EAST HANNINGFIELD NEWS

Autumn 2020

No. 172



















can you date the Fete?

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 Saturday, 14th. November for publication on 1st. December

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 PHOTOGRAPHS

Can you date the Fete? As we have had no events to record for posterity this year. Here are some photos to bring back memories of past Fetes.

Clue 1: they are all within the last ten years.

Clue 2: there are clues in some of the pictures.

Can't get them all? The answers are below.

Queen, 2016.

Bottom Row Left to Right: Cockleshell Clogs, 2012; Lion, 2015; The

Rides 2014.

Centre Row Left to Right: Celebrating the Village Hall's 25th. Anniversary, 2011; Celebrating the WI's 100th Anniversary, 2017; Donkey

Top Row Left to Right: Celebrating Preschool's 50th. Anniversary, 2019; Iceni Dog Training 2013; Belly Dancers 2011.

PARISH COUNCIL

It has been a strange 6 months since the last News was published. When a decision had to be made as to whether there would be a Summer edition, there was no way of knowing when it would be safe for volunteers to be out delivering, so at first it was decided to delay it for a month, but then we still couldn't be sure that it would be safe for a July publication, so it was abandoned altogether.

PC, like all local councils, was instructed not to hold any face to face meetings from the start of lock-down, and so the monthly Meetings from March to June did not take place. This included the Annual Meeting of the Council when the Chairman is elected and other roles and responsibilities allocated. We have been told we need not hold the Annual Meeting at all, so our Chairman, John Bedding and the other post holders remain as they were. We have also been unable to hold the Annual Parish Meeting, otherwise known as the Electors' Meeting or Parish Assembly. In view of the larger numbers expected to attend the APM it is unlikely we can hold it for some time.

In order to manage some difficult planning applications a couple of planning working parties were held, using Zoom, one wholly virtual and one hybrid (the Chairman and I were 2m apart and everyone else was via computer screen). At the end of July we held our first real Meeting in the small hall instead of the meeting room at the Village Hall. The Meeting Room is not large enough for social distancing. Doors and windows were wide open and we were all seated at the correct distance wearing masks as were the members of the public present. It looks as though this is how we are going to have to conduct PC Meetings for the foreseeable future. Let's hope for a mild winter!

Another instruction from central government was to close the play area. Unfortunately, the announcement that play areas could open from 4th. July did not convey to the public in general what hoops had to be gone through to make this happen, so expectations were raised. Guidance on what should be done trickled out slowly, so that compli-





ance by the expected date was not possible. Hanna's Hoppet was reopened on Friday, 31st. July, to children supervised by an adult, with signage explaining that the equipment is not being sanitised, so it's up to a child's carer to make sure they keep their fingers away from their face, their hands get sanitised when they come off the equipment and they keep a safe distance from

people outside their family. As Coronavirus survives much longer on surfaces in cold temperatures, it will be of even greater importance to sanitise hands after use as winter approaches.

Back in February PC ordered a container for Preschool to use as a store for their outdoor toys. Initially the time for delivery was given as six weeks, but once we were into lock-down the supplier had to stop production in order to make its working conditions safe for its employees. Finally, the container was delivered and installed on 7th.May, which, as it turned out, was in plenty of time before Preschool reopened in early June.

A recent alteration has been to the map inside the footpaths notice-board on the Tye, beside the access to J. Gard etc. The project to install the noticeboard to commemorate the centenary of the PC in 1994 was undertaken by Stan Gordon, and the scheme came to fruition in 1995, but, after 25 years, the map was rather faded and out of date. The decision was made to retain the pen and ink drawings of local historic houses by Richard Higgins, so the new map was attached to the centre of the display, covering the old map, but leaving the drawings on show. Three of the sketches can also be seen on PC's website on the footpaths page at https://e-voice.org.uk/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/parish-walks/

In recognition of the upsurge in interest in walking the local public rights of way, maps of the Saffron Trail and St. Peter's Way were posted on PC's Facebook page on 1st. June. The Saffron Trail joins Southend at the south of the county with Saffron Walden at the northern end. Going south from the village you can reach Battlesbridge via Rettendon, and going north you can walk to Chelmsford via Danbury.

St. Peter's Way is a 45 mile walk between Chipping Ongar and the ancient chapel of St Peter-on-the-Wall at Bradwell on Sea. You can use it to go eastwards to Purleigh via Bicknacre and Cock Clarks, or west to West Hanningfield.

Also, on the subject of public rights of way, there was recently some consternation that signs had gone up on a footpath concerning dogs. Although there is no rule requiring a dog to be kept on a lead on a PRW, unless in a field with sheep, you and your dog have no right to deviate from the line of the path unless it is obstructed, so if your dog doesn't keep to heel or on the path, keeping the dog on the lead would seem to be the logical way of dealing with the situation.

Some of you will not be surprised to learn that one of the most frequent complaints received by the PC is about overgrown hedges. They are a really good resource for wildlife, providing corridors of habitat and food supplies, so we wouldn't want to lose them, but they do need to be managed properly. The reason so many residents complain about them is that they grow across pavements and cause pedestrians to have to walk in the road to avoid being scratched etc. So this is a seri-



ous safety issue, not just a matter of appearance. If you have a hedge, now is the time to go outside your property and inspect it. Can you walk along the pavement beside the hedge without having to step into the road? Could you push a buggy or walk hand-in-hand with a small child beside the hedge? If these are not possible, then please cut your hedge back to your boundary, or even further so that new growth in spring doesn't immediately block the way again. Finally, keep a watch out for brambles that grow for most of the year and are particularly vicious to passers-by.

PC Meetings are now back to the fourth Thursday of the month, and for the time being, are held in the small hall at the Village Hall. Current rules for village halls require masks to be worn, other than for certain sports or if you have a health reason not to.

Karen Plumridge, Clerk to the Parish Council

https://e-voice.org.uk/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/



CITY COUNCILLOR

So much has happened since I last wrote for the March edition. Then I was writing about dog poo bags which seems very trivial when the corona virus has raised issues of life and death and shown what is most important in our daily lives. I very much hope that no resident has had a fatal reaction to this virus. It is most important that we take care of ourselves and each other. I am most impressed in the way that so many have volunteered to assist those most at risk and the organisation that has gone into this.

The virus has not only affected health but also financial livelihoods as well. The city council is not immune to this and estimates a loss of around £9.5 million. This is after government help. Almost 15% of the council's annual income has vanished. This is a real threat to services. Most of the council income comes, not from council tax and business rates but from theatres, events, car parks, properties and leisure centres. Most of the cost of providing these services continues but the income has stopped. Council tax rises are capped so the Council has either to borrow - which will have to be repaid by future generations- or the money found elsewhere. Fortunately the previous, Conservative, administration had the foresight to put cash into reserves, when it was available in good years. It is these reserves which will now be used to fund the budgetary shortfall. The lockdown is also causing considerable hardship on an individual basis. In February there were 35 persons claiming unemployment benefit in the ward of Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield representing 1.1% of the Chelmsford total. By June this had jumped to 130 and 4.1% of the total

The consultation into Bradwell B power station has now ended. I made representations regarding the impact on the B1418 regarding the traffic impact in the construction phase. The power station is not a foregone conclusion and in any event is many years away. Of more immediate concern is the masterplan for the new homes to be built on land north of South Woodham Ferrers. This consultation has also now ended. My concern is again on the traffic implications along Creephedge Lane. I have made strong representations regarding this.

I had suspended visits to local residents and businesses but now feel that provided that adequate precautions are taken, these visits can recommence. If any resident wishes to see me please send me an email or give me a ring

Richard Poulter © 01245 223743 Marichard.poulter@chelmsford.gov.uk

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COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Thankfully we are beginning to see life returning to some sort of normality. Concessionary Bus Passes return to normal hours as from September, namely 9am weekdays and all times at weekends. A lot of work continues at ECC to encourage economic growth and this is being done working with Government and partners.

This autumn the Government will be publishing a White Paper outlining their proposals for the reform of local government. It is clear they see the current two tier system of county and district councils as flawed and that unitary authorities are seen as a better option for delivering services to residents. Across Essex we have one of the most complex local government structures in the UK - one county council, 12 district/borough/city council and 2 unitary councils.

It is also clear the Government wants to see more directly elected mayors much like those in Greater Manchester and the West Midlands. For Essex this might look like two to four unitary councils and a Greater Essex Combined Authority and Mayor. Discussions are ongoing with Leaders throughout the County to consider how much more can be achieved with a simplified system in readiness to respond to the governments White Paper.

We have to see the contents of course but personally I welcome the thinking behind it as I believe we will have more localised power, better use of resources and the ability to secure more investment for Essex residents.

It is going to be an interesting time and I will of course report on how it is going in future articles.

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

Ian Grundy

Tel: 01277 840737

Email: Cllr.ian.grundy@essex.gov.uk

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

At the start of the Coronavirus lock down the Parish Council asked for volunteers who would be prepared to help residents who had been identified as most vulnerable. For these residents not having to break their self isolation by going to the supermarket or the pharmacy would be a significant reduction in their risk of catching the virus, becoming seriously ill and needing NHS help.

30 residents geographically spread across the village volunteered to help if needed. This enabled PC to organise a leaflet delivery to every home in the village & surrounding rural parish. The leaflet gave a telephone number to call if help needed, & for all the homes in the village the name and telephone number of a volunteer who lived close by.

As was to be expected some volunteers gave regular help to a neighbour whilst others were not called upon at all. But everyone in the Parish had been reassured that local help was available if needed. The volunteers did not have to make a large number of interventions. This was due to self isolating homes getting help from families and neighbours but also due to Ash keeping the village post office and shop open which helped enormously.

As country wide self isolation and shielding has ended the volunteer program has now effectively finished and the volunteers have been thanked for their efforts.

The coronavirus epidemic, however, has not ended and we have already seen the introduction of local lock downs.

If this happens in East Hanningfield we still want to be available to help.

If you are forced to self isolate & need help then contact me & I will pass your needs to a nearby volunteer who may be able to help.

As with many things in the village, whether the Parish Council, the Village Hall, the Church, Chapel, Neighbourhood Watch or Coronavirus Support the work is undertaken by unpaid volunteers, so please be understanding that a 24/7 service is not always possible.

Malcolm Thomas 07544 956810 (text preferred)

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36624

Hi, my name is Dan.

I have lived in East Hanningfield my whole life, and worked at a golf course as a greens keeper for over 15 years.

I have now decided to join my friend's established company to work in partnership to deliver the ever-growing demand for gardening and landscape services in our area.

If you would be interested in a quote for regular visits or one-off jobs, I'd love to hear from you!



Dan Crow 07501 859396

HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY-Village Hall & Playing Fields

Well this is certainly a very different report to the same time last year when I was reporting on the outcome of the Village Fete and the forthcoming Annual Art Show, which was held at the end of September. Two major Fund-Raising events for Hanna's Field Charity, along with All Saints Church who benefit from the Fete.

We are going through such unprecedented times since lockdown in March and all that it has entailed with closing the Village Hall and Sports/Recreational facilities on the Playing Fields. There has been so much Government Information that has had to be adhered to, but we are very grateful to the Rural Community Council also for their input to help to clarify some of this information. Special thanks must go to Mike Plumridge for initially going through all this information and then disseminating this to the HFC Executive Committee for discussion and action. Most of this was done via email and Zoom meetings but we did hold a socially distanced outdoor meeting on the overflow Car Park one evening, thanks to good weather, to go over all the things we had to do to prepare the Hall for Preschool to be able to restart in June. This involved lots of special cleaning items and equipment that had to be purchased along with signage etc. Thanks to Dan and Jess for their diligence with the cleaning routine and dealing with booking enquiries for when other activities can start again. Some restrictions have lifted and some activities have been able to restart, whilst still adhering to the Covid-19 social distancing rules: - outdoor training and football and indoor karate, badminton and some meetings.

The latest information about which activities can take place and the rules concerning them can be found at https://e-voice.org.uk/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/village-hall/

The annual ROSPA inspection did however reveal some very necessary repairs to equipment on the Children's Playground which along with the Covid-19 Regulations meant this area has been out of action for an even longer time. Repairs done, and new equipment has been purchased, to make all this area safe, along with repainting, so it should all be up and running again by the time you are reading this.

A special thanks has to be given to Ash & his assistant Zoe in keeping the Shop and Post Office open throughout this whole period, being

such a vital service to our community. It was such an uncertain time at first & reduced hours were put into place, along with limiting the number of customers entering & queuing correctly outside. Over the Easter weekend perspex screens were installed by Mike Plumridge and Ash to help make the shop a safe place, which has helped massively along with the more recent regulations of everyone wearing a facemask (available to purchase too should you not have one). In recognition of their commitment HFC, on behalf of the community, made a presentation to both Ash and Zoe, in July, to say a 'Very Big Thank You'.



Obviously with no fundraising money coming in and the loss of hire income we will have to prioritise or delay some of the improvements planned for this year, but hopefully we can go ahead with the replacement lighting in the main Sports Hall before the nights start to pull in, as this does need urgent attention. Some repairs have been carried out to the main car park and extra chippings have been placed in the overspill car park to help with the surface during the winter months or heavy rain.

The AGM for HFC could obviously not take place as planned in April, but now that restrictions are becoming a little easier, we will be looking at a potential date in the Autumn for this to take place. Notices will be posted, when this is decided, as we welcome people to attend his meeting.

Please see the separate report from the Fete Committee for future fundraising decisions. Stay safe and well everyone!

Jenny Mouser, Chairperson 2 400411

EAST HANNINGFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Local Crime Update: The manual says the purpose of NhW is to "help people protect to themselves and their properties and to reduce the fear of crime by means of improved home security, greater vigilance, accurate reporting of suspicious incidents and fostering a community spirit as well as tackling new forms of crime such as cybercrime". I think the emphasis is on helping people protecting themselves and their neighbours through a greater propensity for residents to look for and report suspicious activity. For that reason, the EH NhW article usually begins with a roundup of local crime (since the last Newsletter), not perhaps because we hope someone out there has some new information now (although it's nice to report when that happens) but because crime is always around and it's a reminder to be vigilant. I admit, however going back to March would be a bit tedious so for brevity I'll just mention a few of the more significant incidents.

We still get fly tipping from time to time especially to the annoyance of residents in Back Lane which is too often the cowboys preferred location, but probably the worst case for some time was in Pan Lane in mid -July when a huge (mind blowing) quantity of black dustbin bin bags containing organic refuse (probably waste from illegal drug growing operation) were dumped along the verge & fields either side of Pan Lane.

In April a John Deere tractor was stolen from a property in Back Lane by 4 white men with a silver saloon. Another resident then reported "4 white men with a silver saloon" had stolen saddles and bridles from property in Buckhatch Lane the night before. In May a property was burgled in Bicknacre Rd in daylight whilst occupants were out, with damage and valuables taken and same day an attempt to pass a stolen credit card at Village shop. If you have information about thefts contact Essex Police on 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111, or via the secure online form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

Scams and Fraud: Against a background of periodic local crime incidents there has been an alarming national level of scams and fraud exploiting fears about COVID-19, especially preying on older and vulnerable people. Police and National Trading Standards warnings have been sent via email alert to residents for a whole range Covid 19 things from Doorstep cold call crimes; Online email scams; Holiday refund scams, Counterfeit and fake goods scams; Telephone scams; to Donation scams and Loan scams.

If you have been targeted by a scam it can be reported to Action Fraud online at www.actionfraud.police.uk/ or by calling 0300 123 2040. For advice and information on how to check if something might be a scam, visit:www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/.

Autumn and Darker Evenings precaution: Most burglars will prefer to target an empty house so remember to create the "Illusion of Occupancy", when you leave your home. If nothing else, leave lights on or put them on timers or daylight sensors to come on when it gets dark.

NhW Alerts: About 130 residents receive our emailed local crime alerts. Contact NhW email address below if you would like to receive these. It's a two-way process: you can provide feedback or news.

Neighbourhood Watch Team/Meetings: Our next NhW team meeting is Wed 23rd Sept 8pm and will probably be as was June's meeting, a virtual meeting using Zoom to avoid need for face to face contact. Don't let that put you off though - we are still looking for a point-of-contact for Coulde Dennis estate and Abbey Fields to join us. Contact NhW email address below if you would like more information. Involvement just means receiving/passing local crime alerts (mainly email), and a quarterly meeting.

Community Speed Watch (volunteers wanted) The village CSW volunteers operates under the EH NhW umbrella with Essex Police/Essex CSW. Since the Covid 19 lock-down in March all county wide CSW teams have been stood down but they are now restarting (with suitable precautions) and with a member of team recently leaving village, we need a couple of new recruits (a bright yellow high viz jacket will be provided as well as training!). Contact undersigned if interested in trying to make village roads safer.

Parish Council were discussing with County Highways the possibility of traffic calming, including a 20 mph speed limit, for Ashley Green at start of year and NhW would like to see this and other areas of Village such as Back Lane included in the 20mph speed limit so its hoped Covid 19 hasn't killed this initiative with County Highways.

VILLAGE DIARY

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

- Tue 1 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections
- Wed 2 BACK TO SCHOOL SANDON SCHOOL
 - 9am **MORNING PRAYER** by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- Thu 3 BACK TO SCHOOL EAST HANNINGFIELD SCHOOL
- Sun 6 9am **COMMUNION** (BCP) at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under.
 - 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- Mon 7 BACK TO PRESCHOOL—EAST HANNINGFIELD PRESCHOOL
- Tue 8 Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections
- Wed 9 9am **MORNING PRAYER** by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- Sun 13 10am MORNING WORSHIP at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under.

 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- Tue 15 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections 2.25-2.55pm MOBILE LIBRARY at the Village Hall car park. Face coverings must be worn when visiting a library, unless you are exempt.
- Wed 16 9am MORNING PRAYER by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details
- Sun 20 10am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under.

 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 22 Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections
- Wed 23 9am MORNING PRAYER by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details
- Thu 24 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the Small Hall in the Village Hall. Please respect social distancing & wear a mask.
- Sun 27 10am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HEALING at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under.
 - 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- Tue 29 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections
- Wed 30 9am MORNING PRAYER by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details

Wed 30 9am MORNING PRAYER by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com

OCTOBER

- 4 9am COMMUNION (BCP) at All Saints' Church. All services include so-Sun cial distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 vears or under.
 - 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- 6 Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections Tue 2.25-2.55pm MOBILE LIBRARY at the Village Hall car park. Face coverings must be worn when visiting a library, unless you are exempt.
- Wed 7 9am MORNING PRAYER by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- Sun 11 10am HARVEST FESTIVAL at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under. 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- 13 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections Tue
- Wed 14 9am MORNING PRAYER by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- 18 10am HOLY COMMUNION at All Saints' Church. All services include Sun social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under.. 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- 20 Black Bin Green Box, Card Sack, Food Waste collections Tue
- Wed 21 9am MORNING PRAYER by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- 22 BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM EAST HANNINGFIELD SCHOOL Thu 8pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING in the Small Hall in the Village Hall. Please respect social distancing & wear a mask.
- 23 BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM SANDON SCHOOL Fri
- 25 10am SERVICE TO REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED Sun ON (All Souls' Sunday) at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under...
 - 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- Tue 27 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons, Food Waste collections 2.25-2.55pm MOBILE LIBRARY at the Village Hall car park. Face coverings must be worn when visiting a library, unless you are exempt.
- Wed 28 9am MORNING PRAYER by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com

NOVEMBER

- Sun 1 9am COMMUNION (BCP) All Saints' Day at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn.
 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- Mon 2 BACK TO SCHOOL EAST HANNINGFIELD SCHOOL BACK TO SCHOOL SANDON SCHOOL
- Wed 4 9am **MORNING PRAYER** by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- Sun 8 10.50am **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** at the War Memorial followed by service at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under. 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Wed 11 9am **MORNING PRAYER** by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- Sun 15 10am **HOLY COMMUNION** 10am at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 year or under.

 10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 17 2.25-2.55pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at the Village Hall car park. Face coverings must be worn at all times when visiting a library, unles you are exempt.
- Wed 18 9am **MORNING PRAYER** by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- Sun 22 10am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HEALING at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under..

 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- Wed25 9am **MORNING PRAYER** by Zoom. Contact Canon Christine for details christine.aseh@btinternet.com
- Thu 26 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the Small Hall in the Village Hall. Please respect social distancing & wear a mask.
- Sun 29 10am ADVENT SERVICE for ADVENT SUNDAY & lighting the Advent wreath at All Saints' Church. All services include social distancing & are within the church & government guidelines. Masks should be worn unless there are health reasons or they are children of 11 years or under...

Please note dates for refuse and recycling collections for November were not available at time of going to press.

EAST HANNINGFIELD FETE

Dear All,

I wrote a few lines in the spring village newsletter when the new Fete Committee had been formed and we were all full of ideas for this year's event. How things have changed!! With the onset of Covid 19 the Committee took the unanimous decision that a summer fete would be out of the question but we did not give up there. At that time, we looked to the future and thought what else would possibly go down well later in the year. Our conclusion was a Halloween party for the children in the village hall with a firework display outside on the playing field. Also some further attractions inside for adults and children. We felt that this would bring in some revenue for Hanna's Field Charity, All Saints' Church and other local groups that the village fete supports.

Sadly, with the resurgence of Covid 19 and possible second spike we feel we are unable to plan ahead with any events this year. Hopefully, a vaccine will be available some time next year and some form of normality will resume. I would like to take this opportunity, and I know I speak for the entire committee, to thank all those people and businesses who offered sponsorship for both proposed events this year and to the army of helpers who were ready to roll up their sleeves on the day, to make each event a success. Our thoughts are that next year we might hold the two events; a summer fete and a Halloween party and firework display. I know

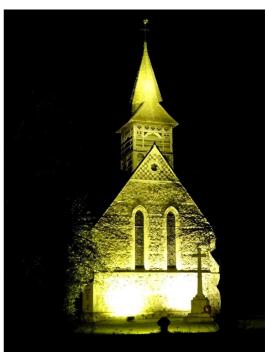


that there will be many people out there who will be worried about their pets and surrounding wildlife re the noise of the fireworks. We are making arrangements for it to be a low noise display. All the pretty bursts of colour without the loud bangs. We are assured from our firework contact that this is possible. We are very aware of the proximity of the surrounding houses to the village playing field, where the display will take place. I wish you all well. Keep safe

Brian C Olley (Chairman Fete Committee)

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Dear Friends, It has been a long time since my last letter and a lot has happened. Church has been closed and you have all found yourselves in different places and you may still be in a place other than what for you, was normal, at the beginning of March this year. Around the world people have suffered much and old and young will have been experiencing something they have never encountered before in their lives. We look to the past and recognise what it must have been like for people many years ago with plagues travelling across the world and little they could do



about it. We feel vulnerable, and with lots of different advice wonder what to do for the best. Certainly, for those of you who have been unable to contact and see family, and get hugs and kisses, you may feel very forlorn.

It feels like that for me too. Despite holding electronic services via Zoom and chatting over the computer, it was not the same as a physical presence. We did manage to open the church for services on the first Sunday possible in July, and that has been a great thing. We also had a wedding at the end of July and there is another at the end of August, be it in reduced circumstances.

I guess we feel like the Jews when they were in exile around 500 - 600 BC and forced to live under a king and a regime very different from what they were used to. King Hammurabi carried many of them off to live in his kingdom, which was roughly in the area of the modern Iraq. Throughout this time prophets kept telling the people not to give up on their unseen God and not fall into other types of worship involving idols. The prophets promised God would not forget them and they would return to their land once again, but they must stay faithful. Indeed, there were converts to Judaism over time, as characters like

Daniel in the lion's den showed how the Jewish God helped him in times of crisis, so surviving the night with the lions.

That is why I am glad church is open, for God has not forgotten us and he will be there for us during this pandemic. It provides us with the opportunity to be in touch with him and feel a time of quiet and serenity in the face of all that is going on. It is the calm haven and place where we can think and talk through our concerns and hopefully feel safe. That is why we must social distance and keep masks on and just do things differently for a while. It is still the place where we can witness baptisms, weddings and funerals and keep the rhythm of the church year going.

So take heart and keep hopeful. It may take time, but we will get through this pandemic. Whether there is a new normal or not, keeping the traditions and rhythms of our year help us to maintain stability in our lives and this can be comforting. Be assured that church is still there for you and we will always do our best to help. The magazine shows what is happening in church over the next few months and there is always a note on the board outside letting you know times of services. There is also our website.

May the church shine as a beacon of hope and comfort in your life. Keep safe and healthy and let us all pray for a vaccine to help us and that we learn not to take things for granted.

There was a wonderful community spirit during lockdown and we still need to help each other.



Love God, love your neighbour and love your environment.

Good wishes to all,

Canon Christine
01245 466534
www.easthanningfieldchurch.btck.co.uk
christine.aseh@btinternet.com



Well, what a difference six months makes. The last time we wrote an article for the village news, everything in the garden was rosy! Firstly, I hope that you are keeping safe and well from this virus that has crippled us so much.

As yet there is no known cure for the Coronavirus invader, but there is a cure for our wrong. God does not want to leave us in a state of despair and fear. We don't know when this virus will subside, but we can know peace in the midst of trouble.

Sharpening our tools: A farmer replied to the question, "What do you do when there is a storm?" saying, "I go inside and sharpen my tools!" Not bad advice for times such as these.

If we have to self-isolate, maybe we can rediscover the joy of life where we take time to read and not just watch; (hands up all those who have binge-watched a TV series) where we learn again to appreciate and think of others; & start to rediscover a life not based on scurrying activity but taking stock and enjoying our own thoughts & company.

This isolation may have also caused you to ask yourself some of the big questions about life? For years we have been taught survival of the fittest and the horrible idea that epidemics and pandemics are simply 'mother earth' thinning its ranks. Whatever some may say, life is not "just dancing to one's DNA." That just does not ring true now.

We all know that life is precious. The Bible teaches wonderfully that God cares, and that He can cope. Writing to Christians in trouble, one of Jesus' disciples, Peter, wrote: "Cast all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you."

"Now is a good time to read one of the Gospels in the New Testament – Matthew, Mark, Luke or John – and let Jesus introduce Himself to you."

Since the outbreak and being in lockdown, we have done our worship services remotely (thank goodness for technology that has allowed this). It has been a strange time but one nonetheless that has caused much reflection.

On 5thJuly, following the strict government guidelines, we met again for our Sunday morning service. Although we couldn't greet each other with our normal hugs, and we sat in chairs distanced from one another, and we were not able to sing together......it was still a wonderful time. Something we will never take for granted again.

So, as we navigate our way back to some kind of normality, may we all question that normality. What are the really important things in life that we need to consider?

We hope and pray for good things to come from this unprecedented period, and we pray that you continue to keep safe and well.

From all your friends at Bethel Church.

Roydon Hearne, \$\tilde{\Pi}\$400665 \$\to\$ bethel-eh.com

petercockrell@tiscali.co.uk, roydon.w.hearne@gmail.com



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EAST HANNINGFIELD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

How are you all doing? I am in lockdown until October when it will be reviewed by the hospital, but it is felt at present that it may be extended until Christmas. Personally, I think is it more likely to be next March. Globally it does not look too good. I am one of these unfortunates who cannot have any vaccination be it for flu or now Corvid 19. I am sorting out draws and cupboards and boxes I have not opened for a long time. It's almost like Christmas, photographs I have not looked at for a long time. Some bring a lot of laughter as well as sad memories. However, I am claiming more space for me to fill up in the future. Thank goodness the dustbin men have continued throughout this pandemic.

Our W.I. has a number of members who are a very young 70 + and some like me are in a vulnerable situation so, as you will know, we decided to close the W.I. for the whole of this year. We felt at the time it will give us plenty of time to make sure we are all safe as the virus will be well under control enabling us to open in January. Being the positive people we are, we have moved all our speakers to next year and are sorting out our lunches before printing our 2021 programme. Here we are in August and it is not looking as good for the winter as we had hoped, but we are keeping everything crossed that we will be able to keep to our plans to reopen in January.

We have collected a lot of clothes for the Medaille Trust. If you remember from our previous submissions this is a charity that find trafficked people and either find work and accommodation if they wish to stay in the country or return them to their country of origin. They need a lot of help. Britain is the number one country in the world for this awful practice that is taking advantage of very vulnerable, desperate people. So, if you are using this time to sort out cupboards and draws and think you have something that will help this charity do let us know. They have men, ladies and babies to help.

We have also heard from the news items on TV of a huge number of migrants risking their lives to reach our shores. A few are coming to join relative already living here and other to escape awful persecution in their homeland. One cannot begin to understand how desperate these people must be to take such life threatening risks. However, I do appreciate we are a small island with an awful lot of people on it already and a pandemic that is taxing the best of us to control. These

are not easy times.

I also have a new project for any knitters amongst us. I was contacted at the end of July by the President of Thorndon W.I who attend our lunches and have produced nearly 400 trauma teddies for the services as well as hospitals we launched over a year ago. They have taken on knitting for premature baby units. Having had a great granddaughter born only 6 months into the pregnancy I was rather interested in this project.

So, I have patterns for little jackets that fit over one medium sized hand. Tiny gloves that you are practically casting off as soon as you put the stiches on the needle. Little hats (they are very tiny) but different colours. This indicates instantly to the medical people what treatment that baby is having. So, there is green, yellow, white & blue. These are a serious help when treating a little one very quickly. I was surprised to hear that the number of babies being born early is rising. I have these patterns and will launch the "knit for tiny ones" campaign later this year. So, ladies collect your double knitting wool in readiness while I organise a distribution outlet. I should mention that my little one, who was born weighing less than a lb bag of sugar is now at home and doing extremely well and putting on weight. It is only thanks to the enormous dedicated work of the doctors & nurses. Her name is Grace and she is such a happy little soul who I have yet to meet.

The Committee are still active. Something like the W.I. with its own hall does not stand still even for a rather shocking virus. I would like to thank our gardeners who keep us looking trim and our lady who comes in now and again to give it some tender care. We are grateful to all of you, thank you.

I hope to come back to you next with bells ringing good news that we



are open for business. We have felt a small drop in number so I can only use the World War Two slogan that "YOUR W.I. NEEDS YOU." We may be 103 years old but we still know how to have fun and there is always a warm welcome, cups of tea, and sumptuous cakes. As soon as we reopen come and see us. I will be waiting. Take care and stay safe.

Flora Virgoe, East Hanningfield W.I. 2 400073

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The family of the late John Kenton; Pam, Judith, Simon and Matthew wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to those who offered such lovely words of comfort and support upon the news of his sudden and unexpected passing.

They were much appreciated and showed what a special village this is.

EAST HANNINGFIELD PRE-SCHOOL VOUNTEERS NEEDED

East Hanningfield is a charity pre-school and by working together, we can ensure it keeps going. We depend on parent/carers and volunteers to support the running of the charity. Our committee members are our trustees to the charity and play such an important and vital role.

We hope that you may be as passionate about your local village pre-school as we are and can support us by making a small commitment to join us for our informal, yet essential, meetings.

Each year Committee members are elected on our AGM which will be in November this year and we need new trustees to join the Committee. Our Committee will work alongside with the pre-school staff, ensuring that the pre-school has all the facilities required to keep it running. It also organises vital fundraising events, suggests how we can make the pre-school even better, as well as dealing with administration and management.

If you can support or join the committee please let us know by emailing us on ehps1@live.co.uk

EAST HANNINGFIELD PRESCHOOL



Back on 27th February 2020 we received our Good Ofsted inspection. Unfortunately, due to lockdown and Ofsted then being closed, the results were not published until 3 months later, at the end of May. We, however, did very well and received a GOOD, well done to the staff team. So as soon as we were open again in June, the staff celebrated with a photograph with some of the children.

Pre-school was forced to close down on Friday 20 March 2020 due to the coronavirus and the start of lockdown for the whole country. We eventually reopened again on Tuesday 2 June but with a very different pre-school and staff having to social distance. Gone were all the soft furnishings, playdough and sand and out came all the toys that could easily be cleaned and disinfected after every session. And for the first time ever, no sports day.

We opened for a small number of children at first and by the end of June we were at the maximum number for our bubble, 16 children. Our

dedicated staff worked very hard getting everything ready and loved seeing the children again. The children enjoyed being back at preschool and playing with their friends again. We are thankful and proud of everyone even the staff who worked from home who supported setting up the new version of Pre-school in-line with the new regulations to keep everyone safe and well during this pandemic.

By the time you read this we are hoping pre-school will be back in September with more staff and back to five days opening with all our pupils classed as one bubble so no restriction on numbers.

We do have some availability for pre-school children in the autumn term, and you can reserve your child place with us, we are currently taking names for our waiting list for 2021.

More detail can be found on our website, or please email or phone for more information.

Serene © 07732 951613 wehps1@live.co.uk www.easthanningfieldpreschool.org.uk



PRIMARY SCHOOL

This update is an unusual one from me- as unusual as the situation we have found ourselves in.

The Summer Term this year has been extremely difficult for all of the East Hanningfield CE Primary School community. As some of you may be aware, from the end of March the school continued to remain open for children of Critical Workers and Vulnerable pupils but not for all of our children; this left us with heavy hearts. Our parents have done a fantastic job of juggling home schooling with all other family pressures but we are looking forward to all the children being back together – which will hopefully be that little bit nearer by the time you are reading this!

In June we welcomed back our Early Years children, Year 1 and Year 6 and in July we managed to arrange sessions to include all the rest of our children. In the July sessions the majority of the children were able to work with their next year's teacher to ensure that the transition in



September is as smooth as it can be and a lot of fun was had. Whilst some of the Year 5 children were regularly setting off the fire alarms with their baking the Early Years children were pond dipping and the Year 6 even had a visit from a local Ice Cream van as part of their end of year treat!

The summer term in school always signals the beginning of new starts. Our Year 6 pupils have used the time to get ready for the next steps in their education – secondary school. Year 6 children have been an absolute pleasure to teach and we will miss them all dearly. Whilst the ending to their school life at East Hanningfield CE Primary School hasn't been the 'normal' school ending with all the usual rites of passage, the Year 6 pupils have been absolutely fantastic in making the most of all the opportunities given to them and showing us that with the right attitude all experiences can be positive. Well done Year 6 and thank you for being a super group of children!

The Year 6 children were gifted their leavers t-shirts from our fantastic Friends Association who used the money they raised from their events to support our leavers. Thank you Friends for all your hard work and organising in raising the funds which provide the lovely extras, helping to create the memories for the children.

As well as our Year 6 starting a new phase in their education, we are super excited to welcome our new EYFS children into our lovely school. The children will be attending their taster sessions in September where we have lots of fun things planned for them too! The Friends have also provided the funds to buy all our pupils their first school Bookbag (with some treats inside!) which will support their reading and learning throughout the school – thanks again Friends.

Hopefully over the next few months life will continue to return to normal and we can all focus on our East Hanningfield

community and getting back to supporting and socialising with each other.

Wishing you all a lovely summer break Best wishes for the summer.

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