

Signpost

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 ---
articles@ecn.me.uk

Next deadline for submission: Friday 16th September

Next Delivery: Sat/Sun 1st/2nd October

*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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 Start 25th July

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 Saturday 6th August

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 11th August 4pm-6pm
 13th August 10am-12noon

PROWD Meeting
 15th August 10am @ Kings Head

NDP Referendum
 18th August

Eastington Flower Show
 3rd September

Farewell and Thank You

You may remember from the last issue of ECN that this will be Chris Osman's final edition as 'Articles Editor'. The ECN Team wish Chris and her husband much time and happiness together in their new home on the 'drier side' of the Country. We would like to thank Chris for the considerable time and effort that she dedicated to ECN, and for encouraging us along the way. Since Chris joined us in May 2014, she has transformed the appearance of the printed pages and format of ECN to bring us into the 21st Century. She will be missed by all of us in ECN, and I am sure by the contributors too, whom she regularly contacted. Contributors should please note the address to which articles should be sent for future issues: **articles@ecn.me.uk**

Andrew Niblett

Editorial

Lest we Forget

Opening my post on 13th July was an unusual delight. I was so thrilled to receive a copy of the Oldbury-on-Severn magazine, '4-Ward', which contained many interesting references to my Great Uncle Herbert. It was especially lovely that it arrived exactly on the 100th anniversary of his death at the Somme aged 20. Each of the 18 young men of Oldbury-on-Severn who died in WWI are being carefully researched. Tributes to them are displayed in St. Arilda's Church and their community magazine.

Herbert's mother kept a candle lit in her window until her dying day, and never got over the loss of her son who went 'missing in action'. His youngest sister had kept Herbert's photo close all those years. It must have been devastating for his three teenage sisters when he was killed. Across the country, millions more local lads are remembered who made the ultimate sacrifice for us all.

Over the last month, tributes have been paid to all those who died in the Battles of the Somme. There is scarcely a village in the Country that did not mourn loved ones slaughtered in this or other battles of WWI. Here in Eastington 22 young men died, and are listed on the War Memorial. (Arthur) John Davis of Millend was also killed on the Somme. He too is listed on the Theipval Memorial as killed on the 31st July 1916, aged 20. Maybe his Mother also kept a candle burning for him in the hope that her missing son might return one day?

Some memorials list more than the names of those killed. Less we forget what led to the devastating world wars of the 20th Century poignant advice is sometimes offered. In a discreet corner of Goslar, Germany, we recently came across a War Memorial with a simple message; the translation reads:

Renounce Hatred Reconcile and Serve The Peace - Build Bridges between Each Other

Given the current uncertainties across our troubled world, it may be sobering to reflect on our options to avoid history repeating itself, with inevitable tragic consequences.

Andrew Niblett



Community

Speeding

EARS – 'Eastington's Approaches to Road Safety' through the village/parish

We are a group of independent parishioners, connected to the Parish Council, who work in our spare time to review and plan a rolling road safety programme for our parish.

You might remember a call the EARS group made last year to raise funds to help brighten the appearance of our village – introducing a psychological approach to respecting our space. To support this project, we raised just over £200 at a car boot sale from your kind donations, and the money was put towards paying for last summer's beautiful flower tower in the village. This was admired by many people, so we decided not only to continue but to increase this with a couple of railing baskets in 2016 - we have also persuaded the parish council to fund them this year! Hopefully these floral displays will demonstrate to motorists that we care for our village.



However, you don't have to be a rocket scientist to work out that this approach is extremely limited, and that there are many other initiatives that could be added to our overall plan providing greater effectiveness. We are beginning to install 'entry gates' to the village following parishioners' choice to fit these several years ago at a local road safety meeting.

In addition, there is another option that has recently become available for consideration - the '**Safe Speed System**'. This involves installing a camera to identify vehicles passing through the village at excessive speeds. The system has been developed by a Rodborough parish councillor working with local police and the Safe Speed System group. Rodborough Parish's success has inspired our Gloucestershire Police & Crime Commissioner, Martin Surl, to offer grants for road safety projects such as this one. Eastington Parish Council has applied for a grant from the commissioner – but these things take time! The big question is: Do we actually want such a system in the village? Well, do you remember that speeding was a top concern in the 2012 parish questionnaire? – it was, so things probably haven't changed much!

The EARS group are aware that there are other road safety issues in the village, such as the on-going issue of central parking, and we would like to get your opinions on this. We would welcome the chance to have your concerns discussed openly, face-to-face, at a parish meeting - so please look out for adverts about this happening in September. We plan to get our local parish 'experts' to come & tell us what they have been trying to do, but mainly we will have the Rodborough speed camera experts to tell us all about catching the speed culprits!

As always EARS values parishioners' thoughts and good ideas on how we can improve the parish we live in. Please come and join us and discuss all your concerns on these issues. It's an opportunity for you to talk to us - don't leave it to the face-less social media!

David Aston - 01453 823035 or 07774 288822

Pauline Allen – 01453 822068 or 07775 926587

Jennie Corrie – 07714 334938

Groups

PRESS RELEASE



Canal project to bid again for Lottery funds, as new report reveals it could be UK's most beneficial boost for Nature

A renewed determination by the Cotswold Canals Trust to continue with efforts to restore the rest of the Stroudwater Navigation from Stonehouse to Saul has come following 'encouragement' from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Trust was disappointed last May to hear that their bid for £15 million towards the scheme was not among the Fund's winning submissions. But the CCT's Trustees have now formally agreed to make a renewed bid in November. Meanwhile, a report from the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust has highlighted opportunities for the project to create the largest gain for wildlife from any development in the UK.

A new impetus to ambitions for completing the canal's link to the national waterways network follows an informal meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund's (HLF) grant officers. The project leader, Val Kirby, said: "The HLF recognised the need to follow on from the existing restoration which they had already helped to fund, and appreciated the broad-based support that the project has received from local communities. They acknowledged that it was a good bid, but failed only in the context of strong national competition. "

Dr Kirby explained that the Trust understood the project would have a greater chance of success if the size of the bid could be reduced. This would mean securing additional financial commitments from other sources.

In response to concerns from the HLF that included unresolved planning approvals and land ownership issues, the team has discussed a number of practical steps that could be taken before the bid is resubmitted. In addition, part of the stretch known as the 'missing mile' at Eastington lies within the area covered in the current planning application to Stroud District Council by Ecotricity for a new Eco-Park — a development, if it were to be granted, that could materially influence funding streams.

The report from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, following a preliminary habitat survey along the route of the Stroudwater Navigation, outlines the national importance of the Severn Vale landscape with its mix of reed-beds, orchards, floodplain, grazing, marsh and hedgerows. The Trust's Head of Land Management, Adam Taylor, said: "In addition to individual elements which benefit wildlife, local communities and the local economy, visitors will be able to travel along this restored 'green and blue' corridor discovering the Severn Vale's rich Heritage".

For any further info, please contact:

Val Kirby (Tel: 01453 753762 or email valgkirby@gmail.com)

Adam Taylor (Tel: 01452 383333 or email: adam.taylor@gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk)

From: Ian Smith,
Press Officer, CCT 'Stroudwater Complete and Connected' (AKA 'Phase 1B')
Tel: 07866 729493. Email: karasea@me.com

Groups

Cotswold Canals Update

As many of you will already know, the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for £15 million to allow us to link the restored section of the canal through Stroud with the rest of the canal network at Saul Junction was unsuccessful this time.

The feedback from HLF was, in many respects, very encouraging and we were successful in making the case that the technical challenges were well understood and that the Trust had the capabilities necessary to run the project. It is clear that the biggest issue was that other partners (particularly the Local Authorities) need to be prepared to make a stronger commitment to helping with the matched funding and that a revised bid needs to request less from HLF. It is notable that the five successful projects this year each asked for about £10 million.

We have been advised that breaking down the project would diminish its attractiveness for HLF funding and the work we have already undertaken means that costs have already been optimised to a degree that any further savings likely to be identified would be modest. This leaves little option but to identify and firm up additional funding.

A further complexity is the as yet undetermined Ecotricity planning application. The outcome of this and any S.106 planning obligations pertaining to the canal will have a significant affect on the canal project and the contents of a revised HLF bid including the funding breakdown of the whole project. The uncertainty of the outcome and the timing of any decisions could prove problematic.

There are other aspects of the bid where strengthening, clarification and improvements are possible and work is proceeding with these. These include a better integration of the biodiversity and natural environment aspects of the project and a project partners' workshop has greatly improved everyone's understanding and the scale of the opportunities that exist.

The plan is to resubmit a revised bid in November but this will be dependant on our ability to work with the constraints that have been identified above.



In the meantime, it is possible to get all the way from Eastington to Stroud by boat along the canal provided your boat is small and you are willing to brave the spiders in the culvert under the railway line at the Ocean (see left) and many other challenges.

Ken Burgin

**Chief Executive,
Cotswold Canals Trust**

Events

Duck Racing's a Winner!

Despite the lack of sunshine, a lovely, warm atmosphere was created at Eastington Primary School's annual Duck Races and Fête. The families and well-wishers who flocked to the field to enjoy the activities and stalls were not disappointed. The Parents Association had ensured that there was fun for everyone – from a bouncy castle to a burger tent and 'donut dunkin'.



The duck races proved to be as popular as ever, made especially exciting this year by the particularly fast flow of the stream.

The School's Head, Ms Zoe Avastu, praised the efforts of the Parents' Association, staff and pupils who had worked hard to make this traditional school event such a success. The money raised on the day will be used to help fund school projects.



Toby Smith enjoys wrestling a donut



**Harrison and Braxton Hart
modelling their duck race hats**

Jennie Corrie

Events

My May Queen report



I am Lucy Heskins and I was recently voted as the 2016 May Queen at Eastington Primary School.

On Thursday the 19th of May, 11 year 6 girls went around all of the classes and delivered a speech on why they should be May Queen. Every child in the school got to vote who they thought would make a good May Queen and ambassador for the school in 2016.

On Friday the 20th May, in the morning before our first lesson, we found out who was the 107th May Queen! As Miss Gulliford (my teacher) was speaking, I was really nervous - my heart was beating really fast as all of the

other girls' would have been. When Miss Gulliford said it was me, I was so happy - I was really proud that I was the May Queen of 2016 and that I would be in the memory of Eastington School.

During the first lesson, I went and said well done to all of the other girls that also wanted to be May Queen because it was a nerve wracking thing to do, especially as we were going through the process of delivering the speeches! All of the girls that did not get May Queen had the very important job of choosing all of the attendants.



The week went by really quickly, it was soon Friday the 27th of May (it was *the* day!) At 2:30, my mum and all of the attendants' parents arrived to get us ready; I had my hair curled by my mum - it took about an hour to get all of us ready! Not long after, Ms Avastu came and collected us, we got down stairs and I linked my arm around Ms Avastu's arm and we walked around the playground with her ringing the bell.

Everyone was taking pictures, I was then asked to be seated and I was crowned the 107th May Queen by Miss Greening! I felt really happy and excited, but as I had to smile all the time on the stage, when I got home my jaw was aching!

Overall it was a brilliant day and I loved it so much!

By Lucy Heskins - year 6 at Eastington Primary.



Groups

Public Rights of Way Defenders (PROWD)

I was looking forward to the walk on 19th June, but, the dreaded Gout returned and I was unable to walk. Vanessa was also 'laid-up' because she had injured her ankle however about 25 people did turn up at the Badger for the walk. The walk took them down Millend and up to Nupend. From there, it was out to Pidgemore Farm, through the fields and back along the Canal to Nastend. Here, everyone was made welcome at Julian's house for cakes and tea and to wish Vanessa a happy birthday. Afterwards, the walk was back to the Badger. Well done to all who attended.

Good news on EEA43 and 44. The stone has now been laid in all the gateways in the Meadows. This should now mean a lot less mud during wet periods. Thank you Alan Smith for doing this

One of the footpaths that I would like to see improved in Coaley, is one that crosses the Railway line. Unfortunately, the only way to highlight this path is to close it! I really do struggle to understand how some organisations work. I will be keeping an eye on developments.

More good news on the footpath in Stanley Wood. This 'National Trail' has been mis-used by some cyclists and horse-riders. The Woodland Trust team have been to inspect the path and carry out an assessment. They are going to put improvements in place as soon as possible.

The next walk will probably take place in September. I will put a notice in the two boards when I know times and dates.

Next meeting of PROWD - 15th AUGUST at Kings Head Hotel at 10.00. Please attend if you can.

Bill Edwards | PROWD

Frampton on Severn Bowls Club

At last the good weather is here and what a great game bowls is when the sun shines. The season is well under way now with club friendlies, league games and club competitions all taking place.

At Frampton we cater for all ages and all skill levels. There are plenty of friendly games against neighbouring clubs as well as league games and cup games. There's nothing better (except playing that is) than sitting on the balcony of the clubhouse watching a good game of competitive bowls on a summers evening with a cool drink.

This is a great time of year to try the game. Why not come up and have a go. We can lend you a set of bowls and footwear (trainers are ok). The green is open most days from midday onwards.

Please contact our Club Secretary Tom Griffiths on 01452 740013 and he will organise for someone to meet you at the Green.

For more information please visit our website www.framptonbowls.co.uk

C.C.S Property Maintenance Services

Please note that the mobile phone number

Printed in the blue pages should read:

Call Paul on mobile 07831 689000

Community

Eastington and Whitminster Baby And Toddler Groups Summer 2016

Due to the popularity of the summer 2015 programme for Eastington and Whitminster Baby and Toddler Groups, we have put together a summer programme for 2016.

The cost each session will be £1 for babies and £2 for toddlers (plus any extra children).

Messy Summer	27/07 – Open at Whitminster Village Hall
Open at Methodist Hall	03/08 – Open at Whitminster Village Hall
Open at Methodist Hall	10/08 – Open - Meet at Eastington Methodist Hall for Drop in Cafe or Picnic at Snakey Lane (dependent on weather)
No group this week	17/08 – No group this week
Open at Methodist Hall	24/08 - Open - Meet at Eastington Methodist Hall for Drop in Cafe or Picnic at Snakey Lane (dependent on weather)

All sessions open to older siblings.

If you have any queries please phone Beck Burgin on **07511 197265**

Teddy Tunes

Get yourself out of the house and come on down to a Teddytunes session near you! Fun musical coffee mornings with Vanessa, her guitar and Granny Clare; designed for parents, grand parents, carers, their babies and children aged 0-5years.

Singing together is such fun and hugely beneficial in so many ways! Even if you're not that keen on singing you can join in with the shakers! Learn new songs and practice the old ones. Feel uplifted and inspired by the experience. Develop your child's natural instinct to make music, to engage, to smile.

It's a social club for the grown ups as well. Many people say to me it's their 'therapy', a chance to meet friends, a tonic. Relax afterwards with a cuppa, fruit and homemade cake all in for £5. It's a whole mornings entertainment. We look forward to welcoming you.



Tuesday term time Christchurch Rooms Nailsworth 10-11.30

Thursday term time Frampton Village Hall 10-11.30

£5 first child & parent £1 each subsequent sibling child or adult.

Just come along any week no sign up and no obligation.

Please find us on Facebook / www.teddytunes.co.uk

Please phone me any time 07806 802540 for further information.

Vanessa Cousins

Groups



New Girlguiding Group In Eastington

To Open Up A World Of Opportunity For Girls And Young Women

Girls in Eastington will soon be able to take part in a host of adventurous and inspiring activities with the opening of a new **Brownie** group.

1st Eastington Brownies, open to all girls aged 7-10 years, will offer members the chance to get involved in their communities, grow in confidence, reach their full potential and enjoy the fun and adventure of guiding. Girls will have the chance to go on exciting trips away with their group, work towards badges in everything from computers to circus skills, and take part in Girlguiding events across the UK.

The group has 10 girls so far, and they are already planning a host of adventurous activities including Geo-caching a "Splosh & Splat Challenge", and our first sleep over in a very exciting local venue!

The group already has 2 volunteers lending a hand, but is still looking for help **with activities once a week**.

The group's Leader Pauline Dobson said: "We are so excited about offering girls in Eastington a chance to become a member of Girlguiding once again" *"Volunteering with Girlguiding enables you to play a part in giving girls and young women incredible experiences and self-confidence in a safe, girl-only space."*

"It's really rewarding to see the girls enjoy themselves and achieve things they may never have dreamed of. Plus as a volunteer you can learn new skills and experience things you wouldn't otherwise have the chance to do."

Girlguiding opens up a world of exciting challenges to girls aged 5 to 25, giving them the space to try new things and make friends for life. Girls take part in a hugely varied weekly programme incorporating everything from world issues and science to adventure sports, social action and international travel.

If you are interested in volunteering, or your daughter is interested in joining

1st Eastington Brownies contact 01453 825577

For further information about Girlguiding, call 0800 1 69 59 01 or visit www.girlguiding.org.uk.





PRINCE'S TRUST

Dear Readers, you may have seen information in the media relating to the Prince's Trust Charity and may even be aware it is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. However many of you may not be familiar with the work of the charity? Well the Trust was set up by Prince Charles in 1986 to assist young people between the ages of 13 to 30 years old, who may be unemployed or struggling with education and also be at risk of exclusion from work or training and further education. Since that time many thousands of young people have progressed through the various programmes and some these have come to prominence in the world of entertainment and business.

I became involved in the charity just over two years ago after forty-plus years in industry both in the UK and overseas whilst either working for or on behalf of several major engineering organisations. With a forty year background and career in various commercial and procurement posts, I was seeking voluntary options to utilise my business experience, qualifications and training. After initial investigations and review I was able to put myself forward for the role of Business Mentor on the Trust's Enterprise Programme which focuses and assists young people wishing to start their own business, in the age range from 19 to 30 years old. My involvement coincided with the expansion of the Trust's work in Gloucestershire as part the South West region and whose offices are located in Bristol. I have to say I have found the work very interesting, as well as meeting a number of the other mentors located in the Gloucestershire and South West area, all with their very own interesting histories.

In addition I was also happy to have been invited to one of the 40th Anniversary Events, being held at Buckingham Palace earlier this summer hosted by Prince Charles, where many famous ambassadors and supporters of the Trust were there in person. So at this event as well as representing the voluntary mentors from Gloucestershire you will be pleased to know the Parish Community of Eastington was also represented.



If any of you are interested in the general work of the trust, or interested in becoming involved in one of the varied voluntary roles, as well as young people or their parents / guardians interested in being referred to the Trust. I am more than happy to have general chat with you on passing in the village.

You may also wish to review the Trust's website: www.princes-trust.org.uk

Regards: Jon Wren

Churches

St. Michaels and All Angels

Eastington and Benefice Church Services in August and September

Date	Time	Church	Service	Minister
Sunday 7 th August Trinity 11	10.45am	Eastington	Holy Communion	A Reader
Sunday 14 th August Trinity 12	10.45am	Eastington	Holy Communion	P Newing
Sunday 21 st August Trinity 13	10am	Haresfield	Benefice Holy Communion	P Newing
	6pm	Eastington	Evensong	Lay-led
Sunday 28 th August Trinity 14	10.45am	Eastington	Holy Communion	TBC
Sunday 4 th September Trinity 15	10.45am	Eastington	Holy Communion	A Reader
Sunday 11 th September Trinity 16	10.45am	Eastington	Holy Communion with Baptism	TBC
Sunday 18 th September Trinity 17	10am	Frocester	Benefice Holy Communion	Archdeacon of Gloucester
	6pm	Eastington	Evensong	Lay-led
Sunday 25 th September Trinity 18	10.45am	Eastington	Holy Communion	TBC

Eastington Church Library

The small library in our Parish Church continues to thrive and is well used. A comfortable well lit area has been provided for those who wish to sit and browse. We have extended the facility to include audio books and jigsaw puzzles.

If you have any contemporary novels or recent paper backs, audio books or jigsaw puzzles in good condition these are in great demand and any donations will be most welcome.

We do have some regular borrowers and buyers who find this small library a real community asset and we always need to restock. We need your support to help assure the future of the library.



RSCM Music Sunday and Queen's 90th Birthday

Over 40 people gathered in Eastington Church on Sunday 12th June to celebrate RSCM Music Sunday and the Queen's 90th Birthday Service.

The Cotswold Youth Singers performed the anthem 'The Servant Song' and the Eastington Church Choir performed the anthem 'O Worship the Lord'. Both choirs started the service by singing the anthem 'Alleluia' together. There was a bring-and-share picnic afterwards, and a big thank you to everyone who brought some food along.

Thank you to everyone who was involved with the service, especially to the choristers, musicians, readers, worship leaders and everyone at the Church for putting the service on. We hope everyone found it enjoyable!

Churches

Quarter Peal for the Queen's 90th Birthday Service

In celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday, the Eastington Bell Ringers rang a Quarter Peal of 1260 changes of Doubles in 42 minutes comprising of Stedman, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Many thanks to Robin Screen for conducting the quarter peal.

Treble. Pam May	2. Sue Pouncey	3. David Pouncey
4. Chris Amys	5. Robin Screen (c)	Tenor. John Hale

Splash

Thank you to Robin and Celia Harris for hosting the Church's Summer BBQ and Splash Party on Saturday 2nd July. Despite a bit of afternoon rain, the sun came out and everyone had an enjoyable evening, with up to 14 kids in the swimming pool at one point!

Plenty of burgers, hot dogs, drink and raffle tickets were sold, and we are pleased to announce that Eastington Church made a profit of over £120.

Eastington Bell Ringers at the Stroud Branch Striking Competition

On Saturday 25th June 2016, Eastington Bell Ringers entered the Stroud Branch Striking Competition, which this year was hosted by Coaley. However, the venue was changed at the last minute, as a local music festival was taking place next door, so the competition moved to Horsley.

9 teams entered the competition, with varying degrees of changes rung from call changes to methods such as Bob Doubles and St Simons. The winners were Bisley A, followed by Leonard Stanley in 2nd place and Minchinhampton in 3rd place. Stonehouse came 4th, Eastington 5th, Horsley 6th, Bisley B 7th, Bishop C 8th and Woodchester 9th.

After the results were announced, everyone stayed on for a BBQ in Horsley Church.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and evening, with many thanks to Chris Amys (conductor), Pam May, Robin Screen, Stan Burrage, John Hale and Sue Pouncey for ringing Eastington's entry.

New Gallery section on ECN website

Visit the ECN website at www.ecn.me.uk to see our new photo and video Gallery.

You will be able to see Kevin Watkins' stunning bird's-eye view videos of Eastington and Andy Willis' clever virtual tours of St. Michaels and of the Badger (the Church and the Pub – how very village-y!)

There is also a slide-show of a random collection of photos from the parish – this is just a little start with what was to hand – but would be so very much better with your input.....

Please send your photographic appreciations of our little part of this world to jan@ecn.me.uk for inclusion in the next update!

Churches

Eastington Methodist Church



Eastington Methodist Church Activities	
Baby & Toddlers Group	Mondays 10:00 – 11:30am
Prayer Meetings	Tuesdays 8:15 – 9:00am & Fridays 8:30am – 9:00am
Line Dancing	Tuesdays 10:30am - noon
Lunchtime Bible Study	Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:30pm
Evening Bible Study House Group	Tuesday 8:00 – 9:45pm at The Pike Lock House
Youth Club (11-18)	Fridays 7:00 – 9:00pm
Main Service (+ youth session)	Sundays 11am
<i>The main 11am Sunday services will run right through the holiday. Some other activities will be subject to change so please check on the web page or call to check what is happening. Unless stated otherwise, these are held at EMC, which is opposite the butchers in Eastington.</i>	

Café Church

The Café Church on 7th August will be the last to take place on the first Sunday of the month. From September, we are moving to second Sundays, as these tend to clash with fewer other things. Therefore the September Café Church will be on 11th. The July Café Church was preceded by a youth sleepover. Part of this involved producing pictures of the types of ground encountered in the parable of the sower (Luke 8: 5-15). The picture depicts the thorny ground where Jesus said to His disciples: "The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature".



Youth Club

We are expecting to run the 7pm Friday Youth Club during the school holidays over July and August but not on Friday 2nd September. Those leaving primary school this year are welcome to join us. We are still waiting for some hot sunny weather to give us an excuse to deploy the water slide.

We now have dates for the summer youth days out. The two trips will be on Tuesday 9th and Thursday 25th August with the first intended to be a trip to the beach and the second, the welsh waterfalls walk. If the weather on the 9th is not inspiring enough for a day on the beach, we may swap the destinations around. Those wanting to come need to sign up in advance and there are limitations as to how many we can transport. There is no cost but a packed lunch and snack money is needed.

Hymn & Prayer

This takes place in the common room at the Broadfield sheltered housing scheme at 2pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month. EMC and the Parish Church work together to provide this and it is open to residents and others who would like to join them. Tea and coffee follow.

Ken Burgin – Senior Steward

Ken, Beck & Liz Burgin 01453 827414

www.EastingtonMethodists.org.uk

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

Stroud District Council

Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan for Eastington Neighbourhood Area

1. A neighbourhood planning referendum will be held on **Thursday 18 August 2016**, to decide on the question below:

Do you want Stroud District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Eastington to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

2. Applications to register to vote must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at Stroud District Council by 12 midnight on **Tuesday 2 August 2016**. Applications can be made online: **www.gov.uk/register-to-vote**.
3. New applications for postal votes or written instructions to change or cancel an existing postal or proxy voting arrangement must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at Stroud District Council by **5pm on Wednesday 3 August 2016**.
4. New applications to vote by proxy at this referendum must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at Stroud District Council by **5pm on Wednesday 10 August 2016**.
5. Applications to vote by 'emergency' proxy at this referendum on the grounds of physical incapacity or for work/service reasons must reach the Electoral Registration Officer Stroud District Council 5pm on Thursday 18 August 2016. The physical incapacity must have occurred after 5pm on Wednesday 10 August 2016. To apply on the grounds of work/service, the person must have become aware that they cannot go to the polling station in person after 5pm on Wednesday 10 August 2016.

Stroud District Council
Ebley Mill
Ebley Wharf
Stroud GL5 4UB

David Hagg
Counting Officer

Community

Neighbourhood Development Plan

NDP REFERENDUM 18th AUGUST – Eastington Village Hall

We are almost there after three years of hard work, frustration and a number of tensions. It has not been an easy run but we are no different from NDP teams around the country but we are more threatened than many with large and small development planning applications appearing quite frequently.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) gives our parish more protection from random planning applications and puts the Parish into the front seat when they are considered by SDC Development Control Committee (DCC). The NDP has a legal status after the referendum and has to be taken into account by the DCC. This LEGAL STATUS is only achieved after a referendum in which more than 50% of those who vote, **vote for the NDP**.

In the last 6 years we have seen an unprecedented growth in our population of 2.5 million. That number of people needs over 1 million houses and in the same period we have built less than 700,000. The problem is exacerbated by the population growth being largely adults as opposed to new babies being born. Adults create an instant need for housing hence the Government's ever increasing pressure for more houses to be built.

As Chairman of the NDP Project Team I would urge you to take part in this referendum and support this Plan. In the last Edition of the ECN I highlighted to advantages of a community having an NDP.

Both the referendum NDP which includes the changes required by the Inspector and the explanatory note can be seen on the website www.eastingtonndp.co.uk

This may not be such a big issue as the last referendum but for our small community it is of immense importance so please take part and Vote to support your **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**.

If anyone requires more information or would like to discuss the plan, please feel free to contact me. Richard.pidgemore@outlook.com

The NDP steering group are holding two "drop ins"

**in Eastington Village Hall on the
11th August 4pm to 6pm and the
13th August 10am to 12midday**

**anyone wishing to discuss or learn more are
welcome to come and meet with us.**

Daniel James

Councils

Letter from our District Councillors Cllr Stephen Davies and Cllr John Jones

Once again we seem to be having a mixed summer. On a visit to the William Morris House Open Day you could enjoy the barbecue in the sun and then get drenched all in the same afternoon!

Since the last contribution the District Council has started it's new Civic Year. Councillor Stephen Davies has been appointed to the Audit and Standards Committee and the Strategy and Resources Committee while Councillor John Jones has been appointed to Communities and Licensing.

Already there have been issues to address when it was found that the Housing Reserve Account had been inaccurately reported, revealing a shortfall of nearly £1m. Although this appears a legitimate mistake, it does create challenges for our plans in this area and we wait to see what proposals are made to address this.

More locally we are as ever embroiled with planning challenges. The expectation is that the Ecotricity Proposal will come to the Development Control Committee in the autumn, and we are still in regular conversation with the planners on this. We understand that there has been some modification to the plan proposed.

Also the proposed development of 3 industrial units at Meadow Mill went before the Development Control Committee at our request. Councillor John Jones and Councillor Stephen Davies spoke against the Planner's recommendation to accept the Application but sadly the Committee did not agree with this. Councillor Stephen Davies is now working with the Parish Council to see what can be done about ensuring that when this development goes ahead, we can ensure that it does not create the flooding threat we fear. Councillor Davies has also raised with the Planning Review Panel, the issue that the planning officers do not follow their own Local Plan, and lack of recognition of the Eastington Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The final comment we would make is when the referendum to approve the Neighbourhood Development Plan is called please come out and vote to support it so that we can have greater control over planning issues and maybe in future these articles can be about something else.

If you have any questions do let Stephen or John know.

If you want to contact us you can reach me at cllr.stephen.davies@stroud.gov.uk or 07802 595 307

or John at cllr.john.jones@stroud.gov.uk or 07808 922 918



The 34th Eastington Autumn Flower Show

To be held in the Village Hall On Saturday 3rd September 2016

Full details and entry forms online at www.ecn.me.uk

or from the show secretary, Mrs S Underdown, 3 Middlecroft, Eastington,
Tel: 01453 823285

Groups



Eastington Playgroup

Our focus for the final term we have been looking at the world around us and preparing the leavers for their transitions into their new schools in September.



We have been making pizzas to talk about and explore changes observed in the ingredients. We have made presents and cards for Father's day and have been practising writing our names either with support or independently.



We have looked at holidays, different countries and our experiences, camping, flying, caravans and holiday homes.

We have also had our own mini Olympics where the children have joined in with running races, egg and spoon, team races and different ways of moving our bodies with a medal for each of the children.

Our allotment has been busy growing with all the rain and intermittent sunshine and the children have been learning about growth, decay and some unfortunate slug damage!



For our final week we had fun making some cakes and sandwiches to eat at our party on the final day before we broke up for the summer holidays.

We held our AGM at the Kings Head and had a brilliant turnout with some lovely food.

We 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 this one.

In July we also said goodbye and good luck to our older children who are now ready for their next big adventure at primary school – we wish them all well and would like to say a big thank you to all our parents who have supported the Playgroup during their children's time with us.

We look forward to another new term in September and welcome back our remaining and also all of our new children – we have lots of exciting things planned for our return.

Playgroup's first day back will be Tuesday 6th September 2016 – 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 2016 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, and 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 or email eastingtonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk

Groups

Come and join the Jolly Joggers!

Get fit, get toned and feel positive about yourself. Every Wednesday 7pm prompt @Co-op Eastington. Let's do it! Make a change in your life and join us now. Absolutely FREE!

We are a group of people (all shapes and sizes) with different fitness targets who meet at least once a week during term time to exercise in the great outdoors. We welcome anyone out there who wishes to get started with running and doesn't know how, or anyone who is currently running and needs some encouragement and some company.

Recently we've been delighted to receive many new starters so you won't be the only beginner. The evenings are beautiful now and the routes will take us to many pretty and interesting places.

We usually have three running speeds...pick a group that suits you. If you are a new starter I will stay with you the whole time to show you the technique or until you feel happy. There will be others put with you to match your speed. No one is left alone. We have a very strong and caring ethos in Jollies and everyone looks after each other. We usually walk/jog 7k or less. We have our stunning rapacious racers who fly off into the distance running approximately 12k or more. Our middle group usually jog/run 10k.



Don't be put off by terms like 'jogging' or 'running', we all started by brisk walking or walking then jogging short distances. You will be amazed at how quickly you get stronger and faster, it really is incredibly exciting! So, get your trainers on and get yourself down to the Co-op on Wednesday.

We look forward to meeting you. Please don't hesitate to call me for a chat, 07806 802540 or join our Facebook page JollyJoggers. Your fitness journey starts here.

Vanessa Cousins

Slimming World

Hello summer? I hope it's hiding somewhere as it's pouring with rain while I'm writing this piece. Weather aside we've been enjoying lots of fun at group, achieving brilliant weight losses while helping and supporting each other on our weight loss journeys.

So the focus at group this week has been all about positivity and being kind to ourselves. As human beings we can be very self-critical and blame ourselves for wrong choices made, attaching blame and guilt to ourselves as people, as well as the lives we live. So we have started to focus our thoughts on all the great decisions we make on our weight loss journeys, that help us achieve the results we want, rather than the negativity we put ourselves through when things may not be as we'd like.

We've also been to using our thoughts on changing our behaviour to make positive choices and changes to be healthier, to lose weight and to think deeply about what may be stopping our good intentions.

Slimming World is fantastic as there is such a wide range of food choices you can choose from, to make sure you're feeling full and satisfied with your meals and snacks. We've shared some lovely recipe ideas for hot days and those rainy days, for bbqs and picnics, for holiday times and working days. So come along and find out more. We open right the way through the school summer holidays, so if you're looking to lose weight and feel healthier with no feeling hungry I look forward to meeting you.

We meet at Eastington Village Hall on a Wednesday at 5pm or 7pm or I have a morning group in Stonehouse Community Centre at 9.30 on Wednesday mornings.

Best wishes

Lorna 07974937830 or 01453821751

Our History

Henry Hicks, Dr Jenner, and The Angel of Death



Dr Edward Jenner.

Sadly, no portrait of Henry Hicks has yet come to light.

In centuries past, villages such as Eastington were no strangers to outbreaks of often fatal diseases - one of the most feared was smallpox. Over the centuries, smallpox had gone by many names, perhaps one of the most frightening being 'The Angel of Death'. It was everywhere, and at its height, killed one person in every twelve and disfigured countless millions more. It undoubtedly paid regular visits to Eastington. But we're getting ahead of ourselves here.

Regular readers might recognise the name Henry Hicks. He's cropped up in a number of earlier articles, having been Eastington's Lord of the Manor, and owner of land, property and mills. Latterly, it was Hicks and his family that was largely responsible for developing much of the local woollen cloth making industry, at one time carried out in five local mills in and around the village.

The development of Hicks' woollen cloth business brought him into contact with a number of influential colleagues and contacts in the industrial world, some of whom were major players on the national stage. However, his sphere of contacts extended well beyond this, and he also had a number of important social connections. One of the most notable was Berkeley resident Dr Edward Jenner of smallpox fame. As everyone knows, Jenner was the country doctor who championed vaccination, having discovered in 1796 that inoculation with cowpox provided immunity to smallpox. An epidemic of smallpox had swept through Gloucestershire in 1788 and Jenner was one of the doctors involved in treating the outbreak. He noticed that people previously infected with the much milder cowpox escaped the ravages of smallpox and noted that even when entire families succumbed to smallpox, cowpox victims remained unaffected and healthy. In 1796 Jenner carried out his first inoculation experiment and within a short period, it became apparent how effective the vaccination treatment was.

Jenner and Henry Hicks were close friends. In their frequent correspondence, Jenner usually affectionately addressed the latter as 'Harry'. Alongside his medical activities, Jenner was also a keen naturalist. For example, in 1788, a publication called *Philosophical Transactions* contained a long paper of his that examined the behaviour of the Cuckoo. For some reason, it was apparently written in a cottage that was owned by Henry Hicks and stood close to his home in Eastington.

Hicks was clearly confident enough in Jenner's vaccination work to let him loose on two of his own children, along with 16 servants and workers from Churchend Mill (I wonder how enthusiastic they actually were!). The inoculations took place in Eastington on 27th November 1798 using cowpox 'matter' obtained from the arm of a farm boy in Stonehouse the day before. Later the same year, Jenner wrote:

Having been requested by my friend, Mr. Henry Hicks, of Eastington, in this county, to inoculate two of his children, and at the same time some of his servants and the people employed in his manufactory, matter was taken from the arm of this boy for the purpose. The numbers inoculated were eighteen.

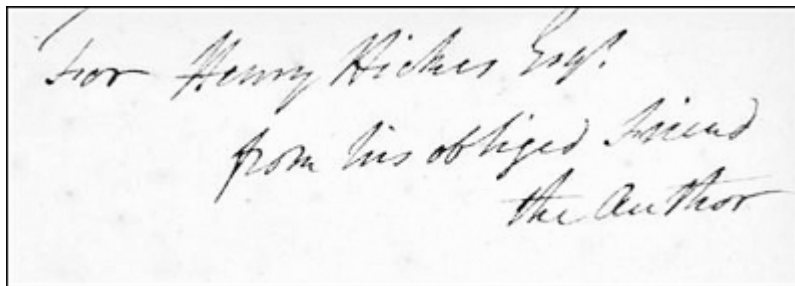
They all took the infection, and either on the fifth or sixth day a vesicle was perceptible on the punctured part. Some of them began to feel a little unwell on the eighth day, but the greater number on the ninth. Their

Our History

illness, as in the former cases described, was of short duration, and not sufficient to interrupt, but at very short intervals, the children from their amusements, or the servants and manufacturers from following their ordinary business.

Three of the children whose employment in the manufactory was in some degree laborious had an inflammation on their arms beyond the common boundary about the eleventh or twelfth day, when the feverish symptoms, which before were nearly gone off, again returned, accompanied with increase of axillary tumour. In these cases (clearly perceiving that the symptoms were governed by the state of the arms) I applied on the inoculated pustules, and renewed the application three or four times within an hour, a pledget of lint, previously soaked in aqua lythargyri acetati (a solution of lead diacetate, apparently!), and covered the hot efflorescence surrounding them with cloths dipped in cold water. The next day I found this simple mode of treatment had succeeded perfectly.

So it seems that all the guinea pigs came through the treatment safely!



Jenner's personal dedication to Henry Hicks signed inside the cover of one of his books, the snappily titled 'An Inquiry into the Causes and Effects of the Variolae Vaccinae, a Disease Discovered in some of the Western Counties'.

It reads for "Henry Hicks Esq, from his obliged friend. The Author".

After these experiments were concluded, Hicks was widely credited as the "the first gentleman that submitted his own children to the new practice". This gave some confidence to the gentry, and his example was soon followed by the Countess of Berkeley and Lady Francis Moreton (later Lady Ducie). Indeed, it's recorded in the *British & Foreign Medical Review of July-October 1838* that Hicks learned the necessary skills from Jenner and even carried out a number of inoculations himself. In fact, he seems to have been pretty good at the process and was later credited as showing "an accuracy and fidelity which would have done honour to the most enlightened physician".

Amongst his other achievements, Jenner was instrumental in forming a society of learned men aimed at improving medical science. Meetings were held mainly at the Fleece Inn, Rodborough where, after serious discussions, members dined together. They occasionally permitted visitors, who were not medical men, to join them for dinner. Hicks (Jenner's "faithful friend") was often picked up in Eastington by Jenner on his way from Berkeley and taken in his carriage to the meetings. He was the most frequent non-medical guest.

In 1823, Jenner died after an 'apoplectic seizure with paralysis of the right side' (a stroke). Fittingly, Hicks was with him at the end. Hicks himself died in 1836. In 1853, smallpox vaccination was finally made compulsory in England and Wales. It's nice to think that Eastington was part of the early story of inoculation and played albeit a small role in a process that has since saved millions of lives around the world.



An early painting of Eastington Park, the Hicks' family home. It was built by Henry Hicks in 1815.

This is how Edward Jenner, a regular visitor, would have known it.

Stephen Mills

Events

Rainy Days and Summer Haze

at William Morris Specialist Provider - Eastington
William Morris Summer Fayre



Saturday morning, bright blue skies splashed with heavy looking white and grey cumulus clouds – “we might just make it” muttered the hard pressed Interim Manager of marketing William Morris, as he heaved another sheaf of summer grass off the back field in preparation for the annual summer fayre parking fest.

Gazebos up, stall tables in place, grass cut, and roses blooming to order. A chance to show Eastington that we’re still here and still part of the community. He began to tick off a mental list: Bric-a-brac stall, jewellery stall, Canine Partners - doggy support stall all paws in line, BBQ ready to go, café stocked with cakes and

goodies, the ‘love reggae’ band was tuned up, Community Orchard gang in place, Canal Trust happy that they didn’t need to use their own gazebo, fresh grown herbs in conveniently handy sized pots swaying invitingly in the faint summer breeze, the silk scarf artist in place, mask making workshop open for business, face painter focused, workshops open, Equine horsey therapy stall up and ready, ice cream stall open, butterfly trail in place, football challenge set out and ready to go, art exhibition and student display in place, massage & reflexology all fine and dandy, hula hoop workshop poised and drumming / organ combo set to start, human fruit machine briefed and happy, all over hung by the sweet aromatic perfume of the curling jasmine

from the balcony and just think all the risk assessments done!

What could go wrong now?

“What could go wrong now?” repeated the increasingly damp Interim Marketing Manager as the torrential splats of monsoon like rain drops began to hammer into the flimsy tree canopy that he had selected as his personal refuge. “A dash of water livens us up” said Carolyn as she deftly handed out yet another delicious ice cream confection to the heaving throng in front of Merton residence, “yeah” said the staff on the bric-a-brac stall, in a collective shout of gruff enthusiasm, “cools us down - can’t wait for the rainbow” they grinned. “Grufflary ice” intoned our own Parish Councillor Alex Bomberg as he fought and won the battle to subdue a burger into manageable internalized sections.

Very nice he thought recognizing a distant and distinctly rain-washed looking District Councillor (see left) under a canopy across the green. “Hi-yah” said Graham, Chair of Trustees brightly,



Events



“turning out nice again isn’t it”. What! Didn’t he notice the sheet of water with holes in it that passed for rain round here?

Hold on, was that a faint sunbeam lighting the entrance to the sensory room ‘swimming with dolphins’ experience (no charge). Blimey the band was still giving it a go, and people were emerging like butterflies as if from nowhere and starting to move around. A member of staff wanders by, painted as a lizard or possibly a dinosaur, definitely a dinosaur, he thinks as the music picks up into another summer beat and the heat haze begins to give the old place that real festival feel. “Another go! Have another go you can’t lose!” wafts up from the café as the human fruit machine really get in their stride and start to ambush unsuspecting members of the public. “You only need another lemon!” Then Jack, our Jack who lives here with us here in Merton, picks up a tambourine and begins to synchronize in perfect time with his mum who is really ‘digging in’ on the mike - with a rendition of ‘Delilah’. Then he begins to dance. That’s Jack dancing, dancing under the trees with people singing and the sun out again, go Jack go.



Thank you to every one who turned up to support us. Thank you Eastington !

Jon Nissler

Fancy blowing your own trumpet for a change?

How about having a go on the cornet, trombone, euphonium, horn or drums?

Whether you’re an absolute beginner or an experienced player, **Frampton on Severn Silver Band** has players aged 7 - 70 and always room for a few more!

For just £25 per year (£20 for children), players get to...

- borrow an instrument
- learn how to play it or brush up their skills
- be part of something fun while making new friends and good music.



Come along! We meet every Tuesday night at Cadbury Hall (in Frampton).

To find out more please contact Jon Elliott on 01453 828116 or email info@framptonband.co.uk

Councils



Eastington Parish Council

Mrs J Shirley – Parish Clerk
60 Hawk Close, Abbeydale
Gloucester GL4 4WE
eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

PARISH MATTERS

We're now well into summer and I hope you're enjoying the few days of sunshine. It's lovely having the longer days to enjoy and get a few things done in the garden.

Fundraising is going well for the defibrillators, thank you to everyone. We have also been successful in a grant application to the British Heart Foundation so we will be able to purchase 3 defibrillators and are enquiring if we can have a 4th. We are now talking to groups and businesses about locating the defibs around the parish so that they are accessible to the public 24 hours a day.

Other projects we are working on include further repairs to the churchyard wall and improvements to the burial ground, for example row markers so that it is easier to search for family graves.

We are also building a new website as our current website will cease to be managed by Stroud District Council by December.

The Parish Council is aware of the problems with car parking in the village and there are plans to hold a public meeting to discuss the matter and generate some ideas that we suggest to Gloucestershire Highways.

Please do come along to parish council meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month.

Julie Shirley, Clerk to Eastington Parish Council

Grants available via Eastington Parish Council

The Parish Council will be considering grant applications at its September meeting. Did you know there are several grants within the parish that local organisations can apply?

The Solar Grant Fund: this is a fund given annually to the Parish Council to administer from the solar farm at Cambridge. The fund is to be used for goods or services which are for the promotion or improvement of the environmental, social, or benefit of the local community.

The Charlie Bullock Trust: this fund is from the sale of land given to the Parish Council in the last Will and Testament of Charlie Bullock. This fund is to be used for the benefit of Eastington community. The fund was most recently used to help with the purchase of a communal shed at the Allotments.

Eastington Parish Council: the Council operates a small grants budget and beneficiaries must live or work in Eastington and/or must provide services that will benefit a significant sector of the local community. This grants budget is used for things like the Poppy Appeal, or Citizens Advice Bureau Donations.

Please see the Parish Council website for grant application forms and guidance, or contact the Parish Clerk who can help you complete the relevant form.

01453 799616 (Parish Clerk)