PARISH NEWS

The Parish of Aldingbourne, Barnham & Eastergate

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IN THIS ISSUE

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026

ABE CHRISTMAS FAIR

ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

www.parishofabe.org.uk

November 2026

PARISH OF ALDINGBOURNE, BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday 1	**All Saints Day**			
	8.30am	Holy Communion	BCP	St George's, Eastergate
	9am	Mattins	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	9.30am	Said Mass	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	10am	All-age Communion		St George's, Eastergate
	10am	Parish Communion		St Mary's, Aldingbourne
	11.15am	Sung Mass		St Mary's, Barnham
	3pm	All Souls-tide Memorial Service		St George's, Eastergate
	6pm	Evensong		St Mary's, Barnham
Monday 2	**All Souls' Day**			
	6.30pm	Sung Requiem Mass		St Mary's, Barnham
Saturday 7	**Feria**			
	9.30am	Walsingham Cell Mass		St Mary's, Barnham
Sunday 8	**3rd before Advent/32nd Sunday (REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY)**			
	8.30am	Holy Communion	BCP	St George's, Eastergate
	9am	Mattins	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	9.30am	Said Mass	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	10am	Parish Communion		St Mary's, Aldingbourne
	10am	All-age service		St George's, Eastergate
	10.55am	Act of Remembrance		Eastergate War Memorial
	10.55am	Act of Remembrance		St Mary's, Barnham
	11.15am	Sung Requiem Mass		St Mary's, Barnham
	6pm	Evensong & Benediction		St Mary's, Barnham
Wednesday 11	**Armistice Day**			
	10.30am	Holy Communion		St Mary's, Aldingbourne
	11am	Act of Remembrance		Aldingbourne War Memorial
Sunday 15	**2nd before Advent/33rd Sunday**			
	8.30am	Holy Communion	BCP	St George's, Eastergate
	9am	Mattins	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	9.30am	Said Mass	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	9.45am	Sunday Seekers		Eastergate School
	10am	Family Communion		St George's, Eastergate
	10am	Parish Communion		St Mary's, Aldingbourne
	11.15am	Sung Mass		St Mary's, Barnham

PARISH OF ALDINGBOURNE, BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE
SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday 22	**Christ the King**			
	8.30am	Holy Communion	BCP	St George's, Eastergate
	9am	Mattins	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	9.30am	Said Mass	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	9.45am	Sunday Seekers		Eastergate School
	10am	Family Communion		St George's, Eastergate
	10am	Parish Communion		St Mary's, Aldingbourne
	11.15am	Sung Mass		St Mary's, Barnham
	6pm	Evensong		St Mary's, Barnham
Sunday 29	**Advent Sunday**			
	8.30am	Holy Communion	BCP	St George's, Eastergate
	9am	Mattins	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	9.30am	Said Mass	BCP	St Mary's, Barnham
	10am	Family Communion		St George's, Eastergate
	10am	Parish Communion		St Mary's, Aldingbourne
	11.15am	Sung Mass		St Mary's, Barnham
	6pm	Evensong		St Mary's, Barnham

Other regular weekly services:

10am Holy Communion every Wednesday at St George's, Eastergate
6pm Evensong (BCP) and 6.30pm Said Mass every Tuesday at St Mary's, Barnham

Parish of ABE

Christmas Fair

Saturday 5th December
11am - 2pm

Eastergate Village Hall,
Barnham Road, Eastergate PO20 3RP

Entry by donation

- Grand Raffle
- Toys and Games
- Refreshments
- Christmas Stall
- Gift Stall
- Homemade Cakes
- Tombola



Registered charity no: 1131523



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

'In Flanders' fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row, that mark our place: and in the sky the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below.'

This is the first verse of John McCrae's poem, first published in Punch magazine in 1915. It soon came to symbolise the sacrifice of all who died in World War One. Today, the poppy remains an important symbol of all those who have sacrificed their lives in conflicts over the years. But why do we remember them?

'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.' (Micah 4:3). Writing 700 years before Christ, Micah spoke at the time when Samaria was captured due to the invasion of Assyria. However, he prophesied a future of hope, a world where nations would come together in peace rather than war. His words are fulfilled in the kingdom of God established by Jesus.

Our understanding of peace is more than simply the absence of conflict. It is about building relationships between people, communities and nations, founded on love and justice for all. As we remember those who have died in war, we should look practically at how we can build such relationships, beginning with our own families, colleagues and neighbours. *'We will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.'* (Micah 4:5). Let us ask God's Spirit to make us people of peace, justice and compassion for today's world.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'

ACTS OF REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PARISH

On Remembrance Sunday (8 November)

10.55am: Act of Remembrance at Eastergate War Memorial

10.55am: Act of Remembrance at Barnham War Memorial (located in the church)

On Armistice Day (Wednesday 11 November)

10.55am: Act of Remembrance at Aldingbourne War Memorial (outside the church)

THINKING ABOUT A WEDDING OR CHRISTENING (BAPTISM) IN ONE OF OUR CHURCHES?

Contact our Parish Office on 01243 553955 for more information



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FROM THE REGISTERS

JULY/AUGUST 2026

Baptisms: We welcome into the fellowship of the Church

2 Aug Milo Cordova-Bone (A)
2 Aug Jasper Collins (A)
6 Sept Mia Tredger (A)
Albie Murray (A)
20 Sept Otis Lyons (B)
27 Sept Darcy Goodman (A)

Weddings

5 Sept Stanbridge/Coughtrey (E)
19 Sept Pannell/Porsch (A)

Funerals: We commit into God's loving care

10 July Alan Smallman (E)
21 July Paul Wakeford (Ashes) (A)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Events coming up in the Parish include:

- **6 November – ABE Fun Quiz at Barnham Community Hall *(see page 7)***
- **19 November – A Bite to Eat (Parish Lunch) at Eastergate Village Hall from 12:30-2pm *(see page 22)***
- **5 December – Christmas Fair at Eastergate Village Hall *(see page 4 and 11)***
- **5 February – ABE Chinese New Year Feast at Barnham Community Hall from 7pm**

CHRISTMAS FAIR

It is now just a few weeks to ABE's Christmas Fair, which will be held at Eastergate Village Hall on Saturday 5 December. We hope to see you all there to enjoy the chance to win a bottle or two for Christmas lunch at our tombola, buy some presents at our craft tables, or toys for your children or grandchildren. We'll also have books, puzzles, and games for you to enjoy as the nights draw in. Come in to relax and enjoy meeting friends over a coffee.

Please see pages 4 and 11 for more information about this important event in our community's life, and contact Colin at cvmact1@outlook.com to donate or, if you can, help with the fair.

ABE QUIZ NIGHT

ABE Fun Quiz Night at Barnham Community Hall on Friday 6 November starting at 7pm. £5 per person (towards church funds) and bring your own drinks and nibbles. Teams of 6 - bring your own team or we will make them up on the night. Maybe a group of friends, a church group and so on? To assist with planning please could you sign the sheet in church or e mail the Parish Office so we know how many are coming.

ADVENT LUNCHES

During Advent we will be holding a series of Ecumenical Advent lunches in the hall at Westergate Methodist church on Wednesdays: 2, 9, 16 and 23 December.

The groups will be 12 midday until 2pm and the first hour we will share together in a soup and cheese lunch followed by a discussion based on an Advent book. All are welcome from across the denominations in our area. If you would like to join us please contact Rev Sheila Higgins at 01243 553901 or smhandaway@hotmail.co.uk

ALL SOULS TIDE

Remembering our departed loved ones (All Souls Tide) is being marked in the churches on the weekend of 1/2 November and therefore we have a choice as to when we would like to remember loved ones departed. Please do invite any you think would find any of these occasions helpful.

- **Aldingbourne:** Sunday 1 November at the 10am Parish Communion with names remembered at the end of the service.
- **Eastergate:** Sunday 1 November at 3pm. All Soulstide Memorial Service with names read out during the service.
- **Barnham:** Monday 2 November at 6.30pm. Sung Requiem Mass with names read out during the service.

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JAR OF COMPASSION

The Jar of Compassion this year has been supporting St Wilfrid's Hospice through the donations in the jars at each church. This is therefore a gentle reminder for us to finish the year with a final push to support this year's charity.

We now need to think about which local charity we might want to support in 2027? Please could you send your suggestions to the Parish Office by the end of November and then the PCC standing committee can make a decision at its December meeting. Who should we support next year?

PARISH LUNCH

A Bite to Eat (Parish Lunch) is on Thursday 19 November at Eastergate Hall. Please do come if you can to share in a simple lunch of homemade soup, bread, cheese, tea, coffee and biscuits with one another. We also enjoy the challenge of a light hearted quiz. All are welcome!

SUPPORT FUND

The Walberton, Binsted And West Barnham Support Fund has funds available to make grants to support those in financial hardship and live in those areas. We can support food, heating and one off payments. If you or you know someone who might possibly be eligible then speak in confidence to Fr Paul or Rev Sheila.

WESTERGATE

Our of our October speakers was Ian Howard, a volunteer from the Commonwealth war graves Commission. He told us that the Commission, which was founded in 1917 by Sir Fabian Ware, now looks after 1.7 million graves across many countries. There are some in Tangmere and Aldingbourne churchards. All are kept in immaculate condition and there is no distinction between ranks.The organisation is mostly run by volunteers but there is some funding.

We also had two other visitors; the author David Bathurst who came to introduce his new book, The Muddlesfield Talents and Chrissy from the new care home, Bradshaw Lodge who gave us a an introduction to the lodge and said we were welcome to visit at any time and join in with the the many activities that are on offer there.

On our social list we have our annual visit to Haskins to see the Christmas decorations followed by lunch and a visit to the Christmas Concert at the Festival Theatre. A busy time of year.

Catherine White-Aldworth

Eastergate CHURCH of ENGLAND Primary School

Have you considered being a School Governor?

Would you like to help shape the future for the next generation? Do you have valuable / professional skills you can offer? Are you committed to contributing to your local community? If you can answer 'yes' to any of the above we would love to hear from you.
We are keen to recruit a co-opted governor with skills and expertise in IT or Health & Safety; however, we welcome anyone who is interested in school governance.

Please get in touch with Hedda Wells - Chair of Governors via the school office. Tel: 01243 544297 or email office@eastergate.w-sussex.sch.uk

The Governing Board of Eastergate CEP School

SMILE LINES

Like God

My grandson was visiting one day when he said, "Grandma, I always think of how you and God are alike."

Mentally polishing my halo, I asked, "How is that, then?"

"You're both just SO old," he replied.

Story

It was Dad's turn to read young Jamie a bedtime story. After 20 minutes, Mum called up the stairs, "Is he asleep?"

Young Jamie called softly back, "Yes, finally."

PRAYER DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

For our three church communities: As we support our PCC members in prayer, we pray that we ourselves will be prepared to follow God's calling to serve within the church community we worship in.

We give thanks for all who worked hard to make Messy Church a successful activity for our young families and we pray for our monthly All Age services at St George's that they will also become a regular enjoyment for these families. We pray that Advent will be a special time of expectation as we approach the Christmas season and that the study groups will help us in this.

For the wider community of ABE: We pray for more support locally for the Bognor Foodbank and give thanks for the opportunities to give in our local shops and churches. We pray and give thanks for all our local shops as they continue to provide for our needs.

This month is a time of special memories and we support in our prayers all who are grieving, lonely or isolated.

For our nation and the world: We ask God's forgiveness for what appears to be increasing racial hatred and violence both in our own country and in the wider world.

We pray for the mid-term elections in the US and for the impact the results could have on foreign policy. We continue to pray for the leaders of the world, that they may lead courageously in the ways of justice and compassion, and that God's will may be seen to be done.

Sunday Prayers

This month we pray for:

1 Nov: For the staff and pupils at St. Philip Howard Catholic High School Barnham, and residents of Level Mare Lane, Littleheath Road, Legg Vale, Lime Avenue and Meadow Way

8 Nov: For the staff and pupils of Ormiston Six Villages Academy, and residents of Park Lane, Park Road, Peckham Chase and Riggs Lane.

15 Nov: For the staff and patients at St. Wilfrid's Hospice, and residents of The Drive, The Square, and Steeplechase Way.

22 Nov: For the staff and residents of Claremont Lodge, Fontwell Avenue, and residents of Barnetts Close, Barnetts Field, Barons Close, Barnham Road, Barn Rise & Bateson Way.

29 Nov: For families preparing to have children baptised in our three churches, and residents of Denmans Lane, Diggens Grove, Dollery Road and Drover's Way.



ALL SAINTS

At the beginning of this month, we celebrate 'All Saints' (1 November), when we remember all those heroes of the faith who have in one way or another been a witness to Christ in what they said and what they did. But sometimes the saints of old- those portrayed in Renaissance pictures or in craggy, oversized sculptures- can matter less to us than the saints we have personally known.

For instance, one minister tells of a good friend of his, Stan, a farmer on the Yorkshire Wolds, who died earlier this year. Stan was the sort of man you'd meet at the mart, or stop to have a chat with in the village. He always had time for you. You'd go away thinking 'salt of the earth', and you would be right.

But Stan was much deeper than that. He was a devout Christian, with a simple but profound faith, used by God in many situations that never made the public eye. His farm had a Site of Special Scientific Interest in that it captured many of the unique features of the Wolds. He was a knowledgeable plantsman, although you would have to drag it out of him. In his day he had taken Bibles to Soviet-era Ukraine and Romania, and received the thanks of Christians there who were so encouraged that they were not alone, that someone cared, made the effort to bring them the Word of God.

So Stan, although a quiet family man living on a fairly remote farm, had had a profound influence for God and for good in many people's lives, both in the area – and in Ukraine and Romania.

And there have been multitudes like him. This month, are there folk in your life who have been an influence on you for God and for good? What difference did they make to you?

All Saints-tide is the ideal opportunity to give thanks for them. They are life's unsung heroes, who help others steer a path closer to God by their wise words, or their support, their prayers. The impact of a good life on others can be enormous. For all of them, let's thank God.

With thanks to the Revd Roy Shaw, a retired but active priest in the diocese of York for these thoughts.

NATIONAL TREE WEEK

21 to 29 November

It really is time to appreciate our trees. Did you know:

The UK has 123,000 ancient and veteran trees, and more ancient oak trees than the rest of Europe combined?

Or that trees help us feel better? Studies have found that exposure to forests generally reduces our mental and physical stress, anxiety, and depression.

Or that 95% of land carbon in the UK is stored in soil, and trees help put it there? When wood and leaves fall, the carbon held within them gets stored in the soil.

Or that hedgerows alongside our roads can reduce air pollution exposure by up to 63%?

No wonder that each year the Tree Council and its partners bring together the conservation sector, volunteers and tree-lovers to mark the start of the annual tree planting season. Together, they plant thousands of trees and hedgerows, to celebrate these "magnificent mainstays" of our landscape.

And we need more trees. Sadly, only 13% of the UK's total land area is covered in trees. That's compared to an average of 46% in Europe. In England, the figure is just 10%.

On the plus side, there are more than 80 community tree nurseries in the UK, growing an estimated 250,000 trees a year, often from locally collected seed, and which are given away or sold at minimal cost.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 5th December
11am - 2pm
in Eastergate Village Hall

Our Christmas Fair is always a very popular event in the Parish, and the success of it depends on your generosity!

Can you please help by donating
items for our luxury Christmas hampers:

Aldingbourne Church
Items for Gifts, toiletries and candles hamper

Barnham Church
Items for an Afternoon Tea hamper

Eastergate Church
Items for a luxury food and sweet hamper

We also need.....

Tombola prizes for adults and
children *(Bottles of any sort are acceptable)*
Craft and Christmas items, Toiletries & Gifts
Sweets, home made or shop bought
Items for a stall with a Christmas theme
Good quality Books, puzzles, toys and games
Offers of cakes etc. for the Cake Stall

PLEASE NO BRIC-A-BRAC

Donations can be left at any of our churches or the Parish Office.
If you can help on the day or need advice on donating items, please contact Colin Mouque 01243 551729. 07748 776 253
Email: cvmact1@outlook.com

RAFFLE TICKETS are now available at each church as last year. We hope to make an early start with selling tickets so that friends and neighbours can be included! We are grateful to Westergate House Care Home for sponsoring our Raffle tickets this year.

BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE COMMUNITY TRUST

As we move into the last few festive months of 2026, we look forward to welcoming you to our community halls - Eastergate Village Hall and Barnham Community Hall no matter what time of year. Both our buildings have many friendly events for you including the following:

Pop Up Shop Opportunities during the busy Coffee Morning at Eastergate Village Hall on Tuesdays for a cost of just £10 a table. Please contact Nina for more information.

Weekly Coffee Mornings: Nina's Friendly Coffee Morning on Tuesdays at Eastergate Village Hall, 10am – midday (quiet space also available). On the last Tuesday of the month we will now have a bacon/hashbrown roll morning. There is also a coffee morning on Wednesdays at Barnham Community Hall, 10am – midday. Just pop along, you will be made very welcome. Please note that on the 1st Wednesday of the month Barnham Community Hall's Cutten Café will be open from 9am – 3pm. As well as the usual delicious cakes and savouries, a light lunch will be on offer.

Friendly Foodie Fridays: At 11:30am-1pm on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month in the Community Hub at the back of Eastergate Village Hall. We will have rescued/surplus food on offer from our partners UK Harvest. This amazing initiative is available to everyone. We accept cash donations but they are not compulsory. Please bring a bag. This project is now sponsored by Nyton House Residential Care Home.

In the main hall we will now have a **regular clothing and furniture swap** working with our partners West Sussex Recycles.

Repair Café: Due to the amazing support from Westergate House, our Repair Café will now be held on 1st Wedesday evening of the monthe (6:30pm-8pm) as well as the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month (11:30am-1pm) in the main Eastergate Village Hall. Offering light repairs by experienced volunteers.

Textile Workshops using repurposed materials at Barnham Community Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 10am–12noon. Contact sally-ann for more info.

Board and Card Games Club: The Eastergate Hub Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at Eastergate Village Hall. 7-9pm. £3pp including refreshments. No other costs! Open for all ages 18+. Contact Roy roy@camcodesignltd.plus.com for info.

Other events include:

- **Veterans Breakfast Club:** 5 November from 10am-12noon at Eastergate Village Hall.
- **Remembrance Sunday Celebration:** 8 November at Eastergate Village Hall. Complimentary tea and cakes at 11:30am after the War Memorial service.
- **Christmas Craft Fair:** 20 November at Eastergate Village Hall.

See pages 18-22 for details of more events.

Please keep an eye out on the local noticeboards, our Facebook pages and our website for more information barnhamandeastergatecommunitytrust.com.

Our moto is 'Together We Are Stronger' and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

All the staff and volunteers at Barnham and Eastergate Community Trust

For enquiries and more information please contact Nina-Maria McMaster on 07849 356097 or email nina@eastergatehall.org.uk (based at Eastergate Village Hall) or Ali Tarbard/Sally-ann Baker on 07714 456482 or email events@barnhamcommunityhall.org (based at Barnham Community Hall).

EASTERGATE WAR MEMORIAL



Sunday 8 November at 10.55am

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

followed by refreshments
at Eastergate Village Hall

We will remember them

HIGH DAYS & HOLY DAYS

10 November – Leo the Great

How do you think of Jesus? As the Lord of lords in glory? Or as a human baby soon to be born in Bethlehem? November brings the glorious climax of the church year with the Sunday of Christ the King on 22nd November – only to begin a new 'year' a week later, with Advent. So, the ways in which the Church speaks of Jesus this month could not be more dramatically different.

How can Jesus be both God and Man? Trying to get your head around the Incarnation is not easy, and so this is a good month to remember Leo the Great (d 461). In the 5th century, he 'rescued' the doctrine of the Incarnation at a time when the Church was really struggling with the onslaught of various attacks.

Leo, a deacon of Tuscan descent, became Pope at a time when Rome was reeling under repeated assault by the barbarians. As well as trying to patch up the material and spiritual damage they had done, Leo faced an even more deadly attack: the Church was being torn apart on the inside. There were various heresies raging, each trying to claim that their view of the person of Christ was the only right one.



Greek Fresco of Saint Leo I, Pope of Rome

Between the barbarians on the outside and the distortions of Manichaeism, Priscillianism, and Pelagianism on the inside, Leo was not in for an easy time. Yet this man of indomitable energy and devotion to duty pressed on. Leo was pope for 20 tumultuous years, but undoubtedly the most important contribution that he made was at a famous church council.

It was the Council of Chalcedon, in 451 – often regarded as a highlight in Christian history. Leo presented a dogmatic letter (or Tome) to the Council. He wrote with remarkable clarity of thought and understanding. Jesus Christ, said Leo, is one Person, the Divine Word. In Jesus the two natures, the divine and the human, are permanently united without confusion or mixture.

When the Council read this document, it was exclaimed: 'Peter has spoken by Leo.' Leo's understanding was seen to encompass all the Bible teaching on the subject of who Jesus was. It became thenceforth part of the official teaching of the Christian Church.

19 November – Hilda, Abbess of Whitby

Hilda played a key role in the early English Christian church, and she may even have been the first to encourage the writing of Christian poetry.

She was born a princess, into the Deiran (Northumbrian) dynasty, and her sister became Queen of the East Angles, with whom the Deiran had connections.

In those days East Anglia had close ties with the Gallic Church, and because of her sister, Hilda came under that influence. She was actually on her way to take her monastic vows

near Paris when the Bishop of Lindisfarne, Aidan, called her back to Northumbria.

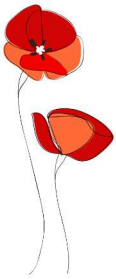
Back home, she went into seclusion for a time, before being sent to be abbess of a religious house in Hartlepool in 649.

Eight years later, Hilda felt moved to establish a religious community at Streasnaeshalch (later renamed Whitby). Her community was a royal establishment, a double monastery (both men and women) and became famous for its learning, with even five bishops trained there.

Whitby was also, of course, the venue for the famous Synod of Whitby in 664. With Hilda acting as hostess, the Synod met to decide upon the date of Easter. The issue at stake was greater than that, though, for the decision would sway the Church in Britain to adapt either the Celtic or Roman traditions. Although Hilda defended the Celtic church customs, she accepted with grace the decision of the Synod to accept the Roman date for Easter, and she then worked to unite the Church throughout the land.



St. Hilda



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8/11/2026

Barnham and Eastergate Parish Council would like to invite our community for complimentary tea, coffee & cake after the Remembrance Sunday service at Eastergate Village Hall.

ALL IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

It was 400 years ago, on 18 November 1626 that St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City was completed. It is the largest church in the world (measured by its interior).

175 years ago, on 13 November 1851 that the first telegraph service between London and Paris began operating.

100 years ago, on 15 November 1926 that the Balfour Declaration was approved by the delegates to the Imperial Conference of 1926. It declared that the UK and its Dominions in the British Empire were equal in status.

90 years ago, on 30 November 1936 that the Crystal Palace was destroyed by a fire.

75 years ago, on 2 November 1951 that the Suez Crisis began. Some 6,000 British troops arrived in Fayid, Egypt, to quell unrest in the Canal Zone. It was the biggest airlift of troops since WW2.

60 years ago, on 22 November 1966 that the first chess match between two computers took place, between the USA and Russia. The Soviet Union's computer won.

30 years ago, on 18th November 1996 that the Channel Tunnel fire took place when a truck caught fire while on board a Heavy Goods Vehicle shuttle travelling through the tunnel. It caused considerable damage and the tunnel was closed for six months for repairs. There was another serious fire in September 2008.

Also 30 years ago, that on 30 November England officially returned the Stone of Scone to Scotland after 700 years. It was the coronation stone of the Scottish and later English and British monarchs. It is now on permanent display in Perth Museum.

20 years ago, on 23 November 2006 that Alexander Litvinenko, Russian-born British intelligence agent, journalist and writer, died. He had been poisoned by radioactive polonium. His death is believed to have been ordered by President Putin.

10 years ago, on 4 November 2016 that the Paris Agreement on Climate Change came into effect.

Also 10 years ago, on 8 November 2016 that Donald Trump was elected as 45th President of the USA.



Main façade and dome of Saint Peter's Basilica

ST PETER'S 400TH ANNIVERSARY

Four hundred years ago, on 18 November 1626, St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City was completed. It is the largest church in the world (measured by its interior).

Planned at first by Pope Nicholas V in the 15th century, its construction started on 18 April 1506, under Pope Julius II. The idea was to replace a 4th century church – Old St Peter's Basilica – built by the Emperor Constantine, supposedly on the site of Peter's martyrdom and burial. The new building took 120 years to finish.

Its dome, designed by Michelangelo, rises to a height of almost 450 feet from the floor of the Basilica to the top of its external cross and is the tallest dome in the world.

The original design of the Italian Renaissance church was created by Donato Bramante, with additional features by Carlo Maderno and Gian Lorenzo Bernini.

Despite its size and prominence, St Peter's Basilica is not the Pope's official seat and does not rank first of the major basilicas of Rome. That honour goes to the Pope's Cathedral, the Archbasilica of St John Lateran, which is also seen as the mother church of all churches in communion with the Catholic Church, despite being located outside Vatican City.

Nevertheless St Peter's functions for most purposes as the Pope's principal church, because nearly all Papal liturgies and ceremonies take place there: this is because of its location within Vatican City, its size, and the convenience of being close to the Papal residence. The liturgies at which the Pope presides draw congregations of up to 80,000 people.

It also contains the ancient "Chair of Saint Peter", a gift to Pope John VIII from Holy Roman Emperor Charles the Bald in 875 which, despite its dubious pedigree, is used to symbolise the line of apostolic succession.

STONE OF SCONE

Thirty years ago, on 30 November 1996, England officially returned the Stone of Scone to Scotland, after 700 years. It was the coronation stone of the Scottish and later English and British monarchs. It is now on permanent display in Perth Museum.

According to Scottish history the 336lb block of sandstone – also known as the Stone of Destiny – was first recorded in 1249 as being used for the Scottish coronation of Alexander III. It was then taken by Edward Longshanks (Edward I of England) in 1296, who transferred it to Westminster Abbey.

Geologists say the stone was quarried near Scone, two miles north of Perth. There is little doubt that it was kept at Scone Abbey as a symbol of Scottish sovereignty, but there are also claims that it came originally from Ireland, and even that it had its origins in biblical times.

There are also suggestions that the stone taken by Edward I was a substitute, with the original hidden by local monks, perhaps in the nearby River Tay. Nevertheless, the stone taken by Edward remained at Westminster for another six centuries, being used in the coronation of Scottish Stuart kings – and others – on the English throne.

Scottish nationalist students stole the stone from Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day 1950, but accidentally broke it in two before its reappearance at Arbroath Abbey the following year. It was restored to Westminster in February 1952, but fragments of it appear to have gone missing during its repair.

Its official return to Scotland in 1996 was conditional on its returning to Westminster Abbey for coronations.

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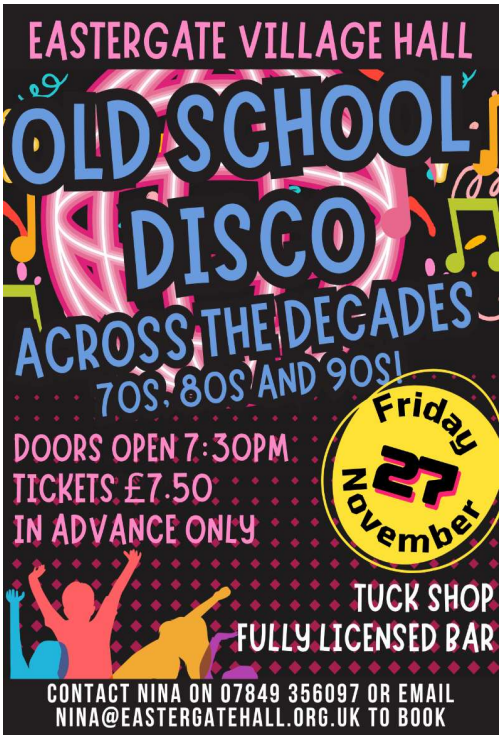
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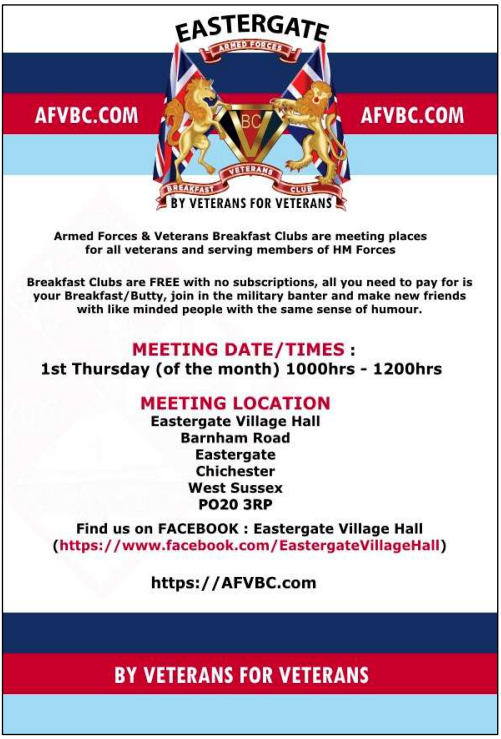
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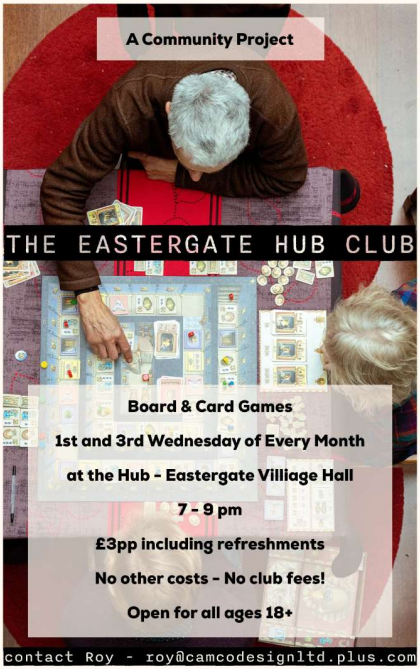
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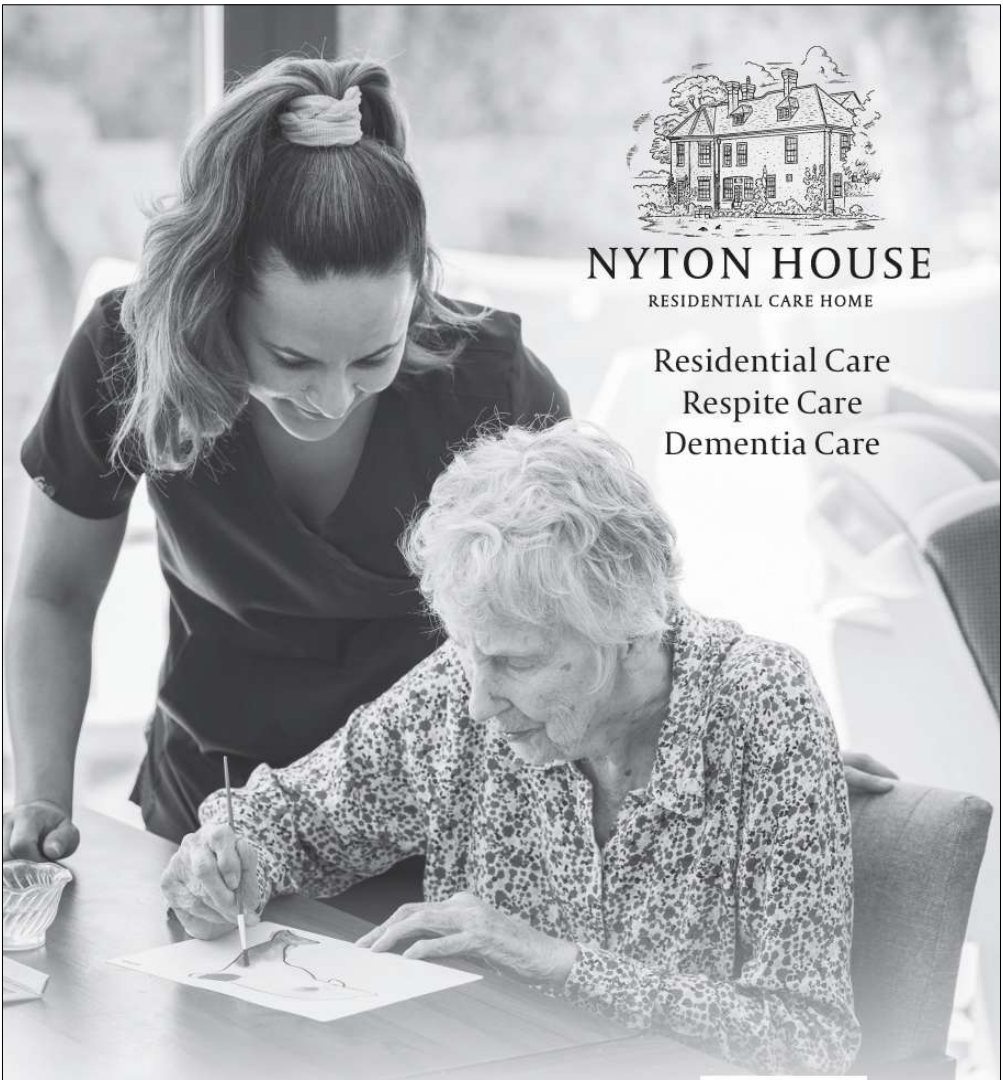
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YOUR OTHER CONTACTS

PCC Secretary	Sarah Tripp	01243 699820
PCC Treasurer	Chris Wells	01243 696811
Mothers' Union	Sharon Priest	01243 555905
Sunday Seekers	Hedda Wells	01243 696811
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Eastergate CofE Primary School	Sarah Davy (Headteacher)	01243 542297
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Hazel Staveley (Eastergate)	07702 576898
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PARISH DIRECTORY

LOCAL SOCIETIES & INFORMATION	CONTACT DETAILS
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Aldingbourne and District Bowls Club	Lynn Kendall 01243 552033
Aldingbourne and District Target Shooting Club	shooting@acsc.org.uk
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Peregrine Explorer Scouts 14—18 years	Carl Monk carl.monk.scouts@gmail.com
Rangers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows	Join Girl Guiding at: www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/
Eastergate Primary School Hall Bookings/Enquiries	Rachel Wheeler 01243 542297

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Police Community Support Officer Caroline Wilson	caroline.wilson@sussex.police.uk
Aldingbourne Parish Council (Clerk)	Marie Singleton 07849 806955 clerk@aldingbourne-pc.gov.uk
Barnham & Eastergate Parish Council (Clerk)	James Roberts 07565 052617 clerk@barnhamandeastergate-pc.gov.uk
Aldingbourne Community Sport Centre	01243 543948 enquiries@acsc.org.uk
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Village Friends	07925 217843
WI, Westergate 2nd Tuesday, 1pm	Jill Parnell 01243 544096
WI Eastergate & Barnham, 2nd Friday, 7.30pm eastergateandbarnhamwi@gmail.com	
WI Eastergate Friends, 2nd Monday, 10am eastergate.friendsWI@hotmail.com	

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