

EAST HANNINGFIELD NEWS

NO. 195

AUTUMN 2026



EDITOR'S 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

Earlier submission is welcome: later submission will be excluded!
Please send electronic copy to editor@easthanningfield-pc.gov.uk .
Please contact the Editor via the email above for information about advertising.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

It is with great sadness that I have to announce that Flora Virgoe has passed away. You can read about this in Marlene's WI article on pp. 23-25. The cover photo was taken at the 2017 Village Fete, when East Hanningfield WI was celebrating their hundredth anniversary, so Flora dressed up to mark the occasion.

EAST HANNINGFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Parish Council has resolved to revive work towards preparing a **Neighbourhood Plan** for the parish and is seeking views from residents on whether there is sufficient interest to re-establish a Steering Group to guide the project.

You can read more about this on the Parish Council's website under "News".

If you would like to register interest in this project, please contact clerk@easthanningfield-pc.gov.uk.

If there is sufficient interest, the Parish Council will arrange an initial meeting to discuss how the Steering Group could be formed and the next stages of the process.

PARISH COUNCIL

First, I would like to introduce myself to you, I am John Bedding the newly appointed Chairman of the Parish Council.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor Malcolm Thomas for his contribution over the last four years as chairman and the six years before as a serving councillor.

Also my thanks to Graham Darrah, who retired from the council in July, for his contribution as a councillor.

On a happier note we now have three new councillors to bring our number up to full strength, they are Clare Liddiard, Melanie Mavers and David Shrouder.

There appears to be concern that residents do not feel that the Parish Council communicate with the parish. Over the years I have been connected with the PC it has always maintained a presence of working in the background, with no member claiming individual recognition for any projects undertaken.

We will always consider residents requests for improvements to the parish and if needed we will support, as we have done in the past, any groups providing activities within the parish, Play in the Park being one organised for this summer.

Any resident is welcome to come along to our monthly meeting, held on the last Wednesday of each month but not held during August, where a short time is allocated for public questions/comments. Alternately you can contact our Clerk, Lucy White at



clerk@easthanningfield-pc.gov.uk or on 07703170512. Also you can find information on the East Hanningfield Parish Council website and on the two noticeboards on The Tye.

In case you have not looked at or do not have access to Facebook, the village was awarded 'Highly Commended' in the RCCE Village of the Year, this covers the whole of Essex, so well done to all organisers of the many groups and activities that take place within the parish, as you will appreciate there are far too many to mention here and there is a chance I will miss someone out, and I do not want to start my chairmanship on the wrong foot.

John Bedding, Chairman EHPC

(Editor's Note: the Village of the Year Certificate will be displayed in the Village Hall front lobby)

CONTACT DETAILS FOR EAST HANNINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Lucy White, CILCA,

Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer,

 Coronation Cottage, The Street,

Woodham Ferrers, CM3 8RQ

 07703170512  clerk@easthanningfield-pc.gov.uk

 <https://easthanningfield-pc.gov.uk/>

CONTACT DETAILS FOR YOUR CITY COUNCILLORS

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 sue.dobson@chelmsford.gov.uk  mark.taylor@chelmsford.gov.uk

 01245 605908

 01245 605923

 Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1JE

CONTACT DETAILS FOR YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

PAUL H CLARK

 cllr.paul.clark@essex.gov.uk

 County Hall, Market Road, Chelmsford CM1 1QH

HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY

Village Hall & Playing Fields

Such a Hot! Hot! Summer, all a bit draining at times, but also so conscious of all the dangers of everything being so tinder dry. Thoughts and prayers to all those effected by the fire and explosion at Highlands Farm (and surrounding properties) on Friday 24th July, What a huge shock for all!

Thanks go to Mel Mavers and her Village Events Committee, for another excellent Village Fete and a profit of around £3,400 to be split with All Saints' Church, again a lot of hard exhausting work, but a good outcome. ***Please see Mel's separate report for full details of upcoming events.***

We said our farewell to the East Hanningfield Pre-School, on Friday 17th July, an end of an era. We wish all the staff good luck for the future. Both Wendy and myself were involved with originally moving them into the new Village Hall 40 years ago, (from the WI Hall, and previously it was held in the Old Rectory when Reverend Ost was at All Saints Church, and before being converted into flats). Although we have been in discussion with the ECC Early Years Alliance there have been no providers interested in starting a new facility.

By the skin of our teeth we were able to open the newly refurbished Play Area on Hanna's Field, in time for the start of the Summer break, which we hope has been welcomed by children and parents alike. On Friday 24th July, some of the sub-committee officially marked the opening of the new play area, with a new sign, recognising all those who had made this possible with their generous funding donations (See photo on next page) New picnic tables have also more recently been installed beside the play area – thanks again go to David Bell for these, and a metal waste bin has been relocated near them, to hopefully encourage all to use responsibly.



Following the Village Quiz Night on 12th September, the next Fund Raising Event will be the Annual Art Show which takes place on the weekend of 3rd/4th October with the Pre-view evening on Friday 2nd Oct. This event now comes under the organisation of the Village Events Committee, following both Wendy and myself handing this over (for me I had been involved from the start 36 years ago!) We will be around to volunteer any help required though. ***Please see Clare's separate notice on p.27.***

Our next HFC Committee Meeting is on Tuesday 1st September at 8pm where, as always, we would welcome anyone interested in seeing what we do running the Village Hall Community Centre and surrounding Sports and Play areas. We are seriously needing new Trustees to join our committee to be able to carry on the running of it all. We meet just 6 times a year, (8.00 – 10pm) which is not a huge commitment of

time for people to give. We are also looking to create a paid Hall Manager role, this would be a small set number of hours per week to cover general maintenance and minor repairs and meeting with contractors/maintenance providers, and to be on call whilst our facilities are open, for any emergencies. Please make contact with me if this is something that would interest you.

Jenny Mouser - Chairperson

 **mouser47@aol.com**



<https://e-voice.org.uk/hannasfield/>

To book the Village Hall/sports facilities or to check availability, please go to the Village Hall's website at the above address & click on 'Make a Booking' or email **hannasfield@outlook.com**.

Alternatively call the Booking Secretary on **07934270233** (before 8pm) and leave a message.



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VILLAGE EVENTS COMMITTEE

Update from the village fete; thank you to the generosity of everyone who took part in the fete, particularly the main sponsors D Chennells Ltd Highlands Farm and J Gard and Sons Ltd.

The Village Events Committee would like to express support and sympathy for all businesses and people affected by the fire, many of whom are a vital part of making the fete (and other events) possible, particularly Highlands farm.

The fete raised £3,400 which will be divided equally between Hannas Field Charity and All Saints Church.

Hopefully over the summer holidays people have had the chance to take part in the scarecrow competition.

The next event will be:
Village Quiz – Saturday 12 September
19:00 for a 19:30 start
Village Hall

If you would like to take part, please pull together teams of 6 people.

Entry fee £5 per person (£30 per team)

If you would like to come but do not have 6 people, please email and we will keep a list so that we can create teams.

Please make entry fee payments in advance

Please email ehvillageevents@gmail.com for the payment details and with any questions.

Cash prize and trophies for the winning team!

You are welcome to bring your own drinks and nibbles.

There will also be a raffle. All money raised from the event will go to Hannas Field Charity.

Many thanks to Glen Hayden for preparing and running the quiz, your time and support is much appreciated.

Dates for the rest of 2026

**Saturday 3 October and Art Sale and Show +
Sunday 4 October Preloved Book Sale**

Saturday 31 October Halloween Party 17:00 - 19:00

Saturday 21 November Tabletop Sale 10:00- 12:00

Sunday 13 December Christmas Fair 14:00 – 16:00

Please keep an eye on the Village Facebook page for information and updates on each event.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/225757484291639/>

All events will take place in the Village Hall and/or on the playing field. Please do take part in as many as you can; meet friends and neighbours and help raise money for Hannas Field Charity and All Saints Church.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help with any village events, please email:

ehvillageevents@gmail.com

Local Dog get together

Due to enrichment arena not being available at the fete,

Sunday 11th October 10-12

- 🐾 Meet up with other local dogs and owners,
- 🐾 Test out enrichment products & learn how to 'DIY'
- 🐾 'Have a go' low level agility,
- 🐾 Free advice

Organised by Polite Pooches Essex
www.politepoochesessex.co.uk
07979 44 88 49

All dogs must remain on lead

With kind permission from Hannas field charity



COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Some readers may have seen information about Community Speed Watch in previous editions of the village magazine, so apologies if some of this sounds familiar! However, we feel it is worth repeating an important message: **keeping our roads safe is something we can all play a part in.**

Our parish is situated around a crossroads and receives a considerable amount of through traffic. Our small team of Community Speed Watch volunteers carries out regular speed checks at police-approved locations around the parish to monitor compliance with the 30mph speed limit.

The checks take place at different locations and at varying times. This helps ensure that motorists who regularly commute through the village know that speeding may be monitored anywhere and at any time. We hope that this acts as a deterrent and encourages drivers to slow down.

This month, our volunteers also took part in **Vision Zero**, an Essex-wide programme of coordinated police and community speed checks. The initiative forms part of a wider effort to deter speeding and improve road safety, reinforcing the message that excessive speed has no place on our roads or in our communities.

We know there is a particular local concern around Ashley Green/Coulde Dennis, where speeding is more often associated with local traffic than with vehicles simply passing through. The police dressed scarecrow and 30mph sign in Ashley Green provides a light-hearted but important reminder to everyone that the speed limit is 30mph. However, we believe that even 30mph can be too fast for a built-up residen-



tial area such as this, and we would welcome support for reducing the limit to 20mph as part of the “**20 is Plenty**” initiative.

Finally, we are always looking for more volunteers to help share the effort. No previous experience is needed: full training is provided, along with a high-visibility jacket, body camera, speed detection equipment and insurance. If you can spare a little time and would like to help make our roads safer, we would be delighted to welcome you to the team.

Road safety is everyone's responsibility. Whether you are driving through the parish or live here, simply slowing down and respecting the speed limit is something we can all do to help keep our community safer.

**Mike Plumridge,
EH CSW**

✉ mike.j.plumridge@btinternet.com



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EMPOWER | Beginners Hatha Yoga

Tuesday 10am @The Yurt, Meadow Croft Garden Centre
Wednesday 625pm @East Hanningfield Village Hall
Friday 1030am @Galleywood Heritage Centre



THE PHOENIX FLOW | Vinyasa Power Yoga

Wednesday 730pm @East hanningfield Village Hall
Friday 930am @Galleywood Heritage Centre

£10 Block
or £12
PAYG



CONNECT | Baby Massage & Reflexology

Tuesday 1130am @The Yurt, Meadow Croft Garden Centre



THE PHOENIX MINIS | Developmental Sensory Exploration

Tuesday 1245pm @The Yurt, Meadow Croft Garden Centre



RECONNECT | Soundbath

Friday 630-8pm @Galleywood Heritage Centre (once a month)

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE - PRE BOOKING REQUIRED



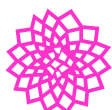
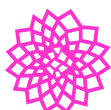
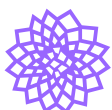
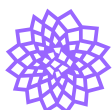
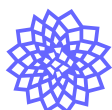
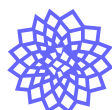
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VILLAGE DIARY

SEPTEMBER

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Tue | 1 | BLACK BIN, FOOD WASTE, GREEN BOX, CARD SACK collections
8-9.30pm HFC GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING upstairs at the Village Hall. Please contact the Secretary if you are going to attend |
| Wed | 2 | BACK TO SCHOOL EH Academy & Sandon School Year 7 and Sixth Form |
| Thu | 3 | BACK TO SCHOOL Years 8-11 Sandon School |
| Sun | 6 | 9am HOLY COMMUNION (BCP) with Rev Jacqui at All Saints' Church.
10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church |
| Tue | 8 | BROWN BIN, FOOD WASTE, PLASTICS & CARTONS, PAPER collections
1.30-2pm MOBILE LIBRARY in front of the Folly Bistro |
| Sat | 12 | 7-11pm QUIZ NIGHT at the Village Hall.
Email ehvillageevents@gmail.com to book. |
| Sun | 13 | 10am MORNING WORSHIP with healing theme with Geoff Windus at All Saints' Church.
10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church |
| Tue | 15 | BLACK BIN, FOOD WASTE, GREEN BOX, CARD SACK collections
2-4.30pm WI MEETING in the 1 st floor meeting room at the Village Hall. |
| Sun | 20 | 10am HOLY COMMUNION with Rev Jacqui and refreshments afterwards at All Saint's Church.
10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church |
| Tue | 22 | BROWN BIN, FOOD WASTE, PLASTICS & CARTONS, PAPER collections |
| Fri | 25 | SCHOOL CLOSED EHA -inset day |
| Sun | 27 | 10am MORNING WORSHIP with Malcolm and Helen Lyall at All Saints' Church
10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church |

SEPTEMBER CONTINUED

- Tue 29 **BLACK BIN, FOOD WASTE, GREEN BOX, CARD SACK collections**
1.30-2pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** in front of the Folly Bistro

OCTOBER

- Fri 2 **NON-PUPIL DAY Sandon School**
7-9pm **ART EXHIBITION PREVIEW EVENING**
- Sat 3 10am-4pm **ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION & SALE** at the Village Hall plus **PRELOVED BOOKSALE** upstairs,
- Sun 4 9am **HOLY COMMUNION BCP** with Rev Jacqui.
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
11am-3pm **ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION & SALE** at the Village Hall plus **PRELOVED BOOKSALE** upstairs
- Tue 6 **BROWN BIN, FOOD WASTE, PLASTICS & CARTONS, PAPER collections**
- Sun 11 10am **HARVEST FESTIVAL** with John Woodrow at All Saints' Church. Donated food items will go to Chelmsford DBank.
 10am-12noon **LOCAL DOG GET TOGETHER** at Hanna's Field. Organised by Polite Pooches. Dogs must remain on leads.
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 13 **BLACK BIN, FOOD WASTE, GREEN BOX, CARD SACK collections**
- Sat 17 6pm **HARVEST SUPPER** at Bethel Church – Ploughman's & refreshments
- Sun 18 10am **HOLY COMMUNION** with Rev Jacqui and refreshments afterwards at All Saints' Church.
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 20 **BROWN BIN, FOOD WASTE, PLASTICS & CARTONS, PAPER collections**
 1.30-2pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** in front of the Folly Bistro
- Wed 21 1.30-4.30pm **WI MEETING** in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall.
- Fri 23 **BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM EHA & Sandon School**

OCTOBER CONTINUED

- Sun 25 10am **MORNING WORSHIP** with Lesley Watkin at All Saints' Church.
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 27 **BLACK BIN, FOOD WASTE, GREEN BOX, CARD SACK collections**
8-9.30pm **HFC GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING** upstairs at the Village Hall. Please contact the Secretary if you are going to attend.
- Sat 31 5-7pm **HALLOWEEN PARTY** at the Village Hall   

NOVEMBER

- Sun 1 9am **HOLY COMMUNION BCP** with Rev Jacqui, at All Saints' Church.
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Mon 2 **BACK TO SCHOOL EHA & Sandon School**
- Tue 3 **BROWN BIN, FOOD WASTE, PLASTICS & CARTONS, PAPER collections**
- Sun 8 10.50am **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** with Fiona Seldon at the war memorial & All Saints' Church
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 10 **BLACK BIN, FOOD WASTE, GREEN BOX, CARD SACK collections**
 1.30-2pm **MOBILE LIBRARY** in front of the Folly Bistro
- Sun 15 10am **HOLY COMMUNION** with Rev Chris Poulard, with refreshments afterwards, at All Saints' Church
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church
- Tue 17 **BROWN BIN, FOOD WASTE, PLASTICS & CARTONS, PAPER collections**
- Wed 18 1.30-4.30pm **WI MEETING** in the 1st floor meeting room at the Village Hall.
- Sat 21 10am-12noon **TABLE TOP SALE & PRELOVED BOOK SALE** at the Village Hall.
- Sun 22 10am **MORNING WORSHIP** with Andy Horne at All Saints' Church
10.45am **FAMILY SERVICE** at Bethel Church

Tue	24	BLACK BIN, FOOD WASTE, GREEN BOX, CARD SACK collections
Fri	27	NON-PUPIL DAY Sandon School
Sun	29	10am JOINT HILL & VALE SERVICE at All Saints' with Rev Jacqui. 1 st Sunday of Advent. 10.45am FAMILY SERVICE at Bethel Church

PLEASE SEND YOUR DATES FOR THE DIARY TO
editor@easthanningfield-pc.gov.uk

EAST HANNINGFIELD ARCHIVE

If you are already reading the Histories on the Archive website, you will probably be interested to learn that a considerable amount of information concerning the Rectory and the Ost family has been provided by Pat Ost, the younger son of Rev. Desmond Ost. He has written a memoir, for his children and grandchildren, about growing up in East Hanningfield, the greater part of which has been uploaded to the Archive website. Those of us who have been here a while will recognise some of the characters he talks about. Give it a try: it's entertaining as well as informative. e-voice.org.uk/eharchive



Paddy Ost on Jack and Desmond Ost on Bob.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Could You Help Rejuvenate E H Neighbourhood Watch?

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) has an important role in helping keep our village safe. Traditionally, residents on streets or in local areas have passed information about incidents to a village coordinator, who has also shared crime-prevention and community-safety advice from Essex Police and Chelmsford NHW.

Could we make NHW work better for the village today?

The way we communicate has changed, and **locality-based NHW**

WhatsApp groups might provide a quicker, more effective two way process for neighbours to share relevant information for instance: suspicious activity or vehicles, local crime & burglary alerts, bogus callers & dodgy traders as well as receive latest scam/fraud warnings and crime-prevention advice from national NhW & Essex Police. The aim is to create a more active, connected NHW network, with neighbourhood groups sharing information directly rather than everything passing through one central coordinator. WhatsApp groups would not replace contacting the police. Emergencies & crimes in progress must always be reported directly to the police.

A New East Hanningfield Coordinator is Needed

I have coordinated NHW in East Hanningfield for some time, but I can no longer continue in the role. I believe this is a good time for a fresh start—both in how NHW is organised and with new energy and ideas to take it forward. I am therefore looking for someone who would be interested in becoming involved & potentially taking over coordination of EH NHW.

You don't need to be an NHW expert to do this! The national NHW organisation provides excellent support. What is needed is someone who cares about the village, enjoys bringing people together and would like to develop a more modern approach. I am very happy to help with the handover and transition, so the person would not be starting from scratch. There is no continuous round of meetings or reporting involved. We already have an established NHW and police link, and NHW street signs in many areas, an established link to Chelmsford area NhW coordinator and police, and a number of local people involved, so a good foundation going forward.

If you might be interested, or have ideas for improving NHW in East Hanningfield, please get in touch.

Mike Plumridge

East Hanningfield Neighbourhood Watch

 NHWEastHanningfield@outlook.com

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ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

A Season for Remembering ...

I wonder what we will remember about the summer of 2026?

Perhaps it will be a holiday, a day out, our wonderful village fete, the scarecrows that appeared around the village, or catching a glimpse of the solar eclipse. Some moments are quickly forgotten, while others lodge themselves in our memories and months, or years later, we find ourselves saying, “**Do you remember when ...?**”

Perhaps we'll remember the summer for its exceptional heat, the impact on our gardens and fields, hosepipe bans and the increased risk of fires. For our village, that became very real when the devastating fire at Highlands Farm made national news. We are thankful that no lives were lost, but **we remember** those whose workplaces and livelihoods were affected, and all who continue to deal with the aftermath.

Our changing climate **reminds us** that the world around us cannot be forgotten or taken for granted. One of my favourite things each autumn is watching the children from our village school come into church for their Harvest celebration. There is something wonderful about an old church filled with young voices, bringing their gifts and giving thanks for all that we can so easily take for granted: food on our tables, the changing seasons, those who grow and produce what we eat, and the beauty of the world around us.

Perhaps this year's hot summer will also **remind us** of how important it is to care for all that God created, so we can continue to enjoy it and ensure it is passed on to those who come after us.

Then, in November, our remembrance takes on a different meaning as we approach Remembrance Sunday, **to remember** once again those who have served our country - especially those who gave their lives in times of war. It is a poignant and special time for the village to gather around the war memorial at the front of All Saints' Church and observe a time of silence to honour and remember them.

Perhaps this autumn, in all of **our remembering**, we might also take time to remember God – giving thanks for his goodness, for the world he has given us to enjoy and care for and for his love which remains with us through every season.

As this Bible says:

*‘When you have eaten and are satisfied,
praise the Lord your God for the
good land he has given you...
be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God.’
(Deuteronomy 8:10–11)*

Rev'd Jacqui King

01245 961979

revJacquiking@gmail.com

<https://easthanningfieldchurch.chessck.co.uk/>

THE ‘RESIDENTS’ OF THE OLD GRAVEYARD

Just a short note this time to say that the longest known resident of the old churchyard, John Peachye, mentioned in the last News, left a will dated 4 June, 1569, which is in the Essex Record Office. It is written in Secretary Hand, a form of handwriting that can be tricky to read.

John was a yeoman and held land in Latchingdon as well as East Hanningfield where he lived. At his death he had a son John and a daughter Agnes both under 21 years old. There is a baptism for “Annys daughter of John Pecchy” in the EH parish register, dated January 1568/9, so at his death she would have been only a few months old. His wife was Blanche and his sister was another Agnes. He signed his will with his mark with a shaky hand, so he was clearly unwell, and was buried within the month.

EH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

I seem to have chosen the wrong day to write this report, weather wise, it has been very hot of late too hot for gardening, now here I am sitting inside when there is no hot sun in view and it feels quite cool, when I could be tidying up sun burnt plants and shrubs in an attempt to make the house look lived in.

Since my last chat we seem to have been busy. In June we had a lady come to talk to us about eggs. Boring..... I can hear it from here. In actual fact it was very informative, sad at times but hopeful. Some of you may remember Battery Hens where they were cooped up in such small places unable to walk about yet still expected to produce eggs daily with their finale being a Sunday Roast. Thank fully this situation does not exist now. So how do we get our eggs?. they are either Free Range where they wander about outside and have some sort of life, or they are Barn Eggs. This conjures up a nice well lit, clean, large barn. Not always so. Our speaker told us the majority of Barn eggs come from sheds full to capacity with chickens. The sheds are lit all the time as this makes the hens lay more. Feeding time is just as dismal, food and water thrown in on the floor. So, it is the survival of the fittest. After two years they are changed for a fresh load.

There is a Charity that does its best to rehome these chickens in an attempt to make their remaining time in normal surroundings. People like our speaker take them to their home and teach them to be chickens. They have no idea of how to peck in the ground, drink water out of a container or to enjoy the freedom to walk about outside. Just as well as they have usually no feathers due to fighting or stress. Probably not the best subject for a talk we have had over the years but Lynne managed to get the problem over to us without making it sad or sentimental it was what it was. So next time when in the Super market when you reach out to pick up eggs ??????

In July we had a visit from a very nice couple Mr and Mrs Derek Smith, They came from the Essex and Hertfordshire Air Ambulance Service. They joined the team after Mrs Smith had need of the Air Ambulance. The speed of the journey to hospital and the facilities on board enabling Mrs Smith to be treated on the way, saved her life. The couple



Flora manning the WI stall at the 2014 Village Fete

were so thankful that they joined up to help Fundraise The amount of money it costs to keep the service going is phenomenal but it has saved so many lives it keeps the likes of Mr and Mrs Smith working hard to make sure it continues to do so.

It was with sadness that I had to announce the death of a past member of our WI., Mrs Flora Virgoe, I am sure she must have been known by many of the inhabitants of East Hanningfield. Flora lived in Retten-don then moved to East Hanningfield. She loved living in the area and was very sad when health issues meant she needed to be closer to family. Flora loved being a member of the WI, she became President and remained in the post for over 10 years. The W I was like a family to her. When she left to go to Norfolk she said to me 'You will look after my girls won t you?' She was not an easy person to say No to so I said I would give it a try.

Flora is being cremated in Norfolk so her family and friends there can attend. Then at a later date her ashes will be interred with those of her husband in Rettendon Church Yard. I believe most of their married life was spent in Rettendon.

Flora was ill for a long time, when I saw her last year she was very weak but still a beaming smile on her face. She was so happy looking forward to her birthday. Flora will be greatly missed and our members send their condolences to her family.

We also managed to fit in a game of croquet at Malden Croquet Club & a trip to Cressing Temple Barns. Both of which were very enjoyable.

We will meet at Wendy's house on 2nd September. This is our August Meeting a couple of days late and it is a members only meeting. The next Meeting proper is 16th September. The Meeting starts at 2pm in the Village Hall.. I have had a couple of enquiries about our W I so if you would still like to come along why not come on 16th September. You will be most welcome.

I hope you all enjoyed the Summer,
Best Wishes Marlene,



We've all been there. You walk into a room with absolute determination, only to stop dead in your tracks because you have absolutely no idea what you came in for. Or perhaps, like a certain church pastor, who shall remain nameless, you've spent a few minutes frantically using the torch on your smartphone to look under the car seats for... your smartphone.

Being lost is a remarkably humbling human experience. It makes us feel small, a bit silly, and deeply frustrated.

But there is a difference between misplacing your car keys and actually *being* lost. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells a story about a shepherd with a hundred sheep. When one wanders off, he doesn't shrug, calculate a 1% inventory loss, and go home for tea. Instead, he leaves the ninety-nine safe in the open country and scrambles over hills, through briars, and down steep ravines until he finds the single, shivering runaway. He then carries it home on his shoulders, rejoicing.

It's a lovely image, but it's more than a cozy Sunday school story. Today, it is incredibly easy to feel spiritually or emotionally lost—drifted away from purpose, isolated by circumstances, or simply overwhelmed by life's noise. The reassuring core of the Christian faith is that Jesus is still in the search-and-rescue business. He doesn't wait for us to suddenly acquire a perfect sense of direction and navigate our own way

back. He actively seeks us out, inviting us to recognize His voice amidst the clamour of the world and simply follow Him home. No matter how far you feel you've wandered, you are never deemed "not worth the trouble" to the Shepherd.

Bethel Evangelical Church meets every Sunday at 10:45 AM. Whether you feel completely on track or a little bit lost, you are always welcome.

Roydon Hearne

Bethel Church

 roydon.w.hearne@gmail.com



Art Exhibition & Sale

East Hanningfield Village Hall - CM3 8AE

3rd & 4th October 2026 - Sat 10 - 4, Sun 11-3

Local artists, many mediums, affordable prices

Craft stalls, refreshments & preloved book sale

£2 entry fee for charity, children free

PRIMARY ACADEMY

We have enjoyed a truly wonderful summer term at East Hanningfield, filled with exciting opportunities, memorable experiences and many moments to celebrate. It has been a joy to see our children grow in confidence, embrace new challenges and flourish throughout the term. Once again, our children have truly let their light shine, sharing their gifts and talents, showing kindness and courage, and making a positive difference to those around them.

Our Year 6 children had an especially busy and successful term. They enjoyed a fantastic residential trip, where they took part in a wide range of activities and developed their teamwork, resilience and independence skills. It was wonderful to see them supporting one another, trying new things and making memories that they will treasure for years to come.

All of our classes have also enjoyed a school trip this summer term, providing children with exciting opportunities to explore, discover and learn beyond the classroom. These experiences have helped to bring their curriculum learning alive and created wonderful memories for the children to share and enjoy.

We are incredibly proud of how well our Year 6 children performed in their SATs; they worked exceptionally hard, and their determination and positive attitude were fantastic to see. They also put on a wonderful production of *Joseph*, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who watched it!

The children, from EYFS through to Year 6, impressed us with their creativity and confidence, by taking part in an end of term 'East Hanningfield's Got Talent' show. Some children chose to perform as part of a group and some individually; all children showed courage and skill. This talent show has become a real highlight in the school calendar and it was a real pleasure to see the children perform.

In June, a group of children from years 1 to 6 performed at The Civic Theatre. Their performance was just wonderful and a great reflection

of their hard work and talent. You may have seen them performing at The Village Fete in July. If so, I hope you enjoyed the show!

Across the whole school, every child has also taken part in our Courageous Advocacy Project. The children have explored important issues and expressed their ideas and creativity through an amazing collection of artwork. Their work has transformed our communal areas, making our school a more vibrant, inspiring and welcoming place for everyone.





While we are always sad to say goodbye to our Year 6 children, we are incredibly proud of all they have achieved and know that they are ready and excited for the next chapter of their lives. We wish them every happiness and success as they move on to secondary school. At the same time, we are eagerly looking forward to welcoming our new EYFS children and their families in September. We can't wait to meet them and welcome them to the East Hanningfield family.

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding year, I would like to thank our children, families, staff and the wider village community for their continued support. We wish everyone a happy and restful summer and look forward to all that the new school year will bring!

Kind regards,

Mrs L. Stainsbury

(Headteacher, East Hanningfield CofE Primary Academy)

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A NIGHT IN LONDON, NEW FACES AND NEW PRODUCTS!

INTERNATIONAL SAFETY AWARDS



'TEAM OF THE YEAR' FINALISTS

It's been another busy month here at J Gard & Sons, with an exciting awards evening, some new additions to the team and a couple of much-requested products arriving in the yard.

Last month, a few members of our team swapped their usual hi-vis for their glad rags and headed to London for the *International Safety Awards*! We were incredibly proud to be shortlisted as finalists for 'Team of the Year', recognising the work that goes on behind the scenes to improve health, safety and wellbeing across our site.

We may not have brought the trophy home, but being shortlisted alongside the likes of Manchester Airport and Arsenal Football Club felt like a pretty big win to us - It's a brilliant achievement and we couldn't be prouder of our team behind it!

NEW FACES



Back home in East Hanningfield, the team has also been growing! Over the past month we've welcomed several new yard assistants and delivery drivers. These extra pairs of hands are helping us take on more orders, increase delivery capacity and reduce lead times, while continuing the **super friendly and reliable service** our customers expect. If you spot a new face around the yard or behind the wheel of one of our lorries, be sure to say hello!

NEW PRODUCTS



We've also added **two brand new products** following customer requests: Teak Composite Slatted Cladding and Aluzinc-Coated Gabion Baskets!

One benefit of being an independent local business is that we listen and respond to what our customers need. If there's enough demand, we'll do our best to stock it - and if it isn't in the yard, we'll always try to source it!



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The Village Hall, East Hanningfield, Essex, CM3 8AE



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