



# HARTFIELD

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# PARISH COUNCIL

## Parish Council Autumn and Winter Newsletter 2020

**CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE** While the COVID crisis remains a distracting hum of white noise in the background of all of our lives, effectively the backing soundtrack to 2020, there is no way to know what is around the corner. However, it is clear what exists on every street and every corner of Hartfield, Helpfulness, Optimism. A willingness and desire to look out for one another and connect with our neighbours despite our community spirit and resolve being tested to an extreme not seen for many decades. Many of our private summer plans and traditions have had to be cancelled or postponed and also community events such as the VE Day anniversary celebrations, the Holy Oak service, the Village Fete. The list goes on. However, I am proud to say we are passing this test with flying colours.

I'd like to share my enormous gratitude with all the individuals and businesses in our community who have volunteered or lent a hand to others. Our community is very grateful for all of your efforts; from the volunteer COVID local coordinators that were organised and supported by Reverend Julie and Emma Fulham, to those who took it upon themselves to set up community WhatsApp groups or look out for vulnerable neighbours, or other services such as picking up a neighbour's prescription or newspaper collection. It is all appreciated and it is why we are getting through this difficult time. I applaud all of our local businesses and offer a special thanks to those who supported our community during lockdown and are delivering to our community members who are shielding. I was also thrilled to hear that the Hartfield Village Store and Perryhill Orchards were both awarded a Wealden Hero award by Nus Ghani. We have all had to adapt and we have, from wearing face masks, social distancing, to our local pubs' creative COVID safe ways to continue to serve our community.

COVID dominates our headlines these days, but I must also push through an additional useful piece of information. A new defibrillator will be installed at Central Garage partly funded by the British Heart Foundation and the Parish Council. There are three now in the parish, the other ones are at the Village Hall and Trinity Hall. We thank Central Garage for hosting this device. Training will be available when possible and a date will be advertised.

We await to see what lies around the next COVID bend in the road. In the meantime, we are safe in each other's capable hands. Keep well.

**Giles Horner, Chairman of Hartfield Parish Council**

**COUNCIL ARRANGEMENTS AND MEETINGS.** Please note during the current corona virus outbreak the Council will not be meeting formally in person and until regulations change, we will continue with virtual meetings. Agendas and papers will continue to be placed on the council website and if you wish to attend a meeting please contact the Clerk for joining information.

We will confirm new meeting dates and arrangements when we can. In the meantime, correspondence, planning applications and payments will be responded to by the Clerk to the Council in consultation with councillors. Please email or call the office in the normal way and we will respond as soon as possible.

The Council has continued to make decisions and actioned various items through this period including:

- Setting up and managing a volunteer group database.
- Dealing with enquiries from residents and volunteer organisations and WDC.
- Keeping up to date with all legislation to ensure our buildings and playground are safe.
- Arranging risk assessments and installing hand sanitizer units and notices in our buildings.
- Completion of the new Council website so we are compliant with accessibility legislation.
- Overseeing maintenance increased works due to small scale vandalism.
- Climate change declaration and action plan for the Council to work to have been approved.
- Finalising playground resurfacing and new climbing equipment in time for re-opening date.
- Changing our banking arrangements to reduce costs and ensure better value for money.

In our plans for future expenditure next year we are looking towards ways of improving the roof and efficiency of our ageing Sports Pavilion on the Town Croft.

For details of upcoming road works / large events affecting the parish, please follow the Facebook page for the Council.

**Emma Fulham Clerk to Hartfield Parish Council**

## COMMUNITY NEEDS AND VOLUNTEER GROUP.

The Parish Council and Church set up a Community Action Group in response to Covid - 19 in the spring and have agreed a local set of co-ordinators to help people in need access local groups of volunteers and for those volunteers to spread the load amongst a local group. These will continue into the autumn and winter in these uncertain times. If you wish to volunteer or wish to be put in touch with someone to get help, we need your name telephone number and email. Please email all this info to the Parish Office [parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com](mailto:parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com) or call 01342 822404 (Answer Machine) or the Rector Julie Sear [revjuliesear1@gmail.com](mailto:revjuliesear1@gmail.com) 01892 770436 and we can then forward to the relevant co-ordinator. Local Co-ordinators Contact Info - if you need something during these challenging times ahead:

1. Upper Hartfield – Kirstie Ashton 07803 033240 [kirstiemashton@hotmail.com](mailto:kirstiemashton@hotmail.com)
2. Gallipot Hill – Anna Keen 01892 770723 [annakeen04@aol.com](mailto:annakeen04@aol.com)
3. Colemans Hatch / Newbridge – CJ Payne 07917 848150 [cipayne@hotmail.com](mailto:cipayne@hotmail.com)
4. Holtye / Rogers Town – Joanne Griffin 07941 856715
5. Butcherfield Lane / Edenbridge Rd – James and Geraldine Ormonde 01892 770757 [ormondegeraldine@gmail.com](mailto:ormondegeraldine@gmail.com)
6. Marsh Green – Giles Horner 01342 822352 [Giles@hartfieldonline.com](mailto:Giles@hartfieldonline.com)
7. Hartfield Village – Lisa Boland 07549 940887

Please check the council website for the latest information. [www.hartfieldonline.com](http://www.hartfieldonline.com)

**Thank you for helping each other at this time and please let us know if you can help or if you need help.**

For up to date information please see <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/>

If you are able to help others or need help please contact the Rector or the Parish Council to provide details. If you know an older person who is concerned about leaving the house because of [#COVID2019uk](https://twitter.com/COVID2019uk), make sure you: \* Stay in touch over the phone. \* See if they need any help shopping. \* Encourage them to stay active in the house. If older members of the public have concerns about anything else, including welfare, care or housing, they can contact Age UK's free advice line, 8am-7pm, 7 days a week: 0800 055 6112

**Covid – 19 Crisis Financial Help.** Hartfield Parish Council has a special fund for parishioners suffering financially due to the recent challenges of the Covid -19 crisis. If you or your family require any help now or in the coming months please get in touch with the Parish Office in confidence to discuss your situation. Please check our website for contact info.

## HARTFIELD MARKS 75 YEARS OF PEACE



As a community we were hoping to get together on 8<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate 75 years since the village originally marked Victory in Europe. Like so many events this year, we were forced by Covid-19 to cancel the planned street party and lighting of the village beacon. Not to be deterred from showing our thanks to those who achieved so much on our behalf, the organising committee felt that we should not let the moment pass unmarked. We decided that we should hold a service in secret that also respected social distancing. Reverend Julie Sear was granted permission by the Diocese to hold the service, so long as it was not publicised beforehand. She was also granted permission to ring a single bell in the church, so long as the ringer and their safety bell ringer lived together.

The service was held at the lesser used war memorial in the churchyard and was recorded by Neil and Samantha Reed from Pooh Corner who filmed the occasion so that it could be shared among the community and beyond on social media. Cllr Colin Burnett Dick laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish and Cllr Robert Nathan read the Kohima Prayer. The names of those who are on the war memorials at Coleman's Hatch, Holtye and Hartfield were read, and Toby Castle rang an original 'Victory Bell' to mark the occasions

Our Union and Royal British Legion Standards were also paraded as part of a nationwide 'virtual parade' held in our own gardens. Neil and Sam also recorded the doorstep street party held in the High Street that captured the festive spirit of the day. Their films have been seen as far away as Australia, Borneo, Malaysia and Canada. The family of one of our local casualties responded from Canada "A wonderful tribute and reminder of the sacrifice made by so many to bring us to a place of peace. Thanks for keeping their memory respected and alive." On 15<sup>th</sup> August a similar service was held to commemorate 75 years since VJ Day which marked the end of the Second World War. Reverend Julie led us in giving thanks to all those who served and poems were read on the theme of Coming Home, Neil generously filmed the occasion which also featured readings by Pauline Burnett-Dick and Trevor Sear. Although the service could not be made public due to social distancing, we hope that all parishioners will appreciate that this was necessary during lockdown.

At present, plans for Remembrance Sunday are being considered, though this may not take its usual form. More details will be made public closer to the time when we know what restrictions may be in place. Sadly, it looks as though the national Poppy Appeal will be dramatically affected and there may not be any face to face contact on the streets or doorsteps. I know that this will disappoint many of you, not least our dedicated team of local collectors. More details will be publicised closer to the time.

I would like to thank all those who were involved in marking both VE75 and VJ57, especially Reverend Julie who makes Remembrance in our parish so poignant.

**James Castle – Royal British Legion Secretary and Standard Bearer – Poppy Appeal Organiser.**



## NEWS FROM ST MARY'S & HOLY TRINITY CHURCHES

I am pleased to say we are now able to hold services in both churches. We have to follow the guidelines and we would ask those that want to attend to book online. This is to enable us to plan the seating and numbers. We also have to keep in line with the track and tracing. Just a simple one-line email to the address below with your name and which church you want to attend on the Sunday of that week. [Smvandhtchurchbookings@gmail.com](mailto:Smvandhtchurchbookings@gmail.com)

The best way to find out what is happening at both of our churches, online services, YouTube links and any pastoral information, is to go to our websites. [www.hartfieldchurch.org](http://www.hartfieldchurch.org) & [www.colemanshatchchurch.org](http://www.colemanshatchchurch.org)

### St Mary's

- 1<sup>st</sup> 9.30am St Mary's Morning worship
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 9.30am St Mary's Morning worship followed by short communion
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 9.30 St Mary's All Age Service
- 4<sup>th</sup> 9.30am St Mary's Morning Worship followed by short communion
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morning Worship

### Holy Trinity

- 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Trinity 11am Morning Prayer followed by short communion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Holy Trinity 11am Morning Prayer
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Holy Trinity 11am Morning Prayer followed by short communion
- 4<sup>th</sup> Holy Trinity 11am Morning Prayer
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morning Worship

Everything is on the websites or you can phone the Rector Rev Julie Sear 01892 770436 or email: [revjuliesear1@gmail.com](mailto:revjuliesear1@gmail.com)

## WORSHIP

As we head into the Autumn & Winter. I am so aware that we will need to continue our care and kindness to each other in the parishes. The long evenings and colder weather are a challenge at the best of times. I want to thank all who contributed to the teams of volunteers at the beginning of lockdown.

There is also a discretionary fund set up through the Parish Council and St Mary's Church. If anyone is in need, please let me know by phoning me. Everything is kept confidential.

Finally, this is to let you know the churches are alive and active. It has been great to meet new people during lockdown and to know that the community flourishes when we work together.

If you want to talk to me or have more information about anything do contact me.

Keep safe and keep in touch.

Reverend Julie

## HYPE AND OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

We have had a thriving youth group over the past few years. Sadly, just at the moment we are unable to meet together as we would like. However, we have been encouraged to have registration forms from over 25 children all hoping to join in the near future. Once we know how we can move forward, we will be in touch with all who have shown an interest.

## TRINITY CAFÉ & COMMUNITY CAFÉ

It has been a great sadness that Trinity Café has not been able to meet during these challenging months. The team knows how much the café is appreciated by the community. We are missing the warm welcome and the wonderful homemade cakes and coffee. During the past few months, the hall has been decorated and new curtains are being made. The hall looks really good and ready for all of you when we re-open. We can only do this once we feel it is safe. However, the team is continuing to be in touch with those who come to the café and will be ready to welcome you back in the New Year. Keep a close eye on the magazine or the websites to find out news. I want to thank everyone on the teams and all who have supported the Trinity café over the years. It has been a joy to see the difference it has made to the community. The money raised at the beginning of the year has gone towards installing a defibrillator at Trinity Hall.

The Community Café which had just begun in St Mary's Church also had to close just a few weeks after it had opened. We also hope to open with renewed vigour in the New Year.

## NEWS FROM HARTFIELD VILLAGE HALL



Just before Covid 19 struck, the Committee had used grant money and savings to allow us to complete the long-awaited refurbishment of the toilets, Ladies, Gents and also the former outside disabled toilet making it now accessible from the inner lobby by the Kitchen and Inkpen Room alongside the others. Sadly, the Pandemic then took hold and all bookings were cancelled. The hall has now been thoroughly cleaned according to Government Guidelines with distance markers and hand sanitizers available and

**anybody entering the building must seek permission from our bookings clerk Paula Jones 07973 448494 and sign in for track and trace.** Fortunately, the office upstairs has been rented out which brings in a little income but like many venues our regular income stream was frozen and sadly regular bookings enjoyed by villagers such as the Lunch Club, WI, History Group, & Youth Groups have all temporarily ceased. The committee of the Hall which is **OWNED BY ALL PARISHIONERS** is delighted one or two small groups such as the Art Group Tues 9.30 -12. Silver Swans 9.30-10.30 Friday and Martial Arts on Saturday morning are starting again with limited numbers whilst observing the Covid guidelines. We hope to re-book our AGM as soon as it is possible, meanwhile all ideas very welcome during this difficult time for us all. Nancy Holmes Secretary 01892 770294 [nancyholmes@btopenworld.com](mailto:nancyholmes@btopenworld.com)

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

Many community groups continue to provide support and activities in these new challenging times and hope to meet up soon or have had a hybrid programme of physical and zoom meetings including camp fires and online bingo for some of our youth groups with organisers still keeping us occupied albeit in different circumstances. If you are at home working or want to get involved in any of our thriving groups

Clerk to the Council	Mrs. Emma Fulham	01342 822404	<a href="mailto:parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com">parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com</a>
Chair of the Parish Council.	Cllr. Giles Horner	0203 4016895	<a href="mailto:giles@hartfieldonline.com">giles@hartfieldonline.com</a>
Vice Chair of the Parish Council & Chair of Finance	Cllr R Eastwood	01342 851275	<a href="mailto:roger@hartfieldonline.com">roger@hartfieldonline.com</a>
Chair of Planning	Cllr. Anne Higgins	01892 770312	<a href="mailto:anne@hartfieldonline.com">anne@hartfieldonline.com</a>
Chair of Environment & Transport	Cllr. Mike Colenutt	01892 770840	<a href="mailto:mike@hartfieldonline.com">mike@hartfieldonline.com</a>
Chair of Town Croft	Cllr. Robert Nathan	01892 770903	<a href="mailto:robert@hartfieldonline.com">robert@hartfieldonline.com</a>
Wealden District Councillor (Hartfield Ward)	Cllr. Chris Hardy	01892 771348	<a href="mailto:Cllr.chris.hardy@wealden.gov.uk">Cllr.chris.hardy@wealden.gov.uk</a>
East Sussex County Councillor	Cllr. Francis Whetstone	01892 770304	<a href="mailto:Cllr.franciswhetstone@eastsussex.gov.uk">Cllr.franciswhetstone@eastsussex.gov.uk</a>

**Useful reminder of contact information** POLICE- call 101 when it's less urgent than 999 for Police, Fire or Ambulance. Wealden District Council –01323 443322 - 8.30 am -5 pm East Sussex County Council 0345 60 80 19. For grass or highway issues please contact East Sussex County Council on Phone: 0345 60 80 193 or Email: [customer@eastsussexhighways.com](mailto:customer@eastsussexhighways.com)