

e a s t i n g t o n

COMMUNITY NEWS

Your news... your ECN!

Contributions to ECN are welcome from anyone connected with Eastington Parish, past or present. Send your copy by email to the Articles Editor - ecn.articles@gmail.com

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The editor reserves the right to reject or shorten contributions.

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

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**Diary Dates**

Sat 3rd Oct @ 1.30 - Sheep Race

Sat 17th Oct @ 7.30 - Cello & Piano Concert

Sun 18th Oct @ 2.00 - PROWD walk

Sat 24th Oct @ 12.00 - Parish Apple Day

Sat 24th October @ 7.30 - "Unwrapping
Chocolate" event

Wed 28th Oct @ 10.00 - PROWD meeting

Sat 31st Oct @ 7.30 - French Evening

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Editor**

@eastingtonnews

Eastington
Community
News

sign post



Footpaths are one of the things that make England special and pleasant to live in, giving access for many to enjoy the landscape and wildlife around us.

The benefit of taking a short-cut by foot instead of driving the long-way round by car, and then competing for a parking place at the destination is additional to our wellbeing and enjoyment.

During the summer months many of us have been able to walk the direct route to the Village Hall or Old Badger in light foot-ware, and to enjoy the benefit of a chat along the footpath with other like-minded folk.

Unfortunately in the other three seasons of the year, ankle-deep mud and need for wellies have made the car a more desirable option. So, I was delighted to experience new firm gravel paths at 'Six-ways' near Swallowcroft and at the kissing-gate close to Bath Road junction with Middle Street. Together with previous Parish improvement works laying gravel around muddy gateways in Millend and Cress Green, it will be now be possible to walk over the footpaths to and from the Village for most of the year.

If you are one of those benefiting from improvements to our footpaths, you may wish to join me in sincerely thanking the community footpaths group 'PROWD' who organised the improvements, and the Parish Council who funded the works. Contact details for 'PROWD' and Eastington Parish Council are contained within their articles of this edition. So, taking some time to express gratitude for their work would no doubt be appreciated by the people who made these improvements happen for us, particularly as there was opposition from some councillors who thought these works were a waste of material and money.

Eastington has been a focus for speculating developers for more than 30 years, and our District Councillor, Stephen Davies, gives perspective to current proposals.

Following the permitted development of towering town houses over bungalows in Swallowcroft and open countryside, faith and confidence in the planning system was severely damaged for many of us. But it was worth persevering in opposing the two Appeals for development in Bath Road (opposite the Garage,) and at Bath Road Bungalow, and it is indeed good news that both Appeals were dismissed. These rulings add weight and credence to the basis of our arguments.

There is of course a drastic need for the right sort of homes in Eastington and elsewhere, as discussed in previous issues. Representatives from Nailsworth and Eastington Community Land Trusts (CLT) met recently with Neil Carmichael MP to discuss the very worrying proposals for CLTs and Housing Associations (HA) to be included in the recently resurrected 'Right to Buy' scheme. It was reassuring to have support from our MP who wrote to the Housing Minister asking for an exemption for CLTs and HAs. If the scheme goes ahead without that exemption, it is almost certain to result in the demise of CLTs and HAs, and consequentially a reduction in the supply of 'affordable housing'. On the other hand, the price of 'market' housing (for private sale,) continues to increase, allegedly fuelled by anticipated faster commuting times from Bristol to London due to electrification of the Great Western line.

While UK land prices continue to rise, the size of homes and gardens get smaller and smaller. It'll only take someone to invent the vertical bed, and speculative developers will grab the chance to squeeze even more from those desperate for a home, to build 'nano-sized' houses instead of 'micro-sized' ones!

Andrew Niblett | Editor

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breaking news

ANOTHER BIG WIN FOR EASTINGTON!

Middle Street and Bath Road Residents overturn Planning Appeal

A big 'THANK YOU' to all the people from across the Parish but especially Middle Street and Bath Road for writing an avalanche of letters to help win this Appeal.

Like the 30 houses proposed at Bath Road, the Government Inspector agreed that our green spaces are historic and important: He said...."The proposal would result in material harm to the landscape character of the area. Overall this adverse impact would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits. It would destroy the green wedge that is created by the gardens separating Bath Road and Middle Street"

Well done everyone! - Keep Eastington Rural

Claire Watkins | Middle Street

Eastington Village Hall



**For your function or
group meeting !**

**phone Queenie
on 824340**

*Central village location, £7.50 per hour,
kitchen, tables and chairs, stage etc.*

Are you a group/event looking for a venue in the centre of Eastington? We are excellent value at £7.50 an hour. The picture opposite shows the hall set up with tables for 48 people, and with room to spare!

Phone Queenie on 824340 for more information or to make a booking.

**Mary Gribble,
Secretary**

councils



PARISH MATTERS

I am sitting watching the rain falling and I'm wondering if the sunshine has left us as autumn settles in.

The Parish Council has been very busy over the last few months with planning matters taking up much of our time. We have now formed a Planning Committee which will meet in public on the 4th Tuesday of every month as the workload dictates.

The proposal by Ecotricity to relocate Forest Green Rovers football to fields along the A419 and also build an Eco Park produced a strong reaction from some parishioners. Two of our meetings were very well attended and time was given to listen to their views.

The Parish Council cannot at this time form a view on this proposal; we will have to wait for a formal Planning Application to see what they want to build. However, we do have concerns about some of the negative impacts the proposal will have on the area, e.g. the increase in traffic congestion. Meanwhile we will continue our dialogue with the applicant to get the best we can, should Stroud District Council be minded to give permission for this to go ahead.

Please do let the Parish Council know your views about this or any other planning application.

We are still awaiting the outcome of Stroud Local Plan to see if the development - West of Stonehouse (WoS) - is included. Our Planning Consultant is preparing our objections to the planning application; again we will be having meetings with Stroud District Council and the developers to put forward our suggestions should this development go forward.

Work continues on Eastington's Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and all the comments from the recent consultation are being analysed. Amendments are being made to the Plan with Stroud District Council's assistance.

We are aiming to finish the Plan and submit to Stroud District Council by 30th November, a deadline set by the District Council if we wish to go to referendum next summer.

Your Parish Council meets the second Tuesday of every month and anyone can attend.

If I can help in any way please don't hesitate to ring or email me.

Muriel Bullock | Chair, Eastington Parish Council
01453 826172 | murielbullock@gmail.com

HELP NEEDED

Is there anyone who enjoys knitting and could spare a little time to help by knitting small mini Christmas puddings, Robins, Santa hats, snowmen and penguins which we then fill with a small Lindt or Ferrero Rocher chocolate and sell at various events to raise money for Longfields (formerly Cotswold Care Hospice).



Last year this proved to be very successful as we made in excess of £1500 for which the Hospice was very grateful.

Patterns and wool to be provided if needed.

Please contact Jacky Naylor from Severnside Longfields Supporters Group on 01453 828682/07821819401.

Letter from your District Councillor

councils

Dear all

Tradition has it that August should be a quiet month; but it certainly hasn't been in Eastington as we all know. In this month's letter I would like to cover three issues, the Ecotricity Proposal, the West of Stonehouse Development and the Canal.

So, starting with the proposals from Ecotricity for a Football Stadium and Business Park (the adjective green does not have any meaning in planning) which many of us went to see at their open day on the 3rd September. Although I am keeping an open mind which is right ahead of a formal application, I have 2 major concerns which I outlined last time and have taken the following actions. The first is infrastructure, and I have requested a meeting with Gloucester County Council Highways team, as despite assurances by Dale Vince on Radio Gloucester to fund this, my concern remains that there may be limitations to what is possible. The second is that this proposal is not part of the Local Plan which Eastington is being asked to make sacrifices for. I have met the SDC Planning Department to understand the process. We will have to wait until the Inspector rules on the Local Plan for it to be valid but it will be taken into account when a formal planning request is made by Ecotricity.

Two final comments, I am also concerned about the proximity to the William Morris House Community and this will have to be specifically addressed, and I am concerned that the opinion of local residents is clearly heard, and I plan to knock on doors to talk to residents in the near future. It would be true to say that my mail box (cllr.stephen.davies@stroud.gov.uk) has not been flooded with either those for or against.

Turning to other matters, although I respect that there is still an active Campaign opposing the "West of Stonehouse" development, there is a strong likelihood that this will go ahead and I believe that it is now time to engage with SDC Planning to understand and even input to the more detailed plan that is being developed. I have recently met with them and the more detailed plan includes schools, retail facilities, health facilities, highways, affordable homes, design, tree preservation orders, canals and the gaps between existing houses and this new development. I have encouraged the Parish Council and SPA to engage in this conversation and am happy to broker this, but if any individual would like to join a meeting please let me know.

Finally on a more positive note. I met with the Cotswold Canals Trust who are making a request of the Heritage Lottery Fund to complete the final mile. They have an excellent case which is being taken very seriously. It makes me feel better about those lottery tickets I buy and then throw away.

If there is anything else you would like to raise with me please get in touch.

Thanks

Stephen....

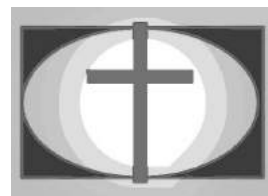
Councillor Stephen Davies
Eastington and Standish Ward

Email: cllr.stephen.davies@stroud.gov.uk

Tel: 07802 595 307

churches

Eastington Methodist Church



On Sunday 13th September, Aeron, one of our young people was confirmed and became our youngest church member. His confirmation means that Aeron has decided to confirm the Baptism, sometimes known as Christening, that happened when he was a baby. To put it simply, he has decided for himself to put his faith in Jesus and to follow Him – that means he is part of not just Eastington Methodist Church but the whole worldwide Christian family. Owning that decision is the important bit, it is your faith that really matters rather than what was done to you by others when you were a baby.

Harvest at the Café and Harvest Lunch

The next Café Church coincides with our Harvest celebration at 11am on Sunday 4th October. This will be suitable for all ages and there is a buffet style lunch afterwards (no charge). We will be thanking God for all his gifts in the widest sense and not just constraining ourselves to fruit and veg – important as these are.

Eastington Methodist Church Activities	
Prayer Meetings	Tuesdays 8:15 – 9:00am and Fridays 8:30 – 9:00am
Line Dancing	Tuesdays 10:30am - noon
Lunchtime Bible Study	Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:30pm (including lunch)
Evening Bible Study House Group	Tuesday 8:00 – 9:45pm at The Pike Lock House
Youth Club (11-18)	Fridays 7:00 – 9:00pm
Café Church	First Sunday of the month 11am
Main Service (with separate activities for young children)	Other Sundays 11am
<p><i>Unless stated otherwise, these are held at EMC, which is opposite the butchers in Eastington.</i></p> <p><i>Please check our monthly PewsNews (also available online at www.EastingtonMethodists.org.uk) or contact us.</i></p>	



Walking under a waterfall on one of the Summer Youth days out in South Wales

Youth Club Activities

On 16th - 18th October we will be taking a group to RES-Q, the Bristol Methodist District Youth Weekend at Midsomer Norton, where they will join about 70 other young people to have a fun filled but hopefully thought provoking weekend. The youth club will be running from 7– 9pm on the Friday evening as usual for those not going.

We are organising another youth themed sleepover on Saturday 31st October. The date was not picked deliberately to clash with Halloween but it will do no harm if some of the young people are thinking about the things of God rather than celebrating what is evil and potentially worrying elderly people who live alone with trick or treating. We will provide the treats without the need for intimidation. The sleepover will finish with the Café Church on 1st November.

Messy Autumn Half Term

We will be holding one of our “Messy” events on Wednesday 28th October at 10am. There will be activities suitable for all ages (of varying degrees of messiness) with a short session together followed by cakes and drinks. Please come and join us.

Ken Burgin, Senior Steward | Ken, Beck & Liz Burgin 01453 827414
www.EastingtonMethodists.org.uk

groups

Eastington Baby and Toddler Group

Monday 10:00 -11:30am

@

**Eastington Methodist Church
(opposite Broomhalls)**

**Cost £1.50 for carer and first child (50p
for each extra person)**

If you have children from birth up to school age a warm welcome awaits you at Eastington Baby and Toddler Group.

We have loads of nice toys, suitable for babies and young children, a friendly, calm atmosphere, and space to play.

Each week we have a craft activity. This week we made pita pizzas, which we then shared as part of our snack. The rest of the snack included fruit and other healthy foods. For carers there are hot drinks, and the not so healthy chocolate biscuits!

Every other week we share a simple Bible story, (using the very colourful Beginners Bible), and then finish off with lots of action songs.

Do come along. We're sure you'll want to come again.

We also run a similar group at Whitminster Village Hall on Wednesdays from 9:30 -11:30am (Cost £2).

Liz, Sue and Beck

**For more information contact Beck Burgin
07511 197265**

Hello future Jollies out there!

We are growing...not outward you understand but in numbers look at us!

Wowee it's so exciting now that we actually have the M5 of fitness our beautiful brisk walkers at the rear in the slow lane...our jovial joggers getting fired up in the middle lane and our stunning rapacious racers in the fast lane... there's a lane for everyone....even the hard shoulder if it's all getting too much and you need a re fuel and a wash down...we've got it all happening at jollies!

So get on down to the Co-op in Eastington 7pm every Wednesday it's free it's funky it'sfresh?!?

Walk/jog/run you choose...

We're all waiting to welcome you.....
07806 802540



churches



St Michael and all Angels' Church

News from Eastington Church

Pastoral concerns: Angela Reeder (01453 827446)

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals: Alec Jeakins (01452 883403)

Churchwardens: Mike Naylor (01453 828682) & Jill Simmons (01453 825303)

Website: www.cotswoldedgeparishes.org.uk

Twitter: Tweet and follow us @Cotswold_Edge

Facebook: Like us by searching for 'Cotswold Edge Parishes'

Church Services in October and November 2015

Sunday 4 th October 2015	Sunday 11 th October 2015	Sunday 18 th October 2015	Sunday 25 th October 2015
18 th Sunday after Trinity	19 th Sunday after Trinity	Luke the Evangelist	Last Sunday after Trinity
10.45am Holy Communion (A Reeder)	10.45am Holy Communion (P Newing)	6pm Sung Evensong	10.45am Holy Communion (P Newing)

Sunday 1 st November 2015	Sunday 8 th November 2015	Sunday 15 th November 2015	Sunday 22 nd November 2015	Sunday 29 th November 2015
All Saints' Day	Remembrance Sunday	All Souls	Christ the King	Advent Sunday
10.45am Holy Communion (A Reeder)	10.45am Remembrance Sunday Service	6pm All Souls Service (M Bennett)	10.45am Holy Communion (P Newing)	4pm Christmas Sing-Along

Eastington Bell Ringing Tower Tour



On Saturday 22nd August, the Eastington Bell Ringers went on a tower tour along the River Severn, visiting and ringing the bells at the Churches of Maisemore, Hartpury, Ashleworth, Tirley and Deerhurst, plus an excellent lunch at The Royal Exchange in Hartpury. Thank you to Robin Screen for organising the Outing, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the 11 ringers.

Eastington Bell Ringers practice on Monday evenings from 7.30pm until 9pm, and ring on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays on the morning from 10am for the 10.45am service. For more information, please contact Pam May on 01453 823250.

Help needed

Is there anyone who enjoys knitting and could spare a little time to help by knitting small mini Christmas puddings, Robins, Santa hats, snowmen and penguins which we then fill with a small Lindt or Ferrero Rocher chocolate and sell at various events to raise money for Longfields (formerly Cotswold Care Hospice). Patterns to be provided and wool if needed. Please contact Jacky Naylor from Severnside Longfields Supporters Group on 01453 828682/07821 819401.

St Michael and all Angels' Church

churches

Open Church and Tower Tours

On Saturday 12th September, Eastington Church opened its doors and tower to the public, giving people the chance to visit parts of the church and tower not normally open to the public. Over 50 people went up the tower, and almost £100 was raised for the Friends of Eastington Church and Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust.



Cello and Piano Concert – Saturday 17th October 2015



Come along and enjoy a cello and piano concert with Benjamin Dry and Geoffrey Poole on Saturday 17th October at Eastington Church, starting at 7.30pm. Concert programme to include Sonata in A Major by Beethoven, Fantasy Pieces by Schumann and Arpeggione Sonata by Schubert. Free admission with retiring collection.

Refreshments available during the interval. For more information, please contact Robin Harris on 01453 823433 or at

robin@harrisnestings.fsnet.co.uk.

French Evening at Cleeve Cottage – Saturday 31st October 2015

Saturday 31st October at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 per person (includes French supper and glass of wine). Wine tasting, French Quiz and Raffle. Proceeds to Eastington Church. Tickets available from Robin and Celia Harris on 01453 823433, and from Mike and Jacky Naylor on 01453 828682.



Be part of the Eastington Christmas Tree Festival



Would you, your family, group or organisation like to be part of our Christmas Tree Festival.

We have already received strong interest from the community and beyond, but would like to hear from you ASAP if you would like to take part. Trees may be real or artificial, with or without lights (no candles please) and any size up to 2 metres.

There will be a Preview Evening on Friday 27th November. The Exhibition will be open on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th November, and will conclude on Sunday night at 4pm with a Christmas Carol Sing-Along. For more information or to state your interest, please contact Jacky Naylor on 01453 828682/07821 819401 or email her at jacky@mikenaylorsurveyors.co.uk.

Eastington Church Choir are looking for anyone who would like to sing and be part of the choir for a number of upcoming special services at Eastington Church, including:

- Remembrance Sunday (Sunday 8th November at 10.45am);
- All Souls (Sunday 15th November at 6pm);
- Carol Service (Sunday 20th December at 4pm); and
- Midnight Mass (Christmas Eve at 11.30pm).

The choir would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to sing. Please contact Shirley at sj.baker@talktalk.net or Chris at chris.amys@hotmail.com or on 01453 821656.



nature watch

Four-eyed monsters found in Eastington!

What on Earth...? I came across several of them, munching their way through a patch of Himalayan balsam. They had four great big scary eyes and, when I disturbed one, its eyes swelled and the front of the body reared up and swayed menacingly like an angry elephant's trunk!



Elephant hawk-moth caterpillars
Photos: Val Taylor

So what are these 'monsters'? Believe it or not, they are completely harmless caterpillars. When they are fully grown they are about 3 inches (7.6 cm) long. You might find one browsing on willowherb, bedstraw, balsam or, less popularly if you are a keen gardener, on your fuschias. The big 'eyes' (not really eyes at all and not on the head), scare off any but the boldest bird that might fancy a caterpillar snack.

The monsters I found were feeding themselves up in preparation the next stage of their transformation from caterpillar to moth. When they are ready, they'll go down to the ground and spin a loose silk cocoon of leaves and soil around their body. A final moult and they'll become shiny dark pupas. All through Winter and Spring extraordinary changes will occur inside the hard, protective pupa cases until, next Summer, the cases will split open and the beautiful pink and green Elephant Hawk-moths will emerge. From beast to beauty, this is the wonder of metamorphosis.

Val Taylor

<http://ukmoths.org.uk>



Elephant hawk-moth
Photo: © Ian Kimber



e v e n t s

*** from Eastington Horse Show Committee ***

We were blessed with a sunny day for Eastington Horse Show on the lovely site provided by Carol Prentice and Barrie Yeates to whom we extend many thanks.

From early morning the traffic controllers and those parking boxes and trailers were kept very busy as were the Nupend ladies collecting car admissions.

The large variety of classes were well filled. Barrie's majestic Shires were much admired, winning a number of rosettes and Reserve Champion. The judging in the Native breeds and coloured horse classes were still being contested into the late afternoon. Again there were some very imaginative and original entries in the Fancy Dress followed by the hotly contested gymkhana games.

The Show Jumping classes were qualifiers for Championships at Rectory Farm, Cirencester in September, so the large classes were keenly contested.

Cello and Piano Concert with Benjamin Dry & Geoffrey Poole

Concert programme to include:

Sonata in A Major by Beethoven

Fantasy Pieces by Schumann

Arpeggione Sonata by Schubert

Saturday 17th October 2015
Eastington Church @ 7.30pm

Free admission with retiring collection

Refreshments available during the interval

For more information please contact Robin Harris on
(01453 823433) or at robin@harrisnestings.fsnet.co.uk



An enormous amount of effort and organisation from many people is needed to stage this show, which has been taking place for 78 years!! – the proceeds going to village organisations and the Air Ambulance. If the show is to continue more help is desperately needed (jumps, stakes, ropes, tents, etc.), to help direct traffic, park horse-boxes and trailers, put up and dismantle show signs. The show takes place just once a year, so any help would be appreciated – contact nos:-

01453 828781 or 01453 823240.

Thanks to all the generous sponsors, and all those who worked so hard to make it a success.



our parish...

Billy Goodrich - Eastington's 'wild man'

In the previous edition of the ECN we looked at the life of one of the more eccentric and interesting characters from the village's past ('Queen' Madge Sleeman). In this edition, we'll look at another – William ('Billy') Goodrich. Unlike Madge, there's little recorded about his life although by all accounts, a couple of generations ago, he was one of Eastington's better known personalities.

Billy was born around 1880 and, according to Alfred Keys' book of 1954, was reputedly the illegitimate son of a local squire. Keys, who probably knew Billy personally, described him as "half-crazy, half-inspired; in the true line of descent from Shakespeare's fools". Apparently, conversations with Billy usually comprised a mixture of childish babblings combined with deep wisdom.

Most of Billy's adult life was spent in a small cottage ("his hermit hovel") located in the fields somewhere on the boundary between Eastington and Frocester. Even before Billy's time, the area of farmland surrounding his cottage had been known locally as The Wilderness. It was about a mile from the nearest road and well away from neighbours. He lived alone and seems to have survived by growing his own food and keeping pigs and chickens. In fact, one of the few reasons for visiting the centre of the Eastington was to take the occasional pig to the local blacksmith John Howell, whose forge was next to where the Co-op now stands. There was another smithy closer at hand at Frocester, but Billy preferred the way that John Howell fitted iron rings in his pigs' snouts. As a result, Billy nicknamed him 'Gentleman John', a name that stuck.

During Billy's rare visits to the village, one can visualise the local children trailing cautiously behind him, anxious to get a look at the wild man who lived out in the fields. He was so well-known that some long-forgotten local poet crafted a piece of doggerel about his life. A copy of this was kindly given to me many years ago by the late Mr Shill who used to give talks on the village's history. Here's a few extracts:

*In a little shanty made of stone
Poor old Billy lives alone
For eighty years so I have heard
He rarely from his cottage stirred*

*In this old shant he reigns supreme
And can hold his own with any theme
He cares not for the world a rap
Provided the cask of cider is on tap
Which from an old black can he drinks
And with each draught the cider shrinks
Only inside it can be seen
For the cobwebs form a perfect screen
They thickly hang from wall and raft
To shield poor Billy from the draught.*

The poem goes on to describe how Billy wore an old sack around his neck and his "tall gaunt figure, aged and worn" to help keep out the cold. It also goes on to mention:

*...with handkerchief as black as pitch, he tries to
soothe his troubled snitch.*

Billy's cottage is no more and where it stood and when it was torn down has been lost in the mists of time. At one time, the cottage's outline was discernible in the grass, but even this has long disappeared. An income tax valuation of 1909 for Eastington mentions a cottage known as Thickett House occupied by a William Goodrich and owned by Graham Clarke – perhaps this was Billy's?



From the OS map of 1884. The two remote cottages in the centre were close to the parish boundary – both contenders for Billy's home. Eastington lies to the left.

h i s t o r y

Even though Billy clearly enjoyed solitude, in his later years, particularly on a sunny Sunday afternoon, a steady stream of visitors from Eastington and farther afield often made its way through the fields to his humble homestead. As with any visit to someone's house, it was usual to bring a gift – this usually took the form of a bottle! Without this 'lubrication', Billy was prone to lengthy periods of silences.

However, the gift of alcohol loosened his tongue and the visitors were kept appropriately amused. As we heard earlier with 'Gentleman' John Howell, a speciality of his was the giving of nicknames to local people, both good and bad. These tended to be well-observed and witty so unfortunately for the latter, they had a habit of sticking for life.

Stephen Mills

Sheep Race

Saturday 3 Oct

Gates open 1.30pm

First race 2.30pm

**Join us in the field by the entrance
to Woodchester Mansion for 7 races.**

Family fun for the whole flock!



**In aid of St Bartholomew's Church
& Nympsfield Village Hall**

nature watch

Beekeepers Diary...

July 31st. When I went back to see how our bees had progressed it was not how I had hoped it would be. I found more queen cells down in the brood area. I opened some up. Instead of young queens it revealed dead larvae. There was no worker brood, only drone larvae. This suggests that bees were attempting the impossible task of turning the male drones into queens. Obviously this is a non-starter and I have never heard of bees doing this before.

There is definitely no queen, so there must be laying workers as there are eggs. There was a queen in there before we united the remnants of the fierce bees with them. I thought things would sort out when the queenless bees were united with a queenright colony. It usually works well.

I have just read that laying workers will sometimes kill queens when they are put in together. Oh dear. Perhaps I'm a bit wiser now.

Aug. 5th. The numbers are dwindling and hive 2 is no longer viable as a colony. There are larvae developing that haven't been sealed into their cells properly. There aren't enough young bees to do all the maintenance and nursing jobs necessary. We dare not unite these bees with the one flourishing colony and risk the same thing happening again. Our only option is to take them away from all other known colonies and throw them out.

Aug. 6th. I bound the hive up in a sheet, put it in the back of the car and drove them to a quiet part of the farm. When I opened them up they were so mild and gentle it was really distressing to render them destitute. They won't survive long. I consoled myself with the fact they were all pretty old bees and wouldn't live long anyway.

It was tricky work. I dusted them off the frames with a pheasant wing, but having nowhere to go, they hung around in clusters on plant stalks. When they noticed me they congregated on my back. I swept off as many as I could and lay down quickly in the long grass. Eventually they left me alone and I drove home, very saddened.

We extracted the honey that was in the hive. It was lovely honey, but it wasn't the happy occasion that harvesting usually is.

Aug. 8th. It was hot and I had to sort out the old comb indoors because of wasps. It largely needs destroying because it has brood in it. My husband said he'd give me a hand and took the combs into the garden to clean. He was soon beleaguered by wasps. We gave up, so I bagged everything up to tackle it another day, not noticing a comb had slit one of the bags. The wasps and bees soon found this and at one point there must have

been several thousand of them in the garden, raiding the sticky comb. Things just got more and more preposterous, until after dark when most of the unwelcome visitors went home and I was able to stow things away securely.

I discovered some larvae in the defunct combs that looked as though they might have foul brood. This is a notifiable disease, so I picked out the bad larvae and sent them off to the national bee unit for examination. They might just have died from neglect and gone rotten. I can't tell.

Aug. 9th. I inspected the one remaining hive and was pleased to see a strapping great queen striding across the comb. She is the one we marked last year. Everything looks as it should, with healthy brood and honey stores building up.

Aug. 29th. The results of the examinations of the dead brood have come back from the national bee unit. No sign of foul brood. What a relief! I started a course of varroa drops.

Sept. 2nd. We took the honey off the hive. It is a good strong flavoured, dark gold, clear honey; about 18 pounds in total.

It is now time to set up for the winter. I have narrowed the entrance right down to prevent robbing, because we are going to start feeding them with sugar syrup for their winter stores. Feeding provokes the queen to increase egg laying, so there will be a good number of young bees to take the colony through the winter.

I have tacked on a mouse guard over the entrance, taken off the surplus honey super and put it into store with lavender sprigs to deter the wax moths.

Sept. 16th. This colony has now had about twenty-five pounds of sugar fed to them so they won't need much more. There are vitamin drops in the feed to protect them from winter ailments. The bees are bringing in good bundles of pollen, which suggests young brood are present.

In our garden, the honeybees are particularly enjoying sedum and in the hedgerows they are working the ivy flowers. I bought some ivy honey when I was in France. It was very expensive and tastes horrible. Here we always leave it for the bees to use as it comes so late in the season.

Sept. 17th. I finished the varroa treatment.

When we've completed the feeds there isn't much left to do, except for cleaning and disinfecting all the equipment from the empty hives. I really ought to finish making that honey for sale sign! **Val Hicken**

e n v i r o n m e n t

Ecotricity Football Stadium and Industrial Park

A planning application has been promised this month by Ecotricity for their proposed development on land at the rear of Chipmans Platt and Westend running up to the motorway. This ambitious timetable seems highly unlikely to be achieved. An application well into the New Year seems much more likely. A substantial transport assessment has just been commenced with rather strange timing as it is very late in the process and no application should have gone forward without this work having been undertaken. This proposal makes little sense at this stage as major developments on the A419 create very significant traffic flow problems particularly in peak hours. The A419 is an artery and gateway to Stroud and beyond, and it is very disappointing that this traffic analysis has attracted so little attention from SDC, especially with the WoS development in the plan. Should the Ecotricity proposals proceed as well, Stroud Town will struggle to be a retail success story even more than it does today.

What Else?

I have been expressing concerns for some considerable time that the Parish is under threat. WoS is perhaps the largest but the Ecotricity plans are not far behind. However, in addition we have an application running for housing at Claypits, also an application is back for 36 houses opposite the entrance to the Owen Harris Memorial, an application for a small industrial site in Churchend and also for six houses in Nupend. The potential impact on our parish and beyond is significant.

Each one of these on their own may, or may not, be significant; collectively they will impact profoundly on every part of the parish particularly with hugely increased traffic.

Neighbourhood Development Plan

Currently the project team is working hard to adjust the plan following the consultation earlier this year. We plan for this to be delivered to the District Council in November. We are on schedule but there is still much work to be done. The parish's own Plan will help to control unwelcome development locally. Following the plan's submission to SDC it then makes its way to a referendum managed by the District Council. We are concerned that the Council have indicated that this could take up to a further year. We understand that a plan that has been through a referendum is then a statutory plan, and has to be adhered-to by those wishing to make planning applications. To delay it would continue to leave the Parish very vulnerable. To take the plan to referendum is neither complicated nor onerous particularly as the Eastington plan is by far and away the most advanced within the District and is likely to be on its own at this stage. We are commencing discussions with SDC to agree a more realistic timetable that is the best interests of our community.

Daniel James | www.new-town.info

Orchard Leigh Camphill Community Eastington

We are currently seeking enthusiastic and committed Support Workers on a full-time, part-time and bank/relief work basis. Our Support staff are warm, respectful and reliable people, and are able to work easily as part of our teams to deliver support to adults with learning difficulties.

Please contact Liz Hanks – Deputy Manager for further details and an application form:

liz.hanks@orchardleigh.org

01453 823 811

e n v i r o n m e n t

Public Rights of Way Defenders - PROWD

We had our last meeting on 28th August where we were joined by Tom Low and Nick Peters (from Whitminster). Both Tom and Nick gave us some important information about the Phase 1a canal project, and asked if we could support their cause, which includes creating a new PROWD within the scheme. I have sent a letter of support to the Canal Group.



We also welcomed Vanessa Cousins to our meeting and she told us about her new 'Eastington Community Walking Group', which is a natural 'companion' to the PROWD group.

We have organised more walks since our August meeting, and there is another one arranged for 18th October at 2.00, starting from the Old Badger (see notice boards outside the Co-op and Old Badger for information).

Tom Low has kindly printed copies of two maps, which were originally printed about 25 years ago, and they are available FREE, at the Kings Head Hotel and the Old Badger. Thank you Tom.

Eastington Community Walking Group - recently photographed at Nupend and Nastend

Find us on Facebook or phone 01453 828557 everyone welcome!

The path improvements at the bottom of Middle Street (EEA56) and at 'Sixways' (EEA60) have now been completed and it is a pleasure to walk that route,..... without the mud!

My thanks, again, to Alan Loveridge for such a lovely 'job done', and also to the Parish Council for their financial support.

Vanessa, Sally and I, did some footpath clearing on Friday 4th September. We nearly completed clearing EEA48, but, we ran out of time (and I ran out of energy!), but it was very rewarding work.

So, as you can see, there is a lot going on "behind the scenes".

Our next meeting is at 10.00 on Wednesday 28th October at the Kings Head Hotel

Come along if you can.

Bill Edwards - PROWD | 01453 824452 | edwards.parish@btinternet.com

e n v i r o n m e n t

Eastington Community Orchard (E C O) Group

**PARISH APPLE DAY
2015
Sat. October 24th****Join in the fun at the Community Centre, OHMG from 12 noon**

Come along to join in with collecting and pressing lots of apples (and pears) at the 5th Parish Apple Day. Yes that's the FIFTH apple day bash and we'd love to see all you good folks who have helped in the previous four to join in again.

For anyone who has just read about this fun day, you can help in many ways, irrespective of your age (training and supervision provided):

Bring your own fruit - if you have spare apples or pears in your garden, gather them up and bring them to the Community Centre from 12 noon onwards

Gather fruit from an orchard - if you have no fruit, no problem, just join in with one of our picking teams. We will be going round larger orchards to gather spare fruit.

Ringling Tom (823425) in advance would be helpful**Mash and Press the fruit**

help prepare the apples (washing then "scratting") and then load up the massive oak press.

Pressing produces 5 gallons at a time.



Bottle the juice - We either bottle the juice, fresh, in plastic containers or pasteurise it for longevity and bottle in traditional 750ml glass bottles.

Everyone who joins in goes home with some juice!

What you have as your dividend depends on whether you are a donor, a worker or both. You can also choose to have fresh or pasteurised juice. Maybe you can try making some cider from your dividend?

Come along, bring the family if you like and bring any apples you have

**more pictures in colour at :
<http://www.eastingtonorchards.org.uk>**

groups



Autumn September 2015

We held our AGM at the Kings Head, and had a brilliant turnout, and we now welcome our new committee and parent volunteers and look forward to working with them in the next academic year, which is sure to be as busy and exciting as the last one.



This term we are focusing on settling children into separating from carers and following routines. We are talking about the rules and boundaries at playgroup, being kind to our friends and taking turns and to support this we have made a display of the rules.

The children have been blackberry picking and have made some delicious porridge with fruit to eat at snack whilst learning about safety with kitchen tools and equipment and also being careful with thorns on the plants! We have also been busy digging, planting and watering our few plants left on our allotment – and we have been using our ‘mud kitchen’, where the children can make use of our old kitchen saucepans, pots, large spoons, to make mud pies, even when our crops have diminished – lovely!

We have been talking about our holidays, where we went and what we did during the summer, looking at where we stayed and what we enjoyed playing with. Paddy Bear has been on lots of travels and continues to visit family's homes and returns to tell us about his adventures during his stay. The children are also bringing in photographs of themselves with their families, friends and pets to help support their home life links and communication skills for the staff to make a ‘Special Book’ for them to share at Playgroup.

The staff have lots planned and will keep everyone updated in our next newsletter which I am sure will enlighten everyone on the famous Christmas performance which is just around the corner!!

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 2015 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 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 accept children from the age of 2yrs 6month to 5 years and operate 4 days a week (Monday – Thursday) offering full and half day sessions. We accept government nursery vouchers and other types of employer supported childcare vouchers.

If you would like to have a look around our fantastic facilities and have an informal chat please call one of the staff on 07977 342 742.

fundraising



“UNWRAPPING CHOCOLATE”

24 October

7.30pm
Elmore Village Hall

Enjoy an unforgettable evening with

Laurence Trackman
Prof of Chocolate
University Of Happiness

Tickets £10
Pay bar

Did you know that the UK consumes 660,000 tons of chocolate every year.

Bad chocolate is very bad for you and good chocolate is very good for you. So, how do you tell the difference.?

Find out about the history of chocolate from the Aztecs to the modern day, and explain the recent rise in popularity for camel's chocolate!

Taste 12 different types of chocolate and understand the difference between them

Raising funds for Hollie Gazzard Trust,
The Door Youth Project, MS Society
and other Rotary Charities.
Registered charity numbered 1100046



THE
ROTARY CLUB
OF SEVERN VALE

Tickets available from Andy Jarrett on 01452 883450 or
events@severnvalerotary.org.uk www.severnvalerotary.org.uk

groups

EASTINGTON and STONEHOUSE SLIMMING WORLD

What an amazing summer, long warm days, plenty of daylight hours for BBQ's, picnics, day trips and holidays all enjoyed while on our weight loss journeys with plenty to eat and a even some alcohol to enjoy! Summer 2015 - lovely memories.

So at group we are now looking forwards, to plan for the autumn months ahead, a time of change, warming comfort foods after a walk in the autumn colours, darker nights, Halloween and bonfire parties. With Slimming World there are plenty of foods and recipes to enjoy that will fill you up beautifully yet slim you down to the size you are happy with, so here are a few sample recipes.

Sausage Cassoulet

Serves 4

12 Slimming World sausages
2 large onions
4 large carrots
1 stick celery
2 leeks
1 carton passata
2 tins cannellini beans
2 pints stocks, salt, pepper

1. Chop all vegetables
2. Soften the onion in frylite spray
3. Add all ingredients and cover with the stock. Season.
4. Put in a medium oven for 2hours
5. Enjoy! (easy to make and not much washing up)



Chicken and Vegetable Soup

A handful of leftover roast chicken diced
2 large onions
1 large potato
2 carrots
1 broccoli
4 pints chicken stock

1. Chop and soften the onion in frylite oil
2. Chop and add all other veg and the chicken
3. Add stock and season.
4. Simmer for 20 mins
5. Blitz and enjoy.

I hope you enjoy trying these recipes out. If you would like to lose weight ready for the party season come along to group to find out more. Plenty to eat, never feeling hungry, fits in with every lifestyle. The groups help both men and women and are friendly and supportive. We meet at Stonehouse community centre Wednesday 9.30am and Eastington Village Hall Wednesday 5pm or 7pm. I look forward to meeting you.

Lorna 01453821751 | 07974937830

fundraising

French Evening at Cleeve Cottage



**Saturday 31st
October 2015
7.30pm**

Tickets £10 per person
(includes French supper and glass of wine)

Wine Tasting, French Quiz & Raffle

Tickets available from:

Robin and Celia Harris (01453 823433)

Jacky and Mike Naylor (01453 828682)

PROCEEDS TO EASTINGTON CHURCH



e n v i r o n m e n t

Food waste recycling - November 2016

Many of you will have read in Stroud District Council's annual newsletter, which was sent to all households in the district in September, about the changes to waste and recycling collections that come in towards the end of next year.

Fundamental to the changes is the introduction of a weekly food waste recycling service.

With the food waste taken care of each week, the council will then collect the remaining waste fortnightly instead of weekly.

This should not pose problems because it should no longer contain food waste, which is generally the cause of smells and unpleasantness, and because the vast majority of households will receive wheelie-bins for their remaining rubbish instead of bin bags.

Capacity also shouldn't be a problem because a third of the waste we currently put out will already be catered for with the weekly food waste collections. The use of bins will also prevent birds and animals from attacking bin bags as they currently do.

However, not all households will be able to have a wheelie-bin due to space or access restrictions. Generally these will be the same as the ones which currently have recycling bags instead of recycling wheelie-bins.

These properties will continue to receive rubbish bags, but they will be beige rather than the current black.

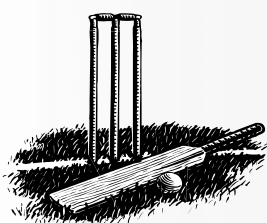
Whilst bags are easier for birds and foxes to attack, they should prove less of a target as they will no longer contain the food waste which they are attracted to.

With a year to go until the new service is rolled out, Stroud District Council is still finalising which households will have bags instead of bins and putting the finishing touches to the scheme. They'll be publicising the changes and sending information directly to households nearer the time.

To find out more, visit
www.stroud.gov.uk/newscheme

Julie Shirley | 01453 799616

Parish Clerk | Eastington Parish Council



Do you play or have you played cricket?

Eastington Cricket Club requires players of any standard for the 2015 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

community

News from your Village Agent

Recently, a lot of the Village Agent work that we have been involved with has been helping "carers" get information, support and advice.

All carers are entitled to a Carers Assessment, which assesses the needs of the person who is providing the care. It could result in more services being provided for the person requiring care and those giving the care, a break for the carer, information on their rights and benefits, emotional support, access to therapies and treatments and coping strategies.

As a carer, what happens if you were to have an emergency situation? If you are registered with the "Carers Emergency Scheme", in the event of a carer being prevented from getting back to the person they are caring for the service will be there to help.

The Scheme offers two levels of care. Level 1 nominates two contacts (organised through Carers Gloucestershire) and Level 2 is for someone with high care needs where a support worker will be provided for 48 hours by the County Council.

This service is free and organised through the Adult Help desk.



I really recommend that if you haven't already linked up with Carers Gloucestershire, please do so.

They have specialist knowledge of so many things, whether it is about emotional support, having time out breaks, or breaks away together, support groups and so much more.

They also do the "Positive Caring Programme" which covers topics such as health and wellbeing, emotions and stress, how to access services and support.

To contact the Adult Help Desk telephone:
01452 426868

For Carers Gloucestershire telephone:
0300 111 9000

For Positive Caring Programme telephone:
01452 500885.

If you would like assistance to access any of the services above, or you would like information on any other matter, please contact your Village Agent.

Sue Colquhoun
Village Agent | 07810 630 145



Godsell's
Dairy farm
in Nupend
requires help
feeding calves
Sunday afternoons

*Reliability and responsibility
more important than experience.*

Tel 01453 791358 and ask for Steph

groups

TeddyTunes

Come and join me and my chums at TeddyTunes...love OSCAR X

Tuesday/Frampton Village Hall.Thursday/Christchurch Rms Nailsworth

All classes 10-11.30 age 0-5 years £5 plus £1 each additional sibling

Musical fun and frolics with Vanessa and her guitar. Get yourself up and out of the house and join us for a musical experience you won't forget! Enjoy these special early years with your little ones...let's face it it's over too quickly.

Singing together is such great fun and so good for you and your baby.

All babies are born musical
and your voice is very
special to them (despite
what you think!)

Children are stimulated by
melodies and rhyme and
early stimulation greatly
enhances speech and
language development.

As their confidence grows,
you'll delight in their small
achievements.

With pay as you go and
homemade cake just turn
up and try us out...no
commitment...everyone is
so friendly and supportive
in my classes please get in
touch.

Vanessa Cousins
07806 802540

www.teddytunes.co.uk



Find us on facebook



British Wildlife Wordsearch



x	k	s	q	u	i	r	r	e	l
f	i	e	l	d	m	o	u	s	e
a	u	h	z	a	y	r	f	o	x
b	b	e	h	u	b	a	f	y	v
n	d	d	k	b	a	b	o	j	n
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badger

fieldmouse

fox

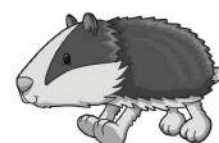
hedgehog

mole

owl

rabbit

squirrel



www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

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must be 24/28 pages