

# Elmsted with Hastingleigh Community News

*St James the Great  
Elmsted*



*St Mary the Virgin  
Hastingleigh*

August 2019

40p



# Elmsted and Hastingleigh Community Contacts

Elmsted Parish Council

**Tracey Block** 01233 750415

Hastingleigh Parish Council

**Tracey Block** 01233 750415

Evington Hall (Bookings)  
([www.evingtonhall.org.uk](http://www.evingtonhall.org.uk))

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**Mrs H French** 01233 750483

ECP Hon Sec

**Mrs S Boxall** 01233 750206

Evington Gardeners Hon Sec

**Mrs H Ransley** 01233 720152

Evington Community Choir

**Mrs C Jeffery** 01233 750585

Art Group

**Mrs V Kerry** 01227 700843

Footpath Walks

**Mr D Harris** 01233 813711

Women's Institute

**Mrs J Bowes** 01233 811875

Parent and Toddler Group

**Mrs L Lawrence** 01233 750987

Neighbourhood Watch Hastingleigh

**Mr G Block** 01233 750415

Neighbourhood Watch Elmsted

**Mr J Argar** 01233 750311



# August

## in Elmsted with Hastingleigh

**T**he summer holidays have arrived, schools have broken up, and the sounds of children playing can be heard. Bodsham School Summer Fair was a great success, raising £3000 towards the new computer suite, which alongside other fundraising activities, leaves the school just £800 away from the fund target. The gardens at South Hill will be open to the public on the afternoon of 4th August (p19) and all money raised will be going to St Marys Church Appeal. The Bowl Inn are holding their annual beer festival on 26th August, in memory of Ron. The charity this year will be the Pilgrims Hospice (p22). The Lord Whiskey foundation will be having its Late Summer Faye on 17th August (p33). Bodsham School are still looking for a Breakfast Club Manager starting September 2019, see page 17 for more details. As always letters, articles and comments are very welcome.

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### Submissions

The *Community News* takes no responsibility for misleading advertising or incorrect editorial supplied to us in good faith.

Please provide any promotional or editorial content in Word format rather than pdf. For length, grammar and style issues the Editor reserves the right to edit it.

**Editorial:** elmstedwithhastingleighnews@yahoo.co.uk

**Advertising:** shepandali@hotmail.com

**Secretary:** secretary.communitynews@gmail.com

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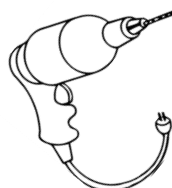
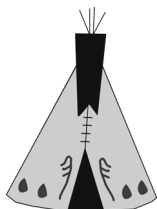
**Most aspects of Household and Garden Maintenance**

*References available*

*Also*

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# Hastingleigh with Elmsted Women's Institute

**H**astingleigh with Elmsted W.I. met on Thursday the 4th of July 2019 at the Evington Hall. 21 members attended and 5 guests.

We discussed various items of business before our speaker, Ms Rosemary Crippen, gave us a talk entitled Bags, Beads and Embroidered Books. Ms Crippen is a retired textile teacher, who is currently a Holy Stitcher at Canterbury Cathedral, which involves repairing vestments, cushions and costumes for the nativity figures, among other things. She showed us an array of beautiful and unusual notebooks and bags which she had made. Ms Crippen had used a multitude of materials to cover notebooks, from newspapers and dress patterns to chocolate wrappers and nappy liners, pelmet vilene

and pillow cases to bubble wrap and garden fleece. The material was painted, waxed, glued and machine embroidered, then beading added to finish. The bags were made of glossy magazine pages, tissue tex, shower curtains, dust bin bags, table cloths and picnic cloths. There were numerous designs, patterns and colours, which made for a very interesting display, which kept those in attendance occupied for a large amount of the evening.

The Flower of the Month winner was Maureen Verhoeven, with a stunning dahlia, and the winner of the July competition, picked from a wonderful display of beaded articles, was Fiona Steward, with a beaded flower brooch.

On Thursday 20th June, 11 members enjoyed an interesting tour, with the Head Gardener, of the gardens at Godinton House. The gardens were beautiful, and at their best, with many different flowers to be seen, including beautiful delphiniums and wild orchids. The tour was informative and enjoyable. We finished our day with a tasty lunch in a nearby pub.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday the 1st August at 7.30 p.m., in the Evington Hall, where we will be having our annual members meeting.

Marie Wenham

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# ‘So they do say...!’

**I**n St James’ Church, Elmsted are several monuments to the Honeywood family as well as a chapel dedicated to them too. In the chancel, almost in front of the altar is a charming monument (a ‘ledger’) set in the floor, to Katheren Taylor.

As was common in those times, country engravers were often left to their own devices, using their initiative for both the spelling and layout of the inscription to fit within the shape and size of the stone.

E  
HERE LYETH Y BODY OF M: KATHEREN TAYLOR GENTELWOMAN  
TH R s HT  
4 DAUGHTER OF S THO; HONEYWOOD LATE OF Y PLACE K: WHO

LIVED MOST RELIGEOUSLY, BEING IN ALL HIR ACTIONS GRAVE  
TH  
& PROVIDENT (& AS GRACE HAD FILLED HIR W INWARD BEAUTY  
TH  
SO HAD NATURE ADORNED HER W OUTWARD COMLYNES)

E E  
SHE DYED IN CHILDBED Y FIRST OF OCTO 1625 Y 30 YEARE  
E  
OF HIR AGE, LEAVING TO HIR HUSBAND 4 CHILDREN, Y ELDEST

NOT ABOVE 6 YEARES OULD : VID: JOHN, ELIZA: MARY

& KATHEREN, IN MEMORY OF HOME, THOMAS TAYLOR WILL=

ESBOROW GENT: HIR LOVING HUSBAND, PLASED HERE THIS STONE  
1626

This is from Monkwearmouth, Sunderland: In Memory Of  
Sarrah Willcock  
Wif of John Willcock  
Wo died  
August 15th 1825  
Aged 48 Years  
She was But Re Sons For Beds  
Me To Sa what But think  
What a womven should Be  
And She was that

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# In The Garden

**L**adies and Gentlemen, as I write in mid July, we have a drought and the ground is very dry. Established and perennial plants and flowers are fine and the display of blossoms is magnificent and, of course, the trees are green although our holly is shedding more summer leaves than usual. But the grass is beginning to look somewhat brown and it doesn't need cutting so much – which is a relief for some.

But sowing seeds in open ground and planting out is demanding a lot of watering. Our old Victorian 100-gallon tank of roof water is dry and the larger tanks now only a third full and we are taking cans of water every day. We still have the original 18th century 800 gallon underground cistern to fall back on with our submersible pump as need arises. When the cottage was built this underground cistern was the sole supply from the roof for drinking and washing unless surface

tanks were installed. The houses with a well bored direct into an aquifer were rarer but in the drought of 1919 even those dried up and horses pulled carts with water tanks back and forth to the Stour at Wye every day to supply the residents with some water and, of course, the farm livestock. Mains water was not installed until the 1930s and surprisingly, amazingly, there has not yet been any talk of a hosepipe ban this year. Climate change is going to force us to value this precious liquid more than ever and we all need to consider conservation and our supplies for the future. The world is changing and it is our good fortune that we are presently not suffering, as are parts of southern India, where whole villages are being abandoned for lack of water, lack of rain.

The first planting of potatoes benefitted from the earlier weather and Charlotte (French) has yielded an incredibly good harvest of fine spuds with very little slug damage. A careful poke around the main crop Desirée (Dutch) reveals small tubers that need some good rain to grow to a proper size for for long-term winter storage. Will I be able to grow these imigrants after Brexit, I

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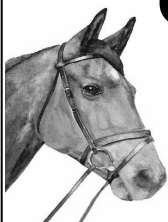
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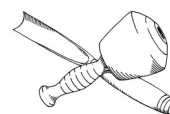
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## In The Garden Cont...

wonder! The dry weather is encouraging a few of the Sturon onions to think its time for maturity and some are bending over to start ripening ahead of time.

Broad beans, Aquadulce Claudia, sown in November followed by Express sown in March have finished yielding with a very good harvest that the kitchen struggled to keep up with before they became too big and of course and not good eating. Typically I have had to sow carrots twice. The first germination was good but while my back was turned and overnight parts of rows disappeared to slugs and had to be patched up. Good germination again but, yes, two of my patches have disappeared. Fortunately, enough are now surviving to give us a steady supply through autumn and winter. These we always grow under a fine net to keep the carrot root fly away to avoid spraying any nasties. Received wisdom has it that all you need is a polythene fence

around the carrot patch at least 60 cm tall to keep them out as that is their maximum altitude. The local flies haven't heard that and they get ambitious so a total net is, I find, the only real safeguard; and I do like eating carrots.

I took five hardwood cuttings from a stunning scarlet honey-suckle growing against the bow window. Two showed promising signs of top growth in the spring but I fear the dry weather, even with some judicious watering has put paid to them. Better luck next year.

Fred

The logo features the number '100' in a large, stylized font, surrounded by stars and a sunburst effect.

## Club Draw

**T**he latest winning numbers for the Evington Community Project 100 club draw are:

1st Prize:	No. 44
2nd Prize:	No. 90
3rd Prize:	No. 31

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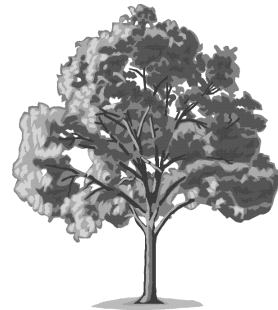
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# History Enthusiast

## The Farmers' Lot - an appreciation

**I**'m sure readers are interested in the Farming Notebook written for this magazine. And amazed by how much a farmer has to know, think about and do at all times of the year. It is so informative.

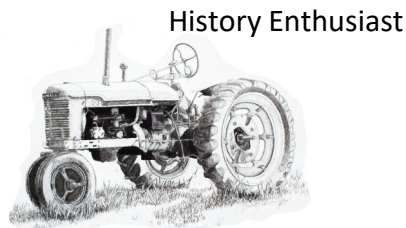
Disease, drought and flood. The furrows on a farmer's brow are often as deep as those in his field, and rarely does a year go by without another line being added.

People need food so farming has always been essential. Until the advent of mechanisation it was very labour intensive. Most people farmed or worked on the land. It was a risky business though as is evidenced by the Farming Notebook. Over the centuries one can trace the ups and downs of farming families which did well, not so well that

sometimes led to impoverishment and ruination. It wasn't all to do with the vagaries of the environment. Another factor was Gavelkind. This was a tenure of land existing chiefly in Kent from Anglo-Saxon times until 1925 whereby all descendants of a deceased person could share the property and belongings equally. This led to holdings once built up by one person to be sizeable, was divided into smaller holdings and if continued, to even smaller pieces so that farming became unviable.

It's probably inevitable therefore that an industry based on livestock and crops is vulnerable to the vicissitudes of disease and weather. Added to this are their own unpredictable personal life events.

Farmers as well as running an efficient business are also still conscious of protecting the countryside. We have a lot to thank them for.



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# Bodsham School

**T**he summer term at Bodsham has been a busy one as usual, with the annual sports day, the summer fair, children on class trips and a general feeling of excitement as we head towards the summer break.

Sports day at the end of June saw parents and families come together at the school for a wonderful afternoon watching all the children participate in games themed on traditional sports from around the UK, followed by running races, relay races and even an appearance from the Shepway Shark mascot. The children all showed great sportsmanship by cheering each other on and enjoying themselves. On July 3rd, the school choir came along to the village coffee morning and performed a wonderful variety of songs which were enjoyed by everybody there. It was a delightful occasion and planning has already begun for a return visit in the winter for some Christmas Carols. The children sang beautifully, and the generous

audience made donations of £67.80 for their performance, which will go towards the funding of the new Computer suite. Many thanks to all who attended.

Saturday July 5th saw Bodsham put up its bunting and break out the coconut shy for the annual summer fair. The event included homemade food, barbecue, crafts for sale, games and performances by the school choir and the school children who attend the Emily Balmer School of dance. The children did brilliantly in an unusual performance space with a large crowd watching. We were all treated to book readings from the wonderful Andrew Clover, Author of the Rory Branagan detective books, and Stacy Bax, author of Sydney Spider. The children (and grownups) were enthralled by the stories and many left clutching signed copies of the books for themselves. The fair was hugely well attended, and we would like to thank all who came along. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves. The proceeds from the fair will also be going towards funding our new computer suite and we are extremely pleased to say that



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# Bodsham School Cont.

the day raised just over £3000. Added to what we have raised with other events this year it means we are only £800 away from our required total of £10,500. We are very much hoping we can raise this money in the autumn term and be able to get the school the new Computers that are so vital to their education.

As we reach the last week of term, it is with a mixture of sadness, pride and excitement that we say farewell to our year 6 pupils as they head off into the next chapter of their lives at secondary school. We wish them all the very best at their chosen schools and hope that the families who are leaving will take away fond memories of our Bodsham community.

---

## **Vacancy at Bodsham Church of England Primary School Breakfast Club Manager – September 2019**

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You will work closely with school staff to ensure we meet the needs of all our customers and send our happy and well behaved children off to class ready to start their day.

Food hygiene training will be provided. Free places at the Breakfast Club would be offered to the children of the successful candidate!

For more information please contact us directly on 01233 750374 or [admin@bodsham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bodsham.kent.sch.uk)

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All proceeds to  
go to St Mary's Church  
Appeal Fund

<b>Church services in the Parish Upon The Hills</b>		
04/08	First Sunday	09.30 - Elmsted- Group service for Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Petham & Waltham.
11/08	Second Sunday	08.30 - Hastingleigh—Group service for Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Waltham & Petham
18/08	Third Sunday	09:30 Petham - Group service for Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Waltham & Petham
25/08	Fourth Sunday	11:30 Waltham - Group service (This is also Waltham churches patronal festival—St. Bartholomew) for Elmsted, Hastingleigh, Waltham & Petham

**Priest-in-charge:** The Rev Ravi Holy: The Vicarage, Wye 01233 812450 ravi.holy@wyebenefice.org.uk **Associate priest:** The Rev Lorraine Lawrence (with special responsibility for Hastingleigh, Elmsted, Petham, Waltham): The Vicarage, Hastingleigh, 01233 750987 or 07894 034409 lorraine\_lawrence@btinternet.com. **Churchwardens:** Mrs Bacon 01233 750327, Mrs R Doyle 01227 700296. **United Wye Benefice** 01233 813793 www.wyebenefice.org.uk

<b>This month's church flowers and cleaning volunteers:</b>		
	<b>St Mary's</b>	<b>St James'</b>
Aug 3rd Aug 10th	Dr & Mrs Lawson Mrs Day	Mrs McFarlane Mrs Hewson
Aug 17th Aug 24th	Mrs Boxall Mrs Pell	Mrs London, Ms Flitney Mrs Francesconi
Aug 31st Sept 7th	Mrs Young Mrs Jerrom	Mrs Jeffrey

## Diary Dates - August

Thurs	1st	W.I. Meeting	19.30 - 22.00
Sun	4th	South Hill Gardens Open	14.00 - 17.30
Wed	7th	Coffee Morning	10.30 - 11.30
Tues	13th	Library Van	09.45 - 10.15
Mon	26th	Bowl Inn Folk Fest	noon
Tues	27th	Library Van	09.45 - 10.15

The above dates are taken from the Evington Hall website calendar  
([www.evingtonhall.org.uk](http://www.evingtonhall.org.uk))

***All events at the village hall unless otherwise stated***



## Police Contact

There is now a general number that can be used to contact  
the Rural Liaison Team in our area

**07980 978202**

There is further information available on the notice board  
in the Evington Hall



# Ron's Folk Fest

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**Pilgrims Hospice is a registered charity (293968) and company (2000560) in England.**



# Parish Upon The Hills

**W**ell, summer has finally arrived, sort of, but it's a bit of a contrast from last year. Last summer, July was so hot, Drew barely mowed the lawn at all, where as this year, the grass, like the weeds, seems to have grown really quickly. The things we want to grow, however, seem to be growing rather slower, I think because they didn't like the cold wet start they got. The veg in the poly tunnel on the other hand, are absolutely romping. We are enjoying home grown cucumbers, courgettes, and peas almost daily. The French beans are doing really well, but will, I think, be ready while we are on holiday, so our friend who is watering should have a feast, which is fine as they deserve the reward for helping us out.

Sometimes it does feel as if in our life journeys, we put in all the effort and others reap all the rewards!

Most good parents will happily put their own needs to the back burner in order to give their children the best possible start.

They don't see it as a sacrifice so much as an investment. "The more you put in, the more you get out!"

Children learn through the examples of the adults around them, so watch out, what examples are your children seeing?

But where do our examples come from? Who or what is our bad influence? I would like to suggest 'the herd', whether that term represents our friends, peers, media, social media, so called public opinion or politics. If we are not careful the wrong influence can damage us as much as it does our children! As parents, we are sad when our children go off to school, and bring home behaviours and opinions that are not ours, that don't represent what we hold dear. Well it lessens humankind when we, as adults, are swayed by opinions of hatred or prejudice, meanness or selfishness!

When we let those in power tell us what to think, or how to behave and speak; or act in a way that is designed to 'fit in' regardless of whether it is thought out or

## Parish Upon The Hills Cont.

loving, then we let ourselves down, and from the Christian point of view, we let God down. We've been given brains to think and reason, lives to enjoy, and a world full of people as wonderfully special and individual as we are, so don't we owe it to ourselves and them to behave like everyone matters?

So what I'm saying is, it's not 'Naff!' to care about others, or want what's best for the majority, it's not 'Sad!' to do the right thing.

It's good and right to care, to not think only of ourselves, and if we want our children to be caring and loving, and have great hopes and dreams for them, then why are we, as adults, selling ourselves, and them, so short?

I can't believe many of us would want our children to be selfish, or xenophobic, or racist, and yet, if we are sold the jargon of, "if the foreigners go home, we'll all be better off" or if "we leave Europe", "vote differently", "be selfish", "don't give money to the homeless", etc, etc, etc, then we will be so much 'better off', 'happier', 'more successful' or

have improved lives in some way or another, then even though it makes our Father sad, and we know in our hearts it not that simple, we are still suckered in.

So where am I going with all this? Well caring seems to be very unfashionable these days, and yes, frequently it does feel as if, much like our French beans, we've done all the work and somebody else is getting all the rewards, maybe we should stop and re-evaluate what work they did, which we chose not to see, because that's easier, but actually, no matter how little or how much we contribute to the 'common good' surely the fact that it is the 'common good' is what counts.

Jesus said there are only two commandments we really need, "Love God, and Love each other"! If we actually all loved each other, whether or not we choose to love God, then wouldn't the world be a wonderful place?

Have a lovely, and loving, August everyone.

Lorraine

# Wye PPG

## Shaping NHS Services for the Future- Have Your Say.

**T**he NHS is undergoing far-reaching changes in the way in which services will be delivered to an ever-growing population with increasingly complex health needs. Doctors working in East Kent are, as in most areas of the country, struggling to keep up with the demand for appointments and there are shortages and problems in recruiting GPs in most practices. There are 1.8 million people across Kent and Medway with a budget of £440 million a year to provide services for them all.

In July, the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Partnership published its latest bulletin - 'Bringing the NHS Long Term Plan to Life'. The plan is for greater integration across Health and Social Care via four new Integrated Care Partnerships. It is proposed that new groupings of GP practices will work together and in partnership with community, mental health, social care,

pharmacy, hospital and voluntary services to form new Primary Care Networks that should be operational by 2020. Wye surgery will be part of the new Ashford Stour network, which will consist of 99,250 patients.

Decisions made about the organisation of future services today will affect every one of us tomorrow. It is, therefore, very important that patients are fully informed about what is being proposed and are fully aware of how services are likely to change, before future structures are agreed and the fine details of future arrangements are finalised. There needs to be a continuing flow of accurate information and communication between those who provide medical services and those who receive them, if we are to ensure that patients are enabled to have a meaningful input and to give an informed view of what is being proposed. You do not have to be a member of a



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Patient Participation Group to make your voice heard and to have your views taken into account, although new members are always welcome.

Updates on the evolving plans can be seen on the July 2019 Kent and Medway NHS newsletter available on [kentandmedway.nhs.uk/kent-medway-stp-bulletins](http://kentandmedway.nhs.uk/kent-medway-stp-bulletins) and you can subscribe to regular

updates. You can also respond to an online survey at [www.kentandmedway.nhs.uk](http://www.kentandmedway.nhs.uk) by 16 August or by writing to Freepost KENT& MEDWAY NHS, New Hythe Lane, Aylesford, Kent ME20 6WT or by emailing comments to [comms.kentandmedway@nhs.net](mailto:comms.kentandmedway@nhs.net). Please have your say!  
Judith Timms  
PPG Chair

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## Farming Notebook

**A**round the locality there are the first signs of harvest. A few early crops of Winter Barley have been cut, and the fields then swiftly baled. All this leads to more pre-harvest tension...

Many years ago a local farmer, Gerald Francis, used to give us a hand over the harvest period. He would come round on a daily basis and ask if we were about to start combining. The answer was usually a very polite "No". He would then up the ante and point out that "Mr Baker White has started...". I felt like saying that I did not care a tiniest bit (or words

to that effect) that Mr Baker White had started, we had nothing fit to cut.

This year we have no winter barley and therefore our first crop to come to harvest will either be our grass seed or the oilseed rape, both still a couple of weeks away. We will be patient and sit on our hands until the crop is fit and then it will be all systems go-go-go.

Over the next week or so, the final bits of grain store cleaning will be completed. We still have 150 tonnes of wheat in store for movement in July. The grain trailers will be thoroughly washed and the tractors will be given a good check over and cleaned inside and out. When the time comes we will be ready.....

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## Farming Cont.

The potatoes benefited greatly from the 24mm of rain about three weeks ago and look very clean and healthy. I am pleased to say that all the crop has passed its second field inspection by the Plant Health department of DEFRA, so everything can be sold for seed, our intended market. One variety, Miranda, has already reached the optimum size for seed. This has given us the opportunity to try the new 3 bed haulm topper. This machine has shaped flails which match the contours of the potato baulks and is designed to remove all the foliage. This will stop the plant's growth in its tracks and as a result the tubers should not increase in size. The tubers will then spend the next few weeks curing their skins which will make them robust enough to endure the harvesting process without incurring any damage. At the moment the skins are very thin and can be rubbed off very easily, just like a new potato, after the curing period they will be like a main-crop potato, one that will need peeling.

All the other varieties grew swiftly after the rain, but now, with the ground very dry again, have tubers which are growing very slowly and are not yet up to the desired size. We will have to very vigilant should we get a shower or two because they can very quickly bulk up and become oversize. The only way to have any idea of the tuber size is to do 2m long test digs across every variety and put the resulting harvest through a set of hand sieves. It is always a balancing act between letting a couple of large tubers go oversize which will allow 6 small ones to come in at the bottom end. But the large tubers weigh much more than the small ones, so the dilemma continues..... Over the years Elizabeth has become expert in getting the balance right and maximising our seed return.

Coming back to the topper. We have invested in this machine along with two other large ware crop growers because we have practically nothing left in our chemical armoury to desiccate the foliage. On some varieties we may have to top more than once because the potato can be very resilient and start to grow new stems and leaves. Although the

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## Farming Cont..

machine is 6m wide and looks very ungainly, once in work it looks the part and does a great job.

All the cereals too have passed their seed inspections, with our high grade wheat having an extra inspection from the Ministry. We have had a rogueing gang in to remove odd bits of blackgrass from the fields-not a reason to fail certification, but an opportunity to keep the farm clean. In one area the levels were beyond practical hand rogueing so we mowed the area off, sacrificing the wheat crop, and made silage. A second team were sent in by the breeder to take out any "off types" out of the high grade wheat prior to the DEFRA inspection.

The Dennes/Zantra cereals open day which we hosted at the end of June went very well. The weather held and there was a very good turnout. Nearly 200 growers attended to see different wheat and oat varieties grown in large scale plots, all with multiple combinations of fungicides and timings for

comparison. Some of the untreated plots showed very high levels of disease. The Wingham Wheat club revisited the trials last week prior to their annual strawberry tea. It was useful, as over two weeks had elapsed since the open day and the differences between varieties was even more marked.

The AI cows have now re-joined the main herd so that the bull can cover any cows which may still be empty. We have made a diary note of the day on which we will have 12 cows calving!!

With the continued dry weather we have made some good hay which all safely stored away in the barn.

Before we get the combine going we will spend some time topping the pastures on which the cattle have been grazing. This tidies the field up and also encourages new growth which we may be very pleased to have in the autumn.

And before you ask, No we have not started combining...!

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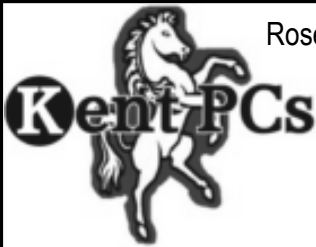
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