



TRIDENT

December 2020

photo Nick Rix

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THE TRIDENT

Published on behalf of the Anglican Churches
of Eynsford, Farningham and Lullingstone
by the PCC of St Martin's Eynsford
www.efl-churches.org

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Please keep articles to 400 words,
one page, and sign them as
anonymous items will not be
published

Copy by the

12th

For the next issue
please

**Cover photos (portrait format)
very welcome to
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Further copies can usually be obtained from the Newsagents or the
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We thank those who have chosen to pay for advertising space in this
magazine, however we cannot guarantee the accuracy of any statement,
nor any of the products or services advertised.

From the Editor

Hello all from Lockdown: 2. This edition is being made available online only but we hope that the next issue will be printed as usual and out before Christmas.

Thank you to all the contributors - lots of varied and interesting articles this month with some fun stuff to keep you amused too.

Linda Cronin, who puts together the covers for the Trident is always on the lookout for good quality photographs to use. They need to be 'portrait' format and of a high quality - ideally taken with a camera and not a phone. Send any that you think might be suitable to linda.cronin55@gmail.com.

Lots of Christmas events are going to be online this year. The Anthony Roper Christmas Fair will be a bit different, and mainly through their facebook page. St Martin's are selling raffle tickets, but are unable to hold their normal event. We are also looking forward to seeing the delayed village fireworks on 5th December. Hopefully people have had enough warning to prepare their pets for this.

Its great to see more and more green initiatives in our villages. In addition to Eynsford's Green Team and the school's Eco Team, St Martin's have set up a recycling scheme and there is a new food swap group on facebook. We can all work together to make a difference.

Thank you to those who look after others in our community, whether its checking on your neighbours, helping with shopping, or as carers. Also to our teachers and those that look after our children. Thank you also to our local businesses, do support them if you can, and the pubs when they can open again.

Holly Ivaldi, Editor.

Join www.easyfundraising.org.uk and raise money for the churches as you shop on line. Donate to St Martin's Church, Eynsford, Farningham or Lullingstone Church

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For baptisms, weddings, funerals and churchyard please contact the
Associate Rector

Services for the Benefice of Eynsford, Farningham and Lullingstone

Eynsford

8.00 am

A quiet, reflective communion service on -1st and 3rd Sundays

9.30 am

All Age Communion with Sunday School

Farningham

11.00 am

Morning worship on 1st & 3rd Sundays
2nd & 4th Sundays, Holy Communion
children's activities during the communion service.

Lullingstone

11.00 am

A traditional service using the Book of Common Prayer
Holy Communion on the 3rd Sunday
Sunday School during the Service on the 4th Sunday

Joint service in the Benefice when there is a 5th Sunday in the
month.

Mid-week services

Wednesdays - Morning Prayer with Litany in Lullingstone; 9.30am
Friday - Communion in Eynsford; 9.30am

From the Ministry Team

We will soon be celebrating Christmas. As I'm writing this, we are in a second lockdown, not knowing what sort of Christmas we will be able to celebrate. The year has certainly been a very uncertain one, and from where we are now there are no guarantees that 2021 will be much different.

As we look at the nativity story, which for Christians is the focal point of the Christmas season, we see uncertainties faced by Mary and Joseph.

The Gospel accounts of Matthew and Luke tell us that Jesus was born to a young woman called Mary who was engaged to Joseph, a carpenter. In Luke's account Mary was visited by an angel who told her that she would give birth to God's son. This must have been mind-blowing, but Mary accepted what she heard and trusted God. In Matthew's account Joseph was visited by an angel who persuaded him to marry Mary rather than send her away due to her being pregnant. Joseph stuck by her, not knowing what lay ahead. He put his trust in God too.

According to tradition, Joseph and Mary travelled to Bethlehem shortly before Jesus' birth, as Joseph had been ordered to take part in a census in his home town. He had to return to have their names entered in the Roman records for tax reasons. Joseph and Mary set off on the long, difficult 90-mile journey from Nazareth, past Jerusalem to Bethlehem. Mary travelled on a donkey as she was close to giving birth. Neither of them knew what lay ahead of them. When they arrived in Bethlehem the local inn was already full with people returning for the census. The innkeeper let them stay in the rock cave below his house which was used as a stable for his animals.

Mary may have spent time during her pregnancy imagining the day when she would give birth to her child, but most likely never envisaged this event taking place alongside the noise and smell of the animals that surrounded her! It was here where she gave birth to Jesus, God's Son, and she laid him in a manger, a trough where the animals' fodder was kept.

None of us know what's around the corner. It can be scary and worrying. But whatever situation in which we find ourselves this Christmas and afterwards, let's do our best to have the mindset of Mary and Joseph. Let's have faith and put our trust in God, because he is always with us and he definitely has the bigger picture.

Tina Watson

News from Church

Sunday Services

We are praying that by Sunday 6 December we will once more be able to meet in our churches for Sunday services, in which case Church Services will be at the normal times: 9:30 at St Martin's, 11 am at St Peter & St Paul's and St Botolph's. Additionally, the 8am service of said Holy Communion at St Martin's will resume on 6 December and be held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

Advent and Christmas

Lights of Love

On Sunday 6 December we plan to light the "Lights of Love" Christmas trees, hopefully in the Sunday Services at Eynsford and Farningham but if not then we will do it virtually by recording the service and uploading it to YouTube, making the link as widely available as possible via posters, on the website and on our Facebook page. We hope to open St Martin's for private prayer and for people to come and see the Lights of Love lit during Advent.

Christingle

We are also planning to have a virtual Christingle as well as the service in church if lockdown has been lifted. This will also be on Sunday 6 December.

Carol Services.

As it is likely that we will still not be able to have congregational singing after lockdown we are making plans to record Carol services including the traditional lessons and Carols to upload to YouTube for you to enjoy in your homes.

For information on these look out for posters at our churches, on our website and Facebook page. In order to make sure you don't miss out on information, why not like our Facebook page and automatically receive updates on your personal Facebook page.

Christmas Eve Service

First Holy Communion of Christmas, 24 December at 11.15pm in St Peter & St Paul's, Farningham.

If you have been married or have been involved in a baptism or funeral in the benefice, we would love to include a report in a future issue.

Send any information to efltrident@yahoo.com

Christmas Day Services

St Martin's, Eynsford: Family Service with Holy Communion, 9.30am

St Botolph's, Lullingstone: Holy Communion, 11am

Prayer

Prayer for the Nation - A month of Prayer

Prayer is so important and even more so during these difficult and uncertain times. The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have called us to pray every evening at 6pm for the month of lockdown. You can view a daily prayer resource on our Facebook page.

Benefice Monthly Prayer Meeting

The next Benefice monthly prayer meeting will be via Zoom on Monday 14th December at 7.30pm. An invitation to join this meeting will be sent nearer the time. If you don't receive an email and would like to join, please email Tina at the office eflooffice3@gmail.com



Prayer during the Day - Thursdays and Saturdays at 12 noon

We are continuing with Prayer during the Day to give people the opportunity to meet together twice a week (Thursdays and Saturdays at 12 noon) via Zoom to spend time together with God. All are very welcome to join when you can (you will need a Zoom invitation). If you would like to be part of these prayer events and haven't received a Zoom invitation please contact the benefice office at eflooffice3@gmail.com

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Ministry Team are happy to pray for anyone who would like prayer and perhaps would normally receive ministry during Communion services. Members of the team can offer personal prayer over the phone or via Zoom as well. Please contact Tina via email eflooffice3@gmail.com if you have a prayer request and the team will pray for you.

Home Groups

Our home groups are following a new course designed by the Bible Society called "The Bible Course," which is proving to be popular. It's a great way to get to see the BIG picture and discover how the Bible applies to your life in an interactive journey through the whole Bible story. We are continuing to meet via Zoom. If you'd be interested in joining one of our home groups please email Tina eflooffice3@gmail.com



**St Martin's
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All proceeds to the upkeep of St Martin's Church

St Martin's - Eco Church!

Following agreement with the PCC, St Martin's Church has recently registered as an Eco Church and, as part of this initiative, we are supporting a local recycling scheme for lots of those single use plastics which **cannot** currently be put in the clear sacks. Once Sunday services resume again, a sack will be available at the end of each service to collect the following items:

- * All brands of crisp packets (not pretzels/ popcorn)
- * Pringles branded tubes , lids and seals
- * All brands of baby food pouches, lids and snack packets eg Ella's brand
- * All brands of skin care and beauty plastic packaging eg roll on deodorants, skin wipe packets, plastic pumps from soap dispensers, hair/ face mask packets
- * All brands of non-savoury biscuit, cracker and cake plastic wrappers

Each week, the plastic we collect will be taken to the collection point at Hope Church, Sevenoaks, where any money raised from the scheme will go to support the local charity Kent Baby Matters.

Julie Clark

St Martin's Church Lights of Love

I'm pleased to announce that the Lights of Love will still be shining in St Martin's Church this Christmas. Arrangements will be a little different to accommodate lockdown restrictions, but the plan is still to switch on the lights during the service on Sunday 6th December. We are hoping that restrictions may also ease sufficiently to allow us to open the Church during Advent for private prayer sessions and to view the discs. If you would like a loved one remembered on a silver disc please complete the envelope enclosed in this month's Trident or pick one up from either Norman's Butchers or The Sweet Shop. We ask for a donation of £5 per disc, with all money raised going to the upkeep of the Church building and Churchyard.

Thank you, Julie Clark

St Martin's Churchyard

Several people have grassed over the graves of family members, thus enabling the groundsmen to cut the grass regularly. It is beginning to look so much better, cared for and loved in St Martin's Churchyard. Please consider whether you could make it easier for others to care for and maintain yours in the years to come. If you would like advice and help to organise, level and grass it, please contact the Benefice office 863050, or email eflooffice3@gmail.com

Darent Valley Community Church have very good memories of our church services in Eynsford Castle during August and September. It was such a beautiful setting and we had lovely weather almost every Sunday. It was especially good to have people from the villages and from other churches joining with us to worship together. We are grateful to English Heritage for letting us use the castle. We were disappointed to have to meet indoors once the weather changed but so pleased that Anthony Roper School made provision for us to safely use the school again. But sadly we have had to revert to Zoom meetings because of the latest lockdown.



Sharing God's Love

Last Sunday, Steve Boddington, who is a clinical psychologist and a member of our church, talked about looking after our mental health which is especially relevant when we are all facing the restrictions of another lockdown. He mentioned the necessity of exercise and eating properly and we all know how much better we feel when we walk in the fresh air and focus on the beautiful countryside around us. Having conversations with family and friends and making sure we don't cut ourselves off from people during this restrictive time is also important.

The Bible talks about thinking about good things and not being overwhelmed with our fears in Philippians 4 verse 8

Isaiah 26 verse 3 says, "You keep in perfect peace those whose mind is stayed on you because he trusts in him."

God wants us to come to him and talk to him about our worries and fears. He is a caring God who loves us.

There is another verse too taken from a modern translation of the Bible. It says....

"Trust God from the bottom of your heart, don't try to figure out everything you do, everywhere you go. He is the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume you know it all. Run to God! "

Proverbs 3 verse 6 from the Message Bible.

If you want to know more or join us on our Zoom meetings please go to our web site www.dvcc.online

Angela Giannoni

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rccgracecenter1@gmail.com Olufunsho Adepoju Olu for short.

A real Christmas or a merry Christmas

Isaiah 9 v 6

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon his shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

This Christmas we might not have as many minced pies or turkey and the usual merriment that comes with Christmas due to the global pandemic. That notwithstanding, the question to ask oneself is..

Is Jesus real to me?

Do I only remember him when I see the nativity plays?

Or is he my wonderful counsellor that I consult before I make a decision? Is he my Everlasting father or a father Christmas? Have I received him and thus have this peace only him can give even in the global storms. If Jesus is not real to us, this Christmas calls for reflection. He has to be real to us everyday not just Christmas.

Put your trust in him today and your life will never be the same again. This is because in Christ Jesus we are guaranteed an abundant life.

We are worshipping online via zoom due to the lockdown please join us @11am on Sundays

Meeting ID 76994924852 Password qQ4ESg

Or you can call us for the link code.

Congratulations to Rev Dorothy McGarvey on her appointment as the rector for the Benefice of Eynsford. God will fill you with wisdom and strength for the assignment.

Thanks to Holly and her team for all the hard work they put into trident.

Merry Christmas and a blessed new year to everyone despite the lockdown let us be strong & kind as we stay safe.

If you feel all alone please call our no for assistance .



EYNSFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

As we move into the last month of the year, the question that many will be thinking about is, 'what sort of Christmas will be having?' The message of social distancing is hardly conducive to family gatherings and celebrations. This fact provides a strong incentive for us all to do as much as we can to bring the Covid virus under control now before we get there. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are struggling at this time, those who are involved in caring for others and those involved in education and essential services.



On October 23rd we were pleased that our church was used for a wedding service. The only event for many months! Only fifteen people were allowed to attend, spaced well apart and wearing masks. With the use of video technology others witnessed the ceremony from afar both in real-time and afterwards. We look forward to the time when there will once-again be regular Sunday worship and mid-week gatherings for those in the community. But for the meantime, sadly, all of these continue to be on hold. So, now is a season of *waiting* for life to return to normal.

Advent, the run-up to Christmas is a season when Christians think about the coming of Jesus Christ. It has a twin focus. The first focus is the coming of Jesus as Emmanuel, God with us as a human being to live the perfect life of service and sacrifice. The second focus is the promise of his glorious return. So, in that sense, Advent is also a *waiting* season when we are reminded that we *wait* for the consummation of history.

We take encouragement from words spoken after the resurrection and ascension:

This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11

This is a wonderful promise and good things are worth waiting and preparing for. That applies to both the end of Covid-19 pandemic *and the promise of Jesus' return.*

Chris Moffett

Edith Elizabeth Schlund
31st March 1926 - 1st January 2019

George Frederick Thomas Schlund
9th February 1926 - 1st July 2020

Jennifer Ann Woodhouse
29th July 1955 - 27th August 2020



We are very sad to announce the loss of Edith, George and Jennifer. The Schlunds came to live in Pollyhaugh, Eynsford in 1957. Jennifer and I grew up starting at Eynsford Primary School making many friends, we joined many village activities including brownies, guides, dancing lessons, music and much more.

George Schlund, an engineer educated at Brackley College, Oxford, continued on to build a family business in Leigh. He was known and liked by many in the village, always there to give a hand and to help his neighbours.

Edith spent many years supporting village life, she was a member of the Women's Institute, Mothers' Union and the Choir, attending St Martin's Church where she was confirmed. Edith also helped with the village playground for under 5s and supported endless fetes and fairs and sometimes held coffee mornings. Edith, among many other things, found time to site with quite a few ladies in the village, helping them learn to drive. In later years she became a member of the ladies Probus.

George and Edith moved in 1980 to our family home in Sparepenny Lane, where they continued to work and enjoy their retirement. My sister Jennifer

came to live with them in 2013 and continued her work as a Dialysis Specialist Nurse at Maidstone hospital, whilst being a renal patient herself. Jennifer retired to take care of Mother and Father even though she was in poor health herself.

We all enjoyed life to the full and now Jennifer's son Howard and his family continue to live at Sydenham Cottage with her grandchildren enjoying growing up in Eynsford.

George, Edith and Jennifer will remain in the village they loved so much by joining their friends in the rose garden at St Martin's Church.

Erica Allen nee Schlund.

Linda Irene Vincent - 31st December 1939 - 1st September 2020

Linda was born in Bermondsey and spent a very happy childhood there and many summers in Kent hop-picking with her mum, dad and older brother Rob. They were joined by nanny Tree, aunts, and cousins who were to play a big part in Linda's life after her mum passed away. Their home was bombed during The Blitz, so the family moved in with nanny Tree.

Linda was 16 when she met her future husband John at a dance studio above Burton's gentleman's outfitters. In 1960 John and Linda were married at Shooters Hill. John struggled up the aisle after he injured his leg in a rugby tackle. Linda and John loved sport, with a great passion for skiing in the Alps for the next 40 years.

During the earlier years of their marriage they lived and worked in Freeport in the Bahamas, a son was born but tragically he died in an accident but he was always in Linda's thoughts.

The family moved back to London to rebuild their shattered lives and in 1972 they were blessed with another son. She was a very devoted mum and very proud of her two sons Shaun and Matthew. She was a massive Liverpool FC fan. All the family loved and played rugby and now the grandchildren are following in their footsteps.

They moved to Farningham forty years ago and soon became immersed in Village Life. John set up his office in London, he was a very successful Quantity Surveyor, Linda was always supportive and soon got the company office on it's feet with her whip sharp management skills. They were both wonderful friends to have and her many friends miss her very much.

Veronica Sheppard

Nora May Duncombe (née Clay) **14 March 1928 – 21 February 2020**

Nora was born in Ashby-de-la-Zouch and attended the Grammar School there. She then went to the Midland Agricultural College and graduated with a London University degree in Agriculture.

She spent a year farming in Denmark and then obtained a post in the National Institute for Research in Dairying (associated with Reading University). There she met Wilfrid who was already working there and about a year later they were married.

She had to leave with the arrival of two children, and a few years later Wilfrid joined the Wellcome Research Laboratories at Beckenham and the family moved into the newly built house at 19 Pollyhaugh, Eynsford.



She was busy in house and garden with the arrival of two more children, and holidays were usually camping abroad. She was soon drawn into village affairs. For many years she was a stalwart of the Scout Group, raising funds by hiring out their marquee (and drying it when it came back wet) and running a Donkey Derby at the annual Scout Fete. Manual labour was cleaning used bricks to be used for the new Scout Hut. Other activities included the WI (president twice), the local Guide Group and the WRVS, for which she received an award. Spare time could be used for Keep Fit and Scottish dancing, and English Country Dancing with Wilfrid.

For the last few years she was in a care home at Darenth and she died there in February this year.

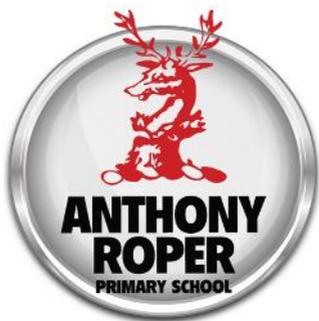
Wilfred Duncombe

Children born between 1st September, 2016 and August 31st, 2017 are due to start school in September, 2021.

You are invited to visit us on a virtual tour which will go live in November 2020 on the school website. If you have any further questions, please email the school.

Deadline for admission forms at kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions is Friday, 15th January, 2021

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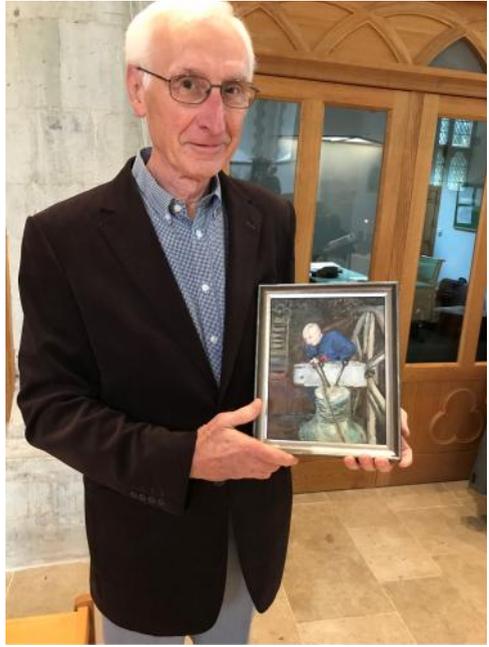
David Hilling - Bellringer Extraordinaire!

David came to Eynsford from Reading in 1984. By this time he was already an accomplished bell ringer. In the next decade he spent three years in Hong Kong, working for the Bank of America but returned to the village and became a tower captain in 1992. Bellringing is a bit of a numbers game and it is my estimate that since that time David has led to 2-3000 sessions in the Bell Tower.

The tower captain plays a crucial role in keeping the bellringers together. He organises the sessions, make sure there are enough ringers, liaises with the church in relation to weddings and funerals, chooses the methods. It is a vital role and is one of the crucial leadership roles that allow us to have such a rich life in Eynsford.

Although tower captain in Eynsford was David's premier role, he also had a lesser role as tower captain of Westminster Abbey! David would often shoot off after services in Eynsford or Farningham, to ring at the 11 o'clock service in London. He rang at royal weddings and funerals. I remember that for Kate and William's wedding it was David's idea to get a camera shot of the bells ringing, from above the bells -you may remember it? He also told us about the funerals when the duty was to toll a single bell very slowly. This is quite a skill and in order to make sure it didn't go wrong they put to bell ringers in the belfry to catch the bell at the top of its swing, so that it would not topple over the at the wrong moment.

David was an exacting taskmaster in the bell tower! I am a doctor and often admit people to hospital with chest pain. Quite often we cannot find the cause of the chest pain. Under these circumstances I often explain to the patients that chest pain can be caused by stress. As an example, I tell them about how I got



David Hilling, our belltower Captain, is leaving the village after 36 years. Caroline Gould painted a special picture of David in a church belltower, which was presented to him following the service in St Martin's Church on October 18th. Prior to the presentation, Dr Jack Barker expressed our appreciation of his time here.

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chest pain in the tower when put under pressure by our tower captain! At one stage I thought I had developed rheumatoid arthritis because I was waking up with painful hands after gripping the bell rope so tightly.

After a 30 year contributions it is good to look back at what David's legacy has been. He has taught a considerable number of bellringers to variable effect Mark Baldwin. He taught his own family to ring. He is particularly proud of his son Matthew who learned to ring at Eynsford. Every year, the most prestigious event in the bellringing calendar is the national 12-Bell ringing competition. This is a tournament between the great cathedrals and their bellringing teams. Last year, for the first time, it was won by Exeter Cathedral - tower captain one Mathew Hilling, ex-St.Martin's and Anthony Roper!

David initiated the Eynsford and Farningham Church Bell Fund and in 2008 he arranged for the bells in Farningham to be refurbished. They were taken out completely and sent off to Whitechapel for repair, cleaning and tuning. The project cost £36,000. The bells are now in very good condition. The last major service had taken place more than 100 years previously and we hope this service will last another hundred years. David has also made sure the bells and ropes in Eynsford have been well maintained.

Dr Jack Barker

VILLAGE FIREWORKS POSTPONED TO 5TH DECEMBER AT 7PM

Scuppered! We have no choice but to postpone the Fireworks Show on Saturday. The government restrictions make it impossible to set them off whilst complying with the guidelines: we could not think of any way of running the show without breaking the law.

The good news is that we plan to have the Fireworks Show on the 5th December to recognise Guy Fawkes and to celebrate the end of lockdown, which in itself will be a celebration.

Please continue to donate as we will be able to give even more to the EFL community

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Richard Frankson





Farningham Parish Council met via a video link on Wednesday, 4th November 2020, and present were six parish councillors (including Sevenoaks District Councillor Philip McGarvey), Kent County Councillor Roger Gough, four members of the public and the Clerk Jane Gray.

End of an era:

Our Clerk, Jane Gray, will bring the curtain down on 29 years' service to our village when she attends her final parish council meeting on December 2. Jane has decided to take a well-earned retirement and with husband Ian plans to spend more time with their two sons and families, which include five grandchildren. Jane was first appointed Clerk in 1986 and after nine years left the post only to return five years later. Jane has worked for nine different chairmen and women and says giving advice and helping people in the village has given her the most enjoyment. I'm sure all parishioners - those in Eynsford as well as Farningham - will want to join with us in thanking Jane for her selfless service and to wish her and the family all the very best for the future. We are in the process of making a formal offer to a new Clerk and hope that she will be in place before Jane leaves. Further details will follow next month.

New Parish Councillor:

Sam Pointer has been co-opted onto the parish council. Sam has lived in Farningham for seven years and has a strong interest in heritage and restoration. We were delighted to have such a strong interest in the position and sincerely thank all those who made themselves available. It is gratifying to know that villagers are interested in what the parish council does and we welcome public participation in our meetings.

Friends of Farningham:

A big thank-you is due to all those who attended our twice monthly meetings. Our hard work has not gone unnoticed and residents have remarked on how neat and tidy the village looks. All being well we plan to start the 2021 season in March. Stay safe everyone and winter well.

Christmas tree in village:

We investigated the possibility of adding festive spirit to the centre of the village but in the end time – it was necessary to place orders two months in advance – got away from us and it was not possible to meet all the necessary

health and safety requirements. We will look at this again early in the New Year and all being well will have a decorated tree in place for Christmas 2021.

CCTV in the High Street:

We looked long and hard at the possibility of enhancing CCTV coverage in the High Street but technical and financial issues mean we do not intend to proceed at this stage. Good information has been gained and the project will be looked at again if there is further interest from parishioners and local businesses.

County Councillor's report:

Although the situation is much improved, KCC's Roger Gough outlined further work needed to try and eradicate the flooding issues in Eynsford Road. He also said KCC were actively looking at the situation on public footpath SD192 (Beesfield Lane) following an escalation of nuisance motorcycles on this path.

Vehicle electric charging point:

Thanks to those who responded to our on-line survey about the possibility of a vehicle charging point in the village. Kent County Council has initiated this discussion and the car park at Farningham Village Hall is the only place we may be able to make an installation. Discussions will now take place with the village hall management committee.

Regular updates:

If you would like more regular updates from Farningham Parish Council they are available on Facebook, Twitter or by email. For email updates please sign up on the home page of our website: www.farninghamparishcouncil.org to be added to the circulation list; Facebook link is [Www.facebook.com/farninghampc](https://www.facebook.com/farninghampc); Twitter @FarninghamPC

Next meeting:

We meet next on Wednesday, 2nd December, 7pm via the Zoom video link. Anyone wishing to join in can obtain details from the Clerk.

Cllr. Carol Salmon

Jane Gray: Recollections of 29 years as Farningham Parish Council's Clerk: (1986 to 1995, and 2000 to 2020)

We had been living in Hillside for less than a year when my mother in law, Sylvia, presented me with a cutting from the Kentish Times local paper entitled 'Clerk to the Council; Annual Salary £1,000' and she said 'you could do that' though I wasn't looking for a job! Having worked in local government before our sons were born I decided to apply and was interviewed by Councillors, Dr. Wilfrid Harding, Norman Drew, Doug Atkins and Ted Saxton at Bridge Cottage and was offered the role. I was under thirty at the time and they all seemed so much older than I, but in truth were probably younger than I am now.

I met my predecessor twice, Brian Philpott, he lived in Orpington and had been in post for over twenty five years; it seems a role hard to give up. I inherited an electric typewriter from Brian which I used on the dining room table, and a four drawer filing cabinet which was kept in our bedroom. Having the house extended in 1991 was a godsend as I created an office in the spare bedroom and at least I could then shut it all away. Agendas and minutes of meetings were, until email became available, delivered by hand to each Councillor.

My first duty as Clerk was attending the official opening of Farningham Woods Nature Reserve and I managed to get a photograph of our then, four year old son James, getting Sir David Attenborough's autograph on the newly prepared Farningham Woods leaflet.

The thriving village had two general grocers' shops (The Bull Stores and Wakelys), the butchers, The Old Forge Hardware shop, two ladies hairdressers, a barber shop, Sparrows Hearne (craft shop), Spon Smith (restaurant), a Post Office/newsagents, two antique shops, a bank and a Working Mens' Club. Once I took our two young boys into the Darenth Valley Battery Service (46 High Street) and there was an odd array of electrical stuff as well as jewellery and videos; I couldn't find anything to buy. There was a Folk Club in the Pied Bull's Coach House which was open two nights a week and good place to meet up with local families to experience live music

Early in my Clerkship Cllrs Dr Harding and Drew represented the Parish Council at the Public Inquiry for Pedham Place, a proposed site for a Motorway Service Area on the fairly newly built M25. They were jubilant that they were successful and the Clackett Lane site was the closest one chosen. A small Parish Council had triumphed in its opposition and had been fortunate to secure the legal expertise of a well respected and young Francis Tibbalds. His fee was a token of what he would usually have charged though it was a surprise to me

preparing the cheque.

Some successful projects:

- Centenary Court was built in White Post Hill under the ‘Village Homes for Village People’ scheme. Since then the Farningham Hotel has also been converted to shared ownership dwellings.
- Following a bequest of land to the PC from the late Jessica Albery, Irving’s Corner was created and is still maintained by the PC as a place to relax in river-side setting
- 77 questionnaires completed by parishioners were hand delivered to Kent County Council’s Maidstone office in March 2019 to try to and get the footpath (part of the Darent Valley Path) recognised and registered as a designated public right of way. Unfortunately there is a very very long wait for applications to be dealt with.
- We were fortunate to get new Yorkstone and brick pavements laid in the late 1980s, funded by Sevenoaks District Council. These pavements in our village are much admired and do so much to make Farningham’s High Street attractive.
- The Parish Council owns and maintains the street lighting columns and lanterns and pays for the electricity. These have been modernised with LED’s, undergone complete refurbishment and have all just been repainted further enhancing the village.
- The Ancient Cattle Screen which spans the river Darent was in a poor state of repair and in 2010 the Parish Council (with particular thanks due to Councillor Malcolm Gale) was successful in securing a Heritage Lottery Fund grant for a £50,000 to repair and conserve this iconic Listed structure.

Over the years I have met some lovely people and helping parishioners, has for me been the most enjoyable part of the role. Over that time I have served nearly forty Parish Councillors. I consider we have been lucky to have secured the help and support (including financial support via Members’ Grants) and friendship from Kent County Councillors, and particularly David Brazier and then Roger Gough, who has been a very good friend to Farningham. While looking back over 29 years, one thing really struck me which is that though village life has changed and some familiar faces of parishioners have come and gone, there has always been a strong sense of pride and community which makes Farningham a special place to live and I am glad to have had the privilege to serve you.

Jame Gray

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Farningham and Eynsford Local History Society

Farningham and Eynsford Local History Society has just set up a Facebook Page @felhs.1985. As we have had to postpone or cancel our events and talks this year due to COVID we still wanted to share with everyone items that are in our archive and other matters that relate to the local history of the area. In the coming weeks and months, we hope to post photos and articles that will be of interest to our followers whilst we can't meet up in person. Do search us out and give us a Like. If you have any suggestions of items that you would like to see on the page please email us at info@felhs.org.uk

Vikki Saunders

Although unable to open the centre to visitors we still welcome any enquiries via archives@felhs.org.uk. Our website contains information about the Society and past bulletins which have many interesting articles. www.felhs.org.uk

Helen Smith

Eynsford and Farningham Ladies' Probus

Another month, another lockdown! Are we able to cope better? I'm not sure of the answer to that or have we become accustomed to this very different way of life.

But maybe there is light at the end of the tunnel with news arriving of a vaccine.

As expected our December meeting is cancelled. We were expecting Dr Stuart Field to come to speak to us on the work of the charity 'Porchlight.' Porchlight is Kent's largest charity for homeless and vulnerable people. It's a charity that has been particularly active during this pandemic. The ladies will be receiving a message asking if they wish to donate to this charity- the usual practice at our December meeting. The expected fee for the speaker will also be paid.

If any readers of Trident want to know more about Porchlight their website is porchlight.org.uk. We would be very happy if anyone wanted to add to our donations. Just put cash or a cheque made out to Porchlight in an envelope and post through Sally Coston's letter box at The Cottage, High Street, Eynsford.

Let's hope 2021 brings a more optimistic future. 2020 has certainly put the important things in life into perspective.

Gill Govus

Eynsford Parish Council

The Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford DA4 0AY
01322 865320, info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk

Eynsford Parish Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please telephone first to ensure someone is there.



Although the office is closed to the public during this second lockdown, the council's work continues.

We were grateful that four strong candidates applied for the casual vacancy on the parish council, and we were delighted to co-opt Wendy Gee to join our other councillors. You can find out a bit more about Wendy in our parish newsletter that will be with you soon, and we look forward to working with her.

Thank you to Sarah Boyle for laying flowers on behalf of the council on Remembrance Sunday. This year we opted for flowers rather than a poppy wreath, as a plastic-free option, but will still be making a donation to the Royal British Legion as usual.

We continue to make improvements around the village, and repairs recently carried out, or scheduled include: replacing the spring on the gate to the playground at Harrow Meadow; replacing the wooden edging to the safer surfacing at the playground; repairs to the noticeboard at the car park; repairs to the fence at Common Meadow; repairs to the posts at the war memorial, and more. We are also having an additional bin installed at Riverside to help with the littering problem during the summer months.

We recently raised the crowns of several field maples on Common Meadow near to the cricket pavilion. We have also agreed to the planting of a memorial tree for Eric Syddique who served as both a parish and district councillor for many years.

We recently met with allotment tenants to discuss the setting up of an allotment society or association. We were supportive of the proposal and hope that this scheme is successful. The council has also agreed to an extension of the allotment site to add seven more plots. This will help to shorten the waiting list which currently has twelve names on it!

Thank you to everyone who has been donating their used crisp packets. We recently took eight bin bags full of them to the Eco Pantry where they were collected by the charity Kent Baby Matters to be recycled. Do continue to bring them in. If the office is closed you can put them straight into the green wheelie bin outside the office (but no other rubbish please).

We are also investigating places in the village that might benefit from additional tree or hedge planting. To start with, a short length of hedging will be put in behind Bank Cottages where two dangerous trees were recently removed.

The council's Green Team has created a survey about green issues in the village that will go out to all household in Eynsford shortly. Please take the time to complete and return it. Eynsford residents should also have received a Local Needs Housing survey. Please complete and return this form too. It could help local people to stay in our village.

Next month we will be discussing the budget for the next financial year and deciding on the precept we require. The process includes deciding on work that needs to be done, whether in the next year, or whether we need to save for a few years for more expensive projects. Other costs stay more or less the same from year to year, and sometimes we have one off projects or events to plan for. All councillors have an opportunity to put forward their views and ideas, and often compromises have to be found. It will be interesting to see how this works on Zoom rather than around a table!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who are again 'on duty' during this second lockdown for those who need help with shopping and other errands. We are very grateful for their help. We hope at some point to be able to organise some sort of celebration event when this is all over.

We recently changed phone supplier in the parish office which ended up being more trouble than it was worth and left us with no phone line or internet connection for two weeks! Luckily we were able to work from home for some of the time to minimise the disruption. However, I am sure you know how frustrating things like this are....

Once lockdown is over, you will be able to visit the office again for bin bags, garden sacks and other services. Please ensure you are wearing a mask. You will need to sign in via the Test and Trace app or in our record book.

I wish Jane Gray, Farningham's Clerk, all the best in her retirement. It really is a full time job, even if the hours are only part time! We look forward to working with the person who takes over the role.

Holly Ivaldi, Clerk

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Farningham Cricket Club

For so many this has been a very tough year.

Nobody knows what is on the horizon for 2021 but we are very hopeful and with that in mind we are looking for sponsors for the season. However, this time we are running things a little differently. For just £10 your firm could be our new shirt sponsor, the junior team sponsor or our match day sponsor. There are other great prizes to be won as well, which will not only help us but we hope will give you some great coverage to our memberships and within the locality to help your business.

We are selling tickets for a prize draw at £10 a ticket and we hope that this will garner great interest for the club and help raise so much needed funds. You are more than welcome to buy more than one ticket as well to increase your chances of winning!

1st Prize – Senior team shirt sponsor (arm/back) along with social media support and advertising.

2nd Prize – Junior team main sponsor (main shirt sponsor) along with email and social media support and advertising.

3rd Prize – Match day sponsor to include a ground banner team sheet social media advertising and posters in the bar.

4th Prize – Ground banner and social media support and advertising.

5th Prize – Social media support and advertising.

We really hope that this is an affordable option for local businesses (with the on-going issues with Covid) to help support us to be there for you and the local community that we support with much needed outdoors and community sport.

If you would like to discuss further or take part in the draw please let me know by emailing me on Secretary@farninghamcc.co.uk

Barbara Hucker, Secretary, Farningham Cricket Club

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Farningham and Eynsford Local History Society

Family Heirlooms

Families often have items passed down from previous generations the origins of which become lost in time. From my mother's family, for example, I inherited a silk handkerchief mourning the death in August 1821 of Queen Caroline, the estranged wife of George IV. She had tried to attend the coronation of George IV, but had been barred from entering Westminster Abbey. Shortly after she fell ill and died within three weeks. There were all sorts of conspiracy theories surrounding her death, which roused passions reminiscent of the death of Princess Diana, and the handkerchief was one of several mementoes of national mourning. However, why was it so significant to my family? Recently, I was asked to look at an album of aerial photographs of Poland in 1927 by its inheritor who had no idea how it came into his family. The detective trail was fascinating, resulting in a link between his family and the pilot trying to break the long-distance non-stop flight record, which ended in failure in Poland. If you have a mystery family object it is worth trying to find out more about it, there are so many exciting mysteries to unravel. **(from Dr Susan Pittman)**

Limited space in our centre at Riverside means that we cannot open on Monday mornings for visitors at present but welcome any enquiries via archives@felhs.org.uk. Our website contains information about the Society and past bulletins which have many interesting articles. www.felhs.org.uk

Helen Smith

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Regular bookings £7 per hour One off - £10 Contact Linda on 866407

FARNINGHAM WI

The ladies of Farningham WI started their Christmas preparations early this year.

With cards for other members already written, they paused for a few minutes on their daily walks to 'post' them in a large cardboard box outside the Village Hall. Sadly they weren't able to 'mingle', shout, hug, shake hands (or even sing "Jerusalem") but it was obvious how pleased they were to be able to exchange a socially-distanced smile, wave or friendly greeting. At a time when so many are struggling with loneliness and anxiety, it was an illustration of what can be achieved with small acts of kindness and support.

The cards will be sorted over the next week or two, then included in Christmas Goody Bags, which will be distributed at the beginning of December. A few days later we were delighted and honoured to join other village organisations at the Remembrance Day ceremony in Farningham, when a wreath was laid on behalf of our members.

Marilyn Wells

www.farninghamwi.wordpress.com

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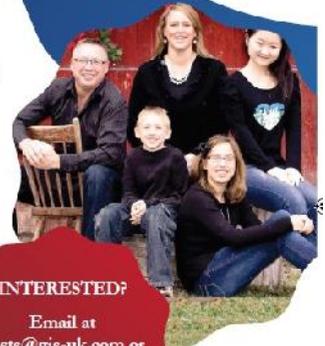
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The Pobble Who Has No Toes

Edward Lear

The Pobble who has no toes
Had once as many as we;
When they said, 'Some day you may
lose them all;'
He replied, 'Fish, fiddle de dee!'
And his Aunt Jobiska made him drink,
Lavender water tinged with pink,
For she said, 'The World in general
knows
There's nothing so good for a Pobble's
toes!

The Pobble who has no toes,
Swam across the Bristol Channel;
But before he set out he wrapped his
nose,
In a piece of scarlet flannel.
For his Aunt Jobiska said, 'No harm
can come to his toes if his nose is
warm;
And it's perfectly known that a Pobble's
toes
Are safe, provided he minds his nose.'

The Pobble swam fast and well
And when boats or ships came near him
He tinkledy-binkeldy-winkled a bell
So that all the world could hear him.
And all the sailors and admirals cried,
When they saw him nearing the further
side,
'He has gone to fish, for his Aunt
Jobiska's
Runcible Cat with crimson whiskers!'

But before he touched the shore,
The shore of the Bristol Channel,
A sea-green porpoise carried away
His wrapper of scarlet flannel.
And when he came to observe his feet
Formerly garnished with toes so near
His face at once became forlorn
On perceiving that all his toes were
gone!

And nobody ever knew
From that dark day to the present,
Whoso had taken the Pobble's toes,
In a manner so far from pleasant.
Whether the shrimps or crawfish gray,
Or crafty mermaids stole them away
Nobody knew; and nobody knows
How the Pobble was robbed of his
twice five toes.

The Pobble who has no toes
Was placed in a friendly bark,
And they rowed his back, and carried
him up,
To his Aunt Jobiska's Park.
And she made him a feast at his earnest
wish
Of eggs and buttercups fried with fish;
And she said, 'It's a fact the whole
world knows,
That Pobbles are happier without their
toes.'

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Jan Wilkes – History Corner

STIR-UP SUNDAY

Christmas is coming and part of the preparation involves making the Christmas pudding, which needs plenty of time to mature, and the traditional day on which to do this is the last Sunday before the start of Advent. The day gained its name Stir-up Sunday from the opening words of the prayer for the day, which begins, ‘Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people’. Children turned this into ‘Stir up, we beseech thee, the pudding in the pot, and when we get home, we’ll eat the lot’. Everyone in the household took turns to stir the pudding always from an easterly to a westerly direction (*because the Three Wise Men had come from the East*) and make a wish. Silver charms were stirred into the mixture, too, to foretell the future of their recipients on Christmas Day.



CHRISTMAS PUDDING (MRS D WESTERMAN’S FAMILY RECIPE)

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| 2 lbs raisins | ½ lb sultanas (white) |
| 1 lb current | ½ lb sultanas (dark) |
| ½ lb peel | 1 tablespoon mixed spice |
| 2 cups flour | 2 cups breadcrumbs |
| 2 oz almonds | 1 lb dark sugar |
| 12 oz suet | 1 teaspoon ginger |
| Pinch nutmeg | 1 teaspoon cinnamon |
| Baking power | Salt |
| 6 eggs | Milk to mix |

Add baking powder and salt to flour. Mix all dry ingredients together. Lightly beat eggs with a little milk, and stir into mixture, add more milk if needed. Brandy may be added. Put into basins and boil for at least 8 hours. Remove and clean pudding clothes. Recover puddings and when needed boil another 3 hours.



(from the Eynsford Recipes put together by ladies of Eynsford and The Rev Dennis Sweetman as fundraising for St Martins)

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EYNSFORD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Having been unable to meet as an institute during Covid ,(albeit committee meetings and book club continued via zoom), one of our members suggested we had a “harvest festival” with a twist. Members were invited to pop into the Castle Hotel, (who kindly let us have the back room), to bring along donations for the Swanley food bank. The food bank let us have a list of things that were needed and they were short of. Those who donated were extremely generous and the food bank were thrilled with the gifts. For those of you who were unable to participate, donations can still be made to Jan Williams or myself.

We were hoping to meet in small groups of 6 for Christmas celebrations but lockdown has put paid to that! However, if we are allowed to and anyone would like to meet up in small groups please let us know and we will try and facilitate this.

For those who live alone, we need to try and alleviate isolation. We're here to chat, if you want to.



Living where we do, we are very fortunate and as Christmas approaches, we are inviting members to donate a wrapped toy (£5 - £8 in value) marked with the age of the child and whether it's for a girl or boy. These can be dropped off at Jan Williams house or mine or you can ring 863186 and I will collect. (If you cannot wrap them don't worry, we can do so.) The toys will be taken to the Salvation Army for distribution to those in need. The cut off date for this is 10th December.

In the meantime, take care and keep safe and hope springs eternal that we will be able to meet again in the not too distant future.

Brenda Elliman

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ACE. Twinning update



Although things have changed since this was written here is an account from Bruno Lourme Chair of ACE of Camphin's experience of Coronavirus. There are many similarities to our own experience and sadly after a relaxation of restrictions new lockdown measures have been established in France from 30 October for one month

“March 17th is a date that people will remember not only because it's St Patrick's day but also because it was the day when the French government decided that everybody would stay home to avoid the spreading of the virus everybody was talking about. Fortunately, nobody said (because nobody knew) the containment would not finish before May 11th.

All activities stopped: schools, offices, factories, some shops, ... closed. If you wanted to go out, it could only be close to home and not more than an hour. All this had to be written on official paper and signed with your hand. As the weather was very nice, many people spent a lot of time in their gardens that have never been so well maintained and many of us have used more petrol for the lawn mowers than for their cars that were stuck in their garages. Later, these measures were eased and you could move 100 km from your home.

In Camphin, people started to organize, visiting those in need. As it was difficult to find face masks in shops, volunteers from the Camphinoise association prepared kits to distribute to the population elements that allowed those who had a sewing machine to make masks.



Bruno laying the wreath from ACE Eynsford on 11 November in Camphin.

As soon as the lockdown was completed, the municipality had put a mask on the mailboxes for each resident. And the priority was to get the schools back on track. The goodwill of all made it possible for that to happen.

During the summer, streets in Camphin were very quiet, which, I suppose means

that many went on holiday.

The new school year started "masked" and people show that they want everybody to be safe. But the price for this is that more and more events have been cancelled and others will be cancelled.

The forum of associations scheduled for September 5 has been cancelled and last news: the Paris-Roubaix cycling race scheduled for May and postponed to the end of the month has just been cancelled.

I've had no news from Father Christmas; I suppose that the date of Christmas will remain unchanged, but given the present restrictions, I can imagine that turkeys will have a good time this year.

We don't forget anybody in Eynsford and hope that this situation won't last too long for us to see each other as early as next spring.

Best wishes and kindest hopes. Be safe.
Martine and Bruno"

Gill Govus

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Eynsford in Bloom



Some volunteers have spent the last four weeks working on the war memorial borders .On October 20th the summer bedding was removed before the first frosts . One week later the soil was fertilised , forked to to a good tilth and 210 polyanthus planted . A week later 250 Tete - a - Tete bulbs , 300 Thalia Narcissi bulbs , 200 pink and 100 white tulip bulbs were planted . It is important that this work is completed before the placing of the wreaths during the Remembrance Service . 250 Joan of Arc white crocus corms were planted on the following Tuesday . The wreaths were anchored on 12th November to stop them from blowing along the road and being squashed by vehicles .

During these work parties 30 sacks of slushy leaves were removed from the nearby footpaths and gutters . These are excellent to add to the very dry beech leaves mainly from the car park in our recently refurbished leaf mould bay . It is filling up rapidly . The weeds , covering the bags of decaying leaves accumulated last winter , have been removed by a Sevenoaks School , Duke of Edinburgh Silver volunteer . These leaves will be added to those in the bay in due course .

We comply with lockdown regulations . While some volunteers have worked at the war memorial others have worked in twos at different sites including the front of the car park , collecting leaves at the back of the car park ,the Boys and Girls sign border , top of the village hall drive , four sites at the station and removing branches overhanging the 4 compost bays .

Our work parties have varied in volunteer numbers from 5 to 14 . Some volunteers at the large work party on Saturday worked in St. Martin's Church yard . A great deal of rubbish was removed . Four hidden graves were cleared of old man's beard , ivy and stinging nettles . Woodmice and frogs scurried away for other cover .

Thank you to the three Upper VI Baccalaureate girls from Tunbridge Girls Grammar School who filled 8 sacks with leaves and emptied them into the leaf bay to contribute to their weekly community work lesson .

Future work party dates :

Tuesdays : 9.30 -- 11.30 am Nov. 24 , Dec. 1 , 8 , 15 , 22

Saturdays : 9.30 -- 11.30 am. Dec. 5 Jan 9

We meet at the back of the car park opposite St. Martin's Church, or on site .

Due to Covid--19 we all bring our own gloves , hand tools and hand sanitiser .

We are wearing masks and work in twos on different sites .

We all need to keep safe . *Pauline Penney. 01322. 864751*

1st Eynsford and Farningham Scouts

Scouts Cubs and Beavers Halloween Camp Zoom Meeting



Above you can see one of our Zoom meetings. All sections have been meeting on line since March, unfortunately not every one has been happy with this method of communication, so we have also been using WhatsApp, and emails. The Cubs have all been supplied with aircraft kits to make and then paint in their own designed livery. They also have been learning Morse Code. Other work has been delivered to each section to keep them busy in Scouting.

A Covid-19 risk assessment for The Hall is being produced so we can return to face to face Scouting once the Government allows such things to take place.

Keep Safe. Ken Baker

Eynsford & Farningham Feeding it Forward

2020 has been an unprecedented year for change and upset. Across the three parishes, however, we have seen amazing things happen by so many local people coming together in times of need and helping others, bringing together a real community spirit.

We want to continue this wonderful initiative and a group is now dedicated on facebook to sharing food and donating, where possible, across the parishes.

Eynsford and Farningham feeding it forward is a freecycle facebook group where you can advertise any food that you have extra that may go to waste that other people can use on a donation basis. A quick tip: mention any obvious allergies if possible for home cooked e.g eggs and nuts etc.

Food over use by date can't be shared, but best before can be at your discretion. Likewise, if you have any extra on batch cooking or home grown etc - please feel free to share!

Everyone is welcome, *Ferne Haxby + Kirstie McMillan*

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Lullingstone Country Park *up and coming events!*

Due to Covid-19, we currently have no planned events.

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Unfortunately, the time lag between writing a piece for Trident, meeting the submission deadline and a shiny new one landing on doormats, means information is quite often out of date before it gets to its readers.

Looking back at the meeting described in last month's edition, regrettably but understandably, the Christmas **Quiz** has been postponed and EVH rebooked for Friday December 17th **2021** at 7.30pm which should give us all enough time to get teams and questions together!

Since the last edition, I have received an email from a long-term resident local to the site of the proposed **red telephone box** who is vehemently against the project; though I feel I should comment that there has been a phone box in that spot for as long as I can remember. I have also received several in favour of the idea, and even two separate donations towards costs to make it happen. Quite a few villagers have told me verbally of their support, and shared ideas for its use. No decision has yet been made as I feel it is essential to have a balanced representation of local views. Some of the EVS Committee members have serious reservations as to its management, in particular keeping it clean and tidy. I do have a local worker well known for her odd-jobs who is willing to take it on for an hour a month for £10. I like particularly a recent suggestion that it be used as a pop-up space for local people to promote and sell their own work – cakes, hand-crafts, artwork, greetings cards, seasonal gifts, the possibilities are endless. The box could be rented out on a daily basis with a deposit, retained if it isn't clean, tidy and relocked at the finish. Could be quite a fun experience with a bit of bunting and decoration. Would it get used sufficiently? My initial quick survey is not encouraging so far. Please would our talented and creative crafters let me know if they might use it regularly; that knowledge would help inform decisions to be made soon. If it seems to be wanted and once a viable use agreed, no other purpose would be sought, if its use is important to you. I have spoken to our public liability insurers concerned for our cover given EVS is to be loaned not given the box, and they are happy as long as we are satisfied that it is properly managed and potential risk issues assessed, and I have had that in writing. KCC Highways department will give permission once we have a date for installation on the pavement. It is now up to the Committee to agree some basic but fundamental factors and decide whether it is a project appropriate for EVS to take on and use its funds for – there is disagreement and opinion is split. All

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residents are automatically members of EVS, what do you think? I feel we can only postpone the project until the New Year when perhaps we will be able to meet up as a Committee again.

Arthur Mee's seat is dilapidated, an eyesore and could be a risk to anyone choosing to sit on it; there seems not to be anything but an historical connection between it and EVS so we may opt to replace it with a metal plaque to mark his residence in the village. If anyone knows more, please let me know.

An up-to-date version of the **Village Map** in a new frame will soon replace that which is still in the Post Office car park.

The **Public Art Trail** is winding down with a few more jobs and loose ends to tie up, but is very glad to share that Network Rail have been to measure up for a brand new waiting hut in the same Victorian design as is there presently but condemned. It is a listed building so has to be an exact replica, when our artwork will be returned complete with one removal and replacement, the photograph of "The Ford at Eynsford" by Chris Lewington, winner of last year's competition to fill the space.

In case there is no further edition this year, and what a year it has been, the EVS Committee wish all readers as good a Christmas as they can manage, and hope for a better, more pleasant New Year, in particular a vaccine would be helpful, please.

Sally Coston, Chair EVS (866102/sally.coston@btinternet.com)

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Home Instead calls on locals to support senior gift giving campaign

As Christmas is fast approaching, local in-home care company, Home Instead Senior Care Shoreham, Petts Wood and Longfield, is calling on the local community to support their gift giving campaign, ‘Be a Santa to a Senior.’

The campaign is a way of giving back to the local elderly community, by spreading joy and festive cheer to individuals who may be feeling lonely or isolated this Christmas.

The way it works is simple. Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, the local community can drop their donations off at a collection point at Home Instead’s office; Polhill Business Centre, London Road, Halstead, Kent, TN14 7AA.

To help adhere to social distancing guidelines, please call the team ahead of arrival: 01959 546 228.

Gifts will be collected until Monday 7th December.

Suggested donations are chocolates, biscuits, toiletries, or winter warmers, such as gloves and scarfs.

Home Instead ask preferably for the donations to be already wrapped in festive wrapping paper due to COVID restrictions. Home Instead will then distribute these to the local charity The Community Cupboard.

Jag Yogarajah, owner of Home Instead Shoreham, said: “This year has been a strange year for us all, with loneliness being a big challenge. Being able to donate gifts to lonely older people and see the difference we have made to their Christmas will truly be an honour.

“As a care provider for the elderly, we are very aware of how loneliness can affect people, as our clients have a relationship with their CAREGivers, but others are not so lucky. Which is why this campaign is extremely important to us.”

For more information about the Be a Santa to a Senior campaign or to find out more about Home Instead, please call 01959 546 228 or visit: <https://www.homeinstead.co.uk/shoreham-petts-wood/>.

Jag Yogarajah





NOTICES & LETTERS

Dear Editor

Due to these difficult times, unfortunately I do not feel able to send Christmas cards this year and would like to wish all my friends in Eynsford and Farningham a very safe and peaceful Christmas and hope for a happier New Year.

I will donate the money to charity.

Take care and stay safe.

Di Grant

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4. EPSON 440/460/640/660/670/720/750/1200 (AJ187) Black x 7

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A small Donation accepted to a local cause.

Rupert Bond 07900 842454

Dear Editor,

I always enjoy reading the History Corner, and should like to add a few comments to the November article about demobbing.

On VE Day, 8.5.1945, the end of the war in Europe, my father was in Germany and remained stationed there as part of the occupying army in the British Zone near Hannover for nearly a year. (On VJ Day, 15.8.1945, the end of the war against Japan, he happened to be on leave at home.) In his letters home to my mother he gave a few reasons why demobbing was slow. One was the possibility of unemployment, and another was that the army, navy and RAF were apparently insisting on retaining large numbers of men. A further practical reason was that there was not enough shipping to bring everyone back all at once.

In December 1945 my father gave numbers of men to the nearest thousand in army groups 23 - 30:

23 117,000

24 151,000

25 253,000

26 265,000

27 199,000
28 120,000
29 65,000
30 45,000

My father was in group 27, and in general, of course, men were demobbed in order of when they were called up. My father had been called up on 22.10.1940 and was demobbed on 9.4.1946.

Yours, *Diana Beamish.*

Greetings for Christmas

As is my custom, I send all my friends in Eynsford and Farningham greetings and good wishes for Christmas by way of Trident. It will be a different Christmas, but the reason we celebrate is the same, and numbers in the stable were limited! I have donated the money I would have spent on cards to a local charity in the hope of saving one twig of a tree in the Amazon rain forest! Have a good if quiet Christmas

Margaret N

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Farningham Village Hall AGM

The hall is managed by a small group of volunteers who stand for annual re-election at the AGM. We are always seeking one or two volunteers to help with social and fund raising activity and invite anyone interested to come along to the AGM. The AGM is on Feb 24 at 8.00 pm at the village hall and is open to the public, everyone is welcome to attend.

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Charging Points for Electric Vehicles or Car Parking for Farningham Village Hall ?

In October Farningham Parish Council surveyed parishioners “to determine the potential need / desirability of our installing 2 charging points in the vicinity (or grounds) of Farningham Village Hall. We want to know if you are positive or negative”.

This survey was on-line only so Trident readers may not have known or responded to it? If you have any views on it please let me know. It is not too late. As chair of the Farningham Village Hall my thoughts are below but I would appreciate hearing the views of Trident readers.

The FVH car park is regularly and frequently used by hirers and for larger events there is often insufficient space even for the regular hirers. Overspill parking was once possible at Barclays and The Lion but not now. Use of the car park is a major need and attraction to our hirers. An electric car charging point at the Village hall will reduce our car parking space as electric spaces are reserved for that use only.

Limitations on parking may make hire of the village hall less attractive causing losses to the income that is required to meet hall costs. It is a community facility and provides a variety of activities for many members of the community of all ages. Many users need to come by car and rely on their regular hall activities for physical and social activities essential to their health and wellbeing. It is important to maintain good access to these community activities for the community, losing car park space may affect this.

KCC funding for an electric charging point is given for charging points only on FPC owned land hence the choice of the Farningham Village hall car park by FPC. One justification given by FPC is that owners of electric cars who have no off-road parking will be unable to charge their cars. When electric cars become the norm I'm sure a mode of charging these cars at the roadside will also become the norm. Those who buy an electric car will want it charged from, or near, their own homes. It seems unlikely they would want to leave it charging for several hours behind the village hall where there will be no supervision. The most likely location for electric vehicle charging points for residents and visitors will be in the existing petrol station as it moves into selling and servicing of electric vehicles. It has the space and expertise to allow processing for electric vehicles. It has experienced supervision on site to avoid vandalism and has call facilities for any emergency circumstances. Installation of a charging point at the village hall seems unnecessary and undesirable to me. Please feel free to share your views ?!

Viv Parker Chair of FVH Management Committee. fvhchair@gmail.com

Anthony Roper Pre-School

Prior to the second lockdown being announced, we weren't sure whether the early years sector would remain open, but we are exempt from the restrictions and therefore remain open and available to all children and families. The arrangements for keeping the children, the team and families safe remain in place, and we are grateful to our families for adhering to our risk assessment and thereby helping us to remain open and available to offer care and education to the young members of our local community.

The majority of children started at the setting in September, some returning after a long period at home during the first lockdown; others starting on their early education journey for the first time. We are always struck by how adaptable and resilient young children are. With the support of our lovely team of Early Years Educators, all children have managed the transition back in to the setting and are learning, playing and having fun, even with all of the new guidance in place.

The run-up to Christmas is usually a very busy time for the setting, with rehearsals for our annual Christmas show well and truly in full flow but, of course, we simply can't have a Christmas show this year. This is sad for the parents, as it is very special seeing your child dressed up, singing and maybe even doing a little acting - some of the funniest moments happen when the children just do their own thing - but for our young children, all of this is irrelevant. They just need to be free to explore, play and have fun. They need to learn how to be with other children again, sharing, turn-taking, negotiating. They need to run around in the fresh air and let off steam in a safe and stimulating environment. This is still available to them at the Pre-school. So yes, it is a very different run-up to Christmas this year, but for the young children who attend the setting, every day is filled with fun, laughter and learning.

If you would like any further information about the Pre-school, please contact Sam or Donna on 01322-865469 or email office@anthonyropernursery.co.uk.

Samantha Aitchison/Donna Gifford

Joint Childcare Managers

Anthony Roper Pre-school and Kindergarten CIO

December in the garden: Put your feet up, and dream green!

December can be a quiet month in the garden, but there are a few worthwhile things you can do at this time of the year. After you've ordered your seeds for next year, cut back shrubs, pruned trees and generally tidied things up, take a moment to enjoy the beautiful frosty mornings, and spare a thought for the wildlife that lives there too.



- **Look after the birds:** Clean feeders, stock up on seeds and nuts, and make sure birds have access to fresh water, especially on icy days.
- **Avoid pesticides (1):** Hang feeders near roses to attract hungry birds that will also pick off any overwintering pests.
- **Avoid pesticides (2):** Remove netting from fruit cages to allow birds to scratch about for pests.
- **Frozen pond?** Don't be tempted to smash the ice with a spade as the shock waves could kill fish or other wildlife. Create a breathing hole by putting a rubber ball in the water before it freezes, removing it once ice forms.
- **Remember pond life:** When scooping out fallen leaves first place them on the side so the inhabitants can crawl back in. The partially rotted leaves are great for the compost bin.
- **No compost bin?** Why not buy one now, or better still, make one out of pallets or old planks of wood. This is a great way to warm up on a cold winter's day!
- **Save your back:** Just dig over empty borders to remove any weeds and then pile manure on top and let the worms and frosts do all the work of breaking up the clods of soil!
- **Can't be bothered** to dispose of all those cuttings and trimmed branches? Make a pile of old sticks and logs in an undisturbed corner of the garden to provide shelter for toads and other wildlife.
- **Don't throw away bubble wrap** from those Amazon deliveries! Wrap it around terracotta pots to prevent them from cracking in freezing weather if you're unable to bring them indoors.

Who doesn't eat Quality Street chocolates at Christmas? Don't bin the wrappers! Nowadays they're made from cellulose, derived from wood pulp, so add them to your compost heap. Use the compost to grow healthy veg next year and shed those pounds after the excesses of...eating too many Quality Streets!

The EGC committee wishes everyone a lovely Christmas, and may 2021 be fruitful for you all. *Mark Ivaldi, Treasurer*

CHRISTMAS

It was Christmas Eve. A rather sad man, full of the more volatile of Christmas spirits,, turned on his television expecting to see the customary late night film,, however, the splendid scene which appeared on his screen was not a set from some spectacular Hollywood historical classic but Midnight Mass being relayed from St. Peter's in Rome. He stared at the scene in puzzlement for some moments and then exclaimed, as he angrily switched it off, "good grief, is there no end to it?"

They're even bringing religion into Christmas now!"

An apocryphal story? Maybe. But it isn't impossible, or even unlikely, today is it? One of the most efficient functions of the human mind is the power to forget. This property can be a very valuable asset in the cases of terrible grief or suffering, when it is true to say that time is the great healer as the wounds in the mind slowly heal when the unbearable sorrow becomes a tolerable memory. But with this asset comes the accompanying characteristic of so easily forgetting the true origins of even really precious things which have become familiar to us..

"Here it comes" I can hear you saying, "we're going to get another one of those lectures about the first Christmas, and the highest of the high sharing His birth with the lowest of the low *etc. etc.*" However, I am trying not to do that, for not only is that a message that you will hear a thousand times between now and the big day, but I am realistic enough to realise that it is a story that has been told more beautifully and authoritatively than would be within my gift, But it is very familiar, isn't it, and, just like the man in my opening paragraph,, we can so easily forget what Christmas is really about and just accept all the joyful things that go with it as merely another interlude in our normal round. Thus, I don't want to bombard you again with memories of Christmas past, I really want to talk about THIS Christmas, unusual though it may be.

The story which I have always found irresistible is Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol" and I am totally addicted to it no matter in which form the media may present it to me. Oh for just one thousandth part of Dickens' ability to evoke such vivid pictures in words! With such a gift today I am sure I would be selling refrigerators to Eskimos, central heating to equatorial Africans and even the true message of Christmas to those who are convinced that "religion" should be kept out of it! In that one story for me appears the entire Christian message. It tells how looking TOO closely into the past and dwelling on it usually brings only sadness in its wake, how living only for the moment may bring similar misery, and that our only real joy can come from looking forward and always HOPING. It tells us that we only get back from life that which put into

it, it tells us that though we may need convincing of it at times there really is so much more true happiness to be derived from giving than from merely looking upon the whole of our lives as a profit-making exercise. It tells us too rather like I imagine giving up say smoking, it is never too late to achieve some good by changing our live for the better. It tells us that life's REAL achievements are LOVE and LAUGHTER and HAPPINESS, but that all of these great gifts must be tempered from time to time with a little suffering in order eventually to make us appreciate that all of these most priceless presents come to us absolutely free of charge, not just at Christmas but gift-wrapped from God on every single day of our lives. All we have to do if we, like Scrooge, have our eyes opened to the fact that these gifts lie in the dark cupboard of our immortal souls, is to unwrap them with Faith and Gratitude.



Is there a message in all this then? I'm not sure, for I believe that Christmas needs no message from me, it has always been and occasion that speaks for itself. However, in present day scientific papers key words are given at the beginning so that in a very few phrases one can get the gist of the whole thing. On looking back through this I appear to have used one or two key words, and if there is a "message" it is probably in those few words in which it lies: Never lose HOPE keep looking always to the future. It is only the future and present on which we can have any influence at all, the past is over and done with, Open up your hearts and minds and keep searching for those priceless gifts of LOVE and LAUGHTER., and when you have found them give every possible ounce of them that you can spare to others, Therein lies the only true profit, they will come back to you a millionfold.

To all friends and brothers and sisters in our United Benefice and throughout the world a LOVING, HEALTHY and ever HOPEFUL Christmas.

With love.
Alan Cremer

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**COMPETITIVE
PRICES!**

Event to Raise Funds for Local Refugee Families

Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees (SWR) is running an online fundraiser on Friday 18 December (6:30-7:30 pm) for the charity Magic for Smiles.

What is Magic for Smiles?

Magic for Smiles (MFS) is a registered charity (1182676) that uses magic (shows and workshops) to improve the wellbeing of vulnerable and traumatised children, particularly refugees, in the Middle East (and now the UK). The charity is relatively young – the UK registration came through in March 2019. However, it is informed by and builds on three years of previous field experience in humanitarian magic in Lebanon.

Pre-COVID, all shows were in the Middle East, in Arabic and delivered by the founder 'Jamie Jibberish' (Jamie Balfour-Paul, long-time humanitarian worker) supported by a board of experienced trustees. The programme has expanded from Lebanon to Jordan and Turkey since early 2019. Before COVID-19, shows and workshops had been conducted for over 150 organisations, many of them several times. In recent months, the programme has shifted online for workshops and virtual shows, including in the UK. MFS relies on donations and has no institutional funding.

Magic for Smiles believes in magic as a tool for enhancing the wellbeing and providing psychosocial [or psychological] support for vulnerable often traumatised children in the Middle East but also starting in the UK. Most children are refugees in Jordan, Turkey and previously Lebanon from Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Palestine and elsewhere but the programme has also started in the UK. To this end, the charity occupies a unique niche providing magic shows and magic workshops, usually in Arabic, working through other charities programming with children on the ground. Normally of course these activities are face to face and live, but since COVID-19 they have moved online. However, the children - and often their families - still love the opportunity for the joy, stress relief and other emotional, cognitive, and social benefits from magic and the experience is still interactive in ingenious ways - the smiles from magic speak for themselves!

The show will be mainly in English, with sections in Arabic. It will be pitched at both children and adults.

Search for Magic for Smiles at www.eventbrite.com. It's also on the SWR Facebook site . Tickets are £5.00 for children, £10 for adults and reduced-price family bundles are available. Details on the Eventbrite page.

SWR will supply the link without charge to refugee families in Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells (and more widely).

Humphrey Pring

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kirstenpilates@gmail.com
www.bodywellnesspilates.org



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DAY & EVENING APPOINTMENTS - HOME VISITS AVAILABLE

HISTORY QUIZ

(Compiled by Peter and Gloria Gee and appeared in Trident December 1993)

Some may find this quiz easy; some find it difficult, and some will not have a clue, but the answers will give some historical insight.

- 1 He may have been a famous painter but who burnt one of his paintings and where did he live in Eynsford in the 1930s.
- 2 Street furniture and warning light, what bears his name, and where did he live in Eynsford
- 3 Where did this beauty hide from the press and what or who was she?
- 4 A famous preacher stood here, where was it and what was his name
- 5 Where did the Hawk fly
- 6 Name three Royal Princesses who had Lullingstone silk incorporated in their wedding gowns
- 7 Which famous author lived in a caravan in Gee's shop yard at the beginning of this century
- 8 Who was St Thomas More's grandson
- 9 Where was the tank in Farningham, and who drove it there?
- 10 Who had a famous door slammed in his face and where did he live
- 11 Where is the door that shut out a nobleman and by whom
- 12 Who wrote the song 'There'll always be an England' and where did he live
- 13 Where did a well-known sailor spend some years in retirement and what was his name
- 14 Where in Eynsford could you have been 'locked up'
- 15 Who names herself after the village, and where is Eynsford did she go to school
- 16 Where was the staircase widened and for whom
- 17 Who wrote the 'Little Serenade' and where did he live
- 18 Who was Philip Heseltine otherwise known as
- 19 A house named Pax, who built it and why did it get its name
- 20 Who wrote poems for women's magazines and whereabouts in Farningham did she live

Thanks Jan for this quiz, I'll publish the answers next month. Ed

Farningham and Darent Valley Probus – Lemons for Christmas?

So, yet another month with no Probus meeting possible. The decision not to plan for any club meetings for the foreseeable future has proved correct as we have once again been told we should stay indoors. No pubs, no eating out and the most critical closure of all, no gym. How are we Probus members supposed to maintain our usual legendary magnificent physical condition?

Personally, my once highly promising modelling and acting career is now even more in the balance. Except perhaps posing for the ‘before’ photographs for Weight Watchers or applying for the star role in the upcoming revival of ‘Billy Bunter, the Fat Owl of the Reform’. Younger readers may not have heard of the rotund schoolboy but his now historic TV series could be described as the precursor of ‘Grange Hill’ but with more bullying, which we all found terribly funny at the time. Mind you, Bunter wasn’t a particularly likeable chap. He often stole tuck from his fellow pupils and was given to shouting “Yaroooh!” when thumped for so doing. He was very annoying. The whole thing would today appear totally non-PC but seemed rather innocent then.

Frankly, currently I would probably even fail the audition for a reprise of my major theatrical success in the pivotal leading role in ‘Jack and The Beanstalk’. That’s the back end of the cow Jack sells for a handful of beans. And because of lockdown there are even fewer panto cow backsides to fill as theatres stay dark. Even though that role, for obvious reasons, never exposed my head, I was often recognised in the street. Many a small child would point at my face as I walked past and exclaim “Mummy, look, it’s the cow’s bum?” Children can be so cruel.

Now, with the current state of play, I have a very strange feeling that we’ve been here before. Does anyone else feel the same? It’s déjà vu all over again but without the sunshine and warmer weather that so usefully accompanied the original lockdown. That enabled us to pass the time happily while sitting in and enjoying our gardens with members of our own household.

If you or yours have been, or continue to be, badly affected by the virus, you will have some awful memories of a terrible time and we don’t forget or underestimate the seriousness of COVID and its effect on the lives of many good people.

But for those of us who have been very fortunate to avoid the worst downsides of the virus, we’ve now got the hang of this lockdown business. We each switch into ‘head down’ and get-on-with-it mode. Of course, this does mean that with heads down we do sometimes run into a brick wall. But we just pick

ourselves up, dust ourselves down and have another sip of the lovely Winter Warmer Old Tom Gin which was the cause of us running into the wall in the first place.

This is all very similar to what happened in the summer but back then it was a glass or two of nice chilled Rosé before tripping over a flower pot. Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose. Excuse my French. I don't know what it means. Nothing changes there though, it's all the same to me.

What value, eh? All this French language stuff. First 'déjà vu', now 'plus ça change' etc. Now that we've left the E.U. there's no longer any actual requirement for a French language quota in Trident articles but, as it's nearly Christmas, let's be generous. Entente Cordiale and all that. Wow, there was another one.

We will need to remain optimistic that this latest lockdown and/or the vaccine will do the trick and that there is some sort of release in time for Christmas. Otherwise we could all be sitting on our own sofas over the festive period with no alternative but to search for something on TV to make us laugh. And the worrying thing is that Keith Lemon already seems to be listed more frequently in Radio Times. Christmas night with Keith Lemon! Now that's no laughing matter.

Joe Irwin 10 November 2020

Farningham Village Hall & Market Meadow is Open

The Village Hall is a Covid secure environment as it has in place all the guidance, provision and arrangements recommended by Government guidelines as precautions to protect users against Covid.

After the November closure the hall is available for hire for all the activities permitted by those guidelines in accordance with the limits set on the numbers allowed for the various activities.

The adjoining Meadow is also available for hire in conjunction with the hall at very reasonable rates. Our website gives details of the facilities and charges. At present the main hall is the location available for all activities and it is charged at the same rate as the smaller rooms, if they would usually be the preferred location. We have WIFI and our website www.farninghamvillagehall.co.uk shows details and costs. For bookings and enquiries contact our Booking Secretary on 07530297707

Viv Parker

ALAN CREMER'S QUIZ

How are they better known?:

- 1). Paolo Caliari?
- 2). Domenico Theotocopoulos?
- 3). Raffaello Santi?
- 4). Michel Angelo Merisi?
- 5). Zorgo da Castelfranco?
- 6). Alessandro di Mariano Filipepi?
- 7). Jacopo Robusti?
- 8). Tiziano Vecelli?
- 9). Antonio Allegri?
- 10). Pieter van der Faes?

Send you answers to: alanctela@gmail.com

ANSWERS TO THE LAST QUIZ.

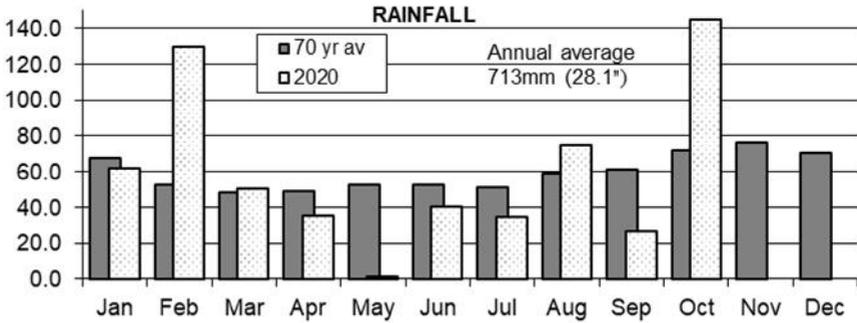
- 1). Henry V111.
- 2). Henry Cooper.
- 3). Henry V11.
- 4). Henry King.
- 5). Henry Hall.
- 6). Henry Labouchere.
- 7). Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.
- 8). Henry 1.
- 9). Henry Clay.
- 10). Henry 111.



Eynsford Weather Data

October 2020

James Alexander



Total rain to	2020	600 mm (23.6")	2018	507 mm (20.0")
end of October	2019	573 mm (22.6")	2017	509mm (20.0")

National Overview. October was a generally dull and unsettled month with rain crossing the country at frequent intervals and some heavy and persistent rain at times. It was drier and more settled from the 14th to 19th with mainly easterly winds, but the rest of the month was mostly wet and windy. The mean temperature for October was on the long-term average, with temperatures generally a little below normal by day and a little above normal by night. Rainfall was 154% of average and sunshine was just 65% of average, and it was the equal 4th dullest October since 1919. Much of the area around London had more than twice the normal rainfall amount, but the rainfall was less exceptional elsewhere.

In Eynsford we had 145mm (5.7") rain, which is double our average, over 20 days. This is not unusual for October. The beginning and end of the month were exceptionally wet.

Community Calendar

ARPS	Anthony Roper Primary School	EVS	Eynsford Village Society
FPC	Farningham Parish Council	EVH	Eynsford Village Hall
DVYM	Darent Valley Youth Music	FC	Farningham Church
EiB	Eynsford in Bloom	FVH	Farningham Village Hall
ECB	Eynsford Concert Band	Fnt Crt	Fountain Court
EBC	Eynsford Baptist Church	ECF	Eynsford Cricket Field
EPC	Eynsford Parish Council	OSH	Olive Seal Hall

2020

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE/CANCELLATION

Send in you dates to efltrident@yahoo.com

19 November	EPC Council Meeting	Online	8pm
2 December	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
5 December	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
5 December	ARPS Christmas Fayre	Online	
5 December	Village Fireworks	At Home	7pm
7 December	EPC Committee Meeting	Online	8pm
17 December	EPC Council Meeting	Online	8pm

2021

4 January	EPC Committee Meeting	Online	8pm
9 January	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
21 January	EPC Council Meeting	Online	8pm
1 February	EPC Committee Meeting	Online	8pm
6 February	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
18 February	EPC Council Meeting	Online	8pm
6 March	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
19 March	EVS AGM	EVH	7.30pm
3 April	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
1 May	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
5 June	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
3 July	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
7 August	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
4 September	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
2 October	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
6 November	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
4 December	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am

Anthony Roper Primary School dates for 2020/21

Term 1: 3 September - 22nd October

Term 2: 2nd November - 18th December

Term 3: 5th January - 12th February

Term 4: 22nd February - 1st April

Term 5: 19th April - 28th May

Term 8th June - 21st July

The Tuesday Community Bus to Swanley

Leaves Eynsford Rise about 10.30 and collects wherever you want, including Mill Lane, Old Mill Close, Farningham and then on to Swanley. There you have about one and a half hours before being returned to your door with your shopping. If you would find this service useful, contact Rural Age Concern Darent Valley for details of the modest cost and to book a pick up 01474 879473.

Mobile Library Times

Every other Wednesday:

Eynsford - Pollyhaugh - 11.10-11.40

Eynsford - Gibson's Court - 11.45—12.15

Farningham - Alban Crescent - 10.15-10.45

How to Contact your District Councillor

Sevenoaks District Council 01732 227000 www.sevenoaks.gov.uk

Farningham: Philip McGarvey 862870 cldr.mcgarvey@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Eynsford: Alan Cheeseman cldr.cheeseman@sevenoaks.gov.uk

How to Contact your MP

Laura Trott MP

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Tel: 072193000

Email: laura.trott.mp@parliament.uk

How to Contact Kent Police

Either call 101 or report online.

The link is: <https://www.kent.police.uk/services/report-a-crime/kent-police-online-reporting/>

Fly tipping

Fly-tipping on highways, footpaths and public land should be reported promptly (at any time) to Sevenoaks District Council on 01732 227000.

Recycling in the Villages

Aluminium foil Iris and Ed Riverdale House, High St, Eynsford
Old coins Phil McGarvey 17, Tilmans Mead, Farningham
Bulky Refuse 01732 227000 (Press1)

Further supplies of Garden & Rubbish Sacks

Garden rubbish brown bags

Parish Office Eynsford, Swanley Library; SDC Offices, Sevenoaks

Black and clear rubbish bags

Parish Office Eynsford; Jane Gray Farningham

Recycling using your clear sacks

You can put the following clean items into your clear sacks:

- Newspapers, magazines, other paper and shredded documents
- Cardboard boxes and packaging.
- Cans, including empty aerosol cans, tins, metal bottle tops, jar lids,
- Tetra Pak® and other food, drink and long-life cartons
- Aluminium take-away and ready-meal trays and clean kitchen foil
- Plastic bottles and tops. Plastic yoghurt pots, margarine and ice cream tubs, fruit baskets and trays. Please put black plastic pots, tubs, trays or lids, or film lids in your black sacks.

Milk in GLASS bottles

If you care about the plastic issue, you could help a little by having your organic milk delivered to your door in glass bottles. It would cost you more, but it would ease your conscience! It's 81p for a glass bottle or 95p for organic. Contact milkandmore.co.uk or phone 0845 606 3606 to organise deliveries.

What about Plastics?

We are all trying to reduce how much plastic we use and buy, but sometimes we can't avoid it.

Many supermarkets will recycle your plastic bags and packaging - just ask. There are also recycling scheme for packaging such as crisp packets - see www.terracycle.com

The Eco Pantry, based at Chart Farm, Seal is a new shop where you can refill your own containers with dried goods, cleaning products and more - worth a visit on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday!

BRAESIDE SURGERY DOCTORS' TIMES

Doctor	Day	Morning	Evening
Dr Maryam Tahmassebi Dr Saijit Shetty	Monday	9.00 - 12.30	17.40 - 19.30
		8.30 - 12.00	16.30 - 18.30
Dr Jane Lindsay Dr Antony Ellul	Tuesday	8.30 - 12.00	15.00 - 17.00
		9.30 - 13.00	16.30 - 18.30
Dr Maryam Tahmassebi Dr Saijit Shetty	Wednesday	9.00 - 12.30	16.00 - 18.00
		8.30 - 12.00	17.40 - 19.30
Dr Maryam Tahmassebi Dr Anthony Ellul	Thursday	9.00 - 12.30	14.30 - 16.30
		9.00 - 13.00	16.30 - 18.30
Dr Jane Lindsay Dr Saijit Shetty	Friday	8.30 - 12.00	17.00 - 19.00
		8.30 - 9.30	15.00 - 17.00

Please allow 3 **working** days before collecting prescriptions

WHAT TO DO WHEN WE ARE CLOSED:

NHS 111 – URGENT BUT NOT LIFE THREATENING Tel: 111
 South East Health provide an ‘on-call’ doctor service outside of normal surgery hours for our patients from Darent Valley Hospital. To access the service please telephone the surgery where you will receive either a message or be diverted directly to the local surgery on call between 1pm – 4pm OR between 6.30pm – 8.00am dial **111** where your call will be triaged and diverted directly to the on-call doctor or service where appropriate. Please use this service rather than dialling 999 or attending the A&E Services if your condition is not life threatening.

ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE SPECIALISTS:

Minor injuries can also be dealt with by **Minor Injuries Unit (MIU)** at: Gravesend & North Kent Hospital, Bath Street, Gravesend open 9:00 – 9:00 seven days a week, or at Sevenoaks Hospital, open 8:00 – 8:00 (x-ray 9:00 – 4:00 only) these are both Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) led clinics. The ENPs are trained in assessing and diagnosing a wide range of minor injuries; i.e. cuts and bruises, strains and sprains, foreign bodies in eyes, minor burns and scalds.

Local Services

Transport can be provided to hospitals, chiropodists, doctor. Please phone Lilian on 863293, 48 hrs notice would be appreciated. Queen Mary's & DVH - £8
Chiropodist @ Devon Rd £5 Farn. Surgery £2.50 Any parking expenses will be additional to these charges. We do not do lifts to the hairdressers or Bluewater!!

Lifts for pensioners to Post Office, Sainsbury's, Swanley - Liz on 865529

Wheelchairs and walkers for short loan, phone Molly Copus on 01322 532029

Bus Pass /Rail Warrant - you must buy that warrant from railway station

Hospital Visiting Please notify Gillian on 866228 if someone would like a visit from the church pastoral team.

NHS Hearing Aid batteries EVH 1st Tuesday 2-3pm - ON HOLD

Podiatry Service The Mill Clinic Horton Kirby 864499

Podiatry Home visits Debra Wilkinson 860512 Mob: 07984 914 067

Home Delivery Service of Library Books including audio books for the housebound phone 01959522488

Tell us once service These people will do all the necessary phone calls when you have to cope with a death Phone 08458 247 400

Lunch ready cooked Age UK West Kent 01474 350525

Caring, Cooking Anne Phillips CRB checked 07931 811 758

For equipment for the Disabled and Changes to the Home:

Social Services D'ford 01322 343867 Social Services S'ley 01322 611000

Elderly 01474 328 664 Sevenoaks 01732 456 223

Hospital Discharge Scheme 01732 227000 and ask for Hosp Dis Sch

Washing hair in hospital. Buy a Reynard shampoo cap – a rinse free conditioning shampoo in a disposable cap. It's very easy to use: the cap is put in the microwave to warm up and then put on the head and massaged for 15 minutes before it is removed, leaving you with lovely clean hair. The cap costs £4 and can be ordered at a chemist.

Services of Family Mosaic Home Improvement

Free advice and guidance; Assistance with adapting your home; Help with applying for benefits; Fire, home safety checks

Handyman services Grass cutting and decorating services

01732 758 355 Ext: 758355

Swanley Foodbank 11 Lynden Way, Swanley BR8 7DN 07798 872573

National Domestic Violence Helpline 0808 200 247 (Women); 0808 801 0327 (Men) or visit www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk

Bus Times from September 2020

Bus Times from September 2020

From EYNSFORD, opp. Five Bells & FARNINGHAM, Pied Bull (4 mins. later)
Mondays to Saturdays - Route 2 to SWANLEY 10:35 & 13:10
Sundays and Bank Holidays – Route 429 to SWANLEY, DARTFORD,
Darent Valley Hospital & BLUEWATER 09:30, 11:55 & 15:05

also from FARNINGHAM, Pied Bull

Mondays to Saturdays – Route 429 to SWANLEY 06:07(MF), 06:47(MF),
To SWANLEY & DARTFORD 07:34(MF)(SHOL), 08:37(SO), 09:37(MF), 10:37,
11:37(MF), 12:37, 13:37(MF), 14:37, 16:37(SO), 16:52(MF) & 17:52(MF)

From BLUEWATER, Darent Valley Hospital & DARTFORD

Sundays and Bank Holidays – Route 429 to FARNINGHAM & EYNSFORD
10:30, 13:40 & 16:10 (departs Darent Valley Hospital 6 mins., and DARTFORD
Lowfield St. 13 mins. after BLUEWATER)

From DARTFORD Lowfield Street

Mondays to Saturdays – Route 429 to FARNINGHAM 08:37(MF), 09:32,
10:32 (MF), 11:32, 12:32 (MF), 13:32, 14:32*(MF), 15:32(MF)(SHOL),
15:32(SO), 16:47(MF), 17:32(SO), 17:47 (MF), & 18:47 (MF)

From SWANLEY, Bartholomew Way opp. ASDA

Mondays to Saturdays – Route 429 to FARNINGHAM 09:00(MF), 10:00,
11:00(MF), 12:00, 13:00(MF), 14:00, 16:00 (SO), 16:02(MF)(SHOL),
17:15 (MF), 18:00 (SO), 18:15 (MF) & 19:15 (MF)

Route 2 to FARNINGHAM & EYNSFORD 10:54 & 13:29

Sundays - Route 429 to FARNINGHAM & EYNSFORD 11:08, 14:18 & 16:48

From FARNINGHAM opp. Pied Bull & EYNSFORD Five Bells (3 mins. later)

Mondays to Saturdays - Route 2 to SEVENOAKS Bus Stn 11:05 & 13:40

From SEVENOAKS Bus Stn.

Mondays to Saturdays - Route 2 to EYNSFORD & FARNINGHAM
10:16 & 12.51

MF - Mondays to Fridays; SO - Saturdays only;
SHOL- School holidays only; *- to Swanley only

David Toser

Children & Young People

Baby sign group	07768447657
Baby Sensory	07786 448701
Little Bright sparks	07768447657
1st F & E Brownies	
2nd F & E Brownies	866863
Rainbows	864726
Beacon Hill Babies Music	07958609636
FCC Juniors	07835881451
Cubs	863069
Clare's 11+ Club	07789 796 283
Guides	07703845778
Rangers	07939926084
Anthony Roper Pre-School	865469
Musical Tots EBC Georgia	0907@h'mail.com
Netball	866244
Tiddlers on Mondays (EBC)	07894541984
Tiny Tots (FVH)	07584902914
School (ARPS)	863680
Scouts	863069

Church

Bellringers (E & F)	862479
Eynsford Baptist Church	07411278637
Darent V.C. Church	07908045445
Grace Centre Church EVH	07886510330
Rector	863050

Drama and Music

Axstane Players Farn.	01322 274541
Centre Stage Juniors	07834 460 686
Darent Valley Youth Music	866177
Eynsford Concert Band	07506 679015
Farningham Guitar Club	01322 666566
Follies Singers	
Riverside Box Office	07704 279 948
Riverside Youth Drama	07427 607 003
Polychor	07900842454
Ukelele Group	866177

Health

Dementia Help Line	0800 500 3014
Baby Clinic	866327
Doctor Farningham	862110
Doctor The Cedars, Swanley	612686
Doctor The Oaks, Swanley	668833
Foot Clinic (Age Concern)	01474 879473
Yoga Thurs EVH	862391
"health with hames" Yoga	07753212264
Osteopath	07956 246307
Rural Age Concern	01322 666448.
Citizens Advice Bureau	01322 875888
Osteopathy/Physiotherapy	01322 927828

To borrow tables 01732 461462.

Leisure

Bridge Club	
Photography Club (EPIC)	862275
Eynsford Gardeners	866984
F'ham Horticultural Society	862603
Ladies Probus	863186
Library delivery service	01959 522488
Local History Society	865122
Probus	863186
Eynsford WI	867831
Farningham WI	863996
Riverside Social Club	863114
Tea and a chat FVH	866325
Tea Dance FVH	01322 663649
Tuesday Club	863701 or 863069
Lullingstone Visitor Centre	03000 411811

Parish Affairs

Eynsford in Bloom	864751
Edwards Hall Lettings	863069
Eynsford Parish Council	865320
Eynsford Village Society	866102
EVH General	07925 254 658
EVH Booking Sec.	07780 532525
Eynsford Tree Warden	07412 038634
Farningham Parish Council	866066
F'ham Vill Hall bookings	07530297707
Farn Vill Hall caretaker	07710228599
Olive Seal Hall	866407

Sport & Physical Activities

Aerobics Tues, Thurs, Fri	864581
Badminton Mon EVH	862077
Badminton Wed EVH	863839
Badminton Thurs EVH	867894
Cricket ECC	07973 702440
Cricket FCC	07835881451
Croquet	862275
Irish Dancing	864276
Linda's Line dance FVH	01732 870116
Kempo Club	07759 620739
Netball	07864279305
Pilates on Wednesdays EVH	07860665531.
Pilates on Weds FVH	07505 364 161
Riverside wanderers (Vets)	07770882085
Running Club	861560 07860840932
Zumba FVH Thursday	07552755005



EYNSFORD VILLAGE HALL

Reg. Charity No. 302737



One of the largest Village Halls in West Kent in the lovely Darent Valley
Ideal venue for parties, live bands and shows, film shows,
wedding receptions, concerts and dances.

Large stage, public address system, lighting available
The perfect place to hold your function, large or small.

Concessions for residents.

Contact: 07780 532525 or *via* www.eynsfordvh.com

Result of EVH Lottery for last month

Tickets available at Rafferty's and Norman's



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www.vitalityhomehealth.co.uk

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CELEBRATIONS

BELATED GUY FAWKES

END OF LOCKDOWN /up

AND A VACCINE!

DECEMBER 5TH AT 7PM

PLEASE KEEP DONATING