# EAST HANNINGFIELD NEWS

*Autumn* 2015

No. 153



ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION & SALE SATURDAY 5TH & SUNDAY 6TH. SEPTEMBER

#### FROM THE ACTING EDITOR

East Hanningfield News is published by East Hanningfield Parish Council and delivered by volunteers 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, 13th. November, for publication on 1st. December.

Earlier submission is always welcome. Later submission might not be included.

Please send electronic copy to karen.plumridge@btinternet.com

# FRONT COVER—THE EAST HANNINGFIELD ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION & SALE

As you may remember from the last newsletter this has moved to September 5<sup>th</sup> 10am until 6.00pm and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> from 10.am until 4.pm. It is in the Village Hall and is a large high quality art show of work of different artistic media and photography.

It is usually a great show and as well as a good chance to buy attractive art and craft items, it helps us fundraise for the Village Hall and playing fields.

Anyone interested in exhibiting just get in touch even at this late date. We also need volunteers to put up the work and man the doors. If you fancy this as a way of getting to know people just contact me

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

At the time of writing the interactive map on the Superfastessex website was showing most of East Hanningfield parish to be scheduled for a "fibre upgrade", as part of Phase 2a of the roll-out programme, in the period 2016-2019, with more specific timescales available in September 2015. This upgrade does not mean that all residents will have access to the quality of broadband that they need.

On 10th. August a very well attended public meeting was held in All Saints' Church in order to publicise an alternative, wireless approach to bringing broadband to the community. James Salmon of County Broadband explained how this could be done using radio. The overwhelming majority of those present indicated that they wanted to participate in the scheme if it goes ahead, so the next step is for a team of volunteers to call at every address to find out how many more resdents want to get involved. It is important to gauge the level of interest, even from those who will not be able to join immediately due to contracts with other providers, because the correct level of infrastructure can then be installed from the start.

Please go to www.countybroadband.co.uk/ for more information about this wireless internet service provider (WISP).

In this area small and medium sized businesses and registered charities can apply for a £3,000 voucher towards the cost of installing superfast broadband. This doesn't cover the VAT, so that would be a cost for those not VAT registered. You can find out about this at www. chelmsford.gov.uk/broadbandvoucher

It seems someone in the village has been taking advantage of the sunny days that we have had to go out into his or her garden and burn rubbish. This meant that a large number of other residents were unable to enjoy their gardens, dry their washing outside or even have their windows open. The aggrieved neighbours have the option of contacting Chelmsford City Council's Public Health and Protection

Services. Should they decide to impose an abatement notice, contravention could result in a £5,000 fine. Alternatively, the person concerned could take the refuse to one of the local Recycling Centres for Household Waste, the nearest being at South Woodham.

For some months two of the Parish Councillors have been investigating the different kinds of path constructions that might be suitable for rebuilding the footway at the northern end of the Tye. The path has suffered when the road flooded in the area of the Village Hall chase entrance. It is hoped that works to the ditch on the east side of the road, near the church, have cleared what was causing the back-up of water, so the new path will not suffer the same problem, but if it does, the chosen material will be able to withstand it. It was hoped that a decision would be made at the August PC Meeting as to how much of the path can be replaced with the funds available. Fortunately, PC recently received some long awaited S106 funding which is allocated to improving open space in the parish, but it is not enough to rebuild the path for the full length of the Tye.

Please see the Action Group and City Councillor items for the latest news on the various planning issues in the parish.

Now we know the power of the newt, perhaps we should be logging sightings for use in future controversial planning applications.

All seems quiet in the process of transferring the Catherine Close play area to the Parish Council. Perhaps activity will pick up again as Summer comes to an end.

I understand that the petition for a reduction in the speed limit for the Ashley Green/Coulde Dennis estate will be circulating soon. PC can't propose this reduction to the County Council without evidence of local support, so it is an important element of the request. If residents of other streets would like to organise a similar petition for PC to take to county council please get in touch. The Play in the Park sessions during August have been well attended despite the varying weather conditions. The staff are provided by Chelmsford City Council and PC arranges and pays for each session and the premises.

Some recent financial developments have been PC 'contractor undertaking the strimming as well as the mowing at the churchyard and a grant to Preschool towards extending their fenced play area. It was hoped that the fence extension could be installed before the beginning of the Winter term.

PC's Meetings continue for the most part on the fourth Thursday of the month (not the last Thursday), although December's meeting will be earlier, but more about that next time. Each Meeting has a Public Question Time for members of the public to bring matters to the attention of the Council. Very rarely, members of the public might be excluded from a Meeting for a sensitive matter to be discussed, but the rest of the time members of the public are welcome to sit in and listen to proceedings all the way through.

PC's Facebook page is proving to be a successful way of getting messages out to residents. A recent post reached 547 people. PC's website continues to be updated with information such as Agenda and Minutes for PC Meetings, audited accounts etc as well as local information which would be helpful for school projects or local or family historians. The landscape study has even been cited on Wikipedia!

Please note, if you phone me I'll wait to hear who is calling before picking up as I'm getting so many sales/nuisance calls, despite having registered with the Telephone Preference Service.

#### CITY COUNCILLOR'S NEWS

It has been a busy few months since the election mainly with planning issues. Progress has been made as under

#### **Gypsy and Traveller Site**

I was delighted that this appeal was dismissed. It was a real team effort and a fine example of collaboration between the Action Group and the Parish Council. The reasons for the dismissal were first



the impact the development would have on views of the site particularly from Geffrey Close. The second reason was the potential impact the development would have on wildlife specifically great crested newts. It is open to the appellant to make a further appeal to the High Court but I can see no grounds for doing so. He can also make a fresh planning application addressing the grounds for refusal on appeal. He could probably overcome the wildlife ground but in my view the only way to overcome the income on views would be to plant a hedge, which would take some years to grow. The inspector ruled out the construction of a fence as being too intrusive.

#### Proposed Development in Old Church Road

The planning application for 24 houses including 10 affordable homes has been refused as contrary to policy. I am anticipating an appeal. Should there be an appeal I will fight it hard. The time for appealing is six months.

#### Morelands Industrial Site

Over the years this site has caused numerous enforcement issues. It was thought that the situation had been resolved by planning consent for 24 residential dwellings. There was always a problem in that Tileworks Lane was not an adopted highway and accordingly no developer would consider buying the site. I am pleased that this problem has now been overcome and development can proceed. I

am aware that some residents have reservations regarding a residential consent but this is surely preferable to previous uses.

#### Health Warning on Flooded Roads

Where roads flood in heavy rain there is a danger that the flood water will mix with sewage overflow. Residents need to be aware of the risk of e-coli which can lie dormant for up to ten days after the floods recede. The risk is low but residents should avoid where possible walking through flood water. Should this happen however the advice from Public Health Officers at the city council is to wash exposed skin and clothing in soapy water on the same basis as you would wash your hands after going to the toilet. This advice was issued following a meeting to discuss flooding of Old Church Road at its junction with Back Lane.

I am very willing to visit local residents and businesses. Just give me a ring.

Richard Poulter.

**223743** 

#### VILLAGE FETE 2015

Assuming all the advertisement and sponsorship monies come in the overall Fete profit will be approximately £4,650. This is up £694 on last year and reflects the bigger event attendance this year. Splitting this year's overall profit between the three organisations involved, School, All Saints and Hanna's Field equally, the individual share is approximately £1,550 (compared with £1,977 each to HFC and All Saints last year).

Mike Plumridge, Treasurer, Hanna's Field Charity

#### THE EAST HANNINGFIELD ACTION GROUP

The East Hanningfield Action Group works with the Parish Council and City Councillors on contentious planning proposals. Our aim is to represent the majority view of the Parish but also to inform the residents of the key issues so they can make their personal comments to the relevant authorities.

As a group of volunteers we can be nimbler than an elected person or organisation, whom are often hampered by strict procedural rules.

A significant planning application which has created a lot of concern in the Village has been the proposal for five gypsy pitches near the pumping station in Old Church Road.

This application went to appeal with the Planning Inspector on 17 June. The appeal has recently been rejected. Numerous factors were carefully considered by the Inspector, including the affect on



local residents, the propensity of the site to flood and the real needs of the applicants for traveller pitches. The key reasons for rejection in the Inspector's report were the significant harm to the character and appearance of the area and the potential damage to biodiversity, in particular as a habitat for great crested newts.

The applicants still own the site. They may continue to use it for recreational purposes such as grazing horses. They are welcome to do so. Our objection was to a residential caravan site in an unspoilt rural field.

A more recent planning application was for 24 dwellings including up to 10 affordable homes in Old Church Rd opposite Geffrey Close. This application has now been rejected by Chelmsford City Planning. Their objection is that the Village settlement boundary was modified to include the proposed site but for 10 affordable homes only not a mix of 24 dwellings. We expect this application to go to appeal.

We are continuing to watch the application for two gypsy pitches on a site in Butts Green. This is in the Parish of Sandon. This went to appeal with the Planning Inspector on 10 June but the meeting was adjourned with the agreement of both sides. The applicant's agent wished to make representation on the failure of Chelmsford City to identify a five year supply of land for both homes in general and gypsy sites in particular. The appeal resumption is presently forecast for October.

Malcolm Thomas 

☑ easthanningfieldaction@gmail.com

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#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Thankfully reported incidents in East Hanningfield are currently low, but we must not be complacent and let down our guard in relation to home security and general awareness of what is going on around us. Remember that especially at this time of the year a number of people will be going away on their Summer/Autumn Holidays, so ensure you are <u>not</u> drawing your blinds/curtains, which is a dead giveaway there is no one home, plus it is a good idea to get a couple of lamps to come on at different times around your home, by using inexpensive timers, perhaps, as well, ask a neighbour to check that post is not building up on the inside of your front door, if this is clearly visible from outside.

A reminder as well that NHW do have marking equipment which is available for use by anyone or use the invisible marker pens which are easily available in retail shops to ensure your equipment - TV's, Hi-fi's, computers etc. can be traced more quickly if stolen and then recovered by the Police, photographs of more expensive items including jewellery etc. are also good to have.

Always, of course, keep side gates locked as well as sheds, let's just not make it too easy for the criminals out there, they are always looking for an easy target!

Jenny Mouser

☑ NHWEastHanningfield@outlook.com



#### **BOOK SALE AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

The next Book Sale will run concurrently with the Art Exhibition, 5th & 6th September. Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm. It might not be manned all the time, so if you want help please ask!

#### HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY

A big thank you in advance to Wendy, Jenny and their families and friends who are organising the village annual art show which is taking place in the village hall on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of September. During the school summer break we installed CCTV at the village hall and completed some minor repairs to the car park. We are concentrating at the moment on raising the funds necessary to complete the re-roofing of the hall.

The Annual Village Fete, which included the School PA on the organising committee for the first time this year, was held on a new date at the start of the Summer. The fete proved to be a successful event and will hopefully continue into the future. Thanks are due to everyone who came and supported the event and the organisers and their friends who set up and cleared away at the end of the day. 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 and sports facilities. If you would like to find out more about the Charity please contact me or any member of the

committee.

East Hanningfield

The large hall, small hall, meeting room, sports field and sports courts/tennis court are available for booking which can be made via Dan Crow on **01245 400965**. Please make use of the facilities which are available at a discounted rate if you live in the village. 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/

#### **EAST HANNINGFIELD W.I.**

I missed the deadline for the summer edition of the E.H. News. So sorry, I was up to my ankles in crafts and Jam (of course) for the Village Show. What a super day that was. The weather rather hot but dry, the company full of laughter and our successful day was down to all those who came to see us. We are very grateful for your support and thank you all.

We have had a very busy year with our fund raising, holding our Spring Lunch, SOUPer Lunch and our famous Strawberry Tea. (For those new in the village we are ladies who know how to celebrate with food.)

Our monthly meetings have been filled with adventure and interesting features. We were transported to the Island Paradise of Tobago by Lyn Croot. We had our Annual Meeting and I was elected President once more and have some new members on our committee too. (They are inspiring us to bigger and greater things and are a very welcome addition to our committee). One of our members took the June meeting to show us some beautiful and easy ways to make gift wrapping a work of art. Pat Hall came in July to show us 108 movements of Tai Chi. The meeting was quiet, calm and very chilled and that was just watching her. It was slightly different when we all had a go at doing it ourselves but it was fun and we really did feel the benefit of this art.

By the time you have read this we will have held our first Beetle Drive – the RSPCA are informed of this event and first aid will be available to those beetles undone by time. I will report on the welfare of everyone taking part in this event in the next addition of the E.H. News. We are also considering coach trips to enhance our love of life and learning.

At our August meeting we had our 'Tea at the Hall'. This is our traditional garden party with afternoon tea, a quiz and games with

#### VILLAGE DIARY

www.essexinfo.net/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/village-diary-2015-2/

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Tue 10.30am LADIES MEETING at Bethel Church. 3 BACK TO SCHOOL - Winter Term starts Thu 7.30pm **PRAYER MEETING** at Bethel Church. Sat 10am-12-30pm BOOKSALE & COFFEE MORNING in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall 10am-6pm ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION AND SALE -6 8.30am **BCP COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church Sun 10am-4pm ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION AND SALE 10am MORNING WORSHIP at All Saints' Church 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church Tue 10.30am LADIES MEETING at Bethel Church. 7.45pm BIBLE STUDY at Bethel Church Thu 11 9.30-11.30am **HEALTH VISITOR** at Hanna's Tots, V. Hall. Fri 12 11am-1pm CAFE BAR at Bethel Church Sat Sun 13 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church 11am COMMUNION SERVICE at All Saints' Church. 6pm EVENING PRAISE & WORSHIP at Bethel Church Tue 15 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church. 16 2pm WI MEETING in the WI Hall. Speaker: Pauline Obee Wed MBE on The Fun of Fundraising 17 7.45pm BIBLE STUDY at Bethel Church Thu 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church Sun 20 11am MORNING WORSHIP at All Saints' Church. 3-4.30pm MESSY CHURCH for children & parents, story, craft & worship at the Village Hall finishing in Church. 10.30am LADIES MEETING at Bethel Church. Tue 22 7.45pm BIBLE STUDY at Bethel Church Thu

room at the Village Hall

8pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING in the first floor meeting

- Fri 25 9.30-11.30am **HEALTH VISITOR** at Hanna's Tots in the Village Hall.
- Sun 27 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
  11am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HEALING at All Saints'
  6pm EVENING PRAISE & WORSHIP at Bethel Church
- Tue 29 10.30am **COFFEE MORNING** at Bethel Church

#### **OCTOBER**

Thu 1 7.30pm **PRAYER MEETING** at Bethel Church.

Sun 4 8.30am BCP COMMUNION at All Saints' Church 10am MORNING WORSHIP 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church

Tue 6 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.

Thu 8 7.45pm BIBLE STUDY at Bethel Church

Fri 9 9.30-11.30am **HEALTH VISITOR** at Hanna's Tots, V. Hall.

Sat 10 11am-1pm CAFE BAR at Bethel Church

Sun 11 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church 11am **COMMUNION SERVICE** at All Saints' Church

Tue 13 10.30am **LADIES MEETING** at Bethel Church.

Thu 15 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church

Sun 18 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
11am HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE (gifts to link with
School)
3-4.30pm MESSY CHURCH for children & parents, story,
craft & worship at the Village Hall finishing in Church.

Tue 20 10.30am LADIES MEETING at Bethel Church.

Wed 21 2pm WI MEETING in the WI Hall. Speaker:

Thu 22 7.45pm BIBLE STUDY at Bethel Church 8pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING in the first floor meeting room at the Village Hall Fri 23 9.30-11.30am **HEALTH VISITOR** at Hanna's Tots in the Village Hall.

SCHOOL BREAKS UP FOR HALF TERM

Sun 25 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
11am ALL SOULS SERVICE - light a candle for the bereaved - at All Saints' Church.
6pm EVENING PRAISE & WORSHIP at Bethel Church

Tue 27 10.30am **COFFEE MORNING** at Bethel Church

Wed 28 WI MEETING harvest lunch with Group WIs.

Thu 29 7.45pm BIBLE STUDY at Bethel Church

#### **NOVEMBER**

Sun 1 8.30am BCP COMMUNION at All Saints' Church
10am MORNING SERVICE FOR ALL SAINTS' - Patronal festival for our Church - at All Saints' Church.
10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church

Tue 3 10.30am LADIES MEETING at Bethel Church.

Thu 5 7.30pm **PRAYER MEETING** at Bethel Church.

Sun 8 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church 10.50am **SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE** (for those who have died in war) at the War Memorial, All Saints' Church.

Tue 10 10.30am LADIES MEETING at Bethel Church.

Thu 12 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDY** at Bethel Church

Fri 13 9.30-11.30am **HEALTH VISITOR** at Hanna's Tots in the Village Hall.

Sat 14 11am-1pm CAFE BAR at Bethel Church

Sun 15 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church

11am COMMUNION SERVICE at All Saints' Church

3-4.30pm **MESSY CHURCH** for children & parents, story, craft & worship at the Village Hall finishing in Church.

- Tue 17 10.30am LADIES MEETING at Bethel Church.
- Wed 18 2pm **WI MEETING** in the WI Hall. Speaker:Pat Harvey on Parcel Wrapping
- Thu 19 7.45pm BIBLE STUDY at Bethel Church
- Sun 22 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
  11am MORNING WORSHIP at All Saints' Church
  6pm EVENING PRAISE & WORSHIP at Bethel Church
- Tue 24 10.30am COFFEE MORNING at Bethel Church
- Thu 26 7.45pm BIBLE STUDY at Bethel Church 8pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING in the first floor meeting room at the Village Hall
- Fri 27 9.30-11.30am **HEALTH VISITOR** at Hanna's Tots in the Village Hall.
- Sat 28 10am-12-30pm BOOKSALE & COFFEE MORNING in
- Sun 29 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
  11am ADVENT SERVICE (lighting of the first candle on
  6pm EVENING PRAISE & WORSHIP at Bethel Church



prizes. In September we have a special guest in Pauline Obee MBE who is coming to speak to us on 'The Fun of Fund Raising'.

Because of the change in date for the Village Fete this had a bit of an impact on the W.I. – the fruit trees around the village were not quite ready to yield to our jam making. When we list 'home made' it often means from tree to jar very locally grown. A big thank you to our own local growers. The organisers of the Art Exhibition in September have very kindly allowed us to bring our stall to the next event. The W.I. will exhibit 'THE ART' of crafting, pickles and of course JAM making. Orders have already been received. Please come and meet us, we are ladies that like to chat.

I hope this gives a flavour of what we are about. We meet every third Wednesday in the month at 2.00 at our little green hall in Old Church Road. Our full programme is included in the magazine and you would all be most welcome. Do come and join us.

Flora Virgoe President.



The busy WI stall at the 2015 Village Fete

#### **ALL SAINTS' LAY MINISTER**

Dear Friends.

It is good to be able to do this letter after 5 months into being your minister here. I have met a lot of you and I feel I have a much greater knowledge of how things work in the village. It was particularly interesting to be at your meeting about broadband and its poor availability in the village, and for the church to be used for the meeting. The church does belong to the village and it is there for you and your needs, and I hope over time more of you will see how we can help you and see that our Christian traditions and way of life are not lost. We are trying to respond



to changing lifestyles and recognise that people live busy lives in which time is precious. Our services are not long and we hope that children and young families will come to our Messy Church once a month, where there is the opportunity to learn Bible stories through craft and other experiences. This begins in the Village Hall which has the best facilities for these activities, and finishes in the church with refreshments.

Everyone who comes into the church remarks that it is a very lovely place. We have had 4 weddings over the summer and several baptisms. Do contact me if you would like to have children baptised, we can do this in a morning service or as a separate event. You might also like to think about confirmation. This is when you confirm for yourself the promises made at your baptism, or if you have not been baptised this is when you can make those decisions for yourself and do baptism and confirmation together. For communion services it means that you can join in the full service taking the bread and wine. I hope to run sessions in the Autumn for children and adults, and it is an opportunity to discuss and ask questions without any commit-

ment, if you decide it is not for you. Do contact me if you are interested.

It is great to be involved with the school and I have enjoyed attending assemblies and our Church Club which is to run from 3.15pm in September, every other week. This means parents will not have to make two journeys as it follows straight after school. The school will be coming into church for their Harvest Festival and Carol Service and I shall also be seeing the Pre-School and Toddler Club during the coming months. As we approach Christmas we shall be having all the usual services which are shown in the Village Diary and I look forward to seeing more of you at this festive time of year. It was also good to be involved in the Village Fete in June, and I enjoyed meeting people and having a stall. It is very important for us as a church to be a part of things like the Village Fete, and we value this apart from any money it might generate. We look forward to future planning together.

We are trying very hard to provide the sorts of services and events that people want and I would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions about things you would like to take part in. We have communion once a month as the main service, and the others are all very adaptable with hymns we are hoping people will like and know, and sermons which are relevant and not too long! The church is part of village life alongside the school and the parish council and we are there to support and reflect the needs of a very changing world. We will be holding the annual Remembrance Service on November 8<sup>th</sup> and a special service to commemorate those who have died on All Saints Sunday which is 1<sup>st</sup> November. Our fourth Sunday of the month is usually a Healing Service during which there is the opportunity to light a candle, and place this on the altar for a person or circumstance that requires healing. Do come along if these can help you in any way.

We all have our ups and downs in life, and I know some feel it is difficult to feel there is a loving God when there is so much trouble and

sadness in the world. Much of our trouble we cause ourselves unfortunately, but God is there working through people, whether it is the aid worker, the nurse or the friend and neighbour. We also have to open our hearts to receive him and never forget the power of prayer. We pray regularly for people at All Saints so please let us know if there is someone or something you want us to pray for. Faith, hope and love, these three, become particularly poignant as we enter the Christmas season. We look forward helping you whenever we can and seeing you soon.

Christine (Lay Minster in Charge)

#### ... AND CHURCH WARDEN

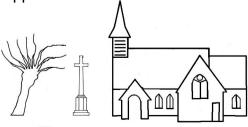
Do you think Church services are boring lengthy affairs? Well you would be wrong as regards All Saints! Thanks to Christine taking on board the replies to the questionnaire and listening to people's comments, our usual Sunday services are usually just under the hour in length. However, nearly everyone stops afterwards to chat over a cup of tea or coffee & biscuit - so You might need to allow a few minutes more for that!!

We have been delighted to welcome some new people to the church and together with the regular congregation, the newly designed booklet for **Morning Worship** has been deemed a great success. It includes the traditional Lord's Prayer and each week well-loved hymns are chosen, so we can all enjoy a good sing! For those who would prefer not to be involved with The Peace, please note this is not part of this service (only during Holy Communion on 2nd Sunday). If you haven't been to a Sunday service in All Saints and are curious to see what it is like, don't feel shy or embarrassed, just come and sit at the back if you want. Christine's sermons are interesting and always include a good joke.

Perhaps you were not baptised as a baby and are thinking about it now you are older, it isn't as unusual as you think to be baptised as

an adult and if you wish, can take place at the same time as being confirmed. We hope to begin confirmation classes this September. These can be arranged at any time to suit the candidate, either as part of a group or individually; probably five sessions of half-an-hour each. Many young people in their teens start to have questions about God and the person of Jesus - you can feel free to ask anything and explore any aspects of Christianity at this time. You have the chance to discover for yourself how God is working in your life. If you were baptised at an early age, confirmation is a chance to make a mature public affirmation of your faith or put another way you are confirming the promises made on your behalf at baptism. Following the classes, if you feel ready to commit and go forward for Confirmation, this will take place at a special service conducted by the Bishop. The decision is a personal one but in making it, you will want to include those close to you. Of course if at this stage you Feel that it is not right for you, then you are perfectly free to withdraw no questions asked - the course is meant to be an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly informal way. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Christine or Gil.

Finally, the PCC would like to express their gratitude to all those who have recently given of their time and energy to help us with the churchyard. At the risk of forgetting someone, thank you to the Parish Council for their continued support with the grass cutting programme, Trixie and Ian for their sterling efforts at the start of the season, David and his man with the JCB, Max for trimming the lime trees and helping Dennis neaten the driveway and putting the path edging in place, Mike for hedging and ditching, Colin and his team for other work. Your help is much appreciated.





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#### **EAST HANNINGFIELD SCHOOL**

Another academic year has flown past and we are extremely pleased to announce that Ofsted visited us this summer term and we were given the grade of 'GOOD'. The school has had a variety of changes over the last 3 years which as Ofsted stated have 'led to significant improvement in teaching and pupils' achievement.' Ofsted highlighted that the school now provides a 'curriculum that offers pupils rich and imaginative activities that widen their experience and understanding of their community and the wider world.' This has only been possible by the hard work of the staff and governors who continue to endeavour to make East Hanningfield C of E primary an outstanding school. (To read our full Ofsted report please access it via the Ofsted website)

The summer term has been very busy. The Year 5 & 6 pupils went on their residential to the Isle of Wight. They had a brilliant time visiting various sights and were a credit to the school. To continue to enrich the curriculum, the Year 3 & 4 children visited Colchester Castle as part of their history topic on the Romans and the Reception children and Years 1 & 2 had a day trip to the zoo. We also held a successful music afternoon for parents celebrating the children's musical talents. Our sporting skills were put to the test at the District sports where we came away with a number of certificates and a trophy! Key stage 2 pupils raised money for charity by holding their very own mini-market at the end of term. They designed their own stalls, resourced them and then ran their stalls for the key stage 1 children. The pupils made over £140 and it was a lovely afternoon with tombola, nail painting, cakes to decorate or buy, target shoot, name the teddy and many more activities that kept us all entertained in the sunshine. In the summer term we held with the village, a summer fete. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Parent Association and all others who worked hard to produce a very successful Fete, raising lots of money.

At the end of any summer term we have to say a fond farewell to our Year 6 children who move to secondary school. We wish them all the very best. We also had to say farewell to Mrs Stone one of our learning support assistants. She retired after 17 years of service to the school and will be very much missed.

As we begin to look to the new academic year 15-16 we hope to continue to work closely with the community and will build on our existing strengths to ensure the school continues to give all children the very best in education.

#### **Kerry Collins**



Some of the participants in the School organised sports at the 2015 Village Fete







#### **EAST HANNINGFIELD PRESCHOOL**

Pre-School held their annual Sports Day in July to commemorate being open 45 years and the children were excited to take part. They were divided into four teams and each child made their own rosette in their team colour. Events included balancing, running, hurdles and football. All the children were presented with certificates and medals for taking part.

During the summer term the children have been learning all about our village. We were lucky enough to be invited to look round The Limes. Vita Bella and also the Village Church. The children and adults enjoyed all the visits, and thank you to everyone who gave up their time to show us round and also for providing the children with delicious snacks and drinks. Thank you also to Ash in the Post Office for supplying postcards so that the children could purchase a stamp, post their card in the letter box and then send their postcard to their home.

From September 2015 the Pre-school will be opening longer hours on a Monday, from 9am - 3pm. Tuesday - Friday mornings will remain as at present, from 9.15am-12.15pm, with lunch club available on Tuesdays & Thursdays for an extra hour. Longer hours only available for those aged over 2½. Kast Hanningfield

For more information or to arrange a visit, email us or visit our website.

#### Sue Belham

d ehps!@live.co.uk

www.easthanningfieldpreschool.org.uk

#### **BETHEL CHURCH—Adventure Is Out There**

I love the opening sequence of the Pixar Animation, UP. It brings together two kindred spirits, Carl and Ellie (The Fredricksens). Their shared passion of adventure finds them saving up for a time when they can go and discover Paradise Falls together. They spend a lifetime waiting for the day they can explore the world, yet that thing called 'life' gets in the way.

The same is true for many of us. We say, "there's always tomorrow". But oftentimes, tomorrow never comes.

Bethel Church would like to take you on a journey of Christian exploration. **Christianity Explored** is an informal 7-week course for people who'd like to investigate Christianity, or just brush up on the basics. It explores who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him. **Christianity Explored** gives time and space to think about the big, burning questions in life.

Here's a few examples:

You can't trust the Bible, can you? – Vaughan
Hasn't science shown that Christianity is wrong? – Gavin
Wasn't Jesus just a great teacher? – Kara
Why bother with church? – Jason
If there is a God, why does he allow suffering? – Dawn
How can a loving God send anyone to hell? – Abi
Why are Christians so old-fashioned about sex? – Lee
Aren't all religions basically the same? – Tim

We cannot promise a trip to Paradise Falls, but we do hope to try and answer some of these questions.

**Christianity Explored** is a free 7-week course. We're planning to start the next course in October/November. So please visit

www.bethel-ec.com for more information and to register your interest.

The French author, André Gide, penned these famous words, "Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose

sight of the shore." We hope that you will join us on this journey of discovery.

See Village Diary (centre pages) for other times we meet.

Roydon Hearne www.bethel-ec.com



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