

***EAST
HANNINGFIELD
NEWS***

***Spring
2020***

No. 171



Primroses at All Saints' Churchyard

EDITORIAL NOTE

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

**Copy date for the next edition is Friday,
14th. August for publication on 1st. September.**

Earlier submission is welcome: later submission will be excluded!
Please send electronic copy to karen.plumridge@btinternet.com or
hard copy to 2 Clinton Close.

This and every back copy, from Summer 1974, and the current advertising rates can be found at
<https://e-voice.org.uk/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/east-hanningfield-news/>

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

These primroses illustrate what a lovely place the churchyard is at this time of year with all the spring flowers in their full glory, and weren't the snowdrops magnificent in February!



Here is Tin Tin the donkey, the star of All Saints' Carols by Candlelight Service. Find out when you can meet Tin Tin again on page 25.



PARISH COUNCIL

Thank you to everyone who responded to the request, in the last News, for comments on possible traffic calming in various parts of the village. Residents of the Common were particularly active in this respect and further communications will be had with them concerning practical measures that might be taken. A site meeting with our County Councillor and a highways officer produced some new ideas for Ashley Green, amongst others, they having witnessed the poor parking by parents waiting for children to come out of the school back gate! A 20mph speed limit in this area of the village would be acceptable to Highways. They would also be amenable to replacing the village gates with a 50% contribution from PC, as it is thought that these structures have a calming affect on traffic and ours are reaching the end of their lives and some have already disappeared.

PC has been notified by the City Council that from 1st. April it will no longer be sending notification of planning applications to neighbours of sites. They will still be attaching a notice to a nearby post/pole. PC is supporting City Councillor Richard Poulter in his effort to get this decision overturned, as the more vulnerable members of our community could well be the ones who don't have the wherewithal to see planning applications online, elect to receive email notifications or be aware of an A4 notice on a post.

Another recent decision by the City Council, with immediate affect, was the ending of the provision of free dog bags. These are the bags that were available in the Village Hall entrance lobby and the Shop. The law requiring dog owners to clear up after their dogs has not been rescinded.

The outline planning application for 26 homes on the site between Old Church Road and Back Lane was allowed on appeal back in December. The inspector attached 25 conditions to the permission. If you would like to read the inspector's report you can find it on the City Council's website planning pages under the reference 17/01646/OUT. An application for the details omitted from the outline application can be expected in due course. It will have an REM suffix (reserved matters). Another application which received much interest in the autumn was for changes at the Folly Bistro 19/01515/FUL. An extra document was added to the application, in February, concerning parking at the

site, and can also be seen on the City Council's website.

Back in the Autumn I mentioned that the essexinfo websites provided for community groups and parish councils by Essex County Council would be closing at the end of March. It turned out that the provider of that service was willing to continue serving those community groups although under a different name. This has meant that the anticipated loss of archive material on PC's website has not happened because almost all of the content was carried over to the new site. The new address is at the end of this article, as usual.

Every year, every civil parish has to hold an annual meeting, whether it has a council or not. This is a meeting for all electors of the parish, who may speak on matters relevant to that parish. It goes by various names such as Annual Parish Meeting, Parish Assembly or Electors' Meeting. Here we use the meeting to give our community groups the chance to let one another and the rest of us know what they are doing and what concerns they may have, for networking in other words! This year's meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 6th. May, in



The image shows a blue BFS Heating & Farm Fuels tanker truck parked on a road. The truck has the BFS logo and text on its side, including the phone number T 01245 425251 and the website www.bfsfuelservices.uk. The background is a scenic view of rolling green hills under a blue sky with scattered clouds.

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the first floor meeting room at the Village Hall. You don't have to be a member of a group to attend, so please come along: the meeting is for you!

The recent wet weather demonstrated how important it is to keep ditches clear. They were created when everything had to be excavated by hand, so they were only dug when absolutely necessary. It is therefore very unwise of us to ignore their maintenance. If you are quick, there is still time to cut back that hedge which is growing across a pavement before bud burst!

As mentioned in the Winter News PC set its Precept in December. This is the amount that the City Council will collect through the council tax on PC's behalf. The parish tax base for 2020-1 is 496.09. This year is it was 489.70, which means the Precept could rise to £35,290 without increasing the council tax. The proposed precept 2020-21 is an increase of 2.43% on this year plus a rounding to be divisible by 9, as requested by the City Council. The D Band for 2019/20 was £71.135 (34,835/489.7). The agreed Precept of £35,703 gives a D Band of

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£71.969 an increase of 0.85% on this year (£34,835).

At time of writing the date for the Village Tidy has yet to be set, but it will be on a Saturday morning around the end of April or early May. It will be publicised on Facebook, PC's website and the noticeboards.

Also at time of writing PC is awaiting advice from the City Council's tree officer concerning what can be done to save the weeping willow on the Tye that was damaged by storm Ciara.

PC's Meetings continue on the **fourth** Thursday of each month. They are open to the public so you can come along and listen and speak during Public Question Time. The Agenda appears on the website and noticeboards three clear days beforehand, so you can find out what is going to be under discussion before you come. If you want an item added to the Agenda, please send it to me a week before the Meeting.

Karen Plumridge, Clerk to the Parish Council

☎ 400628

✉ karen.plumridge@btinternet.com

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CITY COUNCILLOR

Chelmsford City Council has a policy of requiring that on all new housing developments of over ten homes at least 35% have to be affordable. We hear a lot about affordable housing but what exactly does it mean? It does not include the purchase of open market housing although there are incentives for first time buyers.

There are three types of affordable housing: affordable rent, social rent and shared ownership. The 35% contribution will be approximately 23% rented and 12% shared ownership. The usual practice of developers is to sell the properties designated as affordable housing to a social housing provider such as Chelmer Housing, which will then make them available for rent or shared ownership. In the vast majority of cases Chelmsford City Council will have nomination rights for the rented accommodation and will offer this to applicants from its housing register.

Affordable rented homes must be provided at rental levels that are at least 20% below local market rents (including service charges). This is the most common form of affordable rent (as compared with social rent). It should not be assumed that all properties will be let at the 80% figure and I know of a property let at around 60% of the local market rent.

Social Rented housing was introduced by the Government in late 2017 as a tenure eligible for funding in areas of high need. It now concentrates on areas that can demonstrate high affordability pressures. This includes Chelmsford. Social rents are up to 50% lower than affordable rents but the amount of discount will vary according to the number of bedrooms required and a prospective tenant's income.

The third option is shared ownership where part of the property is rented and the remainder is bought with the help of a mortgage. The purchased part can start as low as 25% and can be increased in stages known as staircasing. The subsidy comes in the form of a reduced rent.

There is increasing recognition that what is required in rural areas is



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to help those with a local connection to continue to live in their own communities. Some affordable housing is now being provided through the planning system with this provision.

This summary is intended as an overview but it does affect new development in East Hanningfield, which has a 35% provision in the new homes to be built in Old Church Road of which a proportion is reserved for those residents with a local connection. Any resident who is interested should contact the City Council housing department for more information.

I am willing to visit local residents and businesses. Just send me an email or give me a ring to make arrangements.

Richard Poulter.

☎ 01245 223743

✉ richard.poulter@chelmsford.gov.uk



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COUNTY COUNCILLOR

It is that time of year when Council budgets are finalised and I am pleased to report that Essex have approved an extra £5m for Highways to improve our roads and pavements. There will also be new investment in technology to support social care management and also in home to school transport. Adult and Children's Social Care takes up some 70% of our budget and that also receives new funding.




Perhaps one of the most interesting new challenges is the appointment of a Climate Change Commission. This was announced last October and will be reporting back to Council with ideas, initiatives, actions that will improve the environment in our county. The Commission will be led by an independent Chairman and include outside experts plus representatives from all political parties. It is planned to hold nine meetings during the 20/21 financial year such is the importance to get actions in place - I am sure I will be reporting on this later in the year.

We have had a lot of storms recently and this is when the rogue traders are at their most active. Never agree to have work done by somebody who is just passing or take their word that something needs doing. If you do need work done it is always best to obtain recommendations from friends or family or visit "Buy with Confidence" - the Trading Standards approved scheme at www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk/ or via www.essex.gov.uk/trading-standards-for-consumers.

As always if I can help on an issue please contact me.

Ian Grundy

 07920286384

 Cllr.ian.grundy@essex.gov.uk



HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY- Village Hall & Playing Fields

Here we are at the start of the new year and looking forward to Spring and lighter nights with Christmas and New Year a distant memory. A generally mild winter so far although a lot of rain and high winds. Flooding in December and subsequent heavy rain has meant we have closed the overflow car park, also causing some of the crushed granite top layer surface on the Chase path to be scoured. This means we will need to have some remedial work carried out together with some pot hole repairs on the car park and looking to add granite chippings to the overflow car park area to address the water retention problem there. Projects on our 'to do list' to improve our facilities at the hall this year are to replace the original wood Foyer windows and doors with UPVC double glazing plus installing a canopy over the entrance, and improve the lighting in the sports hall with LED lights to replace the obsolete fluorescent tubes installed originally, which should also give a better quality of light.

With help from the Parish Council, we are also looking to provide a new storage container, for use by the Preschool to store their outdoor toys and equipment, this will be at the back of the hall next to the fenced play area, and will be installed soon on the new concrete base.

Our fund-raising events for 2020 will be the Village Fete (11th July) please see separate report and the Annual Art Exhibition in September (date t.b.a.) We continue to run our regular Book Sales, the first of the year was on 22nd February and the next one on Saturday 25th April. We have many books of all categories at amazing prices plus we offer excellent cakes with tea/coffee and a good opportunity to chat thrown in!

It was with great sadness we learnt of the loss of Dennis Phillips in January, following a year of battling ill health. Dennis and Lynne moved into the village a few years ago but quickly became very involved with village life and the church. Dennis took on the role of manning the car park at the village fete, with his cheeky smile and funny quips persuading people to put a donation in his bucket to park! Our thoughts are with Lynne and his family at this very difficult time.

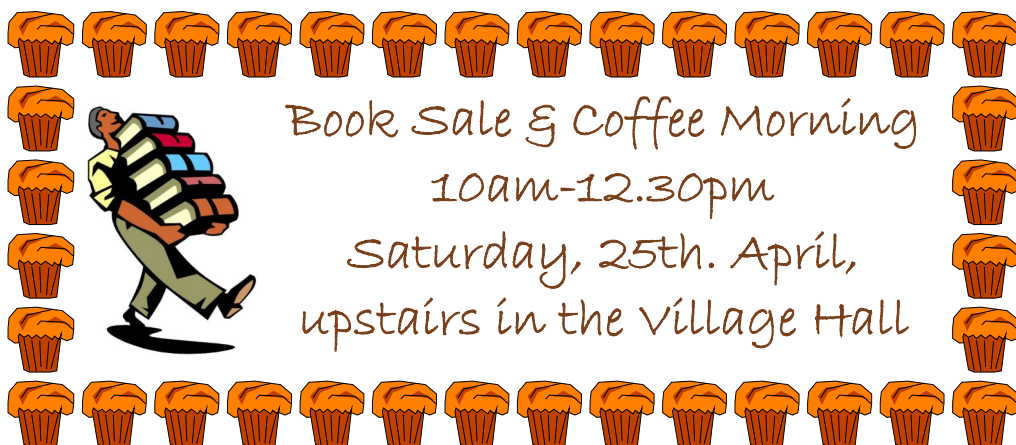
Supplies of Dog 'Poo' Bags: these have for a number of years been

provided by Chelmsford City Council but, in their wisdom, they have decided they do not want to continue supplying them. This does leave us in a dilemma as it would be an additional cost to the Parish Council and Hanna's Field Charity to provide these in the future. Can we ask villagers for their thoughts on this please?

On a slightly different tack, at a Rural Community Council Conference 2 years ago, that I attended, one of the presentations was about 'Men's Sheds' where these had been set up in a number of villages in Essex for men who had decided to get together to share their expertise on various subjects:- D.I.Y.; Decorating; Gardening; I.T Skills; Cooking etc. – Could this be an idea that would be of interest to any of the men in our village? I am happy to answer any questions about setting up such a group from the information I have learnt. I have also recently seen this being promoted by Marie Curie and in Chelmsford in a City News publication.

The H.F.C. Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday 22nd April in the Meeting Room at 7.30pm. This is an opportunity for anyone in the village to contribute their ideas to the hall management committee. H.F.C. is completely run by volunteers that need as many interested villagers as possible to contribute ideas and time to succeed, without this we would not have a Community Village Hall and Sports facility.

Jenny Mouser Chairperson HFC
☎ 400411



EAST HANNINGFIELD FETE

We are now gradually coming out of winter & soon our thoughts will turn to spring and summer. One of the main village events is the Summer Fete & I am sure many of you will be wondering if we are going to have one this year, as several of the previous fete committee members, after many years of hard work, have called it a day.

Well; I am delighted to tell you that as a result of the **Fate of the Fete** public meeting in the Village Hall on 16th November, a new Fete Committee was formed during the winter and we have already started making plans and booking events for this year's Fete. The date to write in your diaries is the 11th July. This, we are sure, will be a fun packed day with plenty of entertainment for all the family. We also hope to have one or two new ideas. One thought the Committee had was to re-instate the Tug of War competition. I understand that it used to be between the two village pubs (which are now The Vita Bella & The Folly). The Committee would like to hear from any group, club or organisation that might want to participate but also any local businesses willing to sponsor one of the entertainments or donate prizes for the **Fete's Grand Draw**. If you would like to help or have more information, please e-mail me: I will fill you in with all the details.



These fetes are very time consuming to set up and to organise. They take a great many people to get the event up and running, especially on the day. I would like to thank, most sincerely, all those who have helped in the past and say I am looking forward to meeting many of you during the course of this year.

Don't forget **Saturday 11th. July. Put it in your diary!**

Brian C Olley (Chairman Fete Committee)
✉ brian.olley@icloud.com

VILLAGE DIARY

<https://e-voice.org.uk/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/village-diary-2011/>

MARCH

- Sun 1 9am **HOLY COMMUNION** (BCP) assisted by Rev. Terry Brown at All Saints Church
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 3 **Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections**
- Wed 4 7.30-9pm **LENT LECTURE** at Chelmsford Cathedral. 1st of 5 lectures on the environment by Bishop Peter of Barking on "Air". Refreshments 7pm.
- Sun 8 10am **MORNING WORSHIP** (child centred) at All Saints' Church
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 10 **Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections**
9.15am **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY** at All Saints' Church
2.25-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at the Village Hall car park.
- Wed 11 7.30-9pm **LENT LECTURE** at Chelmsford Cathedral. 2nd of 5 lectures on the environment by Bishop Stephen of Chelmsford on "Water". Refreshments from 7pm.
- Sun 15 10am **HOLY COMMUNION** assisted by Rev. Chris Poulard at All Saints' Church
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 17 **Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections**
- Wed 18 2pm **WI Meeting** with speaker Simon Gallup-Blue Badge Tourist Guide, at the WI Hall
7.30-9pm **LENT LECTURE** at Chelmsford Cathedral. 3rd of 5 lectures on the environment by Bishop Roger of Colchester on "Fire". Refreshments from 7pm.
- Sat 21 10am **CRAFT GROUP** at Bethel Church
- Sun 22 10am **MOTHERING SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**, posies for mums at All Saints' Church. Come along & be pampered!
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 24 **Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections**
- Wed 25 7.30-9pm **LENT LECTURE** at Chelmsford Cathedral. 4th of 5 lectures on the environment by Bishop John of Bradwell on "Earth". Refreshments from 7pm.
- Thu 26 8pm **Parish Council Meeting** -1st floor meeting room in the V Hall
- Sun 29 10am **SUNG MATINS** at All Saints' Church
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church

- Tue 31 **Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections**
SCHOOL ASSEMBLY FOR EASTER at All Saints' Church.
 10.30am **COFFEE MORNING** at Bethel Church
 2.25-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at the Village Hall car park

APRIL

- Wed 1 7.30-9pm **LENT LECTURE** at Chelmsford Cathedral. Last of 5 lectures on the environment by Archdeacon Elizabeth of Chelmsford on "Life". Refreshments from 7pm.
- Fri 3 **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL (EHPS)**
- Sun 5 9.30am **PALM SUNDAY** (no Communion) Child centred service with **DONKEY** at All Saints' Church. Arrive at 9.20am to meet the donkey and walk around the church.
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church. Ben Virgo will be joining us to share the work of 'Christian Heritage London' (including fellowship lunch).
- Tue 7 **Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections**
- Thu 9 11am **MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE** at the Cathedral in Chelmsford. All welcome.
 7.15pm **MAUNDY THURSDAY** at Bethel Church with light supper.
- Fri 10 10am **GOOD FRIDAY** at Bethel Church
 12 noon **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF READINGS & MEDITATION** at All Saints' Church.
- Sun 12 10am **HOLY COMMUNION FOR FAMILIES**. Child centred service & Easter Egg hunt in the church yard. See Easter bunnies & celebrate at All Saints' Church.
 10.45am **EASTER SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 14 **Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections**
- Wed 15 WI Meeting with speaker Kay Ball - Makeup at the WI Hall
- Sat 18 10am **CRAFT GROUP** at Bethel Church.
- Sun 19 10 am **MORNING WORSHIP** at All Saints' Church.
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Mon 20 **BACK TO SCHOOL for Summer Term (EHPS)**
- Tue 21 **Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections**
 2.25-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at the Village Hall car park.
- Wed 22 7.30pm **HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall
- Thu 23 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the 1st floor meeting room in the Village Hall
- Sat 25 10am-12.30pm **BOOK SALE** at the Village Hall.

Sun 26 10 am **MORNING WORSHIP WITH HEALING** at All Saints' Church.
 Sun 26 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
 Tue 28 **Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections**
 10.20am **COFFEE MORNING** at Bethel Church
 Wed 29 12.30 for 1pm **WI MEETING SPRING LUNCH** at the WI Hall.

MAY

Fri 1 **PAMPER NIGHT** in aid of Preschool.
 Sun 3 9am **HOLY COMMUNION** (BCP) assisted by Rev. Terry Brown at All Saints' Church.
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
 Tue 5 **Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections**
 Wed 6 7.30 **ANNUAL ELECTORS' MEETING** in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall. This is the meeting for all electors of the Parish.
 Thu 7 **POLICE, FIRE, CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTION** - Polling station at the Village Hall.
 Fri 8 **BANK HOLIDAY**
 Sun 10 10am **MORNING WORSHIP** child centred service at All Saints' Ch
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
 Tue 12 **Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections**
 2.25-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at the Village Hall car park
 Sat 16 10am **CRAFT GROUP** at Bethel Church.
 Sun 17 10am **HOLY COMMUNION** assisted by Rev. Sandy Southee at All Saints' Church.
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
 Tue 19 **Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections**
 Wed 20 WI Annual Meeting at the WI Hall
 Thu 21 7.30pm **ASCENSION DAY** Compass Churches joint event at All Saints' Church. All welcome.
 Fri 22 **BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM HOLIDAY (EHPS)**
 Sun 24 10am **MORNING WORSHIP WITH HEALING** at All Saints' Church.
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church. Dan Gower will be joining us to share the work that 'Open Doors' is doing to help the persecuted church (including a fellowship lunch).
 Tue 26 **Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections**
 10.30am **COFFEE MORNING** at Bethel Church
 Thu 28 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** - 1st floor meeting room V Hall
 Sun 31 **MORNING WORSHIP WITH BAPTISM** at All Saints' Church.
 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Local Crime Update - There was an attempt on 22 Jan to "hot wire" a car on the owner's drive at The Tye, causing damage to the steering column cowl. A Blue Disability Badge was taken.

On 27 Jan a large quantity of nitrous oxide canisters & other domestic rubbish dumped at the Old Church Road/Pan Lane junction was reported. Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) can be bought in small pressurised metal canisters & when inhaled makes a person feel euphoric and relaxed. Although not illegal to use the gas like this (at present) unless driving, the dumping of canisters & other refuse is.

We receive police fortnightly crime reports for the Chelmsford area and over the last month one particular crime is worth noting. There has been about a dozen reports of Catalytic Converter thefts, in the Chelmsford area, with several removed in carparks, including at Broomfield Hospital. All cars sold in Europe since 1993 have had to be fitted with a catalytic converter by law. Thieves steal them for the precious metals they contain. A professional gang can jack up a car and using a battery-powered steel cutter or angle-grinder remove a catalytic converter within 5 minutes so it's quick and often done in broad daylight. CCTV footage from a Chelmsford car park recorded the male suspects wearing masks drive up to a vehicle in a 4 x 4 and remove the catalytic converter. Cars favoured by the thieves are off-landers (higher so easier exhaust access), BMWs, Audis and VWs and Honda Jazz and Accords. While thieves might make £300 from a catalytic converter, car owners may be left with a repair bill of more than £1,000. Preventing the crime is difficult but Police have advised etching security details into the converters, installing extra bolts or protective sleeves to make a converter harder to cut out and "defensive parking" against a wall or by a lower-slung vehicle to make it more difficult to reach under the vehicle. Homeowners with several vehicles parked overnight are advised to deploy CCTV and security lighting during the hours of darkness. If you have information about catalytic converter thefts (or any other metal theft) contact Essex Police on 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111, or through the secure online form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

Remember to create the "Illusion of Occupancy", when you go out. Leave lights on or put them on timers or sensors to come on when it gets dark. Most burglars prefer to target an empty house.

Scams and Fraud Update - Fake PayPal Emails Scam

Action Fraud is warning people selling items online to be on the look-out for fraudsters sending fake PayPal emails. Fraudsters send the victim an email purporting to be from PayPal in attempt to trick them into believing they have received payment. The fraudster then sends a follow-up email requesting a tracking number in the hope that the victim will rush into sending the item before verifying the payment. Between October and December 2019, 3,059 crime reports were made to Action Fraud about fake PayPal emails and victims reported losing a total of £1,121,446 during this time. Always confirm you've received a PayPal payment before sending an item – check your PayPal account and ensure the payment icon in your My eBay is highlighted". For more information and suggestions, check the [guide to avoiding payment problems](#) on the eBay Customer Service page:

www.ebay.co.uk/help/home .

Community Speed Watch - Volunteer Wanted The village Community Speed Watch team regularly check and report vehicles speeding on roads through our village as part of the Essex Police speed watch initiative. The team is looking for a couple of new recruits. Training & a high viz jacket will be provided. Contact undersigned if interested.

Ashley Green Speed Limit It's great to note that Parish Council have been discussing with County Highways the possibility of traffic calming, including a 20 mph speed limit, for Ashley Green. NhW would like to see other areas of the village included in the 20mph speed limit including parts of Back Lane.

NhW Alerts: Contact NhW email address below if you would like to receive our emailed local crime alerts. It's a two-way process and you can provide feedback or suggestions.

NhW Team/Meetings: We are looking for a point-of-contact for Coude Dennis estate and Abbey Fields. Involvement just means receiving/passing local crime alerts (mainly email), & a quarterly meeting. Our next NhW team meeting is Wed 11th March, 8pm in the Bethel Church meeting room. Contact NhW email address below if you would like more information.

Mike Plumridge, EH NhW Co-ordinator.



01245-400628



NHWEastHanningfield@outlook.com.



BETHEL CHURCH

Going it alone—When I was a kid, I had a friend who lived with his parents and siblings in Manor Park, East London. His Grandparents lived in the house next door. His aunts, uncles and cousins also lived in the same road. This was very common years ago. We once were a society that centred around family. Multiple generations often lived together under one roof and when families did live separately, they never moved very far. These days, we are more of an individualistic culture. We rely on ourselves. We live far away from where we were raised.

I've always loved East Hanningfield for its sense of community. Generally, people look out for one another, particularly those living alone. Yet individualism and doing life on our own is not part of God's design. After all, God is a community in himself. Existing for all of eternity past, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit have enjoyed the love and fellowship of their perfect triune community. In creating mankind, God desired for us to participate in that community and know the perfect and joyous love the Godhead share.

The bible speaks clearly about community. God chose the Israelites to be his people. *"And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people"* (Leviticus 26:12). They lived and worshipped him together in community. Following the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, God then instituted the church, the Body of Christ as a community of believers. *"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."* (1 Corinthians 12:27).

The Christian writer, Paul Tripp, says in his book, *Whiter Than Snow: Meditations on Sin & Mercy*, "We weren't created to be independent, autonomous, or self-sufficient. We were made to live in a humble, worshipful, & loving dependency upon God & in a loving & humble interdependency with others. Our lives were designed to be community projects".

The truth is, we need each other. We need to trust, rely on, & depend upon other believers. God gave us each other to walk alongside, encourage, & spur one another on in the faith. The writer to the Hebrews says, "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near".

With this in mind, we would love you to come & join us at one of our many services & events (see Village Diary). We are one big, little family.

Craft Group – Every 3rd Saturday @10.00am. How often have you thought it would be nice to do something for yourself? Have you ever said, "There's never the time", or "I'm not good at art"? Actually, there is time if you want to make it. As for not being creative, you would be amazed at what you can do at our crafts mornings. Art isn't all painting & drawing. It's about being creative in so many different ways.

The ladies at Bethel Church meet monthly to spend a couple of hours creating & having fun. Last year, they provided 60 gift-filled boxes for the Samaritans' Purse Operation Christmas Child Appeal. The boxes, packed with age-appropriate toys, stationery, hats and gloves, went to children in developing or war-torn countries, providing Christmas presents for those who otherwise would receive nothing.

Come and join us, we'd love to see you.

Roydon Hearne, ☎ 400665 🌐 bethel-eh.com

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EAST HANNINGFIELD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our New Year has certainly arrived with a bit of a storm weather wise. Winter woollies and wellies are permanently homed by the front door to meet all that the lovely British weather can chuck at us.

At this time of year, the W.I. uses this quiet period to hear the proposed National issues that we feel are important to campaign on. We usually have five or six topics to discuss. This is done Nationally and the one with the most votes is the one we adopt for the next campaign. These are important to the country and the W.I. has been extremely successful in achieving huge changes in the past. I think I have mentioned before two such campaigns produced zebra crossings, cycle lanes and many more.

Over the last two years we have been very successful with our own East Hanningfield campaigns. Two years ago, we launched the twiddle muff now used in a great number of Care Homes and Hospitals and our Trauma Teddies for all our Emergency Services as well as Hospitals. I just wanted to share with you the success of this project. We have a great number of W.I.'s in other counties who are following our example and making both items for distribution in their own County. On a broader picture and through our own members we now have these items being made in Ireland, Canada and Australia. This has certainly been a small village project that has developed massively. Patterns are being taken to Somerset next week.

In our last article for 2019 I mentioned a talk we had in July last year by Gary Smith for The Medaille Trust. They are a charity who are fighting against modern slavery. His talk at our W.I. informed us that Britain is the number one country in the world for the highest slavery trafficking. People are still getting into the Country and being put to work here. This charity exists to bring restoration and freedom from modern slavery through their national network of safe houses. EHVI has decided to support them in this work.

What the charity need apart from donations of money are: **Toiletries** for both men and women. **Household items** such as bedding, clothes, cleaning materials, washing up liquids. **Feminine Products** as well as new underwear, hygiene wipes. **Clothing** hats, gloves

fleeces etc again for men and women. **Food**, tea, coffee, biscuits, tinned food, non-perishable items.

They find young girls who are pregnant so there is a need for **Baby supplies**. Little hats, new blankets nappies, wipes toiletries and clothes.

We have successfully managed to get our Annual Group Meeting which is six W.I.s to adopt this charity for our annual meeting in June. I think you will agree with us this is the most appalling situation for any human being to be in just to help their own family at home, which of course does not happen. The trust gives everyone they help the opportunity to stay in a safe job here in Britain or be taken back safely to their own country.

If you can help in any small way we would be grateful. In the next issue of the News I will let you know how we intend to collect any items you wish to donate for this cause.

We have some very interesting speakers at our meetings each year. We were entertained just before Christmas by King Henry VIII. Who looked every bit the same as our famous late King and had us laughing. We have a very busy calendar this year with some more interesting speakers. By the time you read this eight of our members will have visited Cricket St Thomas – Warner's for the week. We may have made a lasting impression knitting patterns are going too. We manage some day trips throughout the year to various places in Essex and beyond as well of course our favourite pastime eating out at local hosteleries.



I hope this has intrigued you enough to come and sample the very vibrant W.I. that is East Hanningfield's. You will be most welcome and we make really good cakes. Hope to see you soon.

Flora Virgoe
President. ☎ 400073



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

I wonder if you have ever had a letter from Buckingham Place with a stamp on the envelope indicating this? Well I had one at the end of last year – not to announce I had an MBE or any such honour, but a different sort of honour.

Have you heard of Maundy money? Well on Maundy Thursday each year the Queen attends a special service where she gives out this money. Maundy Thursday is the day before Good Friday and the tradition can be traced back to the middle ages. On Maundy Thursday eve, Jesus washed his disciples' feet, an act of humility to show he came to serve us and so they should serve the world, and he commanded them to 'love one another,' as he had loved them. By the thirteenth century the royal family had taken to washing the feet of the poor and giving money and gifts. Henry VI decided to have a service in church where he gave the same number of gifts as his age. This custom was then adopted down to the present day. It was Charles II who started giving people coins, a set of one, two, three and four penny coins, for each year of his life, so 40 years 40 sets of coins.

Today Maundy money is traditionally made of sterling silver. The monarch hands each recipient two small leather purses, a red purse contains ordinary coins, while a white one contains silver Maundy coins, amounting to the same number of pence as the sovereign's age.

I am to go to Windsor Castle for the service in St. George's Chapel there, at 11am on 9th April & then lunch afterwards at the castle with the Queen. I have filled in a form to say I will go & await further instructions. The really nice thing about all this was that on the back of the form there was quite a large space to tell the queen about myself, which I thought made the whole thing quite personal, for she will have a lot of people to meet & one wonders what she might remember.

I was nominated by the Bishop of Chelmsford, Stephen Cottrell, who is to leave Chelmsford to become the new Archbishop of York, that is a privilege in itself. So, I am feeling very blessed and wanted to share my news with you.

I am sure we all have things in our lives that are particularly memora-

ble moments, hopefully things that lift the spirits. At the moment we are soldiering on through the end of winter, January and February are never wonderful months for weather, but the days are drawing out and we have had some mild and sunny weather along the way to cheer us up.

The pattern of the church year begins again after the Christmas season and so we have Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday 26th February and Mothering Sunday which was a break in the Lent fast of olden days, on Sunday 22nd March. This is soon followed on by Palm Sunday



when we have our donkey back to walk around the church as Jesus rode into Jerusalem, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday on 12th April. This is a day to celebrate new life as we remember the resurrection of Christ and that he had overcome death for us. If he overcame death we too could have access to eternal spiritual life.

Alongside the seasons the colours change in church. I wonder if you



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have ever noticed this! We have green for what is called ordinary times, white/gold for important festivals like Christmas and Easter and red for celebrations like Saints Days, with purple for the serious times like Lent. Lent remembers when Jesus was in the wilderness thinking about beginning his ministry and being tempted to use his powers in other ways. He was human after all, for he wanted to understand and empathise with us. If you want to understand the Bible a bit better you might like to go to the Lent Course at the Cathedral in Chelmsford. It runs for 5 sessions, each Wednesday from March 4th and includes light refreshments from 7.00pm onwards (to start at 7.30pm), and each one is given by one of our bishops and is about the environment, air, water, earth, fire and life, but any of them could be worthwhile to you. A chance to reflect a little as Jesus did and think about where you are going in your life and where you want to be. As regards lent itself, some people give up something, others do something extra that is a bit of an effort, but to do good or help in some way. In church some of us have given £1 a day for the 40 days of Lent, (actually £42 in all), to give money to help refurbish wheelchairs for those in countries who would not otherwise have access to them.



There is plenty to keep us occupied, and finding out a bit more about your church and what it does could be something to aim for this year. There are so many interesting stories that surround it in many ways. Church has been very important to me over the years, I have gained much from it in my life and never regret becoming a licensed minister. It is so much more than just being in church, though I never tire of learning new information from scripture, the things I have been involved in and the people I have met have been so fulfilling, though of course situations can be difficult and sad.



So have a think about how you spend the next few months. Please look at the diary of events in the magazine. We hope to see you and wish you - A very happy and blessed Easter.

Canon Christine

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PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Spring Term in school has been busy and successful. The children and adults all returned from the Christmas break refreshed, eager and excited about the term ahead! The term has been busy and has seen lots of events including class assemblies, class trips, visitors, family lunches and sporting outings (all of which are captured in photographs in the gallery section of the school website).

Our youngest two classes, Robins and Doves have been the first to perform for their adults; both classes did a wonderful job of showcasing their learning in their as-



semblies which celebrated the breadth of their learning. The children were confident and articulate and presented their learning so well. We were all very proud.

In January I was also privileged to accompany Dove Class on a school trip to The Natural History Museum in London. The children had been learning all about dinosaurs in their termly topic so the trip was a fantastic place to see the understanding come to life in the form of the skeletons and fossils that the museum exhibits. I was amazed by the depth of the children's knowledge and learnt a thing or two myself! It was lovely to receive compliments from the public regarding the children's behaviour and manners.



We were also lucky to be able to purchase some new playground games equipment to help the children stay entertained at break and lunchtimes. As our field is out of action due to winter, we are



making the most of large-scale outdoor board games alongside the usual energetic running games. The games are traditional in nature but help the children develop strategic thinking and

master turn taking! The equipment was funded from our Friends' Association who work tirelessly throughout the year to raise much needed funds. Thank you again Friends.

We are now starting to look forward to the weather warming up so we can begin to swim in our pool, play on our field and run our outdoor after school clubs.

As always, should anyone in the village wish to volunteer to come into school to support with listening to the children please contact Pam in the school office on 01245 400772. We would also particularly love to hear from anyone who would be interested in working with a group of children on an embroidery or quilting project etc.

Best wishes for the summer.

Mrs Waters



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PRESCHOOL What we've been up to...

Last term we celebrated the end of term with a Christmas party. The children performed their songs to all their family & friends and Father Christmas called in with a present for every child from his sack.



This term we have been learning all about our five senses and have had fun smelling and tasting lots of different things. Tasting week coincided with Chinese New Year so we tasted different Chinese food, some children even attempting to eat with chopsticks.

We have also been taking part in the RSPB bird watch and have been identifying birds.

For the remainder of Spring Term we will be talking about farms & the baby animals born in Spring, followed by Easter. We'll be holding our usual Easter bonnet competition & Easter Egg hunt before we break up. We'll also be celebrating St David's Day, Mothering Sunday & Red Nose Day.

Our Preschool is run by a Committee of volunteer parents & they are currently busy organising the next **Pamper Night on Friday 1 May.**

We still have some vacancies for next term. We are an approved provider of 2 year funding, along with 3-4 year funding and we also can take those eligible for 30 hour funding. If you would like to find out more about the Pre-school take a look at our website, or if you would like to come for a visit please call, or email us.

Out of School club Are you interested in Before & After School Club for children from pre-school age to Year 6? The Treehouse Club are taking names to add to their waiting list for a September start. Please phone their Wickford nursery on 01268 956005. More details & link can be found on Preschool's website.

Sue

☎ 07732951613 ✉ ehps1@live.co.uk .

🌐 www.easthanningfieldpreschool.org.uk



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