



HARTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL



Parish Council Christmas Newsletter 2018

Chairman's Message

It is that time of year when thoughts start turning toward Christmas. It is a wonderful time of year and I know our Parish community is already excited for the many upcoming events, including attending the excellent live Nativity on Friday 14th December.

Our Hartfield community also recently enjoyed a memorable and poignant tribute marking 100 years since the end of the First World War. It was incredible to see so many people and children at the event commemorating those that lost their lives a century ago and the inaugural use of our new beacon. I would like to thank the many people involved, and specifically Reverend Julie, James Castle, Colin Burnett-Dick, Robert McGlew and Robert Nathan. I would also like to thank the Fete Committee whose generous donation helped fund the new beacon and Gary Weller who kindly gave up his time and materials to install it.

As we approach 2019, I wanted to highlight that next year will be an important year for the Council, with Parish Council elections taking place in May. If you are interested in standing as a Councillor please contact the Parish Clerk.

Enjoy the rest of this newsletter and I wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a peaceful and successful New Year.

Giles Horner, Chairman of Hartfield Parish Council

Hartfield Parish Plan

At the start of this year, the Parish Council decided that we needed a local plan to reflect our vision for the parish over the next decade. Since then, the Parish Council has explored various aspects of parish life at our monthly meetings and through a public consultation at the annual meeting. This has enabled the creation of a future vision for the Parish. The Parish Council hope to send a final summary to all householders in Spring 2019.

Grass Cutting

At a Parish Council meeting in 2017, we were advised, due to the current financial pressures on East Sussex County Council, that verges would not be cut in 2018, other than for safety purposes. The Parish Council decided to pay for additional work to ensure the grass was cut. Although we have limited influence on the timing of cuts, we feel that it worked well in 2018 and we intend this to continue in 2019.

Bonfires

Just a reminder at this time of year bonfires should be only lit in a neighbourly fashion. On warmer days people may have windows open and smoke can be a nuisance. Please be thoughtful. A one-off bonfire is unlikely to result in a formal complaint or viewed as anti-social behaviour, but this may change if it becomes a regular occurrence.

Our bonfire recommendations are:

- Always warn your neighbours in advance
- Burn during low wind condition and in the evening when windows are closed and washing has been taken in
- Only burn dry material and burn as far away from your neighbours as possible
- If a neighbour's house has become engulfed by your smoke, please put out your bonfire immediately

If you are experiencing problems due to smoke from regular bonfires, then please visit Wealden District Council website to report a pollution problem.

Commercial sponsorship of Parish Assets

The Parish Council is responsible for the upkeep of a number of Hartfield parish's assets and we are at the very early stages of exploring whether local organisations might consider sponsorship. We are particularly interested in upgrading some playground equipment and would love to hear from any local businesses or people who may be willing to sponsor or have views on this matter. Please contact the Parish Clerk for an informal discussion.

Remembrance 2018

2018 has been a very memorable year as it marks the centenary of the armistice of 1918.

During August, Toby and myself had the great honour and privilege of being able to attend Great Pilgrimage 90 to the battlefields of France and Belgium. This culminated in the largest gathering of the Royal British Legion since 1928 and a parade at The Menin Gate in Ypres with 1160 Standards. I proudly bore the Standard of the Cowden, Hartfield and District Branch to the Menin Gate where Toby placed a wreath on behalf of our community. This wreath carried a message from the youth of our community, with words from Ellie (age 10) from the primary school, and a footprint of Tuppence, our youngest resident. Toby was the youngest person to take part in the parade at 14 years old.



Footage of Great Pilgrimage 90 can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBJTvQ252mE> (Great Pilgrimage 90 – highlights of the battlefields tour and parade to the Menin Gate).

Toby and I would like to thank our community who entirely funded our attendance. Without your generosity it would not have been possible. During the pilgrimage we visited the graves of several local casualties, and also laid crosses at memorials where others are remembered.

The Great War Walk

the 20th October we held The Great War Walk to commemorate all those from our community who died during The First World War. On a beautiful autumn morning we gathered at Cowden war memorial where we were led by Rev Marion in prayers and a reading of the names listed there. A large group then walked through to Holtye war memorial where Rev Julie led the service. This was repeated at Hartfield and Colemans Hatch where Rev Wendy also joined us. It was fantastic to see the support of so many people of so many ages who took part in the walk, especially those from our youth organisations who joined us. There were so many people who contributed to make the day so special, from the clergy, those who served refreshments, provided entertainment, Andy who played the Last Post and to the bell ringers who rung us in and out of each village. We were also joined on the walk by our M.P. Nus Ghani and so many who were unable to walk but took part in the various services. The route was marked with 95 poppies, each bearing the name of a local casualty who died in World War One. I am very pleased to say £613.92 was raised for the Poppy Appeal. Thank you to everyone who gave their time and talents so freely and to Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Cole's Estate Agents who supported the walk so generously.



In the build-up to Remembrance Sunday you may have noticed that all the street poppies in our parish bore the name of one of those who we remember from both world wars and other conflicts. On Saturday 10th November, Toby and I had the great honour of being able to take part in the Festival of Remembrance at The Royal Albert Hall. We were part of the 'Descendants' who represented those who had taken part in The First World War. For those who missed this it can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIEQakyZtdI> (go to 51 mins). Part of the filming for this was made at The Enchanted Place at Gills Lap on the Ashdown Forest.

Remembrance Sunday began with very memorable services led by Rev Julie at St Mary's Hartfield, and Donna at Holy Trinity Coleman's Hatch. For the first time, both churches read the complete list of all those from the parish who died as a result of conflict. This included all those who are on memorials at Coleman's Hatch, Hartfield and Holtye. It was wonderful to see a packed church at St Mary's with so many representatives from the Parish Council, Royal British Legion, Mother's Union, Women's Institute, Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, School and HYPE.



Those who attended church in Hartfield took part in a moment of reflection where they were able to lay a cross or a poppy in memory of our local casualties. The poppies had all been made by children of the village school. We had also been aware of our local casualties as we arrived at church as there was a 'battlefield cemetery' of individual crosses that reminded us of their sacrifice.

Reverend Julie also led us during the **Battle's Over ceremony in the evening**, held by the village war memorial. It was wonderful to see so many people at this event that was so well planned by Colin Burnett-Dick of the Parish Council and supported so well by Rev Julie and all those at St Mary's who generously provided all the lanterns. Chris Sugg of the Hartfield History Group read

the names of the First World War Casualties and Andy Thomas played the Last Post and Reveille. The bell ringers joined with others throughout the Commonwealth with a peal of bells and Tom Mitchell lit the new Hartfield Beacon. This wonderful new addition to our village had been made by Jason Willie of

Anvils Blacksmiths in Sharpthorne and was erected by Gary Weller and his team. We hope that this will be a feature of many future commemorations in Hartfield. The evening was concluded with an expert display of fireworks provided by Rob McGlew that rounded off an incredible year of commemorations. Thank you to everyone who took part, either in co-ordinating or participating during this centenary year, in particular the organisers of local fetes, the Parish Council and of course Reverend Julie.



The Cowden, Hartfield and District Branch of The Royal British Legion is one of the original founding branches having been created in 1921. We would welcome any new members. You do not have to be ex-forces, just support those who are and understand the importance of Remembrance. Any one may join, over the age of 12 years. Please e-mail CowdenHartfield.Secretary@rbl.community for further details. You can also follow us on Facebook at: Cowden, Hartfield and District Branch – Royal British Legion

James Castle
Hartfield Poppy Appeal Organiser and RBL Standard Bearer.

WI Poppy campaign

The WI organised with permission from the Post office to decorate the post box in Hartfield to commemorate the centenary with some hand-made poppies. The WI organised with permission from the Post office to decorate the post box in Hartfield to commemorate the centenary with some hand-made poppies.

It was a welcome sight and thanks to all those who contributed to the **WI Poppy campaign**



Thank you to all the War Centenary Volunteers.

The Parish Council would like to thank James Castle and all the volunteers and workers who helped to make the beacon and the other celebrations possible. The events were all well attended and the show of community spirit was very good to see. An event to remember for young and old alike and an investment in a community beacon to last for future generations.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



Community



Monday evenings in term time, 6:15-7:45pm, school years 6+. Hype currently has around 20 young people attending from Hartfield and the surrounding area.

There are a mix of activities from pool, basketball, table tennis etc as well as crafts, other games and just space to be with friends! £2 per session, plus an optional 50p for tuck. January- 20th, 27th February- 4th, 11th (in church) March- 4th, 11th (in church), 18th, 25th. For more information contact Rev Julie Sear at revjulisear1@gmail.com or 01892770436 We look forward to seeing you there.



For an update on the Heart of the Community project - please see enclosed leaflet



Date of the AGM is set for Tuesday 15 January 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in the Anchor Please come along with your suggestions and see how you can help to ensure the future of the fete which is always held on the first Saturday in September. Next year's date being 7th September 2019.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY

Annual Parish Meeting 7:30pm 1st April 2019 Village Hall

Parish Council and Committee meetings for 2019 are on the website and notice boards.

The Parish Council offices will be closed from 17th December 2018 and reopen on 7th January 2019

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| Clerk to the Council | Mrs. Emma Fulham | 01342 822404/ 01892 771140 | parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com |
| Chair of the Parish Council. | Cllr. Giles Horner | 0203 4016895 | giles@hartfieldonline.com |
| Vice Chair of the Parish Council & Chair of Finance | Cllr R Eastwood | 01342 851275 | roger@hartfieldonline.com |
| Chair of Planning | Cllr. Anne Higgins | 01892 770312 | anne@hartfieldonline.com |
| Chair of Environment & Transport | Cllr. Mike Colenutt | 01892 770840 | mike@hartfieldonline.com |
| Chair of Town Croft | Cllr. John Smith | 01892 770871 | john@hartfieldonline.com |
| Wealden District Councillor (Hartfield Ward) | Cllr. Chris Hardy | 01892 771348 | Cllr.chris.hardy@wealden.gov.uk |
| Wealden District Councillor (Holtye Ward) | Cllr. Rowena Moore | 01342 314402 | Cllr.rowena.moore@wealden.gov.uk |
| East Sussex County Councillor | Cllr. Francis Whetstone | 01892 770304 | Cllr.franciswhetstone@eastsussex.gov.uk |

Other Useful Numbers

POLICE [Contact us online](#) or call 101 when it's less urgent than 999 for Police, Fire or Ambulance.

Wealden District Council –01323 443322 - 8.30 am -5 pm Council Offices at Vicarage Lane Hailsham BN27 2AX

East Sussex County Council 0345 60 80 190 Offices at County Hall St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1UEF

for grass or Highway issues please contact East Sussex County Council on 0345 60 80 193 or email customer@eastsussexhighways.com