Drama/Performing Arts Workshop (ages 6+ only) - great for children that aren't 'sporty' but still want to be active. Learn the basics of acting/singing/dancing in a physical musical theatre context. If you like Glee, this is for you.

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DEVELOPMENT IN EAST HANNINGFIELD PARISH

The recent survey for the Village Design Statement (VDS) received a very poor response. Only 50 replies were received. The results will be reflected in the development guidance in the VDS, which the Parish Council and Chelmsford City Council will be obliged to take into account when considering new planning applications.

Are you prepared to let other people speak for you?

Are you in favour of **development** or not?

Are you in favour of a **large number** of residential properties being built in the Parish or not?

Do you want to see large houses or family homes?



Are you prepared to see the local facilities - shop, school, pub and restaurant possibly fail unless we increase the residents in the village?



Finally, are you prepared for planners in Chelmsford to take the view that the residents do not care about the village and can therefore agree to whatever they feel like?

To have your say please complete the survey online at <http://tinyurl.com/EHonline> or pick up a paper copy from the village Post Office.

If you do not bother to complete the survey then please do not moan if changes take place that you are unhappy with.

Cliff Foster
Hon. Chairman
East Hanningfield Village Design Statement Committee



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Stephen Bryan

- Tue 8 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
- Thur 10 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Sun 13 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church followed
by Fellowship Lunch
11am **PALM SUNDAY HOLY COMMUNION** All Saints' Ch.
- Tue 15 10am-12noon **PLAY IN THE PARK** for ages 6-11 years.
. Younger children my attend but must be accompanied by an adult
carer at all times. Activities include arts and crafts and sports. The extra
activity for this day only is Street Dance (ages 6+) using top local cho-
reographers and internationally recognised dancers.
10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
7.30pm **MAUNDY THURSDAY** Agape Meal followed by
short Holy Communion Service at All Saints' Church at 8.30pm.
- Thur 17 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Fri 18 10-11am **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE** at Bethel Church.
2pm **ONE HOUR'S QUIET MEDITATION** "At the foot of
the Cross", at All Saints' Church
- Sun 20 10am **EASTER DAY HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Ch
10.45am **EASTER SERVICE** at Bethel Church
11am **MORNING SERVICE** at All Saints' Church
- Tue 22 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
- Thur 24 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the first floor Meet-
ing room at the Village Hall. Please use the side door.
- Fri 25 7-10pm **LADIES' PAMPER EVENING** See page 12
- Sun 27 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church
- Tue 29 10.30am **COFFEE MORNING** at Bethel Church.
8pm **ANNUAL PARISH CHURCH MEETING** All Saints' Ch

MAY

- Thurs 1 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Sun 4 8.30am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church
10am **ALL AGE SERVICE** at All Saints' Ch & refreshments
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 6 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
- Thur 8 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Sat 10 9-10.30am **ANNUAL VILLAGE TIDY**/parish spring clean. Meet at the Village Hall car park for litter pickers, etc.
- Sun 11 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church
- Tue 13 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
- Thur 15 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Fri 16 9.30-11.30am **HEALTH VISITOR** -Hanna's Tots -Village Hall.
- Sun 18 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church
- Tue 20 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
- Thur 22 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the first floor Meeting room at the Village Hall. Please use the side door.
- Sun 25 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
11am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church
- Tue 27 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.
- Wed 28 7.30pm **ANNUAL ELECTORS' MEETING** in the first floor meeting room at the Village Hall.
- Thur 29 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church
- Fri 30 6-9pm **OPEN GARDEN** The Limes, The Tye. See page 2.
- Sat 31 2-6pm **OPEN GARDEN** The Limes, The Tye. See p.2.

HANNA'S TOTS—IS IT GOODBYE HANNA'S TOTS?



I'm afraid to say that Hanna's Tots the local baby & toddler group which meets in the Village Hall on Friday mornings 9:30-11:30 may be closing in July unless somebody/bodies are willing to take over the running of the group .

The other mums are happy to help set up, make teas and tidy away, but it will need somebody/bodies to carry out a few more overall running duties.

Hanna's Tots is a nice way to meet other families in the area for just £2.00 per family. We have a large choice of toys and a large safe environment to play in.

The Health Visitor comes the 3rd Friday of the month and Lu from the SURESTART centre comes and does messy play with the children also on the 3rd Friday of the month, hopefully the library bus with start visiting as well.

Please contact Jenny on **403245** for all enquiries and questions about the voluntary position and/or any questions relating to Hanna's Tots

Hope to see you soon

Jenny Watts



Church & Hawes



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BETHEL CHURCH—Wings Like Eagles

Watching The Sochi Winter Olympics has been fascinating. Most of the events are certainly not for the faint hearted. Britain, over the years has seen modest success in terms of our medal haul, but that hasn't stopped many of our competitors from giving it their all.

For me, the Winter Games have become synonymous with Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards. The British ski jumper was mocked for his performances at the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, but he was a fearless and dedicated athlete who sacrificed a lot to make it to the Games.

For some, he was a hero who sacrificed a lot to live the dream: an athlete who competed with a smile on his face, and deservedly reaped the rewards of his unexpected fame while he could. For others, Edwards was a laughing stock who belittled both the sport of ski jumping and the 1988 Winter Olympics, and represented everything that was bad in a nation that seemed to adore sporting losers. Either way, the story behind Edwards' rise to stardom is still fascinating all these years later; and love him or pity him, you cannot deny Edwards his place in Winter Olympics history.

Eddie Edwards had very little hope of winning an Olympic medal, yet he displayed enormous courage and strength to even achieve the right to participate.

Finding courage and strength comes easier for some than others. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah said this:

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,

they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:28-31

Where is your strength? We live in a world that prides itself in all its accomplishments. We live in a world that prides itself in being able to do anything it sets its mind to do, a world that has put men on the moon and skiers flying 50mph through the air from a ski slope.

Isaiah's message is very counter intuitive to our normal thinking. He says, Man, at his strongest, is weak. He is helpless. We are inherently weak. The text, of course, points to youths and to their physical strength. And yet, even though they may be physically strong, they are yet weak, as compared to God.

The wonderful message here is, that those who look to the Lord will have their strength renewed. He is the One we should turn to.

But this physical picture mainly points to a spiritual picture, the spiritual picture is our disharmony with God, because of our disobedience - and how he offers a way back to him through the person and work of his son, Jesus.

Jesus Christ himself gives this promise to his disciples. *"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."* When you are weary and heavy laden, don't just wallow in that weariness, but go to Christ, and he will give you rest. That's the way that God works in our lives. He makes us to sense our weakness and he puts it in our hearts even to go to him. He will give us rest.



Come and join others who are learning to 'soar like eagles' under the teaching of the Bible. We would love to see you.

Pease see the Village Diary for when we meet and other dates for your diary.

Roydon Hearne

EAST HANNINGFIELD SCHOOL



Happy New Year everyone! The school has been busy this term; our school topic is let's Explore. Class 1 has been going on safari and are beginning to learn about different countries. Class 2 are becoming Polar Explorers, Class 3 are learning all about World War 2 and Class 4 are investigating the sun, moon and earth.

This January class 4, our year 5 and 6 children took part in the 'Young Voices' concert at the O2 in London. They sang with over 7300 children a range of songs and dances. They were a credit to the school and then performed in front of their parents in one of our celebration assemblies. We are continuing our musical performances this term with class 3 taking part in a cluster concert, led by a music teacher from Sandon High school and Class 2 will be taking part in the Infant music festival with other schools.

We like opportunities for the children to visit different places, to extend their learning opportunities. Class 3 are visiting Duxford Air Museum in March.



This will enable them to learn more about the war and to experience what it would have been like to go to school in war time Britain. Also our Year 4 children are competing against other schools in the Superstars event at Melbourne Sports Centre.

Another busy but enjoyable term ahead of us!

Kerry Collins

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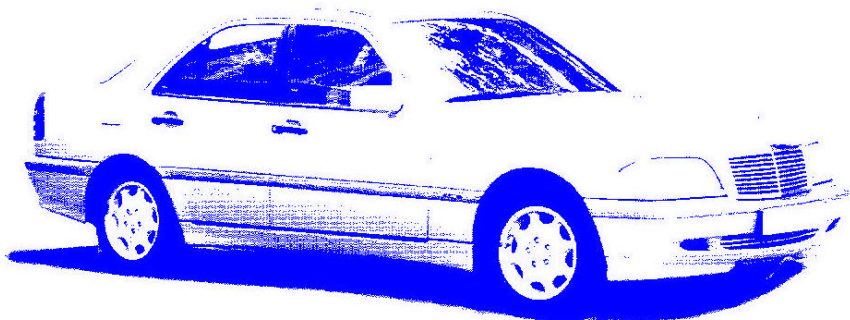


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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



By the time you read this, spring should be in the air. It will be time for all but the hardiest of us to bring our bicycles out and take to the road. Our neighbourhood police have taken the opportunity to remind us of the need to consider security. Bicycle theft, they say, has doubled since the mid 1990's, probably due to the proliferation of more expensive models and one is stolen every minute in the UK; less than 5% ever get returned. Their advice is timely, so here are some suggestions as to what you should do –

1. Always lock your cycle, wherever you leave it.
2. Use a good quality lock, preferably two -, say D-Lock + chain.
3. Lock it to an immovable object, - while making sure it is legal and inoffensive.
4. Make sure such object cannot be cut, broken, removed or lifted over.
5. Use the cycle facilities offered at railway stations and other public places.
6. With the lock(s), catch as much as possible, including the wheels.
7. Remember that saddles are sometimes stolen.
8. Lock cycles even when at home, preferably to a secure ground or wall anchor.
9. Store out of public view.

Marking your bicycle – Neighbourhood watch carry a police marking kit provided by our Police, for use by us.

1. Mark your cycle frame with your postcode, twice, with one location hidden.
2. Keep a record of the frame number, and photograph your cycle, including markings.

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3. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) is available, at a small cost, and should be considered. This way, Police have facility to reunite property with its owner. (NB - RFID is not a GPS tracking system)
4. View, consider and use the facilities offered by the 'Immobilise' web site.

Of course you may have more ideas on how to fool the thief; if so, use them. That way, we can start to clean up the plague of bicycle theft, - and much besides.

Geoff Dickman ☎ 403175/07968-112179

✉ geoff.h.dickman@gmail.com .



Annual Art Exhibition & Sale

Saturday, 5th. July,

Call for artists to exhibit

*(Paintings, drawings, prints, pottery, silks,
sculpture, woodwork etc)*

If you would like to exhibit or help please contact
Wendy Thomas on 01245 400797.

EAST HANNINGFIELD W.I.

The first members meetings of the East Hanningfield Women's Institute was in the early evening of the 5th July 1917 in the Rectory. The first demonstration requested by the ladies was boot repairing. It is recorded that the activity was fairly heavy work for women who needed a great deal of strength to rip of the old soles from the boots. They also noted that the nails were extremely sharp and that many members went home with new soles on their boots but punctured fingers.



Our first meeting of 2014 in January had slight similarity in as much as fingers were involved. Our demonstration was entitled Magic and Beauty – a talk on precious stones, with prominence being diamonds (of course) together with many other very beautiful gems. We learned where they were mined, (holidays may be booked to coincide with these locations) and how the different stones were cut and polished. Our speaker also gave valuations so on this occasion our members went home with some very nice rings on their fingers.



In our March meeting we are learning all about Bee Keeping and how we who have gardens or patio pots can all look after these incredible but extremely valuable insects. At present I have to admit my garden seems to favour the aquatic theme.

Our first event of the year is our Spring Lunch on the 29th March. We always invite our neighbouring W.I's to these events which have become a 'must attend' in their diaries. I quietly admit that if 'putting on a do and eating' became an Olympic event we would

have to give entering serious consideration. In the meantime we will keep up the training.

What is the W.I? It is a place of fun, where you can make friends, improve skills, take part in community projects and influence National and International issues. One of the Women's Institutes most successful campaigns in the U.K. produced the cycle lanes now on many roads throughout the country.

Why don't you come alone and take a look for yourself? You will be most welcome. The dates of our meetings are in the diary. I look forward to seeing you.

Flora Virgoe

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