

# Eastington Community News

June / July 2014

Nº. 145

We are delighted to welcome Chris Osman to the ECN team as Articles Editor, following the retirement of Val Taylor, who has done a splendid job for us over the past few years. You may spot some helpful improvements that Chris has already brought to this issue. Please make a note of her contact details below so that you can send her your articles in time for future editions.

In this centenary year of the outbreak of World War 1 (WW1), we have been on stand-by for commemorative events to mark the conflict that so rapidly changed a way of life forever. Many of us are acquainted with the grim pictures and stories portraying a young, naïve generation, cruelly immersed in that War's grisly horrors. Past portrayals of people eager for conflict or incompetent in leadership might have left us wondering what more could be shown to aid our deeper understanding of those terrifying times.

Those who saw the BBC 2 trilogy "37 Days" may have found some new understanding of efforts made on all sides to avoid WW1. It took 37 days from the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1914 until war broke out on 4<sup>th</sup> August. A generation that had previously seemed so distant and old-fashioned to me became more tangible after watching "37 Days". Despite period dress, the players seemed to reach across the void of time to become more relevant to behaviours and characters seen today. How frightening is the resemblance of modern brinkmanship and conflicts to the prelude of WW1? What might we learn from the sacrifice of past generations?

Eastington Parish Council (EPC) reports on matters over the past year, and the Neighbourhood Development Plan for which more volunteers are needed. Details are given for the 'casual vacancy' that has arisen on EPC following the resignation of Bill Edwards. Your opinions are sought about the recent Bath Rd Build-out. Cllr. Mike Evans makes helpful and useful notes about planned Broadband improvement rollout for Eastington.

Dog walkers among you may appreciate encouragement by your four-legged friends to get out walking the Parish paths now that the weather has improved. It is certainly a good way to get to know neighbours, even if there is a tendency to identify the dog's name ahead of the owner's! There is an article to bring you up to speed with Footpath matters and more information for walkers will follow in the next issue.

If you have not yet written your response to the planning proposal to build 1300 houses 'West of Stonehouse' (WoS) you need to hurry. Replies should be in by 2<sup>nd</sup> June; although you can still hand in a written letter even if you just miss this date and guidance is inside; a Planning Inspector could hardly disregard public letters. Opportunist developers are running amok ahead of Local Plan publication and an additional Planning Application [S.14/1049/OUT] for yet another 30 houses opposite Bath Road Garage is now submitted. This is entirely different from WoS and requires a different response, for which help will be available in making your views known to Stroud District Council. You might like to consider some preliminary notes included inside on the Bath Rd. proposal.

Some inside and outside activities are pictured by 'Eastington Baby and Toddler Group' which has grown substantially in recent years, and the Playgroup illustrates themes from 'World Book Week' to gardening. You can read more about the activities and opportunities for pre-school children inside.

From 'St Michael and All Angels' the Rector tells us about Bishop Michael walking with pilgrims, and reviews events associated with the month of June. Details of services are included, but whatever happened to Whitsun? Methodist Friday Youth Club continues at 7:00 p.m. weekly, and more 'Messy Events' are planned in the Church. Inspiration is available for painting in a Jewish style, making smoked bread and Thai cooking. Intrigued?

Ken Burgin tells of Eastington's lock gates on Stroudwater Navigation Canal; 'once more operational'. Now team leaders and volunteers are sought to deal with overhanging trees and overgrown reeds in this section. In contrast to maintaining the 'working section,' the 'missing mile' also lies within Eastington Parish. A lot of digging by volunteers will be needed to reinstate Government sponsored vandalism by explosives and earthmovers back in the 1970s.

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**Next Deadline: All articles by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2014 please!**

**Next Delivery: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2014 please!**

View the "Community News" at: [www.ecn.me.uk](http://www.ecn.me.uk)

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**The views expressed in ECN are not necessarily those of the editors.**

Eastington - Winner of Gloucestershire Vibrant Village of the Year 2010

## Notes relevant to Planning Application S.14/1049/OUT 30 houses opposite Bath Road Garage

Planning Minister Nick Boles said: "We have recently published planning guidance to ensure that emerging plans [Local & Neighbourhood] are taken into account in respect of inappropriate speculative development". Bath Rd would be purely speculative and opportunistic development and contrary to both emerging plans [LP & NDP].

Bath Rd. is premature with reference to the emerging Local Plan as it is clear that the adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh any benefits of this development.

Against the unquestionable sustainable local objective to place any new homes in the Village within easy walking distance of the main community amenities, the Bath Road application is demonstrably diametrically opposed to that objective. While NPPG guidance of up to 1700m distance to amenities is a step in the right direction, it can be demonstrated locally that 500 m is a more realistic target likely to encourage walking rather than travel by car.

The area immediately to the south and east of the Bath Road site is an open amenity area of long standing and the well-used network of footpaths across this land give access and enjoyment of fine surrounding countryside with a distinctly rural rather than suburban character. Views across the River Severn westwards, Haresfield and Painswick Beacons to the north, Selsley Common and Coaley Peak to the east and Stinchcombe and Cam Long-down to the south, together give the walker a rare and much valued panorama.

The Bath Road site lies outside of the Village envelope and would be an intrusion into open countryside in a haphazard and unplanned way, to form undesirable ribbon development along the Bath Road. Development of this site would have an adverse impact on the character, form and setting of the adjoining part of the Village. It was also the opinion of Planning Inspectors in previous Appeals, [T/APP5227/A/75/8270/G8 & T/APP/5227/A/74/8085/G5] that the walks in the attractive open meadows adjacent to this site have rural charm; this rural charm would be damaged and denuded by this proposed development.

**Eastington PA & Friends present the annual school..**



*With a football  
theme!*

# **& Summer Fete**

**Everyone welcome!**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 12.15pm, Eastington School**



**Bake-Off**

Live Music  
BBQ and Bar  
Tombola  
Stalls  
Games and lots  
More and...  
Duck Races!



Eastington  
Penalty Shoot-  
out

# **Eastington Parish Council. Parish Matters**

This is the start of a new year for the Parish Council. We held our AGM on May 13<sup>th</sup> and I was re elected to the Chair. I am very pleased to welcome Councillor Jennie Corrie who was elected as Vice Chair and it will be good to share the load with her.

We have a very busy and challenging year ahead. The outline planning application for the W.o S. has already been received by the Parish Council and we shall be lodging our objections by the deadline date of June 2<sup>nd</sup>. I urge any Parishioners who share our views to add their objections. Ways of doing this are covered in this edition of ECN and also in leaflets being distributed by action groups in the area.

The Eastington Parish Council (EPC) held a meeting with Stonehouse Town Council and Standish Parish Council to discuss joint actions. The first of these will be a meeting with planners at Stroud District Council (SDC) as soon after the May elections as possible.

The outline planning application for a development in Bath Road has been received by SDC but at the time of writing has not come to the EPC. As soon as it does we will be raising our objections. We will be having public consultations on both these developments and if the majority of Parishioners agree, we will fight to stop development, we cannot however make a promise that we will win.

The other challenge we have is to complete our Neighbourhood Development Plan which will be a great help with our fight against development. Please read the article in this publication and if you can help please do contact us.

Finally I would like to thank all Councillors for their support since I became Chair in August last year and I look forward to working with them in the coming year. If I can help in any way please contact me.

**Muriel Bullock Murielbullock @gmail .co.uk 01453 826172**

## **Would you like to be a parish councillor?**

Would you like to represent your local community? Are you up for a challenge? Your contribution could help make a positive difference within the community. Being a parish councillor can be an extremely rewarding experience, offering unique opportunities to make a positive difference to the people and places within your community.

Eastington is recognised as being a vibrant parish and the Parish Council is dedicated to providing and improving services to create a vibrant and positive community representing the issues, concerns, ideas and interests of local people.

Eastington Parish Council is enthusiastic and committed to involving themselves in a variety of projects including:

- Developing with the community a 20 year Neighbourhood Plan
- Working with and supporting many local community groups and events
- Working with Gloucestershire Highways in improving footpaths, bridleways, roads and road safety
- Looking after the burial grounds
- Responding to planning applications

There are a number of requirements to being a parish councillor. A person is qualified to be elected as a councillor if they are a \*British, Commonwealth, Irish or European citizen and over 18. In addition, the person must meet at least one of the following:

1. they are on the electoral register for the parish
2. during past 12 months they have owned or tenanted land or premises in the parish
3. during the past 12 months their principal or only place of work has been in the parish
4. during the past 12 months they have resided in the parish or within 3 miles of it.

Bankrupts and those subject to recent sentences of imprisonment are disqualified from standing.

A vacancy exists for a Parish Councillor due to the resignation of Councillor Bill Edwards. If you are interested in being a parish councillor and wish to know more, then please contact the Parish Clerk at [eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com) or telephone 01453 799616. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Muriel Bullock**  
**Chair of Eastington Parish Council**

# Stop Smoking

240,000 People give up smoking every year

**SEIZE THE MOMENT !**  
Single session of Solution Focused  
Hypnotherapy £120 with FREE CD

**JUNE SPECIAL OFFER £60 ONLY**

"Having had serious doubts over Hypnotherapy,  
I have become a firm believer, and have put  
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**Hazel Rank-Broadley**  
tel 01453 791424      mob 0783 787 6901

# DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S NEWSLETTER

I write this just before the May elections. With these District and European elections pending the Council has been in 'Purdah' and things are a bit on hold.

However, with regard to our Local Plan EIP, you may well have heard about the way Stroud was basically ambushed by the representatives of Cheltenham and Tewksbury Council's attending in a manner that put the very continuation of our Plan in doubt. I could take up the whole of this newsletter on the first day alone. Following on from that ambush I understand that leader/chief executive meetings have been held between Stroud, Cheltenham and Tewksbury on the input of those two authorities in our EIP. I believe that certain conformations have been sent to the inspector from Cheltenham that are helpful, but that the same response may not have been forthcoming from Tewksbury. I get the impression that some people in SDC are of the opinion that within that Council there are people who think that if our EIP fails then the Joint Core Strategy would fail also, and that those people would not be disappointed if that happened. I understand that the EIP Inspector has also written to both of those authorities asking for more clarification on their input at the EIP. I am told that correspondence and results of meetings held between SDC and the other two authorities has been sent to the Inspectors office. We continue to await the Inspectors interim findings.

With regard to the ongoing boundary review, SDC has decided that it wishes to continue with the existing ward/member arrangements of one, two and three member wards depending on local requirements. To do this we have had to agree to all out elections to the council every four years. My personal preference would have been to maintain the existing arrangements of electing the council in thirds but to do that all wards would have had to be three member wards, and to me that would remove a lot of the local aspect of councillor representation in many places. The next step is for councillors to put forward to the commission how many members we think should constitute the council.

The report into SDC's sheltered accommodation service is due to be published at the end of this month. There will then follow a period of further consultation with residents during June.

Because I do not know the results of the District Council elections [at the time of writing] I have no idea what the framework of the council will be or what committee I will be on for the next civic year. I am still hopeful that a new committee will be created, and that amongst other things it will look at the performance of the Planning and Appeals Department at the councils AGM. This will then hopefully look with a project management review attitude, at things such as the Local Plan process and how SDC functions at appeals. I am sure there are many within the Parish who will be interested in the workings of that committee if it is created.

Even though I do not yet know what committees I will serve on for the next civic year I have not made any comment in this newsletter on the various planning applications within the Parish that have arrived since my last newsletter. This is because although I have in the past commented on certain 'Policy Issues' regarding Planning in the Stroud District, if I comment prior to a specific application being heard at the Development Control Committee then I could be considered as having breached the probity in planning guidelines.

**Ken Stephens - May 2014**



## Broadband Improvement Rollout.

The situation is different depending on your service provider. If you have a BT line:-

- “Fastershire” are handling the government-sponsored rollout of faster broadband in the parish by BT, more detail can be found on their website:- [www.fastershire.com](http://www.fastershire.com)
- The status of our local exchange (Stonehouse) can be seen on their website, and is classified as "Under Evaluation".
- This means that the local exchange is not due to be updated for at least 12 months - probably toward the end of 2015.
- However, do check your postcode on their website (above), as your line may be connected to a different exchange, and register your interest on their website to receive updates on the rollout.

Is there another option? What can I do in the meantime?

- Complain to your service provider! The more complaints they get - the more likely they will be to do something to improve the speed. It is also possible that may be a problem with your line.
- Contact alternative "cable" providers, and express an interest. Sufficient interest may provide the evidence needed to bring plans forward. The advice from Virgin Media, for example, was to log a "non-customer complaint" in order to log your desire to join their service.
- Do check with other internet providers - The Stonehouse exchange, for example, has equipment in it from a number of service providers. Switching provider may offer improved speed and/or reliability. A guide to the service providers available to your address can be found at:- [www.broadbandchecker.co.uk](http://www.broadbandchecker.co.uk)
- Check your broadband router - your internet service provider may offer a free router that is matched to the exchange equipment and improve the speed and reliability. When you install it, do be sure that the security settings are correctly switched on.
- More very useful advice ( and more info on these points) is available at:- [www.broadband.co.uk](http://www.broadband.co.uk)

## **Neighbourhood Development Plan - Help Needed!**

The NDP is forging ahead, but to minimise costs, we are looking for specific help with experience or knowledge of the following:-

- Traffic Management & Traffic Planning.
- Local building style and architecture.
- Local History

We always welcome any volunteers in any capacity that wish to contribute their skills.

If you want to volunteer, please contact:-[eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com)

**Cllr Michael Evans**

## **EASTINGTON UNDER THREAT**

### **THIS AFFECTS YOU**

400 acres around the parish are in the hands of developers; the most recent planning applications for 1,400 houses in Nupend-Nastend and Bath Road will impact

#### **EVERYONE**

If these applications go ahead, then the whole parish will come under increased threat of further development

The agricultural land that surrounds the village will be the next land to be developed - right on your doorstep. This is the thin end of the wedge to a

#### **SUBURBAN FUTURE**

### **THIS IS WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT:**

Your letters will influence the decision; we need several hundred to make an impact. Send emails by 18<sup>th</sup> June (provisional cut off) to: [planning@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:planning@stroud.gov.uk) Ref: S.14/0810/OUT and S.14/1049/OUT or letters to: Planning Services, Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill, Stroud, GL5 4UB.

(they can be two identical e-mails each quoting its respective reference number) or letters, to: Planning Services, Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill, Stroud, GL5 4UB.

Even if you, or your friends and family, have responded to previous consultations, you need to respond to this separately - every response counts to an inspector.

There are many reasons to object, some of those listed below may be useful to help you compile yours; there are many more on the websites below.

**Inappropriate scale of development**, this number of houses and the typical national developer style of bland, uniform, suburban housing will be alien to the character of our parish. Surveys have shown that this will create a suburban "dormitory" town, servicing Gloucester, Cheltenham and Bristol, and has nothing in common with Eastington as we know it now.

**Even more traffic:** The parish already suffers heavy congestion. This housing development would add 13,000-14,000 traffic movements per day (according to national TRICS data). In addition there will be more heavy commercial traffic on parish roads from the 23 acres of industrial development. Together this will bring **increased pollution**, including on the 'rat runs'.

The parish is a rural and agricultural one that has developed through the centuries. This would turn it into a **characterless urban sprawl**.

**Eastington Primary School would probably be closed**, and merged to a new 'super school' already proposed in the dormitory town plans.

**Threat to village community shops** - a supermarket in the proposed retail development will starve the local businesses in Eastington, Stonehouse & Whitminster,

Such developments are effectively a **"bolt on" to Stonehouse**, impacting the character of its centre, parking and retail (the planning application includes significant land for retail)

Further detailed reasons, along with an easy format e-mail, are available on the DSS and KER websites:

**[www.new-town.info](http://www.new-town.info) and [WWW.keep-eastington-rural.co.uk](http://WWW.keep-eastington-rural.co.uk)**



# ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS' CHURCH, EASTINGTON

## **One of the 'Cotswold Edge' Parishes**

*(Eastington, Frocester, Haresfield, Moreton Valence, Standish and Whitminster)*

**Benefice Website:** [www.cotswoldedgeparishes.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldedgeparishes.org.uk)

**Our mission is: to show God's love for His people,  
and nurture His people's love for God**



Dear Friends,

It is a beautiful start to the day as I write this on the last day of a holiday in Pembrokeshire. The sun is out, the view from the caravan window is magnificent, and the forecast is for a warm and sunny weekend – and we are travelling home to Eastington this morning. Such is the lot for those of us who work on Sundays!

Looking ahead, June is a pretty mixed bag of a month, depending on who you are. For some people it means exams, and revising when you would prefer to be outdoors. As the first month of Summer, it's a popular time to go on holiday for those who don't have school aged children, those who have school-aged children just have to sigh and wait for the end of term, praying for fine weather at the same time. It's the month of Wimbledon and cricket – and this year the World Cup in Brazil as well. Around our area the number of cyclists rises as the regulars are joined by the more casual cyclists enjoying the warmer weather and the beautiful Gloucestershire countryside and country lanes. Also, early in the month the Bishop of Gloucester, accompanied by a group of pilgrims, also take to the highways and byways of the county – see the Benefice and Local News section for more about this.

Looking back, It was 70 years ago:- on 6th June 1944 that D-Day took place with the Normandy landings. More than 150,000 Allied troops landed on the beaches of Normandy at the start of the Battle of Normandy. Also, it was 25 years ago, on 4th June 1989 that The Tiananmen Square Massacre took place in Beijing. Students holding a pro-democracy demonstration were forced out of the square in a bloody government crackdown. The number killed is unknown – estimates range from less than 200 to more than 6,000; thousands were injured. On 5th June the Unknown Rebel (or Tank Man) temporarily halted a column of tanks by standing in front of them on the morning after the massacre. It became one of the most iconic images of the 20th century. And it was 100 years ago:- on 28th June 1914 that Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was assassinated, sparking a conflict between Austria-Hungary and Serbia that led to WW1.

However, we live in the present, the here and now. What are your hopes and dreams today, and what are the memories that you have that shape those hopes and dreams. If they come to fruition, then they will be added to your collection of memories – but will the date be significant, or rather the event you have experienced?

June too sees the annual celebration of Pentecost, or Whitsun, as it used to be called. It marks the day the church began, but no-one really knows exactly how many years ago! The church is here, it will be celebrating, and all six of our churches are open and invite you to join them for worship on that day – 8<sup>th</sup> June!

Yours in  
(Rector)

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Richard Amys'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christ,

Revd Richard Amys, The Rectory, Millend Lane, Eastington, GL10 3SG.

Email: [richardjramys@aol.com](mailto:richardjramys@aol.com). Tel/fax 01453 822437. Day off – Saturday. (Mobile 07796 956050)



## 'Challenging Lifestyle' Study Group at the Rectory

This is running on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm until July 1<sup>st</sup>. Anyone is welcome to come, and all evenings have a separate topic, such as dealing with criticism, responding to Jesus' words, making the big decision, spotting those who are false, and building a future.



## Services in June and July

<b>1<sup>st</sup> June</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b> <b>(Sunday after Ascension Day)</b> <p>(p189 - white)</p> <p><b>Acts 1.6-14 &amp; John 17.1-11</b>  <p>(p189/91)</p> </p>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> June</b> <b>Pentecost</b> <p>(p192 - red)</p> <p><b>Acts 2.1-21 &amp; John 7.37-39</b>  <p>(p195/7)</p> </p>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> June</b> <b>Trinity Sunday</b> <p>(p197 - white)</p> <p><b>Isaiah 6.1-8 &amp; John 16.5-15</b></p>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> June</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> after Trinity</b> <p>(p202 green)</p> <p><b>Romans 6.1b-11 &amp; Matthew 10.24-39</b>  <p>(p237/8)</p> </p>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> June</b> <b>St. Peter</b> <p>(p1151 - red)</p> <p><b>1 Peter 2.19-25 &amp; Matthew 16.13-19</b>  <p>(p1154/5)</p> </p>
<b>10.45am</b> Holy Communion <i>(Angela Reeder)</i>	<b>10.45am</b> Holy Communion	<b>6pm</b> Sung Evensong	<b>10.45am</b> Holy Communion	<b>10am</b> <b>Benefice Communion At Haresfield</b>

<b>6<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> after Trinity</b> <p>(p203 - green)</p> <p><b>Romans 7.15-25a &amp; Matthew 11.16-19; 25-30</b> (p252)</p>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> <p>(p204 - green)</p> <p><b>Romans 8.1-11 &amp; Matthew 13.1-9; 18-23</b> (p257/8)</p>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> <p>(p205 - green)</p> <p><b>1 Kings 2.10-12; 3.16-28 &amp; Mark 6.30-34; 53-56</b></p>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>6<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> <p>(p205 - white)</p> <p><b>1 Kings 3.5-12 &amp; Matthew 13.31-33; 44-52</b> (p268/9)</p>
<b>10.45am</b> Holy Communion	<b>10.45am</b> Holy Communion	<b>6pm</b> Sung Evensong	<b>10.45am</b> Holy Communion

*All services are taken by the Rector unless stated otherwise*

## Baptisms

**Rachael Walton, her brother Simon Harmer, and her children Seren and Evan Walton** were baptised at Eastington on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

**Molly Mae Spencer** was baptised at Eastington on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

**Annabella Willow Jones** was baptised at Standish on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

## Weddings

**Mark Atkins and Alice Warnants** were married at Eastington on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Jim Puddephatt and Gill Smith** were married at Eastington on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Funerals

**Ray Prosser**, formerly of Eastington, died in April. His funeral was conducted by the Revd George Parfitt at Eastington Church on May 12<sup>th</sup>, followed by burial in Eastington Cemetery.

## Bishop Michael embarks on his final pilgrimage

The Bishop of Gloucester, the Right Revd Michael Perham, will begin his final pilgrimage on Pentecost Sunday (8 June). Bishop Michael has been undertaking these walks since 2008, when he set off with ten fellow pilgrims from Tewkesbury and walked over the next seven days on a route that took in 34 churches across 101 miles.

In 2011, following a number of pilgrimages in the diocese, a group was formed with the ambition to ensure that, by the end of 2014; he would have walked through every parish on the boundary of the diocese.



This June, he will walk the final stretch, covering 89 miles, setting off from Whelford, near Fairford, on Pentecost Sunday and arriving at the Cathedral on the Eve of Trinity Sunday, taking in 26 churches on the way. The closest he comes to our benefice is on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June, when he arrives at St. Mary's Frampton for Evening Prayer at 6pm. The following day he will start from there with Morning Prayer at 9am, and then walk to St. James, Quedgeley, aiming to arrive at mid-day. We are all welcome to join him.

During his time as Bishop of Gloucester, Bishop Michael will have spent 35 days walking across 438 miles, visiting 173 churches. He said: "There isn't time and space here to explore all the reasons for going on pilgrimage, though it is an important spiritual theme. But I invite you to look in your diary and, if you are fit and well enough, see whether you could join me and my fellow pilgrims for a day or even half a day. You would be very welcome indeed. Come and be a pilgrim."

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Anxiety, Stress, Self confidence, Fears, Phobias, Habits (nail-biting etc)

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"Hazel has been a great help to me at a time when I was finding it difficult to relax and sleep. I found her weekly sessions so helpful, as well as having her CD, also the way she explained how the brain works."  
Janet C.

## Conditioning Pilates Class

Leonard Stanley Village Hall

Starting Monday  
2nd June 2014  
09:30 - 10:30

To reserve a place please contact  
Julie Luker on 07769557180  
or email [lukerj63@gmail.com](mailto:lukerj63@gmail.com)

## **Have your say...**

### **Eastington Parish Council – Roads and Transport: Bath Road Build-Out**

As residents and motorists have now had a few months to become familiar with the Bath Road build-out, the time seems ripe to assess its effectiveness. The purpose of the feature is to promote calm, safe traffic flow through our village, so the Parish Council needs to know whether it is achieving this aim.

Councillors are able to compare traffic speed surveys taken before and after the introduction of the build-out, but to truly aid in their assessment, the thoughts and opinions of parishioners are crucial. Councillors would welcome email responses, and it will be particularly helpful if parishioners could include their views on the following points:

- Do you think that the Bath Road build-out is achieving its aim?
- In what ways has the build-out made the Bath Road traffic flow safer, or less safe?
- How could the Bath Road build-out be further improved\*?

\* A reflector side on the reverse side of the existing side has already been requested.

Thank you for your support with this feed-back survey.

Please email responses to either: [p.allen@sagnet.co.uk](mailto:p.allen@sagnet.co.uk) or [jenniferfcorrie@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jenniferfcorrie@yahoo.co.uk)

# Footpaths

I spent three hours recently with Jaci Harris, Public Rights of Way Officer, (PROW) looking at six or seven footpath issues. One of them was the problem of 'plastic strips' across footpaths which make walking difficult and also obscure the 'way' of the path. Jaci had a conversation with a local farmer about this and will follow this up in a few weeks time.



I have also received a number of reports about a horse that was behaving rather aggressively to walkers, and I experienced this myself on two occasions. Jaci and the police were involved and this issue has now (hopefully) been resolved. Farmers and land owners who keep animals in fields where footpaths cross them have a responsibility to the public who use these paths. I would advise anyone who feels intimidated or who has experienced an aggressive animal to report the incident to the PROW Officer or to the Police, as the owner isn't always aware that there is a problem.

➡ Jaci has produced an excellent article about Public Rights-of-Way which includes this issue. Look out for Jaci's article in the next edition of ECN.

**On a personal note...** I have been involved with improving our footpaths for over eight years, as a Parish Councillor, on behalf of the Parish Council. I have had great support both from the Council and from Jaci in her role as County Footpaths Officer. I have walked many miles with my dog Zigger by my side as my constant companion through rain and shine. Sadly, last week he succumbed to old age and I had to say a tearful farewell to him. He was a great pal, and he had a dignified and peaceful death. Zigger was extremely good at getting me out in all weathers, and although I shall still be out walking the footpaths, it won't be in any official capacity as I have recently resigned from the Parish Council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those parishioners who supported me, and to say that I am still available to anyone who may need help with footpath matters.

Please do use our footpaths to explore more of the Parish and beyond...

With best wishes

**Bill Edwards**

T: 824452.

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## Gloucestershire Constabulary work in partnership with rural and farming communities.



The Rural Watch scheme, which is similar to Neighbourhood Watch, together with initiatives using Smartwater and Datatag, have helped to deter criminals as they know these schemes increase the chances of them being caught. The aim is to offer support to farmers, horse owners, and rural households to combat crime, improve their security and encourage them to report anything suspicious to the police. However, while Gloucestershire is one of the safest counties to live work and visit, that doesn't mean that we have no crime, as some farmers and businesses could testify.

We all need to remain vigilant and be prepared to report suspicious activity immediately, if we are to keep crime low. We can only achieve this by working together with you.

To support the Rural Watch Initiative, Gloucestershire Constabulary has helped to develop a computerised communication system that we call 'Watch Word'. The purpose of this investment is to improve the means and ease by which 'Watch' Co-ordinators receive warning messages from the Constabulary using their chosen conduit of 'phone, fax or e-mail.

If you are interested in please email [Elizabeth.ward@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.ward@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk)

Liz Ward

Gloucestershire Constabulary + Stroud Police Station | Parliament Street | Stroud | GL5 1QQ

( Personal - 01452 753510 | Group - 01452 753510 | Contact Centre – 101 Or Twitter page /Facebook page

## Summer 2014 - Newsletter



What have we been up to.....

The children had great fun last term dressing up in character costumes for World Book week; they also had the opportunity to buy a book at our 'book stall' and help raise money for some new playgroup books.

Following our Sport Relief 'triathlon' we managed to collect a very grand total of £373 – well done to everyone!!!!

The children learnt about 'Rowina' who lives in Africa and only has toys made out of the things we throw away.

They talked about what toys they would like to buy her with the money raised and when she came to visit us (our persona doll) she read the story she had bought called 'Were going on a Lion Hunt, which the children really enjoyed.

We have also had a garden centre at Playgroup and have planted seeds to send home to learn about growth and change. With the sunny weather we have been able to spend lots of time at our allotment preparing it for the sowing season, planting potatoes, cabbage and beetroot and exploring our sandpit, ball tubes and new den. We have been using tally charts to record quantity and sizes in daffodils and tulips that we have planted along with recording how many worms we can find.



We had some very important visitors in the form of tadpoles and the children have been very interested in watching them change and grow (they now have back legs). We have been recording the changes and reading factual books to support this area of learning.

A parent also came into visit us to show the children how to clean their teeth and she talked about how we can keep our teeth healthy by eating non sugary foods and drinks between meals. The children were delighted with their goodie bags which included new toothbrushes, toothpaste and stickers, thanks to The Rowcroft Dental Centre. We have been cooking to make vegetable soup for snack, chopping up using tools and seeing how we effect change to food by chopping, and cooking it.

We are looking forward to welcoming new parents to an information afternoon in June and to all new children starting in September and welcome some new faces onto our committee for the new academic year. Our playgroup welcomes all parents onto our committee and with support from them we continue to strive to offer a stimulating and safe environment for all the children to feel welcome and to play in.

Our Preschool sessions have started on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at Eastington Primary school for the children that will be moving on to school there, these sessions support the transition between ourselves and school, enabling the children to become familiar with new surroundings, teachers and the bigger children.

We also have plans for 'Magic Marie' to visit us on the last day of term for our leaver's party and we wish all children going on to their next step goodbye and good luck.

**Playgroup's first day back will be Tuesday 2nd September 2014 – we will see you all then!**

If you would like your child to enjoy a stimulating, fun and safe environment to learn and play in then we would love to hear from you. Spaces for September 2014 are filling up very quickly and some sessions already have a waiting list, however if you are interested in coming for a visit then please contact us we would love to meet you!

Our playgroup offers care and education for all children from 2 ½ years to 4 years 11 months in a well established community based group. We offer your children a safe and stimulating environment in which they can grow and blossom into self confident, self reliant and positive little people. Our ultimate goal is to enable the children to have fun, explore and have the freedom to express their individuality, while forming the basis of their education.

**We have vacancies for September and operate 4 days a week offering full and half day sessions and we accept government nursery vouchers and other types of employer supported childcare vouchers.**

**If you would like more details please contact Mandy Owen, Playleader 07977 342 742**

**email [eastingtonplaygroup@eygloucestershire.co.uk](mailto:eastingtonplaygroup@eygloucestershire.co.uk) or visit our website**

**[www.eastingtonplaygroup.wordpress.co.uk](http://www.eastingtonplaygroup.wordpress.co.uk)**

## **Village Agent**

This month's news looks at specifically with questions we've been asked in our capacity as village agents, in particular dealing with what community equipment is available and how to return it when it is no longer needed; reducing water bills and keys to public toilets.

In Gloucestershire we are very fortunate to be able to access a wide of equipment free of charge that can help in the home. This can range from equipment for daily living, such as shower chairs, raised toilet seats, hoists, hospital beds and commodes, as well as grab rails, stair rails, and door thresholds. In addition, equipment for people with sensory impairments, such as flashing doorbells, low vision optical aids, text phones, and assistive listening devices such as amplifiers to help hear TV better can also be provided. If you need any such equipment, please contact me (see number below). Furthermore, you may be eligible for 'Telecare Equipment'; this encompasses clever devices such as: fall alarms, gas escape alarms, health state monitoring devices and wandering detectors. To access any of these, please call the Adult Help desk or speak to your health professional such as the District Nurse, Occupational Therapist (O.T), Physiotherapist or myself. When equipment is no longer needed, please ring the G.I.S number given at the end of this article, as it may be useful to others.

There is a huge difference in the amount of water different households may use. If you are an older couple or single person, it may be advisable to talk to your water supplier about getting a water meter fitted. This is free of charge in the majority of cases and very straightforward. If you are in receipt of certain benefits, such as pension credit or have a health condition requiring increased use of water, paying more than £335 a year, you might be eligible to join the WaterSure scheme, so your bill is capped. If you have a condition that means you need to use a toilet frequently, providing you have some written evidence, you can apply for a key costing £2 from Stroud District Council. This will open any public lavatory throughout the country.

Fair Shares are launching a programme of dementia friendly walks in Stratford Park in Stroud, starting on the 29th May and running for 12 weeks through June and July until mid- August on a weekly basis. Also, there are a wealth of free educational sessions on the subject of memory loss and dementia, some for a newly diagnosed person and others for carers and family, organised by Managing Memory2gether.

### **Stroud Day**

Understanding Dementia      Thursday 3rd July 2014  
Brain & Behaviour              Thursday 10th July 2014  
Positive Communication       Thursday 17th July 2014  
Living Well with Dementia Part 1 Thursday 24th July 2014  
Living Well with Dementia Part 2 Thursday 31st July 2014 Stroud Congregational Church Meeting Room, 1 Bedford Street, Stroud. GL5 1AY

### **Stroud Evening**

Weavers Croft, Field Road, Stroud. GL5 2HZ  
Understanding Dementia      Thursday 12th June 2014  
Brain and Behaviour      Thursday 19th June 2014  
Positive Communication Thursday 26th June 2014  
Adult Help Desk                      01452 426 868  
G.I.S.Equipment collection       01452 874 980  
Severn Trent Water:                0845 750 0500  
Managing Memory                  0800 694 8800  
Fair Shares, Emma Ordinez       01453 706 555

**Should you wish to contact me about this or any other issue please telephone me:  
Sue Colquhoun on: 07810 630 145.**



# Alkerton Rangers FC season review

From nadir to zenith – a marvellous season for Alkerton Rangers Football Club!

After struggling to field two teams the previous season and both finishing at the bottom of their respective divisions, last season was the complete opposite. The First team, superbly managed by Kyle Anderton and coached expertly by Anth Taubert, swept all before them. Winning twenty and losing only two league games they comfortably won Division Six of the Stroud and District League scoring 116 goals in the process. Michael Brennan notched a magnificent 36 goals ably assisted by Ashley Berry with 27. In addition, the First team won the County Cup defeating Poulton from the Cirencester League convincingly 4-1.

The final Division 6 standings and more can be found at:

<http://full-time.thefa.com/Index.do?divisionseason=32782573&league=1199765>

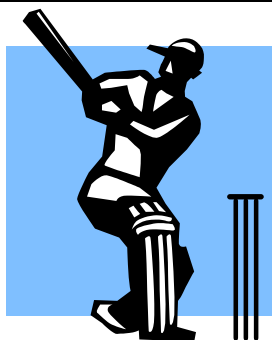
Not to be outdone the Reserves, marshalled admirably with astute tactical nous by Kev Bond, were crowned Division Eight champions. After a shaky start to the season, a run in which they beat all their rivals propelled them to the top with 4 games to go. The spirit within the side was very strong and that was responsible for some excellent team performances. The highlights were a 12-1 drubbing of Uley 3rds and more notably crucial wins against Saintbridge and Longlevens 4ths, who also were in the running for promotion, and securing the point with a last-gasp equaliser against Stroud United Reserves that sealed the title. Not only that the Reserves boasted the meanest defence in the division. In front of goal Steven Morgan took the plaudits with a mammoth 31.

It goes without saying that both teams are now looking forward to next season with optimism.

The final Division 8 standings and more can be found at:

<http://full-time.thefa.com/Index.do?divisionseason=307323183&league=1199765>

*Alkerton Rangers Reserves before their (meaningless) last game of the season against Tredworth Tigers Reserves.*



## ***DO YOU PLAY or HAVE YOU PLAYED CRICKET?***

Eastington Cricket Club requires players of ANY standard for the 2014 season, with most Saturdays (league) and friendlies on Sundays, midweek days and midweek evenings. We play and practise at Owen Harris Memorial Ground.

Any standard/ability is welcome, to keep our club going.

**Please contact Steve Gallagher on 01453 791209**

# **Stonehouse Community** **Health Project**

**Starting Friday June 6th**  
**Stonehouse Community Centre - Main Hall**

Drop In every Friday 9am - 12pm for health and exercise classes, and bring your aches and pains to our pain clinic for treatment too!

## **Timetable:**

### **9.00 - 9.45 Tai Chi 'Rise & Shine' £5.00**

Give your body and mind some ZEST with this gentle and therapeutic health and vitality class. Feel ALIVE with LIFE! And learn the flowing movement of Tai Chi & Qigong Health for less pain and peace of mind.

### **10.00 - 11.00 Drop-In Pain Clinic**

Drop in every Friday and get those aches and pains relieved by our team of professional therapists. We can help with common injuries and conditions using Traditional Acupuncture and Medical Massage. Community Treatment Sessions are convenient and cost effective. No Messy Oils and no need to remove any clothing either. (Please arrive at 9.50 am to register for treatment on the day)

Medical Massage £10 - Acupuncture £10

### **11.15 - 12.00 Tai Chi 'Weekend Booster' £5.00**

Ease away the weekdays and feel Alive for the weekend with this energy boosting health class. Suitable for all shapes sizes and ages.

## **Don't Forget!**

Pop-In runs from 9.30 - 11am so you can grab a cuppa and chat while you visit the centre. **For more info please call 01453 828000**

*Supported by The Stonehouse Holistic Center & Medical Clinic*



## Beekeeper's Diary - Part 2

**March 30<sup>th</sup>.** Today was the perfect day to spring clean the beehive. This involves going through all the boxes right down to the floor and scraping off any debris and generally tidying things up in the hive. It was my first chance to have a really detailed look inside. A big inspection can cause a lot of disturbance but blowing smoke into the hive before opening it up helps keep things calmer. Beekeepers have a really important gadget called a smoker, which is like a tin can with bellows attached. You light a little bonfire in the tin can and use the bellows to puff the smoke into the hive. When they smell smoke, the bees become so busy organising things in case there is a fire, that they don't take too much notice of the intruder. You can also herd them out of the way with a puff of smoke. Today it took four attempts and much frustration to get a good enough fire lit in the smoker. Usually on such a balmy day the bees are docile, so it surprised me to find they were rather excitable, even after I'd smoked them. When they are like this I have to take extra care, or I could end up doing more harm than good and I am more likely to be stung.

I discovered that there was a large amount of healthy looking brood in all stages of development. I watched a furry new bee nibble her way out of her wax cell.

There are a few drones (male bees) developing now. I can tell this at a glance because the drones develop in much bulgier cells than the workers.

However there was perilously little honey left with so many mouths to feed, so I made a weak sugar syrup, adding a few precautionary drops of bee vitamins to help strengthen their immune systems. I sprinkled the second varroa mite treatment into the hive.

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>.** I made a trip to Maisemore Apiaries for some bits and pieces that I need. Their shop must be the loveliest smelling shop there is. When you mix the scent of freshly sawn cedar wood, with the sweet scent of bees wax, honey and propolis, it makes quite a heady cocktail. Propolis is a substance the bees make from resinous sap, which they then use to stick things together inside the hive, for instance plugging draughty gaps.

**April 10<sup>th</sup>.** I opened the hive with Nick Spencer who has been learning beekeeping. Everything looked lovely inside, with very busy workers, healthy looking brood and increasing honey stores. We trickled the third and last varroa mite treatment into the brood area.

**April 17<sup>th</sup>.** At this time of year the queen could be laying 2000 eggs a day so there are now a lot more bees. They start foraging for nectar when they are three weeks old so there are also a lot of girls to bring the nectar in. Things can change very quickly when the hive fills up with bees. I have noticed there is a field of

oilseed rape in full bloom within easy flying distance. This is a mixed blessing. The rape provides a super abundance of nectar and the bees will fill the hive with it very quickly. The drawback is that rape honey sets very hard very quickly.

Today I noticed bees bringing back three different colour pollens. The lemon colour pollen will be rape pollen; there was an equal amount of bright yellow pollen and even blue pollen on one bee, possibly plum. The honey super (box) was almost full, so I put another one on the top. I didn't look further into the hive as I have found over the years, the less I interfere with them, the better the bees perform.

**April 28<sup>th</sup>.** I took advantage of the warm dry day to see how much honey the bees had gathered. There was plenty of honey in the hive, so I shook the bees off the frames in one of the honey supers, and took it home to extract the honey before it set too hard in the combs. Extracting the honey is fun. You use a gadget which flings the honey out of the combs by centrifugal force. It collects in the bottom of the drum and you just open a tap to strain and bottle the honey, thirteen pounds of it this time. Beautiful.

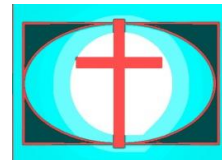
**May 5<sup>th</sup>.** We gave the bees a thorough check. There weren't as many bees as I expected. They have caste a swarm. It becomes obvious when you look into the brood chamber. There are huge cells that hang down like a little finger from the frame. These cells are built to hold a developing queen. Three were hatched out. We were lucky enough to spot, catch and mark all three virgin queens. The old queen must have gone with the swarm at least three days ago as there was no unsealed brood.

We took out two frames of brood with bees on and put them in a little starter hive. Then we shook in some extra bees to help keep the brood warm enough. Now we have a large hive of bees and a miniature one. The new queens must mate on the wing within about ten days. It is risky for them as they are slower, bigger and would make a tasty snack for a bird. I kept the third queen in a tiny box over night with half a dozen attendants.

**May 6<sup>th</sup>.** I took the mini hive to a farm near Gloucester where there are lots of hives, so there should be plenty of fresh drones to mate with. Continuing on to Maisemore apiaries, I bought a moulded polystyrene starter hive (nucleus box) which will be very warm inside. Now I have taken some more brood and bees to create another micro colony with that third virgin queen. Now we just hope for mating success.

**May 9<sup>th</sup>.** I discovered that the roof had blown off the polystyrene nucleus box. The bees are alive but I don't know if the brood is.

# Eastington Methodist Church



## Messy Events

EMC is now running a Messy Event roughly every 6 weeks and we have had 50+ people of all ages attending at each so far this year.

The basic format is for a period of craft activities and cooking to take place (hence the “Messy”) followed by a song or two, a brief message based on a Bible story or theme. This is followed by a time of drinks and cakes with the whole lot taking about an hour and a half. It is ideal for families and children but some of our young people enjoy coming along and taking part as do older people. By the time you read this, the May one will have happened but another is being scheduled for July.

## Youth Events

The Friday Youth Club continues to meet at 7pm each week at the church. When we get some good weather, we plan to deploy the water slide again that proved such fun last year. We also plan to organise a few day trips over the summer holidays. In early May, we ran arguably our best themed sleepover at the church yet in that it actually did involve an abnormally large amount of peaceful sleep compared with normal. Another is planned for early July.

**Bristol District Youth  
Sleepover & Thorpe Park**

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> – Sat 6<sup>th</sup>  
September 2014

£30

### The ride of your life?



The Methodist Church at the Bristol District level is organising a Youth Sleepover at Chippenham followed by a visit to Thorpe Park by coach on the evening of Friday 5<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September. At £30 all in, that sounds like a rather good deal with a risk that places could run out. Booking forms are available at youth club.

Just a reminder that those leaving primary school this year can start coming to youth club as soon as they break up for the summer holidays in July.

## Prayer & Friendship

For anyone whose life feels like a roller-coaster but would prefer it not to be, you could do a lot worse than to seek God's peace and help. If you would like to be prayed for or need someone to talk to, please do get in touch.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 4 vs 6-7*

## Minister Currently Away

Our minister, Rev Graham Miles, is off at the present time on a 3 month Sabbatical. This is a 7 yearly opportunity for ministers to take some time out to refresh and reinvigorate their faith. Graham will be looking at how art can be used to communicate the Gospel and is attending a 1 week course in Oxford studying art from the Jewish tradition. He is also planning to learn Thai cookery, build a smoking cabinet and make bread. So if you want an inspirational painting of smoked Thai bread in a Jewish style – he will be just the man!

**Ken Burgin – Senior Steward**

**Ken, Beck & Liz Burgin 01453 827414**

**[www.EastingtonMethodists.org.uk](http://www.EastingtonMethodists.org.uk)**

# EASTINGTON PRIMARY PARENTS ASSOCIATION

**2014**

## **DUCK RACE**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2014 12:15pm until 3pm**

Field Adjacent to Eastington Primary School

**\*\* DUCK RACES \*\***

**\*\* BAKING COMPETITION \*\***

**\*\* FALCONARY DISPLAY \*\***

**\*\* STALLS \*\* LIVE MUSIC \*\***

**\*\* BOUNCY CASTLE \*\***

**\*\* BBQ \*\* LICENSED BAR \*\***

**\*\* TEAS & REFRESHMENTS \*\***

**Plus Many Other Attractions**

**\*\* FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY \*\***

### **William Morris House** Summer **Craft Fair**

**Saturday June 14th 1pm - 4pm**

Music



B B Q

Childres games, Tombola, Grand Prize Draw

Many crafts to try  
e.g. Candlemaking, Breadmaking  
and lots more

**Free shuttle bus from Bonds Mill**

Any enquiries: 01453 824025

# Canal at Eastington Navigable Again

For the first time in 4 years, it is now again possible to launch a boat from the slipway above Pike Lock and navigate through Blunder and Newtown Locks and the section above. This follows work by CCT volunteers to replace the broken top paddles at the top of Newtown Lock with the new type of paddle gear being used on the Phase 1A section through Stroud.

These paddles are much easier to use and safer than the previous set in that they have better gearing and the operator can use them safely standing on the bank rather than having to lean out over the opening paddle hole.

Blunder Lock was re-gated last year with a brand new set of bottom gates and a pair of volunteer refurbished ex-Thames top gates.



There remains quite a lot of reed and overhanging tree growth towards Bonds Mill Bridge but we got nearly within sight of it in our 1970s Caracruiser.

Although there is now a small team of volunteers willing to crew it, CCT is still looking for a new Team Leader or Leaders to run the new weed harvester boat. We are also looking for a Team Leader to lead a group to carry out bank piling and similar work – training for both positions will be provided.

Ken Burgin  
[www.cotswoldcanals.com](http://www.cotswoldcanals.com)

[ken.burgin@pikelock.com](mailto:ken.burgin@pikelock.com)  
[www.stroudvalleyscanal.co.uk](http://www.stroudvalleyscanal.co.uk)



Do you want an unusual and entertaining party activity for children?  
Then why not have a jewellery making party!

I teach brownies/guides too  
Please contact for more details  
07810015220

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[info@bohemianbeads.co.uk](mailto:info@bohemianbeads.co.uk)  
or  
[www.bohemiankids.co.uk](http://www.bohemiankids.co.uk)



# Eastington Baby and Toddler Group

Eastington Baby and Toddler Group on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May, enjoying the sun.



Eastington Baby and Toddler Group has grown substantially in recent years. In the past couple of weeks we have had over 20 adults and 20 children. Fortunately, we have been able to expand into other parts of the building at Eastington Methodist Church, so we still have room for more! Last Monday we were even able to spend much of the morning outside enjoying the sunshine.

We have just started a new summer mural – sand painting, and painting multi coloured beach balls. Yet to come are boats and flip flops. This was our Spring mural.



If you have children under 3 years of age why not come along and join us. Each Monday, from 10- 11:30 a.m. we play with toys, have a craft activity, a Bible story every other week and sing together. There is also a healthy snack, and all this for just £1.50 per session for the first child and only 50p for each extra child/adult. We meet in Eastington Methodist Church's building.

The organisers of Eastington Baby and Toddler Group are assisting with the running of Whitminster Toddler Group from Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June. The group runs from 9:30-11:30am, Wednesdays, in term time, at Whitminster Village Hall.

So now there are 2 opportunities a week to come and join us with your little ones.

Hope to see you soon.

**Beck, Liz and Sue**  
**contact Beck on 07511197265**



## **EASTINGTON YOUTH GROUP**

### **Community Park Project**

Well there's good news and there's not quite such good news!

Let's start with the latter. After a good showing of hands for the grass seeding session, followed by ample rain and sunshine (for grass at least) we now have a carpet of green on the mounds; hooray we cry. But there appears to have been a takeover by the dreaded 'weeds'! Not to worry, a few passes with the mower will sort those out and allow the grass to flourish.

**And now the good news.....** We have secured sufficient funding to enable us to place an order for the play equipment and the outdoor exercise equipment. We were not optimistic that both sets of equipment could be installed in the same phase, so this is rather exciting. Work on the installation should start in late June and carry on for a couple of weeks. We should also see the addition of a fully encompassing fence before park work commences. An official opening date will be set in the next issue of ECN.

There are a couple more grant applications awaiting confirmation, which if successful, will finance items such as benches, sunshade, bins and signs. Our fingers are crossed.

The youth group AGM will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Old Badger, 7.30pm. Please come along if you wish to lend support or just want to have a chat.

Email - [eastington.vg@gmail.com](mailto:eastington.vg@gmail.com)

Tel -01453 827401

Web -.[www.facebook.com/Eastington.playground.project](http://www.facebook.com/Eastington.playground.project)

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## **Eastington and Stonehouse Slimming World**

Summer is here; at least it has been for a couple of days, hopefully a taste of some lovely summer days to come. Over the past few months we have welcomed lots of new faces into both groups, which has been lovely, and starting them off on their weight loss journeys. We have had lots to celebrate to with great weight loss awards for activity and best of all members reaching their weight loss goals and becoming Target members.

This week we have talked about healthy summer eating, ideas for bbq's, picnics, holidays and choices that are the best to have from the ice-cream van or to have in the freezer at home. So you can still enjoy those day trips out or spend time relaxing at home and you can be prepared to make choices for a fab weight loss whilst still enjoying time with family and friends.

We have also raised £205 for charities which is being split between the Cotswold Care hospice, DeBRA, a local charity, and Smiles. The money has been raised by Slimming World Coffee morning group and donations of 5p. We have also been involved with the Slimming World Clothes Throw. Members have filled charity bags with unwanted clothes that are now too big for them, and have donated them. Our local groups donated over 150 bags and the district has collected 1,700 bags, these have been donated to Cancer Research and will raise approximately £51,400!! So not only have our members lost an amazing amount of weight, they have also helped the continued work to find the cure for cancer and support those who are fighting a personal battle against cancer

So if you'd like to lose weight healthily and safely, and learn how to 'eat yourself slim' come along to one of my groups. They are at Stonehouse Community Centre on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am or at Eastington Village Hall on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. I look forward to meeting you. Both women and men are welcome.

Best wishes. Lorna x **07974937830 or 01453821751**

## Eastington's Got Talent

The Cotswold Youth Singers is a friendly group of choristers who sing a wide variety of music from contemporary pop, show tunes to choral works.



The choir is well known locally and has been invited to sing with the Dursley Male Voice Choir, Wycliffe Choir and Stroud Choral Society on many occasions. In addition to this the choir has won the Heart FM Carol competition twice.

We practice every Tuesday evening 6.45 – 8pm (term time) at Eastington Church.

**We are looking for new members aged 10 – 21 years and previous experience is not necessary.**

**Why not come and give it a try on any Tuesday evening.**

Further information: Jane Williams (choir director) on 07791057144 or Cecily Cook 01453 822937 / 07780 958432

## WHAT'S ON... in neighbouring villages



### Events diary June-July

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June** | Longney Primary School - '**World Cup Fete**' | Kick Off - 1.30 - 4.00 | Fun, games, crafts, BBQ tent, bar and much more | free admission | Longney School, Chatter Street, Longney GL2 3SL

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June** | Lakefield School and PTA - '**Midsummer Madness**' | everyone's invited, so come and join us for some summer fun for all the family | 3.00 - 6.00 | Lakefield School, Lake Lane, Frampton-on-Severn

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July** | Friends of Longney Primary School '**Sausage & Cider Beer Festival**' | @ Yew Tree Farm Longney | Tickets £8 if bought May/June, £10 in July | Ticket Hotline: 01452 883334/ 750104 Or Email: [longneybeerfest@outlook.com](mailto:longneybeerfest@outlook.com)



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**Caroline Tosh** DO MSCC  
**T: 01452 740818**

Registered with the General Osteopathic Council

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**Tuesdays 9.30 am**

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