

Village Contacts

Ambulance, Fire, Police **Police Community Support**

Telephone 101 999

Non-emergency Police PCSO Emma Carmichael 58778 Emma.carmichael@kent.pnn.police.uk

101

Rural Community Warden

Neighbourhood Watch 07811 271299 611580 Sheila Smith Hannah Osborne

Gas Emergency **UK Power Network**

0800 111999 105

Highways Fault Reporting

03000 418181

C of E Primary School **Doctors Surgery**

619790/611608 611360

Head Teacher: Tim Halling **Emergency out of hours:**

111 PTA Treasurer: Mrs Karen Rang

Parish Council Clerk to Council www.eastrypc.co.uk 614320 Sarah Wells

(clerk@eastrypc.co.uk) www.facebook.com/EastryPC 3 Gore Terrace, Gore Road

Chairman: Nick Kenton Eastry, CT13 0LS Vice-Chairman: Annie Wiles

Village News

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Archived copies: (from 2007) www.eastrypc.co.uk/evns.asp

Hard copies (c1930-2006) - Sandwich Guildhall Archives.

To view/study contact Town Clerk's Office 617197

Village Diary - kept at the Post Office, for all village organisations' fixtures, events & meetings.

Village Hall Bookings - Booking Clerk 614054

Village Forum - www.facebook.com/eastryvillageforum

Welcome Pack - information for people new to Eastry Rosemary Barwick 611420

What's On and Local Events - page 4

Young People's Contacts

Young People's Club (next to the Gun Park)

Have fun and make friends Admission free

Meetings: Tuesday 7pm - 9pm (Age 12-19)

Wednesday 6pm - 8pm (Age 9-16) Thursday 7pm- 9pm (Age 12-19)



Contacts: Chairman Dick Laslett (07702 459332) dicklaslett@yahoo.co.uk

For party bookings or hall hire - contact Monica in Bubbles Nursery or the Chairman.

Incy Wincys

Baby and Toddler Group in the Young People's Club meet every Monday including school holidays (apart from bank holidays) 9.30am to 11.00am.

We have toys for all ages and arts and crafts and lots of music, singing and movement.

Also we provide a healthy snack for children and tea and coffee for parents.

For more info contact Sam or Ria on incywincys@hotmail.com

Rainbows	Brownies	Guides
Meet on Mondays	Meet on Wednesdays	Meet on Fridays
Contact Ginny Harvey on 611183	Contact Linda Clarke on 614553	Contact Jooles George on 813752

10th DEAL EASTRY SCOUT GROUP Group Scout Leader: Graham Baker 07837 430167 / 01304 611487

BEAVERS (5¾-8yr)

Monday 6pm - 7.15pm

Leader Elinor
07429 294539

CUBS (8-10½yr)

Tuesday 6.30pm - 8pm

Leader Emma (contact
Graham Baker)

SCOUTS (10½ -14yr)

Wednesday 7pm - 9pm

Leader Vacant (contact
Graham Baker)

EXPLORERS (14yr+)

Meet every other Friday from 7.45pm to 9.15pm and focus on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme Contact: Graham

FOR BOOKINGS

Contact: Marion Wanstall (617854) or the Group Leaders

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME

Scouting is fun for adults too. If you would like to help then please call Graham.

Local Events

Eastry Horticultural Society's Spring Show will take place on Saturday 7th April in the Village Hall. Doors open to the public at 2.00pm until 4.00pm with awards being presented at 3.45pm. All welcome.

Produce of the season will go on display and, hopefully, the recent bout of bad weather will not have too much of an impact on the exhibits.

Tea and cake will be available, there will be a tombola stall and a sales table for your gardening needs.

Eastry Horticultural Society -

April 10th "Establishing an English Vineyard" 7.00pm for 7.30pm May 8th "Succession Planting for a Flower Garden" 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Trotwood Folk Music Concert - Saturday 14th April 3pm United Reformed Church, Sandwich. Tickets £6 to include refreshments. Raffle in aid of Operation Sunshine.

Tickets available from Sandwich Convenience Store/The Sweet Shop at King Street and from The Church. For more details: Call 01304 621554

Jumble Sale Saturday 28th April in the Village Hall

Eastry and District Open Group - meetings in the Church Hall Monday 16th April 7.30pm: Chris Davidson "The Ups and Downs of a Merchant Seaman"

Monday 21st May 7.30pm: Fiona Carnegie "Wheelchairs in Africa"

Eastry Local Interests Group - meetings in the Church Hall

Wednesday 23rd May 2018 at 7.30pm AGM followed by Members Evening

Sandwich Dementia Action Alliance - Information & Awareness Week

As part of the above there will be an open afternoon in Eastry Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd May from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

There will be tea and coffee provided so please come along and have a chat and find out more about the group's support and activities.

Royal British Legion - regular monthly meetings at 11.00am at The Five Bells on third Sunday of the month (excluding August).

New ex-services and social members (no military service requirement) warmly welcomed.

Further details from Terry James 614245 or John Arnold 449842

Annual Parish Meeting

Eastry Village Hall - Tuesday 15th May - 7.30pm

The Annual Parish meeting will take place on Tuesday 15th May 2018. If you would like to see anything added to the agenda for discussion please inform the Clerk to the Parish Council, Sarah Wells by Friday 6th April clerk@eastrypc.co.uk 3 Gore Terrace, Gore Rd, Eastry CT13 0LS.

The meeting agenda will be delivered to all homes in the village closer to the meeting date.

The Beast is Back!



The world's largest inflatable obstacle course, The Beast, will be returning to Betteshanger Park.

It will be there from Saturday May 26th to Monday May 28th and it will be a world-first, 384m long course.

The Beast will be suitable for everyone aged 10 and over.

Tilmanstone Village Market Tilmanstone Village Hall First Saturday of the month 10.00am - 11.00am Admission 20p

Regular Village Hall Events

Kent Mobile Library Service 9.10am - 9.30am Fridays 13th, 27th March 11th, 25th May

Coffee Break Everyone welcome - Free refreshments Fridays 9am-12noon

Hearing Aid Clinic

Fridays 13th April & 11th May 10.00am - 11.30am

The cover picture is from a photograph taken several years ago by Sandra Hooper.

Disclaimer

The Editor reserves the right to cut, edit or refuse to publish any contributions and does not necessarily agree with opinions expressed in published articles. All advertisements in the magazine are inserted in good faith, but the magazine committee accepts no responsibility for any statement made by the advertisers; nor endorses the products or services offered.

St Mary's Events

Celebrate St Georges Day Sunday 22nd April 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Along with Mary from the Five Bells, we invite you to celebrate our patron Saint George. Join us for the Dragon Hunt in the Church. Count up your dragons and get a special Free Dragon burger/hotdog voucher to use at the Barbeque at the Five Bells. Free magic show after 3.00pm.

Tower tours will be available throughout the afternoon, enjoy the panoramic view across the village and beyond. Adults £2 accompanied children of 8 years+ 50p.

Dungeness RHDR & Romney Marsh Wednesday 6th June £40

Our coach leaves Eastry to Romney where we take the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch Railway to Dungeness. You will have free time to visit the lighthouse and unique 'village' then a short coach ride for a Fish & Chip lunch at the renowned Pilot Restaurant.

After lunch we take a leisurely tour across the marshes with the services of a guide, visiting two of the most interesting marsh churches and telling the legendary tales of ghosts and smugglers that have become engraved into the history of this fascinating corner of England.

Eastry Festival Fortnight Sunday 1st - Sunday 15th July

The Festival Fortnight celebrations start on Sunday 1st July with the Teddy Bears' picnic and Zipwire challenge from the church tower.

The Flower Festival opens on 7th July running through to 11th July and during that time we will have organ recitals and a Gospel Choir concert. The fortnight ends with the Garden Fete on Saturday 14th July. More news about all of these events in the next magazine.

Any help that you could offer to help with the setting up or closing the Fete would be very welcome.

Arras and Vimy Ridge Tuesday 18th September £85

To mark the centenary of the end of WWI we will visit Arras and Vimy Ridge. The day will take in the British and Canadian cemeteries then a picnic lunch before visiting Vimy Ridge, the sight of one of the most horrific battles of the war. Throughout the day we will be accompanied by an experienced guide.

We return to Arras to visit the towns Boves, and tunnels that run under the town and gave shelter to both soldiers and civilians in some of the bloodiest assaults of the day. There will be time to visit the Hypermarket before enjoying a two-course dinner in celebration of the end of WWI.

For more information, please call Carole on 611847 or email me at carole.finch@hotmail.co.uk - we look forward to seeing you!

Dover Flower Club

The club meets on the 4th Monday in the month, except August and December, at Whitfield Village Hall at 7.15 p.m.

We have five demonstrations, four workshops and usually one outing each year. We are a small, friendly group. Come and join us for a cup and tea and a "natter" at any of our meetings. Who knows, you may win one of the arrangements, made by the demonstrator.

The April meeting is a combined meeting with Deal Flower Club at Whitfield Village Hall on Monday 23rd April at 6.30pm for 7.30pm. Nick Grounds is a Horticultural Auctioneer by day and a National Demonstrator afternoons and evenings, and is coming from Wisbech. It will be a very special evening of wonderful Flower Arranging.

There will be a large plant stall, and tables for sales, jewellery and accessories. There will be a general raffle and a flower raffle with a chance to win one of the many arrangements that you will have seen Nick design.

The doors will open at 6.30pm for a 7.30pm start. For this special meeting tickets will be £5 for members of either club and £9 for visitors.

The meeting in May is on Saturday 19th May and is an all-day Workshop with Graham King making "Beautiful Butterflies" and "Magnificent Moths"

For more information please contact:

mariantownsley@btinternet.com or tel: 01304 832522

Eastry Church Flowers

During the period of Lent, flowers have been absent from our Churches, but they will return from Easter Day. If anyone would like a special flower arrangement in memory of a love one, perhaps on a significant anniversary, please contact Sue Cook (01304 611886). A suggested donation, to cover the cost of the flowers would be £15-£20, and if desired, a small 'in memoriam' plaque will be placed alongside the arrangement.

Sleep-over in Eastry Church

Congratulations to those young people in our parish who took part in the Sleepover in Eastry Church on the night of Saturday 10th February. A total in excess of £700 was raised for the Kent-based homeless charity Porchlight.

During the evening, Rachel van Hoven from Porchlight came to speak to the young people and explained how the problem of homelessness in Kent is increasing significantly at the moment.

Church Contacts

St Mary's Parish Church

www.eastrybenefice.co.uk

Clergy:		Church Wardens:		
Revd. David Ridley	619619	Dr. Alastair Carnegie	813120	
Revd. Jennifer Pilcher	611472	Jo Slater	619873	
Revd. David Willis	611959	Assistant Church Wardens:		
		Mary Goosen	611306	
Bell Captain:		Sue Brearley	761668	
Mick Johnson	365118	Church Hall Bookings:		
Overeniet		Bob Barwick	611420	
Organist:	266764	Enquiries:		
Maureen Norman	366761	Please phone the office	611323	

Church Office

Benefice Office, The Church Hall, Church Street, Eastry, CT13 0HH
Wednesdays 11am - 1pm and Fridays 10am - 12noon
Tel 611323 e-mail - eastry.benefice@gmail.com
During out-of-office hours a message can be left.

Benefice Website

Please visit our website: www.EWBchurches.org.uk

Find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/EWBchurches

Friday Friendship Lunch Club

Fridays 13th April, 11th May Church Hall at 12 Noon. Contact 611400

The Church Registers

Baptism 3rd March Thomas Nash

Funerals 21st February Josephine Ottewell
27th February Donald Burton (Barham)
28th February Patricia Easter (Barham)
6th March Joan Jarvis (Barham)
14th March Frederick Bushell (Barham)

9 Church Services

Sunday mornings at Eastry

Every Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

1st Sunday, 9.30am Come and Praise in Church Hall

1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays, 10.30am Sung Eucharist

3rd Sunday, 10.30 Family Communion

Evensong Services 6.30pm

1st April and 6th May (Northbourne) 8th April and 13th May (Tilmanstone)

Wednesdays

10.00am Holy Communion Eastry Church Hall - all are welcome

Special Services

Sunday 22nd April

Healing Service: 6.30pm at Staple

Sunday 29th April

Benefice Service: 10.30am at Northbourne

Ascension Day: Thursday 10th May

Eastry Primary School Service: 10.00am at Eastry

Trinity Sunday: Sunday 27th May

Celtic Service: 6.30pm at Northbourne

Sing Along and Tea

Tuesdays 24th April, 25th May Church Hall 2.30pm - 4.00pm We will sing old, well-known songs and enjoy a cup of tea and cake.

There will be a raffle. Everyone is welcome. CONTACT 611400

Rector's Letter

Easter Day in 2018 falls on the first of April - otherwise known as April Fools' Day.

There seems to be surprisingly little known about the origins of April Fools' Day, but it possibly has a reference in the writings of Geoffrey Chaucer going back to the 14th century. The regular practice of April Fools' jokes were certainly well recorded at least as far back as the 1800s.

But the coincidence of April Fools' Day and Easter perhaps has a certain irony. The celebration of Easter after all is predicated on the death of Jesus on a cross, and the symbol of the cross has become a sign of

victory for Christians – if you like, a badge of pride.

Yet, anyone living in the Middle East at the time of Jesus would have associated the cross with anything but a source of celebration or victory – the cross was the ultimate weapon of torture used by the Roman occupying forces as a means of oppression and humiliation and death. To consider it as anything other, was seen as little short of scandalous. St Paul, writing to the Church in Corinth acknowledges this paradox: '.... but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles' (1 Cor. 1.23). And yet, for Christians, the cross has become a sign of hope and an expression of God's love for all humanity.

The start of April is also a time when spring really begins to take hold: we see the buds emerge on the trees and the crocuses, daffodils and tulips burst from the earth and flower. But this year, all this new life has been emerging through one of our harshest winters for some time with sub-zero temperatures and snow well into March. However, it is through these contrasts that we gain the real richness of our experiences: without the harshness of winter and the bareness of the earth, we would not be aware, to the same degree, of the positive and joy-giving new life of spring.

For Christians there is a clear parallel with our celebration of Easter. It is against the crucifixion of Jesus, this context of utter hopelessness, that we can truly celebrate Easter, and its full meaning becomes apparent. It is only by journeying through Holy Week and entering the despair of Good Friday that we can really grasp the enormity of the resurrection, which allows the Christian proclamation of the cross to begin to make sense.

As we reflect on the meaning of the resurrection, the possibility of new life and hope, our first response should be one of gratitude

It is very easy for us to run down and disparage; it is very easy to criticise and blame. But how much more healthy and constructive if we use every opportunity to affirm and build up. When we really become aware of the full enormity of God's gift to us at Easter, it surely moves us to the deepest expressions of thanksgiving and praise. Equally, we should be able to demonstrate a deep sense of gratitude for everything we have and every good gift we receive.

So further, our response should rightly be one of generosity. How can we react to God's love in action on the cross other than through the generous giving of ourselves – our gifts, our resources, our time and our money?

So may I wish all our readers a Happy Easter; and may we discover, through God's loving sacrifice, purpose and hope in our lives.

Thoughtless Dog Owners, 'We're Watching You' Innovative dog fouling campaign sees launch across Eastry.

#werewatchingyou

Following numerous complaint from local residents, a popular dog fouling campaign is coming to Eastry, aimed at those few dog walkers who don't scoop the poop.

Eastry Parish Council has joined forces with the environmental charity, Keep Britain Tidy, in a bid to reduce dog fouling in key problem areas in Eastry. The campaign sets its sights on irresponsible dog owners, with recent research showing that dog walkers are more responsible and pick up after their dogs, when they think that they are being watched.

In 2014, Keep Britain Tidy conducted a campaign pilot, funded by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), working with land managers across the country. This pilot saw an average reduction of 46% in the levels of dog fouling, with up to 90% reduction in some areas since. Feedback suggests that dog fouling tends to occur at night time and during the months with shorter days, as some dog owners feel that they can't be seen 'under the cover of darkness'.

Eastry Parish Council has signed up to the edgy and uncompromising campaign to tackle dog fouling hotspots. The 'We're Watching You' series of signs are visible after dark, and use innovative cutting-edge materials. The social experiment was the first time such a material has been used on a poster.

Nick Kenton, Chairman of Eastry Parish Council said, "Feedback from local residents has told us that dog fouling is a key issue in Eastry, that they would like to see addressed. We know that the public perceive dog fouling to be by far the most unacceptable and dirtiest type of litter.

"The vast majority of dog owners are responsible people, who habitually pick up after their dog and dispose of the poo bags correctly, either in the nearest bin or by taking home to dispose of in their own household waste bin".

If you see someone letting their dog foul, please report it to DDC at https://forms.dover.gov.uk/Dogfouling. The more intelligence the environmental crime unit get the more likely they are to come out and catch offenders.

If you would like to show support of the campaign please display the back cover of the magazine in your window to impress on those few inconsiderate people, that we are all fed up with their unacceptable behaviour.

In the Garden

Spring should be well and truly underway, the soil warming up nicely and everything growing well. But don't be complacent, it's been known for a cold snap during April and May, and a frost is not uncommon, so always keep an eye on the weather forecast before planting or sowing and keep that horticultural fleece or insulation material handy in case it's needed.



If we do get a (Jack) white frost, it can damage fruit blossom and the new shoots to roses, hydrangeas etc. These types of frost normally come up with the sun, so get out early and lightly spray any affected plants with water, or if you know a frost is forecast you can lightly spray your plants in advance with water and liquid seaweed solution.

Clean up your strawberry bed or pots. Remove any dead or damaged leaves and old runners from the plants. If the plants are getting older, thin out the smaller crowns leaving three to four crowns per plant. Apply a fresh layer of hay if using as a mulch. Hay is more beneficial than straw as it breaks down more easily and releases more nutrients into the soil.

If you are growing runner beans or climbing french beans, it's a good time to put in place wigwams or rows of canes ready for your plants. The soil will be soft now, so it is easier to push the canes into the soil. But





Herbaceous herbs, such as chive, oregano and tarragon can be dug up and divided in early April, just before proper growth begins. Divide the root clump, re-plant and water well. Try growing a few herbs in pots especially the varieties that like to spread.

In the greenhouse you can sow: runner bean, french bean, cauliflower, brussel

sprout, leeks, lettuce, tomato, cucumber, squash and most half-hardy flower plants, all for planting out in mid-late May.

Weeds will also be enjoying the spring weather, so sharpen your hoe and stop them in their tracks. There's the old saying "Hoe when you can't see a weed and you'll never see a weed"

After all the winter rain washing away all those vital nutrients from your lawn and garden soil, both would now appreciate a good feed. Treat your lawn with a "weed and feed" and your flower garden and shrubs with a good dose of bone meal.

Don't be too hasty in removing daffodil and tulip leaves. The minimum is six weeks after they have finished flowering, or better still let them die back naturally.



Having completed all these jobs, don't forget to take a few moments to sit in the sun, listen to the birds and enjoy a well-deserved cup of tea, until next time.

Art E. Choke

Northbourne & Betteshanger Horticultural Society

**** our 118th year ****

Spring Show (for Members Only)

To be held in the Northbourne Parish Hall On Saturday 7th April 2018

CHILDREN'S SECTION (OPEN) - DESIGN A SPRING (SEASON) CARD

AGE TO BE DISPLAYED WITH EXHIBIT

Show open to the public from 2pm Admission is Free

A Village Remembers

G/5298 Private Frank Johnson The Buffs (East Kent Regiment)

Killed in Action near Henencourt, France Monday 8th April 1918.

Frank Johnson was born in 1892 at Betteshanger, one of eleven children of Edwin James, a carter and Mary Elizabeth Johnson. He was baptised on 18th December at St Mary's Church in Betteshanger. In 1911, the family were living at Harnden Hill in Eastry, where Frank was an agricultural labourer. His brother Alfred Johnson was similarly employed.

On 8th April 1918 Frank was serving with Six Battalion The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) in the support line behind the trenches at Henencourt, to the East of Albert on the Somme battlefield. The Battalion War Diary does not list any casualties on that date but three Other Ranks were reported as being killed on the following day. It has not been possible to find Frank's Military History so it is difficult to sort out this discrepancy (Commonwealth War Grave Commission records, the Death Register and his Medal Card give 8th April as his date of death, so his omission from the War Diary seems to be a simple error). The Medal Card shows that Frank Johnson served in action from 7th October 1915 and was awarded the 1915 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Frank's brother Alfred, who was some seventeen years older, also died in 1918, but all his other brothers were too old to serve in the War.

Private Johnson lies in Grave VII.E.5 in Contay British Cemetery, close to where he fell, and in company with at least two other comrades from Six Buffs who died on the same day (this would also point to the discrepancy in dates in the War Diary).

By 1919, when CWGC records were being finalised, Frank's father Edwin was shown as living in Mill Road, Eastry.

102454 Private Richard Thomas Castle Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment)

Died of Wounds Lijssenthoek, Belgium Saturday 13th April 1918.

Richard Castle was not a native of Eastry, having been born in Ramsgate on 9th January 1899 and baptised on 17th February at St. Mary's Church. In the 1901 Census, the family consisting of Richard James, a labourer, Alice Louisa his wife, Richard Thomas and a daughter Jane aged six months, were living in St. Lawrence. By 1911 the family, now with four more surviving children were living in Northwood, Ramsgate.

He originally served in The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) and may have been wounded earlier. His entry in Faded Genes, states that he transferred to the Sherwood Foresters on 30th March 1918, just a fortnight before his death. It was not unusual for wounded men to transfer on regaining fitness, to bolster under-strength units, which in this case was the 2nd/5th Battalion Notts. & Derbys. Regiment.

Richard died of wounds at Lijssenthoek, where four Casualty Clearing Stations were situated around Corfu Farm, out of range of the German long-range artillery and on the railway line to Poperinghe, where there were field hospitals. The Battalion had been out of the line for some time, but their War Diary states that, on 13th April, they had been ordered into the line near Kemmel to fill a gap which had been reported (this was during the second phase of the German Spring Offensive, or Kaiserschlacht, which was codenamed Operation Georgette). No action was recorded until heavy shelling between 5.00pm and 6.30pm was reported around the HQ area, resulting in some 40 casualties. It is most likely that Richard was one of these casualties, and that his wounds were so severe that he died before he could be evacuated from the CCS.

Private Castle now rests in Grave XXVI.F.4A in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery. There are twenty seven graves in Row F, all but four of which contain men who died on 13thApril 1918. His Medal Card shows that he was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

By the end of the War Richard's family, were living in Woodnesborough Lane in Eastry.

Private Thomas Hoile Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment)

Killed in Action Mailly-Maillet, France Monday 13th May 1918

The sixth child of Thomas, a labourer, and Jane Hoile, Thomas's birth was registered as Thomas Edward Hoile in the third quarter of 1882, and he was christened with that name on 5th November at St. Mary's Church, Eastry by Frank Backhouse. However, he seems to have gone through life being known only as Thomas.

In 1891 the family were at Hay Hill in Eastry, and in 1901 they were at Little Hay Farm. On 26th December 1904 Thomas married Matilda Martha Farrier at St. Mary's. They had two children by 1911, a daughter born in 1905 and a son born in 1909. By now they were living in Church Street, Eastry, and Thomas was working as a Brewer's Carter, presumably for the nearby Eastry Brewery. Records show that they had two further daughters, one born in 1912 and the other in late 1918, after her father's death on the Western Front. This would suggest that he was home on leave shortly before his death.

It has not been possible to find Thomas's Military Record and all that is known is that he enlisted in Canterbury and was serving with Six Battalion Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment when he met his death. The Battalion War Diary reported that the Battalion relieved Six Battalion Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) in the front line at Mailly-Maillet, some 17 miles south-west of Arras in France. The relief was

completed by 11.30pm and two Other Ranks were reported wounded. It should be assumed that one of these was Thomas Hoile and that he died soon after.

Private Thomas Hoile is interred in Plot I. Row C. Grave 24 in Acheux British Cemetery, some three and a half miles to the West of where he fell. The original Graves Registration Report wrongly shows his date of death as 12th May, although he rests alongside five others from his Regiment who lost their lives on 13th May (this being at odds with the War Diary's report of only two casualties).

Thomas's Medal Card reveals that he was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal, which tends to indicate that he could have been a conscript under the Derby Act.

Appeal by Mike Hankins

With the centenary of the end of the Great War approaching I am preparing a small booklet based on the "A Village Remembers" articles which have been appearing since 2014.

Restrictions on space have necessarily kept these fairly brief, and I am adding more information to most of them. I also intend to include all the other names on the Memorial, from World War II to the Iraq War.

To this end, I would be most grateful if the families of Duane Barwood and Reginald Deveson could contact me on 01304 619414 to discuss the articles I am preparing.

Many thanks - Mike Hankins

My Life in Horticulture

I was born in Eastry in 1941. My father and grandfather were both nurserymen at Poison Cross Nurseries. My grandfather was a retired policeman from Sandwich - apparently he had ten allotments to feed the family and his sons were expected to tour the town collecting up horse manure for the allotments.

On the maternal side of the family, my great grandfather was a farmer near Chichester and his wife was Sarah Sutton, from the seed family we believe.

My father had always wanted to go into the Navy, but instead was apprenticed to three different nurseries around Sandwich to learn horticulture. The next two sons were apprenticed as a plumber and a carpenter in Sandwich so that grandad had his team to build the greenhouses and install the boilers.

By then, brother Harry had joined the market gardening team as he was recovering from TB and had to sleep and work in the open air. In 1942 Lord Northbourne invited my father to take on the tenancy of Betteshanger Nurseries. Betteshanger Nurseries were part of Lord Northbourne's estate. The nurseries were on two sites, the New and the Old Nurseries. I spent much of my childhood watching one member of staff replacing all of the glass in six 100ft x 30ft greenhouses as a bomb had fallen close by. I was amazed at what could be achieved with a diamond cutter, a bushel box with a hessian sack on top to protect the glass. I still marvel how a man could nip up a ladder with a pane of glass under his arm, putty in one hand, a rag and hammer in his pocket, and a mouth full of brads to secure the glass.

The Old Nursery was in fact the kitchen garden of the Mansion, which was then a boarding preparatory school. We produced tomato plants by the thousand, either in clay pots for early work or 3in. wooden seed trays for outside production. They were all grown in John Innes compost mixed by ourselves with the wonderful smell of steam sterilising loam in two boilers. As well as the old ornate greenhouses, we had a long row of English lights as well as Dutch lights for hardening off plants. We used bricks for ventilation to prop up the lights to the required height to keep the air circulating.

I am the eldest of seven children. At school I only showed interest in wild flowers, botany and flower arranging, so not destined to be mentioned in dispatches until I was accepted for Kent Horticultural Institute, Swanley in 1957 aged sixteen years. Apparently the Principal, Mr Wilfred Corbet was short of students, so there I was with very little practical horticulture apart from holiday jobs.

I enjoyed my two years at Swanley. As students we had many duties to carry out such as watering the plants and stoking the boilers. Later on I became quite experienced at maintaining the boilers at Betteshanger, night and morning at the Old Nursery. Topping up the feeder tank with water and bleeding the old 4in. pipes to remove air locks, raking out all of the ash and clinker, and making up the fire with anthracite. After that there were all of the traps to be set for mice, and rogue tomato seedlings to be weeded out.

Lord Northbourne asked for my help to prepare the flower decorations for a family wedding reception at the Mansion. As a young girl this was very enlightening as some lovely pieces of furniture were brought in and a rather expensive wallpaper adorned the walls and transformed this rather stark educational establishment. We worked with tulips and daffodils; I can still visualise the huge porcelain swan that formed the centrepiece. It made a change from my usual jam jars of wild flowers.

Whilst still a teenager I attended a course of evening classes for floral art. The tutor Gladys Ray, now aged 100 years and still patron of the



Dover Flower Club 2015 - a Pedestal Exhibit

Dover Flower Club, said that she couldn't teach me much, but could explain why I was arranging flowers the way that I was. There are some things that you never forget.

I was twenty when my father pointed out an advert for a horticultural position at Thanet Technical College for Catering. I spent ten years there working in Ramsgate and Broadstairs. We had a team to take students out on outside functions in order to get them accustomed to working without most of the kitchen equipment they normally had access to.

I married a Yorkshireman in 1971 and had two children, Allen in 1972 and

Charlotte in 1975. The marriage didn't last and so I came back to Eastry with a three year-old son and three month-old daughter, bouncing around in her carrycot in a Ford Transit van.

Any opportunity to work was taken, it didn't matter what it was and then I was told that Lord and Lady Thorneycroft wanted someone to 'help in the house'. They were renting Northbourne Court from Lord Northbourne and were relishing the opportunity to spend time out of London. I reluctantly went for an interview and was swept up into their lifestyle. I gradually got used to helping to cater for dinner parties and house guests from all over the world of the aristocracy and politicians. The family was

persuaded by me that produce from the Garden of England was preferable to that from a supermarket in London.

As my father's health deteriorated I took on his two allotments and greenhouse. I am currently a member of three Hort. Socs., Northbourne and Betteshanger, Woodnesborough and Eastry, where I am a Vice President.

I exhibit at the County Shows and also the Dover Flower Club. To conclude, I have had a life full of unexpected opportunities with many memories to look back on.

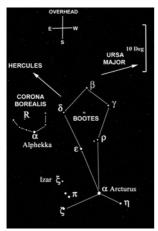
Sheila Smith



Kent County Show 2015 Trophy presented by Jim Buttress for an exhibit of garden flowers.

The Spring Constellations of Boötes and Corona Borealis

The large constellation of Boötes (The Herdsman or Ploughman) and the adjacent constellation of Corona Borealis (the Northern Crown) are high in the SE sky during April-May. Both of these constellations are included in Ptolemy's 48 constellations in the 2nd century AD¹. The orientation of the two constellations are shown in the picture below, together with arrows showing the positions of adjacent constellations.



Boötes is Kite-shaped and the light-orange giant star Arcturus at its base is the 4th brightest star in the entire sky (mag. 0). Boötes contains many double stars but only faint star clusters and nebulae. For this reason, T. W. Webb described it as "rich in pairs, poor in clusters and nebulae²).

There are many double and variable stars in Bootes³. Four double stars in the immediate location of the kite-shape which can be resolved with a telescope are: the wide double: δ (mag.3.5,7.8, sep.105"); Izar ξ (mag 4.7, 6.9, sep. 6.4"); π (mag.4.9, 5.8, sep. 5.5"); ϵ (mag 2.5, 4.9, sep. 2.9"). The picture shows the orientation of Boötes in late May at 10pm in the S sky. In early April, it is further E, and tilted E-W.

Corona Borealis clearly has the shape of a crown and was described by Webb² as a "constellation resembling more than usual the object whose name it bears". The brightest star is Alphekka (α -CrB, mag 2.2) but the other stars are only between mag. 3.7-5.0. In the crown there is an unusual variable star, R-Corona⁴ which is a favourite binocular object. It is sometimes just visible to the naked eye (mag. 6) but then fades to mag.14, not even visible with a small telescope.

Summary of the Greek/ Roman Legends

Boötes had a brother Erectheus, an Athenian leader, who robbed him of his inheritance, leaving him destitute. Boötes wandered the Earth hunting food and hired himself out as a Herdsman or to gather crops. One day while planting seeds by hand he had a wonderful idea. He hammered a sword a into the shape of plough and hooked it up to an ox. This simplified planting crops and increased their yield. Delighted with her son Boötes' invention, Ceres, sister of Jupiter and goddess of agriculture, persuaded Jupiter, king of the gods, to honour Boötes by placing him among the stars. The constellation of Ursa Major (also known as the Plough) is NW of Boötes.

According to Greek legend, **Corona Borealis** was the beautiful golden crown of Princess Adriane of Crete. She received the crown from the gods as a wedding gift for her marriage to Bacchus, son of

Jupiter and king of wine. When she died, the crown was set among the stars.

Michael Kinns

References

- 1 David E. Faulkner, "The Mythology of the Night Sky- An Amateur Astronomers Guide to the Ancient Greek and Roman Legends", ch. 5 and Appendix B, Patrick Moore's Practical Astronomy Series, published by Springer
- 2 Rev. T.W.Webb "Celestial Objects for Common Telescopes", 1St edition published 1859.
- 3 http://www.theskyscrapers.org/double-stars-in-bootes
- 4 https://arxiv.org/abs/1206.3448



Meetings: 2nd May at 19.30 - Resolutions meeting)
6th June at 19.30 - Craft evening (a choice of beading or stone painting)

In April some members will be attending a lunch at Chartham to find out more about this year's resolution before presenting it to the rest of the group at the Eastry May meeting. This year there is only one resolution being considered so our choice will be, do we want to adopt it or not. More about that maybe next time.

Our 'Show the Love' green hearts lasted well despite the weather and we had some nice comments about them. We hope it might have made a few people think about our environment. The hearts are now dried out ready for next year's additions. We also have plans for a similar activity, more about that later too.

We are planning a Ten-Pin Bowling session to Margate, and have a regular monthly lunch club. We are also planning another day out, stately home, beautiful garden, or another interesting venue? We haven't quite made up our minds about that yet! For some of our trips we hire a coach and invite family and friends, sometimes we use our own vehicles, but it is sure to be an enjoyable day out. We are also hoping to get involved in walking netball which is being organised by England Netball.

That's another thing about the WI, making friends with people who share the same interests or even better maybe, someone who introduces new ideas. Those friendships are not just at local level but throughout our East Kent Federation. Through social media we are able to make friends and share ideas with members throughout the organisation,

Sue Hankins President tel. 619414



Neighbourhood Watch

Four new NHW street signs have been erected in the village and several others have been cleaned and re-aligned. Mark and Andy Biggington our erstwhile window cleaners have

done this work, for which we thank them.

The Parish Council has given a grant to enable us to improve safety measures in the village. With all the new housing being constructed in Eastry, we will probably need a few more signs so if you are aware of suitable new sites then please let us know. It is worth making note that some insurance companies offer a discount to NHW members. It doesn't cost anything to join NHW, just request a form and sign the data protection section. NHW would welcome volunteers to work out of Dover Police Station to help collate messages for members. Volunteers in Ashford and Herne Bay do not necessarily know the Dover area and occasionally they have not been able to attribute incidents to the correct area. Anyone able to volunteer should contact Andrew Judd at Ashford Police Station; andrew.judd@kent.paa.police.uk.

There have been a number of vehicle crimes locally. Eythorne and Aylesham have been targeted, fuel and tools have been stolen so in Eastry please do not leave any tools in your van or car overnight.

With the lighter Spring evenings there will be opportunistic thieves looking for garden tools and furniture to sell us at Boot Fairs or advertise on line so store your garden tools and lawn mowers carefully and ask our KCC Warden, Hannah Osborne about property marking.

Sheila Smith Chair Eastry Neighbourhood Watch.

Housing in Gore Lane

The Planning Application no dov/17/01114 - for 50 houses on the land at Gore Lane was approved by the Dover District Council Planning Committee in February subject to a number of conditions.

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Jiglexic

I'd just like to tell you of a new word that I've made up, it's called "Jiglexsia" or "Jiglexic" - let me explain. I'm the sort of person who finds it hard to relax, if I have the TV or radio on it's not enough. I have to have a pen in my hand either doing a crossword (of which I do hundreds) or a word puzzle and if I don't know the answer I go to great lengths to find it out. I have had many jobs over the years and pride myself in learning the trade of most of them and also I love "quizzy" programmes. Now what I am trying to say is although I may not be "the Brain of Britain" I'm certainly not the thickest - so why is it that I can't do a flipping jigsaw!?

During the recent spell of bad weather, I got it into my head that to do a jigsaw might be a rather therapeutic thing to do (I hadn't done one for many, many years). A friend lent me three to do - well one I wouldn't even attempt and the other two I felt were rather difficult. My daughter said with 1000 pieces, I had started too hard a task, so off I went and bought one with 500 pieces. (On reflection one with six wooden pieces would be too difficult for me to do). I hadn't got a board or tray big enough to do it on my lap which was my intention so it ended up on the kitchen table - three weeks it's been there now and if I put three pieces in a day it's a flipping miracle and achievement - so what is the matter with me?? Am I "Jiglexic" or just plain thick - (no don't answer that).

Rose Beer

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Old Grumpy

I used to think when I grew old I'd to it with some grace. I'd never grumble, never moan I'd have a smile upon my face.

But now I find as years tick by I get grumpier on the way. I tut and groan and whinge and grump With a new moan every day.

The Council Tax is up again So that warrants a blooming moan 'Cos the roads are full of potholes and the hedgerows overgrown.

I keep forgetting peoples names So I call everybody "dear" But most of my friends are like myself So they never really hear.

I huff and puff to get up the stairs 'Tho why I'm not too sure But when I come back down again I remember what I went up for.

I lose my keys quite daily And search all over the place Only to find they're on the table Staring me in the Face.

I moan about the weather
The wind and rain and cold
And groan about the aches and pains
That come with getting old.

But at least I am still here So should say my thanks to God Even tho I may be thought of As a miserable grumpy s*d!

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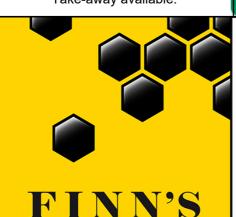
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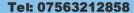


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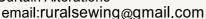
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