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April 2021  
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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](http://www.efl-churches.org)

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All the views in this magazine are those of the contributors and not  
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Please contact John Friend (details on page 3)

## **Trident Distribution**

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To order please contact the Treasurer, contact details on Page 3

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an article when there is an  
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**Please keep articles to 400 words,**  
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anonymous items will not be  
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Copy by the

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please

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nor any of the products or services advertised.

## From the Editor

As I write this it is mother's day and I am grateful for the lovely bunches of daffodils provided by the benefice churches for children and others to give to their mums. I am also grateful that we can publish and print this issue for delivery to you all. I know that some of you have not been able to access Trident online, and our treasurer has reflected that in the reduced subscription for this year.

There are lots of interesting articles this month and some projects, in particular gardening related, for you to get involved with. I hope you have been doing Alan's quiz. Has anyone got them all right yet?

Let's hope for more positive news next month.

*Holly Ivaldi*

*Editor*

### **TRIDENT subscriptions & delivery**

With our apologies again for having had to suspend printing and delivery of Trident over a few recent months, we are back in print now, and hope to remain so. Having it online worked well for some, but not for all, so our apologies for that. To make allowance for some missed copies last year and this, we are proposing the 2021 subscription to Trident be reduced to £8 (or £16 for postal subscriptions) and a renewal envelope will be included with next month's issue. Because of Lockdowns etc, a handful of subscribers in two roads did not get around to returning their 2020 subscriptions to their local deliverer, and they are asked to make good this year, please.

Payment online is most appreciated, and if you can pay electronically then please do – to **sort code 20-25-42** (Barclays Bank) **for account 40499250** (EFL Trident Magazine) using **Reference of just your Post Code and House name or number** (anything else or additional in the reference box only confuses the allocations at our end!)

An email confirmation to the Treasurer (below) is much appreciated, though not essential unless you are a new postal subscriber.

But could you help with deliveries? We have 45 kind volunteers delivering Trident by hand around the villages, but after many years in some cases, there comes a time when a few of them move away or need to retire, so we always need to recruit a few replacements – 1 or 2 every year – so if you fancy a monthly walk near where you live and could take over deliveries to 10 to 20 homes in your road (and collect subscriptions annually from those who pay by cash or cheque), do please let me know. We currently have vacancies in one part of Pollyhaugh and in Calfstock Lane/Dartford Road.

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For baptisms, weddings, funerals and churchyard  
please contact the 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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

As I sit writing this month's message, the sun is shining, snowdrops and daffodils are sprouting up around the villages, and the children have just started to return to school. The restrictions we have had on and off over this last year are starting to ease, but we do need to continue to be careful, and stay safe even with the vaccinations going ahead as they are.

Is this the start of Spring, but in a different way than that which we have known before?

With things starting to move forward, and our church buildings hopefully opening again soon, I think these could be exciting times with new beginnings, building on what we have learnt over this past year. Not everything will be the same, we won't be able to pick up everything where we left off, but God, Our Father will always be there to guide us along the road, if only we ask Him.

In the life of the church, we are coming to the season of Easter, with the sadness and pain of Good Friday, and the rejoicing and joy of Easter Day, when Jesus rose again.

Jesus went through the pain on the cross when He died for us, pierced and mocked, made to carry his own cross, with a crown of thorns on His head, because he loves us.

He went through all of that because He thought we are worth it. We were worth living for, we were worth dying for. In our darkest times, in our deepest trials, God thought we were worth His life. He loves us that much, we matter that much to Him. Jesus died to set us free from guilt and sin, that's how much He cares for us. DO WE CARE FOR HIM?

Good Friday is the perfect time to thank God for the sacrifice of Jesus. He gave his only Son so that we might live! Could there be any greater gift? Take time on this day to reflect on things we have said or done that we shouldn't have, and ask God for His forgiveness.

After that dreadful day of pain and torment Jesus rose again, as predicted by the prophets in the Old Testament, and said by Jesus himself, after three days he will be raised from death, and He was.

Easter Day, a day of great and joyous celebration. Jesus' resurrection, coming back to life. A reawakening. New life for the snowdrops and daffodils, and for us this year, slowly coming out of the restrictions. We will be able to be out and about again; even socially distanced we will meet for worship in person again.



And maybe, in these strange days, we can find time to see where God is at work in us; to ask what God is wanting us to pick up, and what we might now leave behind.

Because Resurrection, also means hope. We have already seen signs of new life in some amazing acts of dedication and generosity throughout this last year. So, while we enjoy your Easter Bunnies, Easter Eggs, and hot cross buns, let us also remember that we have the gift of Easter hope, to see us through these times, and lead us to new life that is richer, deeper and closer to God.

*Peter Sansom, Ministry Team*

## **News from Church**

### **Services**

It is with great joy that we will resume public worship on Palm Sunday!

### **Our services during Holy Week and Easter:**

#### **Palm Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

All Age Communion in St Martin's, 9.30am

Morning Worship at St Peter & St Paul's, 11.00am

Matins at St Botolph's, 11.00am

#### **Holy Week Reflections**

There will be three short evening reflection services **via Zoom** on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, all starting at 8.00pm

Please contact Tina [efloffice3@gmail.com](mailto:efloffice3@gmail.com) if you don't receive a Zoom invitation by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **Maundy Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Holy Communion in St Martin's, 7.30pm

#### **Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

An Hour at the Cross in St Peter & St Paul's, 2.00pm

#### **Easter Day 4<sup>th</sup> April**

Holy Communion in St Martin's, 9.30am

Holy Communion in St Peter & St Paul's, 11.00am

Holy Communion in St Botolph's, 11.00am

**If you wish to attend any of these services in church please contact Rev'd Dorothy either by email or telephone on [eflassociaterector@gmail.com](mailto:eflassociaterector@gmail.com) or**

**07969175768 in good time before the service.** Please state which church, your name and telephone number and how many are in your group. This will enable the church wardens to prepare the seating to meet the 2-metre rule. Please could we ask that you aim to get to church at least 15 minutes before the start of the service as it is taking a little longer to seat everyone. Thank you for your understanding.

Providing there are no changes to the government's roadmap, we continue with public worship in church after Easter.

### **Revive**

Our youth group Revive continues to meet weekly via Zoom on Wednesday evenings between 5 and 6pm. The young people, aged 11 to 16 years, regularly attend and are studying the Emmaus Course.

### **Prayer**

#### **Benefice Monthly Prayer Meeting**

The next Benefice monthly prayer meeting will be via Zoom on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:eflooffice3@gmail.com) if you have a prayer request and the team will pray for you.

*Tina Watson*

### **St Martin's - Eco Church!**

#### **PLASTIC BAGS**

No doubt we are all aware of the environmental damage caused by plastic packaging, particularly carrier bags and soft plastic food wrappings that cannot go into our recycling bags for collection at the kerbside. Most worrying is the devastating

damage it causes to marine life.

Government action has helped to reduce single-use carrier bags, so that it is now normal practice to take our bags with us when we go shopping. In 2014 the average person in England took 140 free carrier bags from the main supermarkets. In 2015 a 5p charge was imposed and by last year this usage had reduced by 95%. Yes, a success story, until we realise that the seven big supermarkets still sold 226 million bags last year! In April this year the charge is being raised to 10p in England and extended to all shops. Let's hope this will help us all to remember to take our bags with us when we go to the supermarket.

*(Information from Defra.)*

But this is just the start. What about all the plastic that our food is wrapped in? Even those supermarkets that sell mesh bags to put loose fruit and veg in, do not always give us much opportunity to buy loose. It is estimated that the UK supermarkets use 800,000 tons of plastic every year. Some of the big supermarkets are beginning to take responsibility for this. Tesco has just announced that there will be collection points in their main stores to recycle carrier bags, crisp packets, pet and baby food pouches, and plastic food wrappings like bread bags and fruit and veg packaging. They will also accept plastics from other retailers. Tesco expects to collect 1,000 tons of soft plastic a year, and they will use the recycled material for much of their new packaging.

We asked around at our local supermarkets. Sainsbury's in Otford has a discreet black bin tucked away in a corner of the main entrance. This is for all types of plastic bags. Waitrose has a bin by the exit to the carpark for carrier bags. If you have home deliveries from either of these supermarkets, you can give your plastic to the driver for recycling.

In our villages, the school, St Martin's Church and the local parish council have started up schemes to collect crisp packets and some other hard-to-recycle plastics. The parish council scheme remains open but the others have stalled with lockdown restrictions, but look out for news of them re-opening.

*(Jan Thompson for St Martin's Eco Church)*

### **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](mailto:eflooffice3@gmail.com)

## Journey out of Lockdown

I wonder how many of you read the title and thought oh no not another Covid article ? Well actually this is not ! What I would like to do is spend a few minutes with you to think about Easter and it's true meaning .



Sharing God's Love

Along life's way we all make mistakes , that wrong word that slipped out , a thought in the wrong direction or something borrowed and never given back . The list could go on and some of these mistakes can have a devastating and controlling influence on our life . The Bible uses an old fashioned word, not normally used in modern society , to sum this up : Sin.

This sin has a dire consequence in blocking our relationship with God and our eternal future , something I would urge you to consider and think about carefully . The good news is that God has not left us to our mistakes, a very famous verse, John Ch 3 V 16, says that God loves us so much that he sent his son Jesus to the Earth on a rescue mission . Jesus came and ended up taking the blame for all our mistakes . At Easter we remember that Jesus was crucified at Calvary to pay the price for our forgiveness .

The good news of Easter is that God made a path out of the Lockdown of sin for us all . Romans Ch 6 v23 tells us "For the wages of sin is death, but the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" . On our part it is important that we make the step of receiving this free gift just like you would un wrap a gift at Christmas . Receiving this gift is just a prayer away, maybe something you have never done before but try reaching out to God today saying sorry for your mistakes and asking for his most wonderful gift of forgiveness through Jesus . This is the real and most amazing message of Easter .Remember the story did not end at Calvary but with a risen Jesus !

We continue to hold all our meetings online in an interactive style with Zoom and are hoping to be meeting again face to face again from Easter Sunday . To keep up to date please look at our website : [www.DVCC.online](http://www.DVCC.online) . You are most welcome to join us , please feel free to contact me for more details.

Every Blessing

*Adrian Elms, Pastor Tel : 07908 045445*

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## **No Pandemic in Heaven**

Revelation 4 v 10& 11

The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

The scene above is normalcy in heaven. God the creator specifically created the 24 elders and four beasts to worship him forever. That shows the importance of worship to him. There has been a global pandemic and we are so thankful that normalcy is returning to earth with social distancing coming to an end soon. In heaven there is no pandemic we will join the 24 elders and 4 beast to worship our creator.

This Easter season calls for reflection and decision to consider the way to make it to heaven after death. Jesus paid the sacrifice by dying for everyone and he wants that personal relationship with him. Unless a man is born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God, It is not being good alone or just attending church.

We need to acknowledge that we were all born as sinners and accepting that repenting and following Jesus is the way to make it to heaven.

Once you make the decision you then need to fellowship with other believers.

Happy Easter everyone Jesus is alive. He is risen You are welcome to join our meeting on Sundays even if you are not yet a Christian. It is good to explore the Christian faith and also be in the company of happy people.

There is singing and bible reading always.

God bless you

## EYNSFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

When last we wrote there was snow on the ground. Proper *winter*! Now, we are moving into the new season of *spring*, signs of which are very much on full display as we move around the village. The daffodils, in particular, smile at us from verges and gardens. Spring is here and Eynsford is beginning to bloom!



Here at EBC, we feel we are in something of a spring season ourselves with plans to reopen the church for “in-person” services as well as our live-stream (available via Facebook) are well in hand. Our plans to partner with Stone Baptist Church are coming together well. COVID secure measures will, of course, make it an Easter unlike any before. Notably the lack of singing. But hope is rising.

In the village and in the country, there seems to be a renewed sense of optimism. “Hope is rising”. That particular phrase both seem to capture the moment and in some churches is very much the language of Easter. We think of hope rising in relation to our trust in Jesus. “Hope is rising” has become shorthand for trusting in God, recognising Jesus’ victory over death on the cross, and our hope in heaven as our home for eternity. A reminder to those who know Jesus that the best is yet to come.

But this reminder of Jesus death and resurrection only really makes any sense when we recognise our need of salvation in Jesus. The metaphor for sin and the vaccination of grace might be a little on the nose in light of the current situation but the spiritual reality, biblically speaking, is that serious. We need Jesus!

Hope, a new season, a cautious reopening. We are pleased to welcome you to book a seat for Easter Sunday via [StoneBaptist.com/book-online](https://StoneBaptist.com/book-online)

*Chris Moffett*

## FAREWELL ASHLEY RIVETT

The village is mourning the loss of another of its larger-than-life characters following the news that Ashley Rivett passed away on Wednesday (27 January) at the age of 63. Ashley was brought up in St Martin's Drive and many villagers will remember attending primary school and Eynsford cubs & scouts with him. He later followed in his father's footsteps by becoming a scout troop leader.



After leaving Swanley Comprehensive secondary school Ashley worked at The Telegraph newspaper group and then changed careers to become a security guard. He was always involved in village life, assisting the Vicar at St Martin's Church, and making occasional appearances for The Riverside Players. One of his appearances is still amusingly remembered when, during a performance of *She Stoops to Conquer*, he delivered the immortal line 'The Squire has got spunk in him' with such gusto that the audience burst into laughter.

Other village pursuits included being a founder player with Darent Valley RFC after an inaugural match on Harrow Meadow in 1977 between The Five Bells and The Lion Hotel, Farningham. It is fair to say Ashley was an even bigger supporter of the after-match entertainment and other club events. He never missed the annual trip to the Epsom Derby or the Oval Ball. Ashley also helped organise club nights in The Coach House at The Pied Bull in Farningham. Alongside rugby, he was a keen football fan and volunteered for a number of years as a steward at Charlton Athletic. Ashley could often be found socialising in the Five Bells and he also worked behind the bar when David and Di Kerr were the landlords. He made a brief appearance in '20 Miles from Piccadilly', the 1994 fly-on-the-wall TV documentary about living in Eynsford.

He found romance later in life after meeting up again with Sandra, one of his former sweethearts. After getting married they eventually moved to live in Aldingbourne, West Sussex, but Ashley made regular visits back to the village to meet up with old friends in 'The Bells'. In normal circumstances many of Ashley's friends and former work colleagues would have been at his funeral on 11 February at the Reynolds (funeral director) chapel in Bognor Regis to pay their respects. Unfortunately, the pandemic meant numbers were restricted, but once conditions allow social gatherings, those who knew Ashley can meet up in The Bells to give him a proper send off.

*Frank Baldwin*

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## **Nancy Teresa Frei (née Jennings)** **18<sup>th</sup> December 1932 to 19<sup>th</sup> December 2020**



Mum was born in 2 Whitewood Cottages, Eynsford as the Salvation Army were singing ‘Hark the Herald Angels Sing’ outside. Her Mother’s family came to live in Eynsford when Alton paper mill closed in 1909. Her father William Jennings was born in the village, sang in the church choir and played in the village brass band for over 30 years. She had three older brothers Gilbert, Norman and Jack.

Her childhood was spent growing up during the war. She went to school in the village and friends made have remained lifelong. She was a bright pupil and at 13 went to Bexley Technical School for Girls completing the Pitman’s Shorthand and Typing Secretarial course. Her first job was in Holborn London. It was while working in London she met our wonderful Dad Peter in 1951. On 20<sup>th</sup> September 1952 they were married in St Martins, the church her family have attended for generations. A few years later Teresa was born, then they moved to Farningham where Christine was born and finally in 1963 to Saddlers Park where Ian was born, it has been Mum’s home ever since.

She had a passion for sewing and knitting. For us girls that meant we had the most beautiful dresses. She made our wedding and bridesmaid dresses and what a wonderful knitter she was too. She enjoyed embroidery and cross stitch; she was so exceptionally talented. Not forgetting her cooking. She was a much-loved Nan to Jack, Ben, Joe Luke, Sean, Ryan and Aaron she loved and spoiled them all, no one could make cakes like their Nan. She was Great Nanny Nancy to Jay, Harry, Ivy and Arthur. Mum shared a happy retirement with Dad and enjoyed many holidays, their favourite was to Canada. They celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in 2012.

She loved flowers and the garden always looked beautiful, every plant had a story. A crossword or puzzle was always on the go. Mastering facetime on the iPad was not a problem which meant she could keep in contact with friends and family. The last couple of years were not easy for her, she never lost her sense of humour and her beautiful smile and never failed to say thank you to anyone who helped her, she was always so grateful.

Mum’s final resting place is with her husband and our Dad Peter at St Martins Church. Her kind, caring, thoughtful, courageous nature has touched us all and she will always have a special place in our hearts.

*Teresa, Christine & Ian*

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# Sheila Mary Williams

## 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1927 – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021

It is with great sadness that I am writing to tell of my mother's passing. Sheila was born in Downham, where she lived for four years before moving to Lee with her four-year old sister Doreen, mother, father and grandparents. In 1939, Sheila and Doreen were evacuated to Deal, then Folkestone and eventually to Abertillery in South Wales. Returning to London in 1943 at the age of sixteen, Sheila was determined to find work. After a six-month gardening course in Northamptonshire, she became a journeyman at Tewin Water House in Welwyn, Hertfordshire. In her late teens she returned to her family in Lee working as a landscape gardener. After a while Sheila decided to find indoor work.



There was a shortage of teachers after the war, so Sheila took a foundation course at Goldsmiths, which is where she and my father Mick fell in love. They were married in 1948. Sheila was 21, Mick 25. They moved in with Mick's family in Woolwich, completed their training and both worked as teachers. They often cycled with friends to Eynsford and fell for the area, moving to Eynsford Rise (with Sheila's parents) in 1953. Later that year they adopted Richard and two years later, Stephen. After Richard began school, Sheila decided to start a nursery school from home. This ran happily for many years. In the mid-sixties, she started remedial teaching at Horton Kirby School, followed by natural studies, modern dance and eventually bamboo pipe making and playing until she retired in 1980.

As a child she was infatuated with ballet, and in the sixties and seventies, belonged to a modern dance company, which frequently had shows. Sheila also sang alto for many years in St Martins Church Choir, and in the Darent Valley Choir. Another keen interest for both Sheila and Mick was gardening, and they had an allotment on the Elm Tree site in Station Road. Sheila joined with friends in Eynsford Rise to make music and to share her love of poetry.

Mum was a calm person, happy with life, and she lived it to the full. She had so many talents, an adventurous spirit and she made life-long friends, who along with the family, will miss her deeply.

'All shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well' (Julian of Norwich)

*Stephen Williams, March 2021*

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## Sylvia Mackenzie 1938–2021

Sylvia grew up on a farm near Aldershot, where she took up bellringing at an early age following in her father's footsteps. This pastime would last throughout her life. She was a very active member of the bell ringers here in Farningham & Eynsford for 40 plus years. In fact, her muscle memory and expertise meant she was able to ring the bells even in the early stages of her dementia.



After school she trained as a nurse, met her husband George, and moved to Swanley when George joined the local GP practice. They lived locally in Swanley, then Swanley Village where they brought up their three children. When the children were old enough Sylvia returned to nursing and spent some years on a surgical ward at Joyce Green hospital in Dartford. Sylvia did various works for charities such as RNLI and Christian Aid and Meals on Wheels.

After retirement, George and Sylvia moved to Farningham and were able to go on holiday more often, particularly enjoying their cruises including their first cruise from Southampton to Australia. Something that feels quite alien to us at the moment! Despite being busy in retirement they made time for their grandchildren - often helping with childcare in the holidays. After George returned to playing golf in his retirement Sylvia joined him on the golf course at Woodlands Manor. In 2003 Sylvia was the Lady Captain at the club, and they were both proud of various prizes they won. It was a great way to remain active.

Sylvia spent her last year at Nesbit House Care Home in Badgers Mount. She settled quickly and was happy in Nesbit and we were very impressed with the care that she received. This was especially important to us as Covid restricted visits from the family. Sylvia's funeral service took place on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January at St Peter and St Paul's Church in Farningham and the family appreciated those who stood outside to pay their respects including those from Rotary, Woodlands Golf, Ringers and friends. As an avid bellringer for much of her life we were so pleased one of the bells could be rung by the Captain.

Sylvia was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and a very valued friend to many. Even during her dementia, she always remained very polite and her true character shone through. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

*The Mackenzie Family*

# Eynsford Parish Council

**The Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford DA4 0AY  
01322 865320, [info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk)**

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



Spring is in the air, snow drops and crocuses are bringing colour, green buds appearing and birds singing a little more heartily. How refreshing to see the back of the cold, rain and snow of winter. As nature awakens from hibernation, we too are coming out of a sleepy, lazy period forced upon us by something other than the weather. Many of you will have received your covid vaccination, others eagerly awaiting yours. I have mine tomorrow, seeing this as the first step to be able see my mum and give her a proper hug.

The coming of spring brings increased activity from Eynsford in Bloom, the marvellous group of passionate volunteers who keep our village looking fresh and beautiful with carefully tended green spaces and flowers that bring a smile. I cannot thank them enough for their dedication from which we all benefit. And if anyone feels they too want to put a little something back, I'm sure they would welcome new volunteers. Look them up on Facebook or contact the Parish Council who'll be able to put you in touch.

Continuing the green theme, The Parish Council has a Green Working Group dedicated to promoting green issues and incorporating more sustainable policies. As an example, the group has recently overseen the planting of a new hedge in an area of previous scrub, behind the parish office. On our website we have an active Greener Eynsford Blog, please do take a look and celebrate the great work being done. [https://www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk/sblog-greener\\_eynsford-greener\\_eynsford\\_blog.html](https://www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk/sblog-greener_eynsford-greener_eynsford_blog.html)

For almost a year now we have seen a marked increase in visitors drawn by the charm of the village and ease of access to the wonders of the Darent Valley, who can blame them. Although visitors do exacerbate issues such as poor parking, litter and worn out grass on Riverside, I am pleased that people want to come and experience our village. Let's not forget the positive impact visitors can also make, sustaining businesses and jobs for local people.

This is far from a new phenomenon, only last week I attended a thoroughly interesting Zoom presentation hosted by the Farningham & Eynsford Local History Society (another fine local organisation certainly worth joining). The presenter regaled the story of a chap who wrote an article in 1955, describing the seasonal influx of visitors imbibing themselves, playing in the river and finally leaving in their motor cars trailing rubbish and milk bottles...

Noting my word count I'll finish with some other Council news. Sadly there has been a spate of shed break-ins including at the Council allotments. Please make your sheds and other property secure and continue to report crime and suspicious activity. This is not a new problem, Eynsford suffers as other areas do, but let's not give these scurrilous people any opportunity.

The Council is implementing a 'no loading' ban on a section of Riverside to address some of the poor parking. Otford has been successful with an application for a 20mph limits in some areas including on the A225. This gives us confidence that we might now be able to implement similar schemes for Eynsford, particularly outside the school, something we have been pressing for.

Enjoy the coming spring and relaxation of restrictions but most of all, stay safe!

*Cllr Phil Ward*

## **Eynsford and Farningham Ladies' Probus**

Good news. Meetings can begin again on July 7th. It's been a long time since we last met. We would have learnt about The Jewels and Wardrobe of the Duchess of Windsor, been more knowledgeable about Reflexology and had an insight into the workings of The Flying Squad. Hopefully these fascinating speakers will return to entertain us in the next year.

The Golf Club will be delighted to welcome us back. So let's hope nothing happens to prevent us returning to our monthly convivial lunches.

*Gill Govus*

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# Eynsford Gardeners' Club



## Forking weather. . .

Now is the time of year to dig out your fork and spade from the tool shed and remove last year's soil and rust ready for turning over your veg patch (you really ought to clean your tools before you put them away).

Haven't quite decided what to grow this year but will probably the usual courgettes, runner beans and the dreaded Jerusalem Artichokes. We have Globe Artichokes but they are in the flower bed as the silver foliage and stunning purple flowers make a great display. The runner beans I shall grow up an obelisk as it takes up less space. I have already planted my tomato seeds in trays in the back bedroom. I have decided that this year I shall concentrate on the Tumbling Toms planted in wall pots on the back fence (South facing) rather than full size plants in the greenhouse. The tumblers seem to produce just as much fruit per plant and don't need so much looking after.

I know that we shouldn't start casting our clouts yet but I shall remove the fleece from the lemon tree and hope that the sunlight will aid its recovery. It seems to have shed more than a few leaves over this winter. The problem is it has grown too large to bring inside although it is in a wheeled pot so I can move it right back into the shelter of the back of the house.

I am having another go at turning the front lawn slope into a wild meadow. It dries out so quickly the grass doesn't grow very well and it's so steep it's a pain to mow. I did sprinkle half a packet of meadow flower seeds last autumn with the intention of doing the other half this spring; only trouble is I can't find the packet with the remaining half! I know I put it somewhere safe. I should have put it in the seed box with all the leftover seeds I don't really need.

As you have probably gathered the Spring show has had to be cancelled but we are still running the Hyacinth competition although this will be judged from photos. This year there will be a prize for the best hyacinth. Can you email your photo to [Eynsford\\_gc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Eynsford_gc@yahoo.co.uk) by 6<sup>th</sup> April. Photos will appear on the Eynsford Gardeners' Club Facebook page and the website.

By now your hyacinth pot should be indoors. Keep it well watered. You will have to judge how to get the bulb to flower at the right time. Give it more heat and sun to push the bloom on, or cool conditions to hold it back [even put it outside again]. For example if the leaves develop faster than the flower bud, move to a cooler place and cover again to keep them in dark for a day or two, but no



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longer as the leaves may begin to turn pale. Stake the bloom with a single cane and a tie if the bloom gets too tall. Don't delay staking. Cover compost with moss or gravel to give a better presentation then take your photo.

We will also be running our famous potato competition this year so email us if you would like a potato to grow in the competition. And is anybody interested in an online talk by a gardening expert? If so, can you let us know by email. Happy hoeing!

David Ketley

[www.egclub.co.uk](http://www.egclub.co.uk) [Eynsford\\_gc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Eynsford_gc@yahoo.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/groups/eynsfordgardenersclub/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/eynsfordgardenersclub/)

## FARNINGHAM WI

It's said that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb but for the ladies of Farningham WI, March came in with a Zoom.

Still unable to meet in person, we got together in early March for a virtual social evening. A game of "Two Truths, One Lie" revealed some surprising facts .....and some worryingly convincing liars. A selection of Lockdown Limericks, written for our 'March Challenge', had us all laughing and competition was fierce in a game of Lockdown Bingo. We rounded off the evening with Irene's "Poem written for a Third Lockdown", which put many things into perspective.

Sadly the embargo on our meetings will still be in place in April, so for our Easter meeting we are reduced to 'a meeting in a bag'. Not some elaborate ruse for a clandestine get-together but all the elements of a meeting (newsletter, seasonal recipes and craft ideas, tea bag, cake etc) packed up and delivered to each member.

We'll also be holding a virtual craft workshop and a social evening. Looking ahead, our March newsletter included our Pathway for the rest of the year (anything Boris Johnson can do.....) with details of speakers and events from June onwards when we all hope to be back together. We can't wait.

*Marilyn Wells*

[www.farninghamwi.wordpress.com](http://www.farninghamwi.wordpress.com)



## FARNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL -

Clerk to the Council: Mrs A. Barlow.

Phone: 07375 062428 email: [clerk@farninghamparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@farninghamparishcouncil.org)

Web: [www.farninghamparishcouncil.org](http://www.farninghamparishcouncil.org)

Farningham Parish Council met via a video link on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 201, and present were seven parish councillors (including Sevenoaks District Councillor Philip McGarvey), Kent County Councillor Roger Gough and the Clerk Amanda Barlow.

**Our perfect storm:** In respect of bin collections missed because of the snow and ice in February, Sevenoaks District Council management now accepts that its lines of communication failed to reach enough residents quickly enough, or were confusing, so SDC will use additional channels (including emailing Parish Clerks) if this happens again. The problem was magnified by KCC having closed the Waste Transfer Station at Dunbrik two weeks earlier (to continue making repairs after last year's fire) and a bin lorry breaking down in mid-round in South Darenth. Although the snow made a few roads impassable on just the first day, ice made the pavements dangerous for a few more days. The "catch-up" mountain to shift the next week was therefore double that of normal and compounded by SDC lorries having to dump their loads further away. If this ever happens again residents could help with resulting pressure on space in the lorries by holding back their recycling. Having said all that, we sincerely thank the staff for their tremendous efforts in doing an otherwise thankless task. It is also worth noting that, as well as the SDC website's information on refuse collection, the Farningham Parish Council website has a question and answer segment containing such information and details on such issues is disseminated on Facebook and Twitter by FPC for those wishing to access via those routes.

**Friends of Farningham:** Government pandemic guidelines permitting, we will start our bi-monthly meetings on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> May – 10am at the village hall. We plan to then meet every third Wednesday and first Saturday in the month up until October. We have in past years cleared weeds and leaves from various places around the village and organised litter-picks alongside the river and in various roads. Our clear-ups have made a difference and been a rewarding experience. We have a circulation list of FoF members and these will be contacted. Details will also be sent to those on our Parish Council circulation list - sign up for this on our Website – and we would, as ever, welcome new members and any suggestions for projects within the village. We meet for about an hour and all that is needed to take part are a pair of gloves, tools you may use in your own garden, and strong shoes. Further details are available from the Clerk or Cllr Carol Salmon, [carolsalmon46@gmail.com](mailto:carolsalmon46@gmail.com) or phone 01322 860983.

**Annual Parish Council Meeting:** Unfortunately we will not be holding an Annual Parish Meeting (for reports to/from the public and societies) this year but we will still have our annual Parish Council Meeting (for election of Chairman etc) on Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Further details are available from the Clerk.

**Traffic updates from Kent County Council:** Cllr Gough said the traffic count in the High Street would begin on 20 March. Although this might sound rather counter-intuitive, KCC will allow us to have a 20mph limit if the average speed limit taken by the speed tests is less than 26mph. So, as ever, please try to drive carefully in the village, particularly over the speed test strips! The results will be available in mid-April and then the issue will be debated, along with the feasibility of our other suggestions for a traffic improvement scheme. £10m of KCC funding has been set aside for another pothole blitz across the county with last year's work resulting in over 600 one metre square potholes filled in.

**Regular updates:** If you would like more regular updates from Farningham Parish Council they are available on Facebook, Twitter or by email. To receive email updates, please complete the sign up box at the foot of the home page [www.farninghamparishcouncil.org](http://www.farninghamparishcouncil.org) The Facebook link is [www.facebook.com/farninghampc](https://www.facebook.com/farninghampc) and Twitter @FarninghamPC  
xt meeting is on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021, 7pm on Zoom. Please contact the Clerk if you wish to join in.

*Cllr. Carol Salmon*

## **Council Tax in 2021/22**

From April 2021 our Council Tax goes up (cash amounts shown are for “average” Band D properties):

Kent County Council up 5% to £1,418.76

Kent Police & Crime up 7.38% to £218.15

Kent Fire & Rescue up 1.93% to £80.82

Sevenoaks District Council up 4.95% (£5) to £224.91

Farningham Parish Council have opted for no increase (remaining at £70.17);

Eynsford PC up 2.43% to £88.25 per annum.

So our total Council Tax annual totals will be:

Bands:	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Eynsford	1,579.58	1,805.23	2,030.89	2,482.20	2,933.51	3,384.81	4,061.78
F'ham	1,565.52	1,789.16	2,012.81	2,460.10	2,907.40	3,354.68	4,025.62

*Cllr Philip McGarvey, March 2021*

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The EVS Committee met at the beginning of March via zoom for the first time in a lot of months, aware that we had outstanding matters to be discussed.

From necessity due to the current pandemic restrictions, we postponed our AGM scheduled for mid March, and calculating when perhaps the Village Hall could be reopened we have booked Friday July 16<sup>th</sup> for the AGM, starting at 7.30pm with a report from the Millfield Trustees. The AGM will follow the usual pattern, village interest groups feeding back their year though they must all be short and predictable, followed by wine and nibbles. We hope there will be a good enough turn out though it is natural that some will still be feeling a little apprehensive about communal gathering. Many of us should have had both jabs by then, so hopefully risk would be to a minimum. If mutations should spike again and we are confined back to barracks, obviously a later date will be rescheduled. The Xmas Quiz is set for Friday December 17<sup>th</sup> so let's hope we can all get there.

We had on our Agenda:

Treasurer: Toni McCoy reported that EVS is solvent but would benefit from an injection of funds which have not been available in 2020/1 as we have been unable to hold the usual fund-raising events.

Arthur Mee's Seat: EVS is not really responsible for it but it is understood to need care to make it safe; Phil Blakemore and Ed Holbrook will take a look at it when we are able to go out and the weather suitable as access is awkward. There is an EVS plaque which we think is with John Gee; perhaps it can either go back on the seat or if the seat cannot be mended, it be staked at the site.

Village Map: Has been replaced in Ford Car Park with an up-to-date map in a new wooden surround. It looks sturdy seeming lighter, more striking than its predecessor.

CCTV at Riverside: No action can be taken.

Telephone Box in Ford Car Park: We have been offered the long loan of an iconic red box to anchor in the same place as the previous ugly one. The box needs several new panes of glass, a very good clean inside and out, and at least one coat of red paint. It would also need to be cemented on to the pavement. I met with KCC Highways Dept there in the days when that sort of thing was possible, and they are happy for it to go ahead. I have also had contact with a local landscaping business who have access to the right machinery to bring it to site and are willing to do that for no cost.

Opinion on whether we should go ahead with the project is mixed. Several Com-

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## Lullingstone Country Park *up and coming events!*

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mittee members are concerned as to the sense of it, worried about safety, security and cleanliness. I have advised that the phone box has a padlock and that I have found a young woman who works for several people in the village, willing to take on the cleaning job for a modest monthly fee.

Following my various appeals over the months, I have received 2 emails which are vehemently opposed to the idea, about 10 very much in favour with some willing to join a cleaning rota, many verbal expressions of support as I have mooched around the village, and even 2 financial donations to help set it up (unheard of).

The most important thing we need to decide is what we would like to use it for if we go to the trouble and expense of installing it, for there will be a set-up cost to EVS of perhaps as much as £500 for labour and materials. And EVS money is our money to spend how we see fit. Every resident of Eynsford is automatically a member so we each have an equal say in how we use funds.

I have agreed with the Committee members that we will make this an Agenda item at the next AGM for open discussion in the hope a positive consensus will emerge and that a purpose can be agreed; please come armed with ideas. If the majority are against it, so be it and I wont sulk for long!

AOB: EVS is winding up the Public Art Trail leaving one project incomplete (Daren&Val) as it has proved too ambitious to deliver easily. We are having a map printed on A4 and folded into 3 sections to use as publicity for the trail in the hope both locals and visitors will walk it with picnics in the summer months and enjoy each of the artworks in their given spot; each installation has been chosen for its relevance to its location.

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

## **BRAESIDE SURGERY**

Braeside Surgery would like to send a heartfelt thanks to all of our very kind villagers for our beautiful hamper. Thank you so much for planning such a thoughtful surprise for all of the staff here, it was such a lovely gesture and made our week very special.

We would like to say a massive thank you to all our patients for the support and understanding you have shown to the surgery over the past year. We look forward to summer now and better days ahead.

Best Wishes to you all.

*Anne Horan, Partners and Staff.*

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## Every Scone Saves a Life!

My daughter Daisy, 11, and I have managed to raise £560 for charity by baking batches of scones. The two charities that have benefitted from our fundraising efforts are Skcin, a thank you for the awareness that was raised in the early detection of my recent skin cancer, and Battersea, as Daisy is very fond of animals and wanted to support a local charity.

Daisy, who before lockdown was nervous of using the oven, has overcome her fears and has baked and delivered over 200 scones along with an information pack to raise awareness of skin cancer. More information about Skcin can be found at [www.skcin.org](http://www.skcin.org). Daisy came up with the idea as she wanted to do something worthwhile for others during lockdown.

In April 2020, I undertook an online MASCED course, which stands for **Melanoma and Skin Cancer Early Detection**. Skcin designed the course specifically for Beauty Therapists to recognise changes in their clients' skins. On completion, I instantly recognised a mole on my lower leg that had changed, the mole was slightly raised, the edges were blurred and the colour wasn't consistent, all signs to look out for. After a phone call with my GP, and a Dermatologist referral, it eventually led onto a physical appointment and the decision to remove the mole was made. On testing it was discovered to be a melanoma, which meant a duplicate procedure to ensure any cancerous cells had been removed, which thankfully they had.

I am very thankful to the Skcin charity and have since volunteered to become an Ambassador to support them by raising awareness & funding for the charity so they can further expand their work and highlight their message. I will continue to give out the Skcin information packs to my clients when I am allowed to re-open Hidden Beauty, hopefully mid-April. I follow strict hygiene procedures in my business anyway but have stepped these up even further incorporating strict Covid precautions, further information at

[www.hiddenbeautykent.weebly.com](http://www.hiddenbeautykent.weebly.com).

Daisy and I would like to thank everyone who supported us in our venture, and hopefully everyone enjoyed their scones all the more knowing it was also funding good causes.

*Heidi Rudkin, Hidden Beauty*



## HIDDEN BEAUTY

Sending out huge thanks to everyone who supported us recently, see separate article 'Every Scone Saves a Life!'

Hidden Beauty hopes to welcome you back mid-April depending on Government guidelines.



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# Make Your Own Wildlife-Friendly Hanging Basket!

We are pleased to announce a joint initiative between Eynsford Green Team, Eynsford Gardeners' Club and Eynsford in Bloom.

Brighten up your garden, make it more attractive to wildlife, and help to make Eynsford more beautiful for the Eynsford in Bloom competition!

Are you currently choosing bedding plants for your garden hanging baskets and containers? Why not have a go at creating a wildlife-friendly hanging basket.

We have put together some ideas to help you make your hanging baskets more attractive to bees and other pollinators. This includes;

- ideas on lining your planter so that it is more wildlife-friendly and incorporates recycled materials,
- some suggestions for more wildlife-friendly, colourful and scented bedding plants, and,
- ideas to help with manual watering.
- 

Creating this hanging basket makes good use of readily available plant material from gardens, it provides suitable habitats and food for wildlife, the basket looks attractive with the green foliage and it is great fun (it really is!).

Many of these ideas would also be relevant for your pots and other planters. The Village would look even more beautiful if we could make a display in our front gardens of wildlife-friendly planters. (Although the insects would also like a wildlife-friendly hanging basket in your back garden!). Not only would this be great for wildlife, and create an attractive feature in your garden, but it would also help with our 2021 entry to Eynsford in Bloom.

If you need help sourcing any of the equipment, materials or plants please let us know as we might be able to help!

A full tutorial is available on the Greener Eynsford Blog at [www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk). Alternatively email [info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk) or call 01322 865320 for an email or hard copy.

We would love to see your planted containers and baskets. Post your photos on the Eynsford Parish Council facebook page or email [info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk)

*Kaz Langridge*

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## Farningham Village Hall -

### Planning for Your Events?

After Easter we can reopen for a small number of permitted activities according to the government's announcement on 22 February. From May 17<sup>th</sup> Village halls can be hired out for many functions including exercise classes, coffee mornings, performances and celebrations such as weddings and birthday parties. After that we expect more community events may be booked at the Hall and Meadow providing the management of the pandemic and Covid Statistics meets Government criteria.

The hall is ready for hire as soon as it is permitted. We have followed Government guidelines to maintain a Covid-secure environment as recommended to protect our users against Covid. The Meadow is always available for hire in conjunction with the hall at very reasonable rates. Our website gives details of the facilities and charges. We have WIFI and our website [www.farninghamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.farninghamvillagehall.co.uk) shows details and costs. For bookings and enquiries contact our Booking Secretary on 07530297707. If you are interested in volunteering to join the management committee or have any enquiries about the Village Hall please feel free to email me at [fvhchair@gmail.com](mailto:fvhchair@gmail.com)

### Market Meadow was purchase by the Village in 1991 Do you recall this event?

Do you know who was involved; when and how this happened or any related information? If so please contact me on 01322862330 or [vivienneparker@aol.com](mailto:vivienneparker@aol.com) *Vivienne Parker*

## Farningham and Eynsford Local History Society

We held our first evening meeting on Church Graffiti via Zoom in February. Most of our speakers have now adapted to Zoom and Wayne Perkins set the trend with his interesting talk about graffiti. It was reassuring that a good number of members joined in and that numbers were swelled by new members who found watching at home more comfortable, and several guests from beyond our area. By the time you read this our second talk on the delightful Darent valley will have also gone ahead. On Friday 16 April Howard Myers will present **Fire Fighting in Kent** giving a general overview of firefighting in the county and how it evolved from local brigades (such as the one at Eynsford). This will be on Zoom once again at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

Members with e-mail will receive a reminder of the meeting a week or so beforehand, and a link in the week of the meeting. Contact [archives@felhs.org.uk](mailto:archives@felhs.org.uk) if you wish to join a Zoom meeting as a guest - the fee is £3.

If you are on Zoom but lack confidence in using it do get in touch (archives@felhs.org.uk), because Vikki, who is hosting the meetings, can probably give you a dummy run on an individual basis. If you are not on Zoom and don't know how to download it, try to get someone to help you. We hope to welcome many more new faces for future talks.

Please visit our Facebook page, @felhs.1985, and 'like' it to receive the updates. We will be able to keep you informed of any Society news. If you have any suggestions of items that you would like to see on the page please email us at [info@felhs.org.uk](mailto:info@felhs.org.uk) Enquiries are always welcome by emailing [archives@felhs.org.uk](mailto:archives@felhs.org.uk) or visit our website, [www.felhs.org.uk](http://www.felhs.org.uk), for further information.

*Helen Smith*

## ACE

Zooming brilliant! It's a first to have an AGM where friends from Camphin can join us. Good to see them on our screens thanks to zoom. It's a pity that this was a meeting with very little to report. The one good thing was that last year just before 'lockdown' we had been able to hold a very successful Fun, French, Family quiz which made a sizeable profit for the Association. £350 of the profit from that has been set aside to support a trip by Anthony Roper School to the Primary school in Camphin when they are able to travel to France. Unfortunately this might be quite a while away. Our treasurer reported a healthy bank balance which means we can comfortably host a group from Camphin visiting us.



Although there are some differences in the experience of Covid between our two countries there are many similarities. There is an overriding wish that we will be able to meet soon and hope that the schools in the two villages will be able to resume visits. It is the young people that should be the future of twinning.

Bruno Chair of the Camphin group suggested that they would like to consider visiting this year for the weekend of 25 - 26 September. Let's hope it might be possible. We will be investigating the feasibility of a visit. There is an issue in France that at present people can travel to England using their identity cards and a passport is not necessary. From October this year everyone including children will need a passport. Coming to England could prove quite expensive for families. We did have to share with Bruno that fresh meat products could not be taken in to France. So sausages are 'interdit.'

Thanks to the committee and all those that attended the meeting. Looking forward to being able to meet in person. Stay safe. *Gill Govus*



## **South & South East in Bloom 2021 Special Awards (Desk-top) - Entry Deadline 31/3/21**

### **Categories:**

- ⇒ **Front Gardens & Balconies** - a garden at the front of a property or a balcony seen by passers-by
- ⇒ **Grow at Home** - part or all of a private garden where vegetables & fruit are grown (not allotments)
- ⇒ **Wildflowers & Weeds** - part or all of a private garden where plants are grown to specifically benefit wildlife
- ⇒ **Residential Street or Road** - where residents collaborate to improve the street or road through gardens and gardening. (not an area wholly maintained by the local authority)
- ⇒ **Roof Garden** - a man-made structure creating a garden on the roof of a residential property. It may contain ornamental plants, vegetable gardens, habitats for wildlife or other ecological benefits
- ⇒ **Pubs & Restaurants** - buildings where people can have drinks and food
- ⇒ **Hotels & Guest Houses** - a building offering accommodation to paying guests
- ⇒ **Shops Fronts & Workplaces** - premises where people work or customers visit which can be seen by passers-by (**not Pubs or Restaurants**)
- ⇒ **Living Wall** - a wall that is entirely covered with plant material. It is not a living wall covered in a single plant such as ivy or vine but one designed and planted with a range of plants in order to create a vertical garden

### **How to enter**

**We don't need reams of text just up to 5 good images and a page of A4 which describes what has been achieved, such as:**

- Why did you enter the category?
- When did you start and what did you achieve?
- Was this a “one-off” or will you continue to develop your project/display?
- If you can please tell us what plants/veg/fruit were used in completing your projects.

**Entries must be paid in advance either by BACS (including entry name) or by cheque payable to South & South East in Bloom.**

**Entry Prices** Front gardens and Balconies, Grow at home, Wild Flowers and Weeds..... £5 each

Residential Street/Road, Roof Garden.....£15 each

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## **Eynsford Tree of the Year: A Celebration of our Village Trees Nominate Your Favourite Tree!**

You may be aware of the Woodland Trust's annual Tree of the Year contest which aims to showcase the UK's favourite trees to help promote their value and need for protection. We thought it would be fun to do a similar contest for our village trees, after all we are the place where Arbor Day first started in the UK in 1897!



So, do you have favourite tree in the village? Perhaps a tree which you think is a perfect example of that species. Alternatively, is there a tree in the village that makes you smile or brings back happy memories? Or maybe a tree which you think embodies Eynsford village? If so, then why not nominate it for Eynsford Tree of the Year.

To nominate your tree please email [info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:info@eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk) or drop in a note to the parish office, and tell us;

- which tree you wish to nominate (the tree must be within Eynsford parish)
- a few lines about why you are nominating this tree.
- the location of the tree, and the species (if you know it)
- and ideally please include a photo

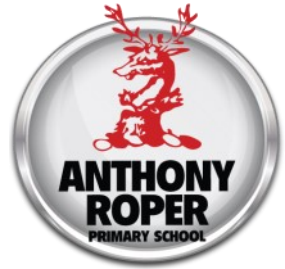
Nominations need to reach us by June 2021. The winner will be chosen by our Tree Wardens and a representative from our Green Team. The winning tree will be unveiled, rather more Arbor than Oscar style, the following month.

There are no prizes if your chosen tree is picked - it's just for fun. But, the winning tree and it's story, will be featured on our website, social media and in our next newsletter.



*Jane Laird - for Eynsford's Green Team*

We are so pleased to see our children back in school. Life is back to, as normal as currently possible, but the children are remaining in their class bubbles so that interaction is restricted. On the whole, the children appear to have settled in really well and are enjoying being with their classmates. We would like to thank all the parents and carers who have supported our hardworking teachers too during the remote learning period.



*Please see some lovely photos of our children and their work*



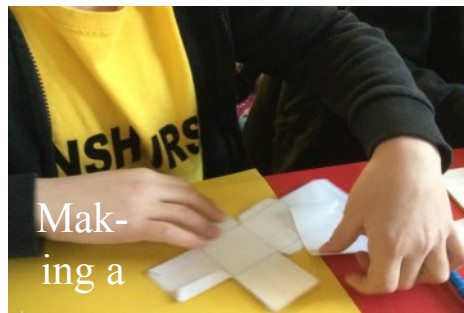
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Art

# Farningham and Darent Valley Men's Probus

## Spring Is In The Air

Then, all of a sudden, it was March. Still feels like the New Year to me but by the time of publication we will already be almost a quarter of the way through 2021. It will soon be Christmas. Better tell granny to put the sprouts on. But let's not get too far ahead. Before thinking of searching out the snow shovel again (actually as I'm dreaming of a White Easter it's not yet been put away) let's firstly enjoy the better weather of the seasons between now and the next yuletide.

March 1<sup>st</sup> saw the official meteorological beginning of spring and that at least sounds very encouraging. What is even more joyous is the knowledge that the plans to release us all from hibernation will, if all goes well, coincide with a little bit of sunshine and a chance to sip that much anticipated odd cool glass of something, sitting in the garden with friends, at last without risking arrest. Though I suppose police involvement depends on the volume and regularity of those odd sips and how badly those friends behave this time. After their pre-total-lockdown garden shenanigans last time, if word gets around no doubt the police will be on stakeout in anticipation of another bumper outbreak of peace disturbance. Some of those revealing police evidence photos last time were highly embarrassing, especially on that chilly day. Oh, the perils of fizzy pop.

As you would expect from a pillar of propriety, personally of course I will not be led astray but admit there will be an urge to celebrate ahead of freedom and to let loose, not to mention run amok. But currently we have to retain some ability to know what's going on around us. We must continue to try to memorise the rest of the rules and regulations set out for the coming months to ensure that we remain on the right side of the law. In truth, most of the government instructions are laid out quite clearly but, as with attempting to watch an entire TV weather forecast from beginning to end, after a short time everything becomes sort of distant and fuzzy. I don't know if it's the same for you but, after a minute or two of the forecast, my attention starts to wander to thoughts of "What's for tea?" or "I wonder what happened to Reader's Digest Prize Draws?" and nothing weather related really sinks in. I think young Tomasz 'Shaggy' Schafermaker said something about there being cloudy showers, warnings of yellow snow (surely that must have been yellow warnings of snow) then it will be wet and windy with funny smells. Something like that.

Changing facts often mean that lockdown instructions have to be amended. That's very understandable but they seem to do that just as I've got the hang of the previous set. I may have this wrong but I think the current roadmap lockdown rules state that by April we must all go the nail bar and can have a cup of coffee sitting on a park bench while walking your dog. What colour polish do

you think would suit my sausage fingers, ketchup red perhaps, and can anyone lend me a dog? By May we must all go to a wedding ceremony and we must be tested twice a week. Tested for what, I'm not sure. If it's algebra, then I'm lost. Also in May, the dance around the Maypole will make a welcome return to the calendar to celebrate Britishness and to 'Help Out' the ribbon-making industry. It will also ensure that we continue to go around and around in ever decreasing circles whilst getting completely entangled and confused. This will also take our minds back to the good old days of the Brexit negotiations. By July pubs and restaurants will be open and we will be free to celebrate as much as we like with whoever we wish for as long as we are able. This will 'Help Out' the manufacturers of Alka Seltzer.

In August we are all booked in to rehab.

Don't take my recollections of the rules as gospel, I may have some of the minor details wrong.

One genuine ray of hope is that we can dare to believe that Probus meetings could restart as early as Thursday July 1<sup>st</sup>. At the time of writing this date cannot be confirmed by the Probus committee because they are not in charge. They are doing a really excellent job but no matter what considered plans we make in these tough times, in real life the global virus decides the order of things, not us mere humans. But let's hope that this strange and surreal state of affairs is coming to an end and that we can soon once again enjoy the company of good friends without hindrance and that in July we can meet up again, starting with drinks at the bar. If I remember correctly, it's your round.

*Joe Irwin 11 March 2021*

## **Eynsford in Bloom**

Our work parties were cancelled for two weeks due to snow lying and then the soil left very wet. Soil continues to be washed away from the Riverside border when the lorries drive through the ford. The plants in this border have been pruned, a washed out Hebe replanted, all weeded and tidied. New soil and grass seed will be added when the River level goes down.

During the recent four work parties sixteen volunteers have helped, some once and some every time. Administratively our secretary, Sue, and treasurer, Toni, have, as always, been working. Chris is reporting on Facebook our work and problems. These include the theft of snowdrops from under the mosaic on the school fence, the damage to daffodils near the station and the trampling of plants beyond the railway bridge.

Cutting back the Rose of Sharon is completed. Rose pruning on the Garden of Remembrance has continued for three weeks and the eighty plants fertilized. The



soil has been hoed leaving the lovely display of cyclamen and primroses.

Ten bags of compost from St. Martin's Church yard have been used along one border in the car park. More will be used to raise the level of some graves and grass seed will be sown. The Olive Seal Hall gutters and path were cleaned. Litter, the fallen Cotoneaster tree and large piles of tree prunings have been removed from the station triangle. Croci in Four Tree Island and elsewhere in the village have been beautiful. The daffodil banks are in flower giving wonderful welcome colour.

The Riverside Club hedge has been cut and the footpath swept removing old leaves and fallen alder catkins. Two Potentillas have been planted in the car park border against Ford House and the two borders in front of the car park tidied. The snowdrops are going over. Some are being divided and replanted. Thank you Ed for giving twelve hours (or more) work in the Church yard.

During half term holiday week two Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award volunteers undertook environmental and gardening work in the village. Their litter pick in Millfield yielded 24 glass bottles and other rubbish. They helped to clear the border in front of the A.R.P.S. Kindergarten and the School's Gardening Club site, and Eynsford in Bloom's allotment. Crushing drinks tins to help to raise £17 for Guide Dogs for the Blind. They will continue their voluntary work during the Easter holiday and we are grateful for their help.

We needed to reduce the cost of our summer bedding order so recently ordered begonias with a pink and white colour theme. Geraniums are more expensive. We continue to add to our shrubs, drought tolerant and bee friendly perennials. Frogs spawn was found on 2nd March in a garden pond in Sparepenny Lane. Brimstone butterflies are in flight on sunny days. Patches, some large, of dog violets are in flower.

Future work dates

Tuesdays. 9.30 to 11am. March 23, 30 April 6, 13, 20, 27

Saturdays. 9.30 to 11 am. April 3 May 1

Due to Covid-19 we do not meet as a group. Volunteers will be contacted, should telephone or email to confirm where work is required and enable us to conform with social distancing regulations. We are wearing masks and bring our own masks, gloves, hand tools and sanitizer.

Our priority is to keep safe.

*Pauline Penney.* 01322 864751



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# NOTICES & LETTERS

## **Learn something new or develop something old!?**

Sevenoaks u3a Approaching retirement, partly retired or already retired? How would you like to explore a new interest or develop an existing one? The Sevenoaks u3a motto is ‘ Learn, Laugh, Live’ . With 900 members we offer everything from Art Appreciation to Wine Tasting, rambling to scrabble, cycling to science, history to photography, computers to music. You name it we probably have it and if we don’t we are willing to try it! Sevenoaks u3a offers 94 special interest activities to keep your brain and body in shape and help you meet new friends. Small group face to face meetings will resume as soon as possible until then Covid -19 lockdown limits contact to mostly virtual meetings. £13 pa gives you membership, for more information see [www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](http://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

*Vivienne Parker*

## **CENSUS 2021**

All households in **Eynsford and Farningham** should now have received a card in the post from Census 2021 telling them that the census is about to take place. You can’t have missed the start of the national publicity campaign and that will ramp up over the next month or so. At the beginning of March you will receive a letter which will mean that you can start to fill in the census. The letter will give you an access code for you to fill the questionnaire on-line, by far the quickest and easiest way to complete the census. Many of us will do this, however if you need extra help for any reason at all or access to the internet is difficult, please call the freephone number given on the letter, where someone will be there to listen and support you.

We’re also encouraging people to get help from friends and family to complete their census if they need to.

Later in the month you will see our distinctively dressed census team with their id cards, on the streets. They have all been recruited now and are raring to go. Some are already helping in properties where lots of people live such as care homes and shelters. After Census Day on the 21st March and throughout April, they will be visiting households from which a completed questionnaire has not been completed. They will encourage people to complete the census and help them to access further help if they need it, as it is a legal requirement that you fill in the census. If our staff knock on your door, they are there to help.

## Emergency Local Locksmith

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Website: ww.lockroundtheclock.co.uk



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**Email: marnexcontractors  
@hotmail.co.uk**

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Email: albert.akint@gmail.com



# **YOUR ADVERT HERE!**

## **Anthony Roper Pre-School**

Last month's article talked of snow and how we were looking forward to warmer days to come. Well, we aren't quite there yet, but the children at Pre-school continue to enjoy the outdoors whatever the weather.

This month has seen the big return to school for many children. Whilst schools have remained open to vulnerable children and those of keyworkers, teachers have been working throughout to deliver education to all children. Similarly, the Pre-school has remained open throughout the pandemic to all children. Whilst some parents chose to keep their children at home during the third lockdown, all children have now returned following the re-opening of schools; with many families feeling that the time is now right to ease out of lockdown and back to the start of something more akin to normal.

The children continue to surprise us with their resilience and ability to return to the setting with little anxiety after what, for some, has been a very long time in their short lives. For now, we continue to operate in two bubbles, to maintain the ongoing safety of the children, their families, our team and the wider community, but there are glimpses of how we will be returning to more of a usual service in the weeks ahead.

In the meantime, the children continue to flourish, have fun, be active, socialise and develop those all-important life skills that being with their peers in a friendly, community-based setting with highly skilled Early Years Educators can bring.

**Samantha Aitchison/Donna Gifford**  
**Joint Childcare Managers**

Anthony Roper Pre-school and Kindergarten CIO

## **POLYCHOR - the choir for the Darent Valley**

After a long and protracted rest from our vocal endeavours, we hope to re-start the choir after May 17 for a short summer term of singing. (This is subject to government approval of course.) We will continue to rehearse on Wednesday evenings, 7.45-9.30pm. All social distancing rules will be applied, once we know what they will be!

Anyone who enjoys singing and can read music is welcome to join us. This is an ideal time to start, as everyone will be in the same boat after 12 months off. The music won't be difficult. For more details contact:

[rupertmbond@gmail.com](mailto:rupertmbond@gmail.com) or 07900 842454

## **HEeAL Reflexology**

My name is Kelsey, I am a Registered Midwife and qualified Reflexologist. My practise is based in Eynsford where I provide personalised reflexology treatments.

I also provide reflexology for fertility, during pregnancy, induction of labour and postnatally.

### **GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE**

Great for Christmas, Birthdays and any special occasion.

To **book an appointment** or for more information contact me via:



Call or Text: 074433505923



Email: heealreflexology@gmail.com



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**We support people to remain independent at home in a personalised way. Our individualised services include personal care, home help, companionship and dementia care.**

**Contact us for a free consultation on 01959 546 228.**

**For more information see [www.homeinstead.co.uk/shoreham](http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/shoreham)**

## **Gary Keen Property Services**

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**01474 709 377**

**[garykeenps@yahoo.com](mailto:garykeenps@yahoo.com)**

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Rupert Bond ARAM, MMus, LRAM, Dip NCOS

# Making Changes

I am part of the Thursday morning virtual Home Group, meeting on Zoom. We are following the Church of England 2020 Lent course #Live Lent - Care for God's Creation. If you remember, the start of the first national COVID-19 lockdown, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, was during Lent, and our Benefice Lenten home group face to face meetings had to stop.

Lent is a time for reflection. Christians remember Christ's withdrawal into the desert for forty days. It is a time to re-evaluate and face God, who has entrusted us to look after his wonderful creation. As Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu write in their introduction to the course "We are called to care for and honour God's creation as a way of delighting in its Creator. We are also called to care for our brothers and sisters all over the world who face having their families uprooted and their livelihoods destroyed by the effects of climate change. As part of our discipleship to Jesus Christ every single one of us has a responsibility to live a life of stewardship."

Many Christians use Lent as an opportunity to give something up, to remember that Christ went without during his time in the wilderness. The Archbishops encourage us to consider giving something up as well to help the environment, because if many of us do little things, they can add up to make a big difference.

I have long been meaning to eliminate palm oil from what I consume. This Lent I set myself the task of educating myself, to actually make it happen. I researched online to find the many different names that palm oil might go under – this list I found on the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) website.

**INGREDIENTS:** Vegetable Oil, Vegetable Fat, Palm Kernel, Palm Kernel Oil, Palm Fruit Oil, Palmate, Palmitate, Palmolein, Glyceryl, Stearate, Stearic Acid, Elaeis Guineensis, Palmitic Acid, Palm Stearine, Palmitoyl Oxostearamide, Palmitoyl Tetrapeptide-3, Sodium Laureth Sulfate, Sodium Lauryl Sulfate, Sodium Kernelate, Sodium Palm Kernelate, Sodium Lauryl Lactylate/Sulphate, Hydrated Palm Glycerides, Etyl Palmitate, Octyl Palmitate, Palmityl Alcohol

**CONTAINS:** Palm oil

This site had easy to understand icons to click on to find out what products had palm oil in and why – for example shampoo, pizza dough, chocolate, instant noodles.

The debate around "certified sustainable palm oil" which all our big supermarkets trumpet as being a "good" way of still stocking products that have palm oil in, is a tricky one indeed. I was taken aback to find on the WWF website the statement "Palm oil is by far the most efficient vegetable oil to grow as it takes less land to

produce than other vegetable oils”. A Greenpeace press release of 4 November 2019 led with “Consumers are being misled by a labelling scheme widely used by UK supermarkets to claim that the palm oil they use is 100% certified sustainable.” You can access the “Burning Down the House” report here on: <https://storage.googleapis.com/planet4-international-stateless/2019/11/5c8a9799-burning-down-the-house-greenpeace-indonesia-fires-briefing.pdf>

As Richard George, Head of Forests at Greenpeace UK said: “Consumers are being conned by ‘certified sustainable palm oil’, a phrase that’s bandied about by supermarkets and big brands attempting to distance themselves from deforestation. But the phrase is utterly meaningless because the body responsible for certifying palm oil is made up of some of the most destructive growers and producers in Indonesia. This is a henhouse insurance scheme run by foxes.”

I intend to use my power as a consumer to eliminate palm oil from my life.  
Will you join me?

*Marion Bond*

## **History corner - Jan Wilkes**

Continued from March edition of Trident and in Diana Clark’s own words. We left off with Thomas and Alice coming to live in Rablus Place, Farningham.

### Thomas Couchman – Blacksmith (Part 2)

This is where my father Edward Mills was born in 1896, he was second eldest and eventually of ten children born there (Grannie’s eldest born in 1894 and her last a daughter born in 1915).

How Grannie Mills managed in a tiny 2 up and 2 down with the privy in the yard, but by the time the 1914 was came along, my dad Edward and his elder brother Fred were fighting in France.

I would have liked to know more of great grandfather Thomas Couchman, in a photo I have he certainly looked the part of a blacksmith, a stocky tough man with a big bushy beard. He liked his drink evidently, so did his wife, luckily the pub was just over the road, The Chequers opposite. When Thomas died Grannie Alice moved to a cottage opposite The Bull where she lived with help from her big family. (She’s buried with Thomas in Farningham churchyard)

A bit more about the Barbers of Eynsford. My father’s cousin was Frederick Barber, son of Henry and Ann, he was much older than my father, Edward Mills’. Frederick had fought as a very young man in the Boar War. It appears he was a

keen soldier, he also fought in the 1914-18 war and then he failed trying to enlist in the last war. Frederick Barber was always called Frenchie, a nick name he got though his fighting years.

When he married, he moved into Bower Cottage and he lived there until he died. He always wore a bowler hat, as a little girl just after the war my dad Edward Mills took me to watch Frenchie lay the bricks of the new barns at Home Farm for Alexanders, as they were bombed about the same time as the cottages next to the Plough Inn were bombed.

Thomas Couchman's children did very well for themselves, several lived in Farningham. His son Jesse Couchman lived with his wife Ruth at Holt Place a row of houses just up from the Chequers Pub. They had one son William who sadly was gassed at Ypres in France in 1918, he was sent home to die. He was just twenty. It was heart-breaking for Jesse and Ruth losing their only child, it caused friction in the family, between the Mills family, as my father Edward and his older brother Frederick survived the Great War.



My grandmother Alice has four more younger sons but all too young to go to war. Jesse and Ruth were well known and highly thought of throughout the Darenth Valley and certainly they did not leave behind a single enemy.

During 57 years of Jesse and Ruth's married life, it is said not a single miss-word passed between them. They were a most devoted couple and ideal members of Farningham Darby and Joan Club. Jesse was proud of his record of 63 years as a Bell Ringer every Sunday at Farningham church.

Sadly, Jesse and Ruth died within two days of each other. They were laid to rest with their son William in 1949 in Farningham church yard, where Jesse would hear the bells ringing every Sunday.



Photos: Edward Wilfred Mills; St Peter & Paul, Farningham.

## ALAN CREMER'S QUIZ

### In which musical:

- 1). Was the quest impossible?
- 2). Did Ferenc Molnar's "Liliom" finish up in Maine?
- 3). Was Mrs. Levi greeted?
- 4). Was the music borrowed for an Arabian Night?
- 5). Was the astronomical title intended to be of a nautical nature?
- 6). Did the Philadelphia Story get a boost?
- 7). Did Fred occasionally become Petruchio?
- 8). Did Fleming's creation take flight?
- 9). Did the old man say nothing?
- 10). Did "Green Grow The Lilacs" get State recognition?

**Send you answers to: [alanctela@gmail.com](mailto:alanctela@gmail.com)**

### ANSWERS TO THE LAST QUIZ.

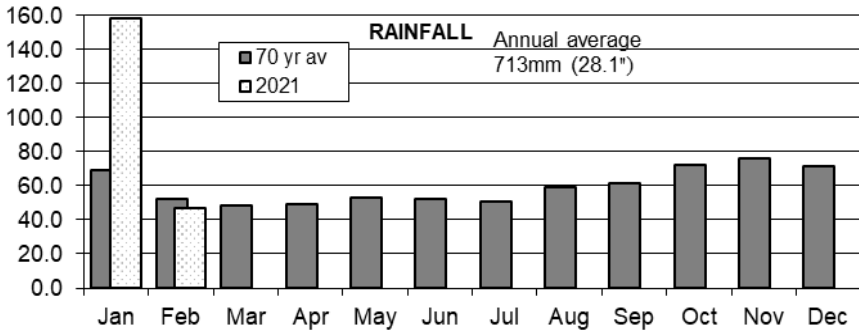
- 1) Mrs. Ronnback of Stockholm.
- 2) Florence Nightingale
- 3) Ellen Douglas
- 4) Empress Matilda
- 5) The Virgin
- 6) Elaine
- 7) Violetta
- 8) Canada
- 9) Pauline
- 10) The Queen





# Eynsford Weather Data February 2021

James Alexander



Total rain to	2021	206 mm (8.1")	2019	76 mm (3.0")
end of February	2020	192 mm (7.6")	2018	112 mm (4.4")

**National Overview.** February began quite mild in southern areas, but from the 6th it became steadily colder, with bitter easterly winds and low temperatures during the second week. It was also an unsettled period, and eastern counties had much snow in that second week. The latter half of the month was decidedly milder, and it also became more settled as time went on. The mean temperature for February was 0.7°C above the long-term average. Rainfall was 121% of average and sunshine was 100% of average, with totals in southern areas rather below average despite plenty of sunshine here during the last few days.

**In Eynsford** we received 47mm (1.9") of rain, which is 90% of average, over 13 days. The first week was very wet, turning cold with snow on the 7th & 8th. It then turned dry with only a little rain intermittent during the remainder of the month.

# 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

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE/CANCELLATION

**Send in you dates to [efltrident@yahoo.com](mailto:efltrident@yahoo.com)**

## 2021

17 March	EWI Demonstration capsule wardrobe	EVH	7.30pm
3 April	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
7 April	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
16 April	FELHS: Firefighting in Kent	Zoom	7.30pm
21 Apr	EWI Culinary herbs	EVH	7.30 p.m
1 May	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
5 May	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
7 May	FELHS: AGM	Zoom/EVH	7.30pm
19 May	EWI Annual meeting	Darenth Rm	7.30p.m.
2 June	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
5 June	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
16 June	EWI Birthday meeting - Seaside Sauce	EVH	7.30p.m.
3 July	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
7 July	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
21 July	EWI OPEN MEETING Keep fit	EVH	7.30p.m
7 August	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
18 Aug	EWI Annual Dinner	EVH	7for 7.30p.m
1 September	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
4 September	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
15 September	EWI Flower arranging in a big way	EVH	7.30p.m.
17 September	FELHS: Lullingsstone Silk Farm	EVH/Zoom	7.30pm
2 October	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
6 October	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
15 October	FELHS: Local brickfields	FVH/Zoom	7.30pm
20 October	EWI OPEN MEETING Spanish Cookery	EVH	7.30p.m
3 November	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
6 November	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
6 November	Eynsford Fireworks		
15 November	FELHS: Kent History From the Air	EVH	7.30pm.
17 November	EWI Neal's Yard	EVH	7.30 p.m

1 December	FPC Council Meeting	FVH	7.45pm
4 December	EiB Work Party	Car Park	9.30am
8 December	EWI Christmas Special	EVH	7.30p.m.
17 December	EVS Christmas Quiz	EVH	7.30pm
<b>2022</b>			
19 February	Jumble Sale	EVH	1.30pm

## **Anthony Roper Primary School dates for 2020/21**

Term 4: 22nd February - 1st April

Term 5: 19th April - 28th May

Term 6 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](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk)

Farningham: Philip McGarvey 862870 [cllr.mcgarvey@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mcgarvey@sevenoaks.gov.uk)

Eynsford: Alan Cheeseman [cllr.cheeseman@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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

	Mornings		Evenings	
Monday	Dr Ellul Dr Shetty	08:30– 12:30 08.30 – 12.30	Dr Ellul Dr Shetty <b>*By appointment only*</b>	16:10 – 18:30 "18.30-19.30" 17.30 – 18.30 <b>Commuter Service</b>
Tuesday	Dr Ellul Dr Tan	08:30 – 12.30 08.30 – 12.30	Dr Ellul Dr Tan	16:00 – 18:30 15.30 – 17.30
Wednesday	Dr Ellul Dr Shetty	08:30 – 12.30 08.30 - 12.30	Dr Ellul <b>"By appointment only"</b>  Dr Shetty	17.30-18.30 "18.30-19.30" <b>Commuter Service</b> 16.40-18.30
Thursday	Dr Shetty Dr Ellul	08:30 – 12:30 08:30 – 12.00	Dr Shetty Dr Ellul	16.20-18.30 16.10-18.30
Friday	Dr Tan Dr Shetty	08.30 – 12:30 08:30 – 09.30	Dr Tan Dr Shetty	15.30 – 17:30 16.40-19.00

### 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](http://www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk)

## Bus Times from February 2021

**From EYNSFORD**, opp. Five Bells & **FARNINGHAM**, Pied Bull (4 mins. later)  
**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)

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

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

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From 18 January 2021 Route 2 from Swanley to Sevenoaks has been suspended.  
Route 429 continues to operate through Eynsford on Sundays and Bank  
Holidays and from Farningham on weekdays, as detailed above.  
Go Coach “On demand” service is available for journeys between Swanley,  
Farningham, Eynsford, Shoreham, Otford and Sevenoaks.. Download the App.  
“Go2 Sevenoaks” or telephone 01732 463 964 to register. Further details  
available at [www.go2now.co.uk](http://www.go2now.co.uk).

*David Toser*

# Things to Do in Eynsford & Farningham

## Children & Young People

### **1st Eynsford & Farningham Scout Group**

Scouts, Tuesdays 7- 8.30 pm, Edwards Hall  
863069

Cubs Wednesdays, 7- 8.30pm, Edwards Hall  
863069

Beavers, Fridays, 4.30- 5.45pm, Edwards Hall  
863069

### **1st Farningham & Eynsford Guides**

Guides, 7.30 - 9pm, Fridays, Edwards Hall  
07703845778

1st Brownies, 6-7.20pm, Fridays, Edwards Hall

2nd Brownies, 6- 7.30pm, Mondays, Edwards  
Hall [secondfandebrownies@outlook.com](mailto:secondfandebrownies@outlook.com)

Rainbows 9-10.30am, Saturdays, Edwards Hall  
864726

### **Beacon Hill Babies** Music & Dance classes

07958609636

Tuesdays & Thursdays, Eynsford Baptist Church

### **Centre Stage Youth Drama** 07834460686

Thursdays , 6-7.30pm, Anthony Roper Primary  
School

### **Colts Cricket** 07973702440

Fridays in the summer, Common Meadow,  
Eynsford

### **Crafty Tots**

Thursdays, Olive Seal Hall

### **Darent Valley Youth Music (DVYM)** 866177

Fridays, Minims at 4.30, Big Band at 5.30,  
Eynsford Baptist Church

Thursdays, Vocal Ensemble Juniors 6-7pm,

Seniors 7-8 pm, EBC Term Time

Thursdays, Ukulele Group 6 - 7pm, EBC

Saturdays, Enterprise at 9am Wind Band at  
9:45am, EBC

### **Farningham Cricket Club Juniors**

07835881451

### **Musical Tots** [georgia0907@hotmail.com](mailto:georgia0907@hotmail.com)

Fridays, 10am, Eynsford Baptist Church

### **Riverside Players Youth Group - Drama**

07427607003

Wednesdays, 6 - 7.30pm, Eynsford Village Hall

### **S B Soccer School**

Saturdays, 9.30- 10.30am for Year 1 to Year 6,  
Anthony Roper Primary School

**Tiddlers** (Playgroup for babies/toddlers and  
carers) 07894541984

Mondays, 9.30am – 11.30am, Eynsford Baptist  
Church

### **Tiny Tots:** Mothers & Toddlers Group

07584902914

Wednesdays, 9.30-11.30am, Farningham Village  
hall

### **Tots with Tempo**

[hello@thepeoplesdancecompany.co.uk](mailto:hello@thepeoplesdancecompany.co.uk)

Tuesdays (term time) 9:30-10:00 - Music and  
Movement; 10:30-11:00 - Baby Ballet, Eynsford  
Village Hall



## **Adults & All Ages**

**Axstane Players** Amateur Dramatics 01322

274541

Mondays & Wednesdays, 8-10.30pm, FVHI

**Badminton** Mon 862077, Wed 863839, Thur

867894

Mon & Weds 8-10pm, Thurs 7.30-9.30pm EVH

**Bell ringing** jack.barker@nhs.net

Eynsford & Farningham Wednesdays

**Bridge Club**

Mondays 2-4pm, Olive Seal Hall

**Circuit Training**

Tuesday 6.30pm, Wednesday 6.45pm, Anthony

Roper Primary School

**EPIC** (Photography Club) 862275

4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 8pm, Olive Seal Hall

**Eynsford Concert Band** 07506679015

Tuesdays at 7.45pm, ARPS

**Eynsford Cricket Club** 07973702440

**Eynsford & Crockenhill Rights of Way Group**

[www.canderambers.org.uk](http://www.canderambers.org.uk)

Mondays 9.30am Riverside, Eynsford

**Eynsford Croquet Club** 862275

**Eynsford in Bloom** (Village gardening work parties) 01322 864751

Tuesdays, 9.30am village car park; 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday 9.30am, village car park

**Eynsford Football Club**

Saturday afternoons at Harrow Meadow

**Eynsford Gardeners Club** 866984

**Eynsford Netball Club** (yrs 3 – Adult)

07864279305

Mondays 6.30 – 7.30pm, ARPS

**Eynsford Running Club**

Wednesday evenings - outside 5 Bells – Giles

Wolfe gilesmad@me.com

**Eynsford W.I.** 862635 jeannievthompson@gmail.com

3rd Wednesday, 7.30 p.m., Eynsford Village Hall.

**Farningham Church Choir Practice**

Thursday, 7pm, St Peter & St Paul's Church

**Farningham Guitar Club** 666566

**Farningham Horticultural Society** 862603

**Follies Singers**

Thursdays 8pm

**Farningham & Eynsford Local History Society**

01322 864234, archives@felhs.org.uk

**Farningham Cricket Club** 07835881451

**Farningham WI** 01322 863996

1st Thursday, 7.30pm, Farningham Village Hall.

**Get Fit**

Wednesday 6.30 - 7.30pm, Thursday 7-8pm Anthony Roper Primary School

**Health with Hames Yoga** 07753212264

Tuesdays, 7.30-8.30pm Olive Seal Hall

**Irish Folk Dancing** - 864276/07981021276

Fortnightly on Wednesdays, 7.30-8.30pm,

Eynsford Village Hall 7.30 - 8.30pm

**Kempo** 07759620739

Thursday 6.30 - 8.30pm, Edwards Hall

**Line dancing** 01732 870116

Tuesday 7-9.15pm, Farningham Village Hall

**Pilates** Sue McClinton 07505 364161 smcclin-  
ton66@gmail.com

Wednesday, 3-4pm, Farningham Village Hall

**Pilates** 07860665531

Wednesdays 9.30-10.30am, Eynsford Village Hall

**Polychor** 07900842454

Wednesday, 7.45 – 9.30pm, ARPS

**Probus** Ladies 863186, Men 863186

**Riverside Players** - Amateur Dramatics

info@riversideplayers.co.uk

Tue and Thu 8pm - 10pm; Sun 5pm - 8pm. EVH

**Riverside Wanderers** Vets Football

07770882085

Sunday mornings at Harrow Meadow

**Songbird Yoga** [hello@songbirdyoga.co.uk](mailto:hello@songbirdyoga.co.uk)

07747630969

Mon 9.30-10.30am, Tues 10.30-11.20am,

**St Martin's Church Choir** practice

Wednesday, 6.30pm, St Martin's Church

**Tea and Chat** 866325

Thursday, 2- 4pm, Farningham Village Hall

**Tea Dance** 01322 663649

Mondays, 2-4pm, Farningham Village Hall

**Tuesday Club** 863701, 863069

Tuesday, 2-4pm, Eynsford Village Hall

**Tutti Wind Band** for adults

Saturday, 9am, Eynsford Village Hall.

**Ukulele Group** 862779

Wednesday, 7pm - phone for venue

**Yoga** 864566

Wednesday, Farningham Village Hall

**Zumba** 07552755005

Thursdays 6 -7pm, Farningham Village Hall

**Other Useful Numbers**

Anthony Roper Pre-School 865469

School (ARPS) 863680

Eynsford Baptist Church.07411278637

Darent V.C. Church 07908045445

Grace Centre Church EVH 07886510330

Riverside Box Office 07704 279 948

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

Rural Age Concern 01322 666448.

Citizens Advice Bureau 01322 875888

Library delivery service 01959 522488

Edwards Hall Lettings 863069

Eynsford Parish Council 865320

Eynsford Village Society 866102

EVH Booking Sec. 07780 532525

Farningham Parish Council 07375062428

F'ham Vill Hall bookings 07530297707

Olive Seal Hall 866407



# 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](http://www.eynsfordvh.com)

## Result of EVH Lottery for last month

(see article in the magazine)

Tickets available at Rafferty's and Norman's



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### Get in touch:

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Tel: 01732 755582

Email:

[hello@vitalityhomehealth.co.uk](mailto:hello@vitalityhomehealth.co.uk)

[www.vitalityhomehealth.co.uk](http://www.vitalityhomehealth.co.uk)

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*i heard  
they are going to  
ban pabs from opening*

*Ridiculous*

*You're be telling  
as they are going to  
ban smoking next*

**The Vet, Pyro and the Prof**