# EAST HANNINGFIELD NEWS

AUTUMN 2021

NO. 175



#### **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, 12th. 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 PICTURE -ART EXHIBITION & SALE**

After a break due to Covid 19, the Art Exhibition and Sale is coming back this October. The opening times are Saturday 9th. 10am to 5pm & Sunday 10th.10am to 4pm. Admission for the event is £2 per person & includes entry to the Book Sale.



If you haven't been before, you can see examples of the quality of work and the different types of crafts on sale last time in an album on PC's Facebook page.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

Those of us who drive, at some time or another, find ourselves negotiating the Army and Navy roundabout, and consequently have an opin-

ion about it. Well, there is now an opportunity to express your opinion to the people who are planning how the roundabout is going to work in the future. Essex Highways is consulting on the Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package. The proposals include expansion of the Sandon Park and Ride and enhanced walking and cycling facilities with connectivity improvements. Those of us who just want the flyover back are in for disappointment. as that has already been discounted, but there are new layout options for us to consider and comment on. You can view the proposals and comment at www.essex.gov.uk/armyandnavy until 3rd. October.

**Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package Public Consultation** Have your say on our plans to improve the Army and Navy junction and transform travel in Chelmsford Improvements for all users of the Army and Navy junction - Significantly enhanced walking and cycling facilities - Improved bus priority measures - Two distinct new junction layout options Improvement and expansion of Sandon Park and Ride A new Park and Ride site in Widford Additional connectivity improvements across the walking and cycling networks You can view the proposals and have your say at www.essex.gov.uk/armyandnavy Consultation closes Sunday, 3 October 2021

At the end of March a vacancy occurred on PC as a result of John Bedding's resignation. You might have noticed the posters on the noticeboards, website and Facebook page announcing the casual vacancy and saying that electors had fourteen days in which to claim a poll from the returning officer at the City Council. As no poll was requested, another set of posters was displayed asking electors to stand for co-option. Paul Garner stepped forward and was co-opted at the PC Meeting in June. Paul has been a parish councillor before. He first joined the Council when he was co-opted in February 2009, he stood for election in 2015, but resigned in August 2018. His previous experience on the PC means he can step back into the role without the need for new councillor training etc.

The pothole in the middle of the chase by the post-box on the Tye has been growing in size and is scheduled for repair. The contractor has been asked to give fair warning of when it is going to be done, as if he turned up without notice several residents would be unable to drive out of their homes for some hours. The residents who use that as a vehic-

ular access will be given warning so that they can move their cars elsewhere if they will need to drive out during the works.

It was heartening that the disappearance of the noticeboard from the Tye raised an alarm. Fortunately, it had been removed for refurbish-

ment, so no crime had been committed, and it has now been returned to its place with new legs and pin board. Similarly the footpaths noticeboard has been repaired and returned to site with new legs and roof, plus paving slabs in front. The third noticeboard near the mini-roundabout will be cleaned up later this month. It is hoped that it is unlike the other two and not in need of major repairs!



Following complaints to PC from residents, the Council discussed the issue of the soft toys on the bench near the Old Church Road junction at its June Meeting. During lockdown, when there was only one panda on the seat, councillors had thought it was a nice idea to encourage young children to go for a walk to visit the panda, but then the seat had become filled with pandas and associated paraphernalia, so that there was no room for people to sit on it. There was criticism by residents that soggy pandas were extremely heavy to move if you wanted to make a space to sit, and that they were looking a mess. A question was raised as to who would be liable if one blew into the road again, but this time caused an accident. PC therefore asks the "bench fairy" to curb their enthusiasm, and restrict themselves to one soft toy at a time on the bench. It is, after all, the PC's bench.

The arrival of September means that we can safely work on our hedges without danger of disturbing nesting birds. Overgrown hedges, along with potholes and pandas, are the most frequent subject of correspondence from residents. PC has no power to force you to cut back your hedge if it is causing problems on a footway or road, but Essex Highways does! Highways can instruct you to cut back your hedge and if you don't comply they can do it and charge you the cost of the work. We really don't want it to come to that, as it is a considerate thing to do to keep a hedge in good order so that it doesn't force people to step off the pavement into the road. So, if you own a hedge which is beside a footway, please walk along that footway and see if

there is enough width to walk hand in hand with a child or push a buggy. Remember when you cut back the hedge it will grow from the trimmed point, so if you only cut it back to the path edge it will grow across the path in the spring.

Many parishioners take a keen interest in local planning applications, and so will need to know about a recent administrative change. PC has received notice from Chelmsford City Council that from the beginning of this month they will no longer send notification letters to neighbours of planning application sites, but they will continue to post the notices at or near the site. These are the yellow A4 sheets you sometimes see stapled to telegraph poles. If you would like to receive email alerts from City Planning about planning applications, you can set them up through their website by going to <a href="https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/view-or-comment-on-planning-applications/">www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/view-or-comment-on-planning-applications/</a> and clicking on <a href="https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-applications/">How to get alerts for future applications/</a>. You will then be guided through the process of choosing which area/s you want to be kept informed about

PC has been holding face to face rather than virtual meetings since June. We continue to keep the room ventilated by having all the windows open during meetings, which has been comfortable so far, but if you are going to attend one of these meetings you might be wise to wrap up warm as the autumn carries on into winter. We are also managing to keep socially distanced, by arranging the chairs and tables at safe distances, but if several members of the public were to attend we might have to move the meeting to a larger space. Let's hope not the car park!

Dates and times of PC Meetings, as always, are in the Village Diary which you can find in the centre of each News, and on PC's website. Notices of Meetings with the agenda are displayed in PC's notice-boards, in the lobby at the Village Hall and on the website three clear days beforehand. Agenda and Minutes can be found under *Publications* on the website.

Karen Plumridge, Clerk to the Parish Council,

e-voice.org.uk/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/east-hanningfield-news/



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#### CITY COUNCILLOR

There is some welcome news for first time buyers unable to afford to get a foot on the first rung of the housing ladder.

The traditional view of affordable housing is that it comprises houses for rent or shared ownership. This May the Government announced a new type of affordable home ownership product called 'First Homes'.

Planning applications for developments of more than 10 homes will now have to provide at least 9% of the total as First Homes.

First Homes are a specific kind of discounted market sale housing which must be discounted by a minimum of 30% against the market value, must be at a price of no more than £250,000 after discount and contain restrictions so that the discount gets passed on to future purchasers.

Not everyone will qualify for a First Home. To qualify purchasers must be first time buyers with a combined annual income not exceeding £80,000 and have a mortgage to fund a minimum of 50% of the discounted purchase price. It must also be the buyer's main residence.

Local Planning Authorities have a limited discretion to set local policies. These include applying a local connection to First Homes eligibility and also to include key workers.

This is a major change in Government policy which will allow many residents who are first time buyers to afford homes which they could not otherwise buy and to take a first step on the housing ladder.

First Homes will be marketed by developers and the city council will not be holding a waiting list or register. It is a market product and will be sold on a first come, first served principle.

It does not apply to sites which already have planning consent. It applies to applications made after 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The site on the corner of Back Lane and Old Church Road is not therefore affected unless the application lapses. There are many upcoming sites in the Chelmsford area which will be affected including the houses in South Woodham

Ferrers for which no planning application has yet been made.

Any resident with a question about this may refer it to me and I will do my best to answer. I am also able to visit residents in their homes to discuss any Council related matter. Just send me an email or give me a ring to make arrangements.

I have no news yet regarding the three proposed solar farms other than to say they are expected to come to the planning committee in 'the autumn'.

Richard Poulter 
901245 223743



#### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

The news on COVID is continuing to be encouraging. The government support for Essex so far amounts to over £30 million and has been dispersed to help social issues and local businesses. We are now beginning the discussions on the budget for 2022/23. This is a very involved process not helped by the Government grant being announced around Christmas Eve every year - ideally we need a 4 year settlement to enable us to plan more strategically.

As it is we will ensure the budget fits the priorities and that will certainly include implementation of the green agenda following the Climate Change Commission report. Currently 69% of our funding comes from council tax, the remainder from revenues, business rates and grants.

The Highways budget and in particular maintenance is the big concern with members and is being closely looked at by the new Cabinet Member. Could alternative materials be the answer? This is something that is being researched and tested in our County & nationally. There is no doubt we have to find a better way to maintain our roads and footways.

Another area being closely looked at is the cost of school transport. We currently spend some £90k per day and with most schools now academies & outside our control, it is important the service is fit for purpose. The use of Zoom for meetings is having an effect on our cost budgets & interestingly how we use our buildings & deploy staff. What is becoming clear though is, there will be opportunities for savings.

The Councils finances remain sound and I am confident this will prevail unlike the terrible problems we have seen in Croydon and Northampton. We will be issuing an Autumn Statement giving an update on the financial position which will be interesting.

If I can help on any issue please contact me.

Ian Grundy @ 07920286384

#### HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY - Village Hall & Playing Fields

Finally, we can hopefully start to see our lives getting back to more freedom in where we can go and what we can do. With the lifting of more restrictions in mid-July we were able to start opening our facilities more, thank goodness, after such a difficult few months.

At the end of July, we were finally able to hold our postponed Annual General Meeting, in the small hall to still comply with being cautious in line with current recommendations. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings to understand more about the responsibility of the committee for running the hall and field facilities. We were pleased to welcome representatives of some of the group activities that use our community facilities.

On Saturday 31st July we were able to also open up for a 'Book Sale', and, even though at short notice, this was very well attended. We made sure we restricted the numbers of people in the upstairs book store and offered refreshments in the small hall to ensure we could seat everyone safely. It was so good to see so many people just enjoying being out and catching up with others. The result of the book sales was our best ever, so I think this event has been greatly missed. With income from hire starting to increase, we have been able to start moving forward with some of our plans for improvements to our facilities. Finally, we have been able to complete the new tarmac finish along the pathway between the school and the car park, but also including a new tarmac area outside of the shop, an increasing area of wear and tear over the last 16 months especially with the restrictions of only two people in the shop at any one time, and subsequently queuing outside, and the introduction of the new school gate. This project was 25% funded by the Parish Council.

With the easing of everything we have been able to now plan to hold our Annual Art Exhibition & Sale (sadly not possible last October) and have set the date for the event to run over the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October, with the Pre-view Event on the evening of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October. We have had a very good response from all the artists on our list, so hopefully we will have another good display of art work. We hope we will be able to get the help of our band of volunteers who have helped us in the past, but would always welcome any new help with the setting up (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Oct), running on the 2 days of the event and clearing away

after, later on the Sunday afternoon (especially some younger muscle for lifting the display boards into the loft storage). Because we have not been able to hold the Village Fete for the last 2 years, (the proceeds of which are always shared with Hanna's Field Charity and All Saint's Church) we have made the decision to share the proceeds of this year's Art Exhibition & Sale with All Saints Church as they have had even less funds coming in than ourselves. The next Book Sale will be held at the same time as the Art Sale, so make a note of these two events in your diaries.

Please see the separate report, on page 13, from the Fete Committee about another event planned for October.

Fingers crossed that we can still keep moving in the right direction for the future, and start enjoying more freedom in the next few months.

For enquiries about booking our facilities please contact: - jessbell20@hotmail.com

Jenny Mouser - Chairperson

### **NOTICE**

Hanna's Field, the playing field and paths, should not be used for riding horses, motor bikes or e-scooters or for playing golf.

These activities are prohibited by the Byelaws, created in 1981, which can be seen under "Village Hall" on the Parish Council's website.

https//e-voice.org.uk/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/village-hall/ hanna-s-field-byelaws/



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# FETE COMMITTEE Fireworks & Halloween Fun

For two years running the committee have been unable to organise the Village Fete but restrictions have finally been relaxed and we have made the decision to proceed, with caution, to organise a Firework Display as part of the Halloween celebrations Sunday 31st October 2021. The display will be between 5.00pm and 7.00pm on Hanna's Field behind the village hall.

This will be a free event, we would like people to come together to enjoy fun, food and fireworks in a community atmosphere just as we have done in previous years at the Village Fete.

We are lucky enough to have the owner of a major, award winning, firework retailer and display company (Firework Crazy) living in our village who has agreed to help us stage the event. Consequently we are going to get exceptional value for money for what will be a professional and spectacular display, so it will be well worth attending on the night!

The committee are very aware of the damaging effect to pets and wildlife of loud fireworks. So we have arranged with Firework Crazy to have a **low noise** display similar to the display they do each year at Barleylands where there are a lot of animals in the vicinity. There's no such thing as silent Fireworks, every firework makes some sort of noise but Firework Crazy guarantee that there will be no loud bangs, just some snap, crackle and pop!

The evening will be family friendly. There will be two displays; the first will be a short one designed for younger children, the second will be bigger to finish the evening.

As it is Halloween we would love to see as many children as possible dress up for the occasion. (Adults can dress up too!)

Please note this will be a mainly outside event (access to the toilets will be inside!). We want everyone to feel safe so there will be temporary fencing and marshals to keep people a safe distance from fireworks (we will not allow anyone to bring own fireworks to the site). The

firework displays will be managed by Firework Crazy and their trained pyrotechnicians.

There will be burgers, hot dogs, teas, coffees etc available during the evening so please turn up very hungry!! We are currently approaching several businesses in the village for sponsorship to cover the cost of the fireworks, which is proving very successful. A full list of sponsors will be in the December newsletter so we can thank them for their help and support on the evening.

This sponsorship will enable us to allow <u>free entry</u> to the event. If you are a business reading this and are interested in sponsoring the event or making a donation contact me at the email address below.

Of course our aim is that it should not only be a great community event but also make some money for the two charities for which we raise funds (Hanna's Field Charity and All Saints Church), so if you can, please do make a voluntary donation of, say a pound a head, in one of the collection buckets that will be available on the night.

Car parking on the night may be a challenge as we will not (unlike the summer fete) be able to park on the field, without risking damage to the surface.

Please do come to the field on foot if you can (eco friendly travel) leaving the hall car park for disabled and elderly people. If travelling from outside the village and parking is needed J Gard and Sons has kindly given us permission to use their yard as an overflow car park on

the night.

A final point - we will need volunteers to help in the afternoon and on the evening of 31<sup>st</sup> October, so if anybody would like to get involved and help on the night please contact me. If you can't attend but would like to make a donation or help contact me.

Brian C Oley (Chairman, Fete Committee)
Contact. brian.olley@icloud.com

#### VILLAGE DIARY

https://e-voice.org.uk/easthanningfieldparishcouncil/village-diary-2012/SEPTEMBER

Thu 2 BACK TO SCHOOL EAST HANNINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL & YEARS 7 & 12 SANDON SCHOOL

7.45pm BIBLE STUDIES at Bethel Church

**BACK TO SCHOOL YEARS 8, 11 & 13 SANDON SCHOOL** 

Sun 5 9am **COMMUNION** (BCP) at All Saints' Church.

10.45 am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church

**BACK TO SCHOOL YEARS 9 & 10 SANDON SCHOOL** 

Tue 7 Black Bin, Green Box, Card Sack & Food Waste.

2.25-2.55 pm MOBILE LIBRARY at the Village Hall car park.

Thu 9 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDIES** at Bethel Church

Sun 12 10 am MORNING WORSHIP (child centred)at All Saints'
Church
10.45 am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church

Tue 14 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons Sack & Food Waste

Wed 15 2pm **WI MEETING** in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall.

Thu 16 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDIES** at Bethel Church

Sun 19 10 am **HOLY COMMUNION a**t All Saints' Church 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church

Tue 21 Black Bin, Green Box, Card Sack & Food Waste.

Thu 23 7.45pm **BIBLE STUDIES** at Bethel Church

8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall (subject to Covid regulations allowing)

Sun 26 10 am **SUNG MATINS** at All Saints' Church 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church

Tue 28 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons Sack & Food Waste

2.25-2.55 pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** at the Village Hall car park.



Pull out this centre-fold and pin up for future reference.

#### **OCTOBER**

- Sun 3 9am **COMMUNION** (BCP) at All Saints' Church. 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 5 Black Bin, Green Box, Card Sack & Food Waste.
- Fri 8 NON PUPIL DAY SANDON SCHOOL
- 9 10am-5pm ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION & SALE with Book Sale at the Village Hall
   Sun 10 10am HARVEST SERVICE at All Saints' Church plea



10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church.

10am-4pm **ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION & SALE** 

- with Book Sale at the Village Hall

  Tue 12 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons Sack
- & Food Waste
- Sun 17 10am **HOLY COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 19 Black Bin, Green Box, Card Sack & Food Waste.2.25-2.55 pm MOBILE LIBRARY at the Village Hall car park.
- Wed 20 2pm **WI MEETING** in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall.
- Thu 21 BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM EAST HANNINGFIELD PS
  BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM SANDON SCHOOL
- Sun 24 **10am MORNING WORSHIP** Bible Sunday & Patronal Festival at All Saints' Church 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 26 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons Sack & Food Waste
- Thu 28 8pm **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the first floor meeting room at the Village Hall
- Sun 31 10am **ALL SOULS SERVICE** at All Saints' Church 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
  - 5-7pm **FIREWORKS & HALLOWEEN FUN** at the Village Hall. Come in costume!



#### **NOVEMBER**

- Mon 1 BACK TO SCHOOL EHPS & SANDON SCHOOL
- Tue 2 Black Bin, Green Box, Card Sack & Food Waste.
- 7 9am **BCP COMMUNION** at All Saints' Church. Sun 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- 9 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons Sack & Food Tue Waste
  - 2.25-2.55 pm MOBILE LIBRARY at the Village Hall car park.
- Sun 14 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
  - 10.50 am ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE-Gather at the memorial in the churchvard to begin.
- 16 Black Bin, Green Box, Card Sack & Food Waste. Tue
- 17 2pm WI MEETING in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Wed Hall
- Sun 21 10am HOLY COMMUNION at All Saints' Church 10.45 am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- 23 Brown Bin, Paper Sack, Plastics & Cartons Sack & Food Tue Waste
- 25 8pm PARISH COUNCIL MEETING in the 1st floor meeting Thu room at the Village Hall
- Sun 28 10am ADVENT SUNDAY lighting first candle of the Advent wreath at All Saints' Church. 10.45 am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church
- Tue 30 Black Bin, Green Box, Card Sack & Food Waste. 2.25-2.55 pm MOBILE LIBRARY at the Village Hall car park.

## Pull out this centre-fold and pin up for future reference.

If you would like an event included in the Village Diary, which can also be found on the Parish Council's website, please contact the Editor, whose details appear on page 2.

# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH & COMMUNITY SPEED-WATCH

We usually begin with a roundup of local crime but, according to the police updates we receive, there is surprisingly little to report. A van was stolen off the Old Church Road Industrial estate in June and someone's conifers were cut down without owner's permission in Catherine Close. There has been a complaint of someone riding an E-Scooter in Old Church Road (where is splits with Pan Lane) and causing damage. Although it is not illegal to buy an E-scooter, it is illegal to ride one on public roads, pavements or on private land without the owner's permission. Essex Police are stopping E-scooters when seen on a public road and have confiscated numerous privately owned E-Scooters in the Chelmsford area for being driven on public highways illegally (Old Church Road is public highway!). There have also been reports of someone using one on Hanna's Field – they are illegal under playing field's Bye Laws and Hanna's Field Charity does not give permission for anyone to ride one on its paths or fields.

The most serious incident in this period was a lorry load of assorted builder's refuse dumped sometime on the night of 28th July in the field entrance next door to Willis Farm. It is part of a pattern of continued fly -tipping (often large scale) that continues across areas of Essex and the police and Chelmsford City Council are concerned enough now to



institute vehicle stop searches. This is why police and CC staff were at the entrance to Village Hall/School Chase on the morning of Monday 2 August in a joint operation to stop trade vehicles and check for any engaged in fly-tipping or other crimes (two of the vehicle stops resulted in owners receiving a police follow-up). It's not just vehicle owners that are prosecuted if caught fly-tipping - householders who use "cowboys" to remove refuse can be prosecuted if the material is traced back to them, even if they arranged disposal in good faith, so it makes sense to use a legitimate recommended contractor or waste removal company.

In the wider Essex area, some villages around Chelmsford continue to have regular late night prowlers testing car door handles resulting in theft from cars. This also applies to house doors and windows as there has been a rise in theft where UPVC doors have not been fully locked.

A reminder of ways to report crime. You can

- call 999 for emergencies
- \* call 101 for reporting non-emergencies
- \* report crime, incidents, and information on-line (www.essex.police.uk)
- call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or on-line (www.crimestoppers-uk.org).

**EH NhW Team/Meetings**: NhW team meetings were suspended during lock-down but will restart this month. If interested contact NhW email address for more information.

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

Community Speed Watch: (CSW operates under the EH NhW umbrella). Speed Watch checks were suspended for the lock down although Essex Police ran a spot check in that old favourite, Old Church Road, in May. The CSW restarted in August with the first speed check in Old Church Road on 10 August and 5 vehicles logged and reported to police for speed in a 30mph area. Over the lock down period two CSW volunteers moved away from the village so we do need a couple of new volunteers to join us - email address below for more information if you would like to help.

Mike Plumridge, EH NhW Co-ordinator.

**201245-400628** 

MHWEastHanningfield@outlook.com.

# TOTS FOOTBALL FUN is coming to East Hanningfield!

Hello everyone, my name is Jeff and I am part of the Football Fun Factory.

The Football Fun Factory is on a mission to make football accessible and enjoyable for all children and help them fall in love with the beautiful game.

Our Tots Football Fun sessions, for ages 2-5 is a great way for children to take their introductory steps into football and start their sporting journey.

Our ethos is all about creating an incredible environment where children can express themselves, play, make friends and have fun.



The Tots
Football Fun
sessions start
this September,
you can register
for a 3 week free
trial at:



You can find me across most social media platforms, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn or feel free to contact me on my mobile on 07506 401614 to find out more.

Hope to hear from you soon!

Jeff Fraser





#### **BETHEL CHURCH—Running the race**

At the time of writing this, Great Britain has enjoyed a marvellous medal haul at the Tokyo Olympics, equalling our medal tally of the London Olympics in 2012.

We have witnessed the shear grit, the months of self-denial and the incredible discipline of each and every athlete – all against the backdrop of the earie silence of the arenas due to the absence of spectators.



One cannot but be in awe of what the human body is capable of achieving, it has been a delight to watch.

The Olympic Games are truly the greatest sporting spectacle, and it is staggering to know that the ancient games, which took place in Greece, happened every four years without interruption from 776 BC until they were suppressed by the Emperor Theodosius in 393 AD – incredibly, that's 1,169 years!

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the church in Corinth, uses the games to illustrate the Christian life and what it means to "run the race to receive the crown".

"I do all things for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So, I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified."

I Corinthians 9:23-27

Paul is laying down the principles of how an athlete prepares and runs their race, and then applies these as spiritual truths to lives of the believer. And it raises some tremendously important questions, namely, what is the prize in this race? And what is at stake in this race?

The first thing we learn is that the Christian is a partaker in the gospel, in other words, we are not spectators cheering others on – we are in the race! Therefore, just as an athlete prepares him or herself, we too with the help of God's grace, enter the race with discipline and a clear view of the prize.

The prize that Paul refers to is eternal life, and the imperishable wreath is the crown of righteousness - that none of us can obtain this side of heaven.

If you would like to find out more about this race and the prize that awaits every believer, please join us on Sunday at 10:45am. We would love to see you.

#### Roydon Hearne

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



#### **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

Dear Friends,

It has been great to have a more normal summer and I hope things remain reasonably good when the magazine arrives at your home. We had some visitors in the church this summer, not all that welcome. They were jackdaws who had been nesting in our tower with the bells, and some came into church though we are not sure how. No wonder one of the bells seemed a bit muted! It took some doing to get all the nest material out and then try to shore up any roof gaps with chicken wire, and was at no small cost. On reflection, it reminded me of a poem, 'The Jackdaw of Rheims,' by Richard Harris Barham.



In this poem a jackdaw steals the cardinal's ring from him in the church, when it is placed on the altar during holy communion. There is a huge commotion when it is found missing and everyone grand and small, has to turn out their pockets. When it is not found the Cardinal places a curse on whoever has stolen it. By the next day the poor jackdaw's feathers have begun to fall out, he is limping and bald and looks in a sorry state. The priests have been used to

see him hopping about, usually in a cheeky fashion and sitting on the cardinals chair, and when they see him they realise he has the ring and is suffering the curse. The ring is found in his nest and returned, and the curse revoked, so the jackdaw returns to good health. However, he is now a much more devout jackdaw, so much so that when he died they want to make him a Saint, and so they canonized him as Jim Crow!

It is a fun story and worth a read if you look it up on the internet. I do not think the jackdaws stole anything in the church, but they did make a mess and I do not think we feel very saintly about them! It reminds us the unexpected can happen and seemingly bad things can be turned into something good, for me the memory of this fun poem from childhood made me smile and think of happy past times.

Often things do not turn out in the way we might have wished, even

though we may have prayed about it. What God tries to do is work through those around us to offer love and care to help us get through whatever it might be.

The church is very important to us in the village, but we have to remember that our faith is about action, and Christians meet in it to gain knowledge and inspiration for what needs doing in our communities. Jesus went out into the villages to meet people and talk to them, and he knew what mattered to them. His popularity was in helping and doing for a people oppressed by the Romans and often forgotten by their own Jewish leaders, obsessed with themselves and their religious laws. Poor folk who paid double taxes to these two sets of people. In a recent survey one of the things people expected and wanted in their Christian leaders were those who would stand up for social justice. Jesus did this in the face of the Jewish holy men of the day, criticising them on many occasions. No wonder they wanted him crucified - a thorn in their sides. These days Bishops and others often get criticised for being political and sometimes for not being political enough. It is a difficult line to walk. However, if you have a strong faith it is appropriate to remind the authorities when you feel injustice is happening. Churches are meeting places as are most religious buildings, where people of like mind can meet together and share their thoughts, pray for people and problems of all kinds and listen to Biblical scripture for guiding them in the way of truth and right.

Therefore, we are very grateful for our church. It is always there for quiet times and noisy times, for baptism, weddings, times to sing and celebrate, times to sorrow and reflect. It is good that now lockdown is over, we have lots of things happening, and in September we hope

to have the children back in from time to time. One of the great things after being restricted for so long was to be able to sing. The first Sunday we were in very good voice.

So if you feel like connecting with us again the services are all here in the magazine. Harvest Festival is coming up and all the traditional things we do. The jackdaw showed all of us can change, though I hope it does not take a curse to do it, some things are different in our lives and may be for awhile post COVID, but we can adapt and be happy. I hope things go well for you this Autumn.

I end with some words from the poem........

"At Matins and Vespers, he never was out And, so far from any more pilfering deeds, He always seem'd telling the Confessors beads, If anyone lied or anyone swore, Or slumber'd in pray'r time and happen'd to snore, That good jackdaw, would give a great Caw! As much as to say don't do so anymore. While many remarked, as his manners they saw That they had never seen such a pious jackdaw! "





Love and good wishes, to you all, Canon Christine and Rev. Suzy.

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Its never to soon to start!

The following steps can help your dog feel calm and accepting of this event.

Download firework sounds or you can get cd's.

When your dog is calm and settled, or positively distracted with enrichment tasks, play sounds at a very low volume, barely audible to you, as dogs hearing is slightly better than ours.

Offer calm praise and treats when they appear to be comfortably tolerating the sounds.

Slowly increase the sound over following days and weeks, depending on their tolerance.

# IF YOUR DOG SHOWS ANY SIGNS OF STRESS, ANXIETY OR LEAVES THE ROOM, STOP IMMEDIATELY AND TRY ANOTHER DAY ON A LOWER VOLUME.

On the days fireworks are expected, take your dog out for a walk and feed as late as possible before fireworks may start, so they are more likely to be tired.

Provide suitable chew items or play their favourite games to distract when noises start.

Set up a refuge area – choose an area that your dog has already shown a tendency to prefer or start preparing a refuge area.\*

Encourage your dog to feel comfortable in this spot by hiding treats there or using this as their quiet time place with a suitable chew.

Pick a quieter place in the home, have plenty of bedding items so they can burrow, place a favourite toy/blanket or even an item of your worn clothing.

Draw curtains or darken room, if they choose their crate, place a cover over.

Offer calm, steady verbal reassurance, whilst carrying on your usual routine.

If they chose to be near you, slow, steady, firm stroking on side of neck to shoulders

Before fireworks nights are expected, your dog will always benefit from a safe place.

Also, there are usually fireworks at New Years Eve , so keep up the practice.

Clare – Polite Pooches Essex.

#### **EAST HANNINGFIELD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Brilliant news the East Hanningfield Woman's Institute will be resuming its monthly meetings starting on the 15th September 2021 at 2.00 pm. We are starting our first meeting in a new home having been locked down for 19 months

We are moving to the Village Hall and will hold our meetings in the Meeting Room. (A chair lift is available for those of us who find stairs a little challenging). It will be so nice to catch up with everyone over a good natter with tea & cake. We have much to discuss and stories to exchange. I think what will be so nice about the meeting is reestablishing the companionship & laughter we have missed so much.

The committee have continued with their work throughout the shut-

down. I know you will join me in thanking them all for their dedication and support, keeping us alive throughout the pandemic.

We are looking forward to seeing you all again and catching up with your news.. I shall be the one by the door welcoming you all back with a rather large smile on my face. Do join us.

Best wishes, Flora, President

## News from East Hanningfield Pre-School

We had a busy summer term with new children joining us and we are delighted that we are welcoming more new children in September. In July we said a sad goodbye to all our leavers who are moving onto various primary schools in the area. We wish them well with their next adventure. We held a very successful Leavers' Song afternoon, performed outside with parents watching from the field in socially distanced groups. Children were presented with their pre-school mug and their Learning Journeys filled with photographs, drawings and evidence of work throughout their time at pre-school. These were bound this year after the purchase of a binding machine. The new book-style journals were received well by the parents who enjoyed looking through them with their children.



The children have enjoyed playing outside with the large trays this term. We hope as things begin to return to normal that we can reintroduce the sandpit, play doh and soft toys in September as we know how much the children enjoy these.

We will be continuing to keep both children and adults safe when we return in September and will be following the latest Government guidelines for Early Years. This includes continuing with our rigorous cleaning regime, more regular hand washing and lateral flow tests for staff.



There are some spaces available for children next term. We are an ap-



proved provider of 2-year-old 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, please take a look at our website

www.easthanningfieldpreschool.org.uk Or contact us on 07732951613, or email us at ehps1@live.co.uk.

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