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Dec 2018 - Jan 2019



Eastington remembers



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Celebrating Community in
the Parish of Eastington

Signpost

Your news... your ECN!

Written by You, Produced by Tom & Jan Low and Mary Gribble.



Dear Readers,

There are several items in this issue that I am sure will give you pause for thought. The Eastington commemorations of the end of the Great War were very moving - if you missed the exhibition in the church we have plenty of pictures for you (see them in colour on the website). We also thought that the children's poems on pages 4 and 5 were just amazing - incredibly touching and showing a depth of feeling and understanding that perhaps you might not expect from such young children.

Staying on the theme of times gone by, we have two first hand accounts for you from the Eastington of earlier times, when life was less frenetic, perhaps, but very much harder.

Here in the present, the Halloween walk, once again, was a huge success - I have never seen so many of our children all at once. There must be a record for the longest crocodile somewhere - all happy and lively, they just kept on coming! - and all beautifully behaved, too. Perhaps Eastington has the children it deserves.

May we wish you all a very Merry Christmas-time and a Happy New Year

Mary, Tom, Jan and the team.

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Diary Dates

Sat / Sun in December
Santa Cruises (p.16)

6th December, 7:70
Christmas Wreath Making (p.22)

7th December, 3:30
School Christmas Bazaar

16th December, 1pm @ The Old Badger
Rudolph's Ramble (p.10)

25th December, 12 noon
Sponsored Christmas Lunch (p.22)

9th January, 7pm @ outside The Co-op
Jolly Joggers Absolute Beginners (p.10)

16th January, 7:30
Rest & Restore, Wisma
Mulia (p.17)

8th February, 7pm
Playgroup Bingo at the
Community Centre (p.9)

Next deadline for Febuary issue : Thursday Jan 24th 2019, for delivery w/e of Feb 2/3rd

Please email your articles, stories, photos and events to articles@ecn.me.uk

Space is limited - we may have to omit, postpone or shorten articles.

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

See it in colour on our website: www.ecn.me.uk

Community

St. Michael and All Angels Church - Eastington Remembers



A huge thank you to everyone in the village who helped in any way towards making the exhibition of the 100th Anniversary of the ending of World War 1 in the church such an enormous success.

A big thank you must go to the Playgroup for their special poppies for people to plant in the planters with their thoughts on, to Eastington Primary School for making the incredible trench, ladders and sandbags and the Dad that made the wonderful wooden soldier that all the children wrote on and also to William Morris College for their incredible art installation all about the pigeons in the 1st World War.



Also a massive thank you for all of the wonderful crocheted or knitted poppies that you provided me with so that we could make the church look so stunning and of course all of the people that

helped put them together and helped man the church over the weekend and served in the Trench Kitchen.

Thank You - Jacky.



Community



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, Eastington & District

We banked a total of £2,415.20 – and there will be more to come from larger organisations in the community. This is an amazingly generous amount, made possible by the local team of volunteer collectors.

The amount was boosted by the donations made at St Michael's and All Angels by visitors to the church to see the display and Blue Frog Theatre production.

On behalf of the British Legion, thank you!

Kathryn and Mary Gribble



Photo : Blue Frog Drama Education Specialists

Thanks, too, to the amazing Blue Frog Theatre people, who gave us such a moving portrayal of the times, especially with regard to the lives of women and the huge part that they played.



School

Class 4 at Eastington Primary School

As our History topic this term has been World War 1 and World War II, we have immersed ourselves in how lives were affected during these terrible, yet incredible times.

The children have enjoyed experiencing an 'evacuation' whilst on a WWII trip to the STEAM museum, have learnt about rationing, the role of women during the war, the difficulties during the Blitz, and are currently embracing a very challenging Christmas play which is entitled 'We'll Meet Again', in which we follow the lives of London evacuees during 1945.

Some children have taken the opportunity to share their creative writing skills by using inspiration from this work to write poems. We hope you enjoy them as much as we have!

Poppies

There is more to November
Such as poppies to remember
Red is most common
But have you seen in the autumn
White for peace
Or at least,
Purple for the animals that fought
Because I think they ought
To get a mention
Or at least some attention
For the things they have done
So remember soldiers who fought since war begun
If you ever see poppies glorious
See that we were only victorious
After pain and strife not anything nice
So remember, poppies of November.

By Emma Stephenson-Brias – age 9.



World War I

WWI was terrible,
It's the deaths that are truly memorable,
We remember their lives,
So let's wear a poppy with pride.

We are quiet and still, no talking allowed,
As we all stand here amongst this crowd,
Now that the minute is over, our lives carry on,
But we still remember the soldiers that are now gone.

By Martha Beales – age 9.

School

Dear Home:

The trenches are brown,
The poppies are red,
Our hearts aren't down,
But most people are dead.

I may be home soon,
Or never at all,
Just remember me,
Oh remember me.

I'm writing home to say,
Please be ok,
It's very nearly over,
Just stay ok.

How I want you,
How you want me,
How we want each other,
To live happily.

Soon I may be gone,
So brave you must be,
Together we're strong,
So strong we must be.

The trenches are brown,
The poppies are red,
Our hearts aren't down,
But most people are dead.

Those who have fallen,
MUST BE REMEMBERED.

By Matilda Crane – age 9.

Poppy poem

I am not a badge of honour,
A trophy to be worn.
You swore you would remember,
The lives that were torn.

I am not a fashion statement,
A reason to start war.
You know what you promised,
Your behaviour is poor.

The reason I am here,
Is for those you never met.
Who fell in Flanders fields,
Lest we forget.

By Nel Beach – age 9.



Community

Senior Citizens and Pre-school children enjoying each other's company at The Kings Head House



Having spent 18 years working in the social care sector I have an interest in all aspects of supporting those that are vulnerable within our society and developing ways in which we can improve community living, respect and care for one another.

As I sat and watched 'Old people homes and Four-year olds' (a documentary on channel four) I said to my husband 'I want to do that' and so I did!

Since starting at the Kings Head House I have been very lucky to have been given full support by Anthony to create an activity which enables integrated connection and it has been a delight to watch it go from strength to strength.

The following extracts and results are taken from the channel four documentary which was led by a group of Psychologist's from Bangor University.

What they found was 'some life affirming interactions..... the group had more opportunities to develop their social and emotional skills.....What the groups do when they meet can be as relaxed as playing a game or reading a book together.....It may not seem like a lot in the grand scheme of things, but research has proven that these interactions can have fantastic benefits for each generation.

In the UK studies have shown that activities that include children and older adults in a day care facility can increase self-esteem and promote friendships.

In the 1950s, it was theorised that adults have a need to contribute to the next generation, and that doing so can give older people feelings of accomplishment or success, rather than stagnation, as they age. Intergenerational activities show elders that they are valued as individuals that still possess lifelong skills, rather than just being passive recipients of care.

These days traditional families can be separated by distance, time and lack of understanding between generations, but programmes that bring children and older people together could change the whole of society's outlook. Children are the worlds' future but that doesn't mean we should consign older generations to the past.

If you would like to get involved, please contact me or any of my fabulous colleagues at he Kings Head and we will answer any of your questions.

Liz Hanks x info@thekingsheadhouse.com 01453 822277

Our next session will be on the 21st Dec. At 10m am. along with our 'Story and Rhymes'. There will also be Christmas Crafts !

Community

Eastington Halloween Walk 26th October 2018



What a night! We were overwhelmed by the amount of little horrors that rocked up to The Badger in a truly frightful manner! There we were greeted and treated with sweets from a wicked witch and her little side kick in their haunted house and as always it was a welcome start to the walk.



Then off we went, what a joy it was to see the trail behind us which we believe was around 100 children. We cannot thank the volunteers that donated their doorsteps and treats all the way around, everyone made such an effort with their decorations and generosity.

Our final destination was The Kings Head House who had decorated, donated sweets, put special Halloween pizzas on and allowed the kids to be kids and run free.

Again, a huge thank you to all our stop offs, The Badger and The Kings Head House without you our wish to make memories for the little ones would not be possible!

Jen and Liz x

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Groups

PROWD

Well, as you are all probably aware, the 'Great Oldbury' development is going-on at a pace with more and more houses being built. Unfortunately, some of the footpaths are already closed, and some of the other footpaths and bridleways will be temporarily closed from time to time, over the next couple of years!! So, it will be a bit of a 'dogs dinner' until the estate is completed.

However, I'm pleased to say, that thanks to Farmer Andrew Cozens agreement, and financial help, FOUR new kissing gates were installed on his farm last week,..... now his farm is completely 'stile-free'. Thank you Andrew. Also a big 'thank you' to the South District Working Party of the Cotswold Wardens for doing the installations so efficiently, and with good humour.

I have recently obtained permission from Sara, at Fromebridge Mill, to install a kissing gate on their land next to the A38. This will mean that walkers from Eastington using footpath EEA46 along the river Frome, will be able to walk straight across the A38 to the Fromebridge Mill without walking up to the traffic island along a busy road, then down their long driveway. This route will be quicker but also a lot safer. I hope to have this done within the next couple of months..... weather permitting!

By the time you read this I am hoping that some stone will have been laid in the bottom field by Middle Street. This should make it a lot less muddy, and easier to walk during the wetter weather. "Thank you" to our Parish Council for funding this project.

Let's hope that we have some decent walking weather for the next couple of months.

Best wishes for a Happy Yuletide !!

Bill Edwards Tel:824452 Email: edwards.parish@btinternet.com

The Bowmen of Minchinhampton at the Community Centre

The Bowmen of Minchinhampton is a friendly local archery club which shoots all year at Eastington Community Centre OHMG and wintertime at Maidenhill School, Stonehouse.



The club ran a very successful Beginners Course in September, which resulted in 14 new archers joining the club. Our next Beginners Course will be at Eastington Community Centre on the four Saturdays 9th to 30th March 2019. We teach archers from 8 years old upwards, but please remember that all archers under 16 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times. Archery is an absorbing sport, and can be enjoyed by all ages from 8 years to 80 plus!

Enquiries about the club's beginners courses, or archery in general, can be made by e-mail to beginners@bowmen-of-minchinhampton.org.uk or enquiries@bowmen-of-minchinhampton.org.uk or by phoning 01452 770143.

The next big archery event at Eastington Community Centre will be the club's Annual Open Tournament on Sunday 2nd June 2019. Visitors are welcome and will be able to watch some of the best archers in South West England. No charge for admission, but bring a pair of binoculars!

Peter Munday, Secretary, Bowmen of Minchinhampton

Groups



Eastington Playgroup

Tel 07977 342 742

We started the first week back with dressing up for Halloween and the children enjoyed making pumpkin pictures with different shapes and listening to spooky stories in the dark den with torches.



The children dressed up again, this time as superheroes to support Children In Need and families made a voluntary donation to help make a difference. It was a good opportunity to talk to the children to raise their awareness of others less fortunate than themselves, especially with the Christmas celebrations ahead. We have taken £25 to send off – well done everyone who contributed!



The children made purple and red poppies to remember the brave animals and people who lost their lives in war for our country and these were sent down to Eastington Church for families to write messages in memory of loved ones.



Friday 8th February 7pm at the Community Centre

- All Welcome
- Entry tickets are £2 per person (includes one drink from the bar) - on sale at Eastington Playgroup and at the Post office. All proceeds to Eastington Playgroup
- Bingo Prizes include a Kindle, Meal Vouchers and fantastic days out and many more - Great Raffle prizes too
- Doors open at 7pm
- Cash bar only



Eastington Village Hall




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Groups

Teddy Tunes

Calling all babies, toddlers, children, parents, grandparents, friends and carers!



Come along to a Teddytunes session near you and release your 'inner child' . Every Thursday during term time we meet at Frampton Village Hall 10am for musical merriment, cordial capers and fabulous frolics. All washed down with good coffee (or herb tea) chocolate biscuits (posh ones with lots of chocolate on top) and home made cake.

It's a whole mornings entertainment and I guarantee you will feel uplifted (worn out more like) and ready for a lie down in a dark corner after hopping round the room with new friends and a good chat at the hatch with our 'glamorous grannies'.

Leave your inhibitions at the door and get ready for an experience you'll never forget. Enjoy learning new songs, mumbling through traditional ones, banging two sticks together with gusto, making a complete fool of yourself, laughing your head off and looking forward to the end when you can be wafted into serenity under the parachute...what's not to like? We're all gagging for a coffee by the end and you'll be trying to escape while you're little one is desperately tugging at your coat in order to stay for just 'one more minute'. We all know they only come for the bubbles and the biscuits (and that's just the Dads) but 'hey hoe' I'm happy with that.

So, we welcome you wholeheartedly!

Classes every Thursday during term time 10-11.30 am, Frampton Village Hall, Frampton on Severn. £6 plus £1 for each additional child or adult. Pay as you go and you may join any week, just turn up. Have a look at our website for pictures and directions etc. Find us on Facebook for video clips of our classes in action. www.teddytunes.co.uk. Email: vanessa@teddytunes.co.uk.

For more info call Vanessa Cousins 01453 828557 or 07806 802540.

Jolly Joggers is Back!

NEW: Absolute Beginners starting Wednesday 9th January everyone welcome!



As usual ,meet every Wednesday evening outside the Co-op at 7pm sharp.

All levels of ability, all speeds catered for, very friendly bunch - Come along, get fit and have fun!

You will need a High Viz jacket and maybe a head torch for the darker winter evenings.

Phone Vanessa on 07806 802540 for more details or encouragement!

Rudolf's Ramble Sunday 16th December

Meet 1pm at The Badger - route to be confirmed

Mulled wine and food at Vanesa's to follow!

Everyone welcome, but please -

- get in touch to book your place 07806 802540



Eastington Walking Group



Groups

1st Eastington Brownies

The brownies are really enjoying the new brownie programme and so far we have:

- practiced striking matches to light a tea light
- completed an obstacle first aid course wearing home made slings
- practiced guide exercise drills of yesterday
- learnt about how the union jack is made up
- hand sewn our own badge with blanket stitch
- discussed what characters make a good friend.



Last week we took part in Parliament Week as part of the national campaign.

UK Parliament Week (12-18 Nov 2018) is an annual festival that engages people and groups from across the UK with Parliament. It has been developed by the Houses of Parliament as part of its Education and Engagement Service. See www.ukparliamentweek

We made placards like the real suffragettes did, and played a

game where they ruled their own island and had to decide what they wanted to keep to survive. From a selection of available items they chose the fishing rod, cooking utensils, a tarpaulin, water purification tablets, matches and first aid equipment - they were very sensible about not taking the dog. Our brownies who are ready for guides really came forward and demonstrated their leadership qualities. We were struck how knowledgeable they were about democracy, and heartened that the next generation will step up and play a role in democracy.



The Leaders have been busy too, as the girls challenged us each to do one of the new interest badges ourselves and to present them at brownies, using 1 of the 105 ways to show badge work. I'm doing the Zero Waste badge, Snowy Owl is working on the Charities badge and Barn Owl the Stargazer badge. I do hope the brownies award them to us!

The real excitement is in the planning for our sleep over in January - the girls selected the themes and then voted, with Mamma Mia an outright winner, so we are talking about Swedish food and gradually planning the event, with a parents evening planned for later in the month.

Pauline Dobson.



History

Betty Barnfield - memories of World War II

Betty was born in Bristol. Her family moved to Eastington in 1931 after her Grandfather, Charles Warner, asked Betty's mother to help him at Green Farm Alkerton. They stayed there until Charles died on Christmas Eve in 1940 and the farm was sold in 1941. Betty then moved to the Hawthorns in Claypits, then later to Bath Road where they had the house next to Bath Road Garage built.

Betty's mother took in an evacuee from Birmingham, a 5 year old girl called Olive. Betty was just returning from a trip to Stonehouse with a friend when they saw a coach pulled up outside the Village Hall. Out stepped Olive, very dirty and in ragged clothing held together with safety pins. Betty's mother fitted her out with decent clothing and Olive later returned to her family a different girl. Olive's brother came to collect her after about 18 months, and the family heard no more of her, so never knew if she survived the bombing in Birmingham.

Betty recalls just one bombing in Eastington, when a bomb dropped in 'The Ham' field at Millend, land which then belonged to John Warner. It made the largest crater in Gloucestershire at the time. Nobody was injured, but the stained glass window in what is now the Lady Chapel was broken. Pieces of the glass were found and the glass replaced in the window. If you look at this window now you will see that the stained glass does not form a pattern where it was pieced back. People were not sure if the bomber was looking for a target such as Hoffman's or Sperry's, or whether the bomb was just dropped willy-nilly.

Betty remembers rationing and shortages of food in the war, but as everyone had a garden in Eastington vegetables and eggs were available.

Betty was 19 when the war broke out. Having first been apprenticed as a book-keeper for a firm in Stroud, she was then working for Ruberoid at **Meadow Mill**. Ruberoid evacuated their London staff to work in Meadow Mill. Some of the staff from London were housed at The Hill in Stroud where memorable staff parties were held.

At the age of 21 Betty was called up for 'Work of National Importance' and went to Sperry Gyroscope to work. After that, Betty went back to Ruberoid, going with them to London when the staff were returned there in 1946. She did not stay long in London as she wished to return to Eastington to be with Bob when he returned from Burma.

Betty remembers the American army encampment at Frampton – the Americans were camped in a field behind the green, with their tanks and half-tracks. Betty went out with one of the American soldiers, but it was just as friends. Betty commented that she could have married Owen Harris...

Betty remembers the Special Constable in the village, Joe Broomhall the butcher. At night he patrolled the village to ensure everyone was observing the blackout. If anyone was showing even the tiniest shard of light, Joe would tell them off.

Betty had known her husband-to-be Bob since they were school children, he was her brother's pal. Bob's mother encouraged Betty to write to Bob when he was serving in Burma. After he returned to Eastington in 1946 they started courting and were married in Eastington Church in May 1948. While Bob was in Rangoon he met an old neighbour from Eastington, Tom Shill! Tom was in a reserved occupation and was returned to England.

Betty and Bob shared many social activities. Betty was in the church choir for 49 years, and Bob was the church organist. Both belonged to the Eastington Concert Party, and gave plays at the Village Hall. Betty was secretary of Eastington Tennis Club until it was disbanded when the farmer wanted his land for other uses. There were two tennis courts and a wooden club house on land that is now farmed by Andrew Cozens.

Betty's brother, Marston John Everett, who was serving in the forces, sadly died in 1944 aged 19. He had been waiting at Southampton to follow the D-Day landings to France when he went down with polio. He was first taken to an isolation hospital, then transferred to Gloucester. He died two days later.

Betty spoke of the wartime spirit, commenting that it was a case of having to hang in and survive.

Mary Gribble



Photo from Stephen Mills' archives

Meadow Mill

History

Childhood memories of Eastington Mrs Sylvia Bliss

Mrs Bliss, now 94, lived for most of her life in what is now the Cattery in Cress Green, and her daughter Megan has been documenting her memoirs. This time she reminds us what washing day was like in the times before the war - life may have been quieter and greener, but it was a whole lot harder too!

Laundry

I have said earlier what a hard existence our parents must have had compared with ours today. If there is one modern appliance that has transformed the life for the housewife it must be the washing machine.

Monday was always wash day but preparations had to begin the night before. My father would lay the wood, coal and paper in the fire box beneath the the 'copper' or furnace as it was sometimes called – in the wash-house, ready for lighting in the morning before he left for work at 6.30 a.m.

Water had been carried in buckets from the kitchen to fill it, the wooden lid was put on the top to keep the heat in, and by the time my mother was ready to begin, the water would be very hot. Sheets and white articles were put in to be boiled with slivers of soap (which had been sliced from a very long bar) and soda, which was added to soften the hard water.

A copper stick made of wood was used to move the sheets etc around, and also for lifting them out when ready for the rinsing into a bath of cold water.



The rest of the clothes would be washed by hand in another zinc tub or bath, hot water being ladled out and would be scrubbed on a washboard if necessary. When all had been washed and rinsed there came a 'Blue Rinse' to whiten and keep the colours fresh, then starching for some articles to 'crisp' them.

The wringer or the mangle was used to remove excess water (the handle turned perhaps by any child who was around at the time), care had to be taken to keep ones fingers clear of the rollers.

It didn't end there, for after the clothes had been hung out to dry on the long line across the garden, all surfaces, washhouse, kitchen, back steps etc. had to be washed down while their was plenty of hot water available.

It would be lunchtime by then, and I remember coming in from school to a 'washing day dinner' cold meat & bubble and squeak.

Ironing came next day, if it had been a good drying day. Irons were heated in front of the kitchen fire on a grid fixed to the bars. One had to be very careful they had not black soot on them, so had to be wiped clean before commencing. Cloth iron holders were used as the cast iron handle was almost as hot as the iron itself.

Thick blankets were spread out on the kitchen table (no ironing board). If the starched items were too dry, they would be sprinkled with cold water, rolled up and left to become damp, this was done after being taken from the washing line.

Bath Night

The luxury of having a bath in front of any open roaring fire is probably no more, but it certainly was all we knew. The same procedure was used – filling the copper, ladling the water into buckets to be brought back into the kitchen to fill the zinc bungalow bath. Afterwards, water ladled out, and it was likely to be kept for watering the garden etc. What kind of soap we used, I can't recall, may have been the same as for the laundry, probably carbolic, as scented soap came as a real luxury!

Groups

Eastington and Stonehouse Slimming World

Wow haven't the past two months flown by? Suddenly Autumn is here, Winter is coming and Christmas fast approaching. We've had a busy few months across all the groups enjoying the end of summer together and then turning our thoughts and ideas to lovely winter warming recipes we can enjoy through the colder months, delicious and filling homemade soups, chilli, curries, stews, casseroles and roast dinners.

Good tasty food that we can enjoy while still losing weight.



We've celebrated lots of individual weight loss awards as well as group awards being presented.

Here's just a couple of our groups winners. Congratulations to Caz and Colin, also to Lynne and Emma.

I've also had a celebration, I've celebrated 15 years as a Slimming World consultant. It was back in November 2003 that I first opened the Eastington Village Hall door to hold my first group, that night just over 30 people walked in. Now 15 years later I have over 50 members regularly attending the morning session in

Stonehouse and over 100 attending the sessions at Eastington. I'm so proud of each and everyone of them. I love my job, I love my groups and I love supporting and helping each member to achieve their own personal weight loss dreams. So here's to many more years working and living in the village I love.

Thank you, Eastington. Lorna xx



Slimming World Easy Chilli Con Carne

Serves: 4

Ready in: Less than 30 Minutes

Freezer friendly Syns per serving: FREE



Ingredients

Low calorie cooking spray
1 large red onion
2 garlic cloves
500g lean beef mince (5% fat or less)
2 green chillies
2 tsp ground cumin
1 tsp ground coriander
1 tsp paprika
Pinch cayenne pepper
1 green & 1 yellow pepper
4 ripe plum tomatoes
300ml beef stock

Method

Fry the onion and the garlic briefly, using low calorie cooking spray, add the beef and cook for a few minutes on a high heat.

Once the beef is browned add the chillies and the spices and turn down the heat. Add the tomatoes, pepper and stock and simmer gently for 15 minutes until the sauce is reduced.

Add the kidney beans 5 minutes before the end, just to make sure that they are warmed through.

Tip: Top with a swirl of fat free fromage frais and sprinkle with chopped herbs and paprika and serve on top of a large jacket potato or with lots of rice

- or for an Extra Easy SP day fill at least half of your plate with delicious Speed vegetables, of your choice.

Community



School Quiz Night at the Badger

We had a fantastic evening on November 18th for our Charity Quiz and another full house! We would like to say a big thank you to all who donated raffle prizes and gifts, our quiz master (Jonny Quiz) our auctioneer Tim and our very own host for the evening Barry-John.

A special thank you to you guys for coming along and supporting this wonderful event.

We managed to raise an incredible £1000 for Eastington Primary School. Our thanks and appreciation to everyone ! Cheers!

Severnside Beavers and Cubs

We are based at the scout hut on Whitminster Lane, and we currently have spaces.

Boys and girls aged 5 3/4 - 8 years have you considered beavers?

Boys and girls age 8-10 years have you considered cubs?

We offer a varied programme and have lots of fun and adventures, including trips, camps, sleepover at Gobananas is a favourite!!

Email severnsidecubs@gmail.com or call 07872107298 if you would like more information

Kim Jones



ENJOY ADVENTURE? JOIN THE PACK.

Severnside Cubs

Meet on Monday Evenings at Frampton Scout Hut
6.30-8pm

Boys and Girls aged between 8-10 Years
Do you enjoy trying new things?
Making New Friends?
Camping?
Have a taste for adventure?

Why not join us at Severnside Cubs

Severnside Scout Group
Frampton Scout Hut
Whitminster Lane

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or email severnsidecubs@gmail.com

www.scouts.org.uk



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Covering Eastington and surrounding villages
Qualified through the SMAE Institute

Community



Cotswold Canals Trust

Endeavour Trip Boat Operations



Santa Cruises at Saul Junction

December 2018

Saturdays: 1st 8th 15th & 22nd

Sundays: 2nd 9th 16th & 23rd

First Trip — 10:00am

Last Trip — 3:30pm

20 minute boat trip with Santa on board *Endeavour*
at The Visitor Centre, Saul Junction,
Nr Frampton on Severn, GL2 7LA

Adult: £7 - Includes a mince pie & hot drink

Child: £7 - Includes a present

How to find us

From Junction 13 on M5, or A38 at Whitminster

Follow signs to Frampton-on-Severn

Then follow the brown Tourist Information signs to Saul Junction

The Visitor Centre is canal-side 200m beyond The Stables Café

Pre-booking not necessary

Just turn up and have fun!

Operated by Cotswold Canals Trust volunteers

All proceeds to restoration funds

cotswoldcanals.com

Community

Carol Novoth - Our Local Neighbourhood Warden.



I would like to introduce myself as Stroud District Council's Neighbourhood Warden for Eastington.

I have been a Neighbourhood Warden for 11 years looking after other areas in the district.

I have been covering Eastington for a couple of months building up my geographical and community knowledge.

As a Neighbourhood Warden we can help with the following issues: minor anti-social behaviour, abandoned vehicles, litter, fly tipping, supporting vulnerable people and minor neighbour disputes.

We also carry out home security checks and install Careline, the emergency call system.

Part of the neighbourhood warden's role also involves working with other agencies from the Police, Adult Social Care, Dog Wardens,

Environmental Health, P3(homelessness), Parish Councils and District Councillors etc.

If you feel I might be able to help you please contact me:-

Phone 07970250343 or Email carol.novoth@stroud.gov.uk

Carol will be coming to meet the Parish Council in the New Year, so if you think that there are any of the above issues that you would like the Council to raise with her, you can email the clerk@eastington-pc.gov.uk. Ed



REST AND RESTORE

**An evening of relaxation and self-care with Rachel Stevens -
Alexander Technique and Mind/Body Practitioner**

You will be guided through a floor-based relaxation exercise that you can then do at home. It will help to ...

Release tension, reduce aches and pains, realign posture, deepen breathing and calm your nervous system.

WEDNESDAY 16th JANUARY, 7.30pm at Wisma Mulia, Bridge Road, Frampton

You will need to bring a mat, blanket or rug to lie on and something for your head to rest on.

There is a £5 (£3 with concessions) charge for this session. Twelve places available.

To book, please email myppg@framptononsevern.com or call **07786 668369**.

We would like to encourage men to come along as well as women.

The **Patient Participation Group (PPG)** is a group of patients working with Frampton's GP surgery to help improve services. We want to better understand your needs, priorities and issues, so we can work together to deliver the highest quality of health care locally. **WE WELCOME YOUR VIEWS** - Please give us any feedback or suggestions for improvement - email myppg@framptononsevern.com or call 01452 741988.

Councils

PARISH MATTERS



It's been a busy couple of months for the parish council. Our permanent clerk has returned from extended leave and our temporary planning clerk is staying with us until February to help deal with all the reserved matters applications we're receiving for Great Oldbury (land West of Stonehouse). We're expecting the Ecotricity application to be considered by Stroud District Council in February 2019.

We've been making sure we are meeting our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and new privacy policies have been adopted and available on the website and our IT company will be making sure the website itself is compliant. As part of our commitment to be as open and transparent as possible we publish everything we can on our website; this includes full meeting papers on the website one week before meetings so that everyone can see what's coming up for discussion at the council meetings.

The Parish Council meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Village Hall (usually 7pm), please do come along to the meetings and let us know any issues that need our attention. The next two meetings are on December 13th and January 10th.

We're working on a project to create a memorial garden at the burial ground – the ground has been cleared of brambles and the school children have designed the layout. The layout includes benches and a sensory garden area. We will be seeking quotes soon to create the area and hope that once created people will enjoy the area for quiet reflection. People may wonder why we don't use that area for burials; this is due to the watercourse on that side of the burial ground so we have to follow rules to ensure groundwater is not polluted.

Defibrillator news.... we were let down by our electrician and so the 2 additional defibrillators were not installed earlier this year as planned. However, a new electrician has been selected and we really hope that by the time you receive this newsletter the defibrillators at the Old Badger and at the Church have been installed.

As you may have read in the last newsletter, Stroud District Council is carrying out a Community Governance Review across the district. This includes (but is not limited to) increasing or decreasing the number of parish councillors, creating / deleting parish ward areas and the possibility of amending parish boundaries.

Stonehouse Town Council made an approach to Eastington Parish Council to amend the boundary between the two parishes so that Great Oldbury became part of Stonehouse parish, leaving the hamlets of Westend, Nastend and Nupend in Eastington. Eastington PC had an extraordinary meeting to discuss the matter and councillors felt that they did not have a clear enough view of what residents thought about such a change. The District Council consultation ran for 6 weeks so we had very little time to organise our own survey that would include everyone (not just those on Facebook). So, Eastington PC put forward 4 options to Stroud DC with justification for each and if any are selected for the next stage of the Review we expect a full consultation with residents to take place. To see the response Eastington PC put forward please visit our website <https://eastington-pc.gov.uk/stroud-district-community-governance-review/>

Finally, we wish you all a peaceful Christmas. The Parish Office will be closed on 24th December until 7th January. The January meeting will take place on 10th January 7pm.

Julie Shirley Clerk to Eastington Parish Council
Tel: 01453 799616

Councils

District Councillors' Newsletter

Can we start by wishing you a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2019.

It is a good time to look back on 2018 when a lot has been happening. Here are some of the highlights and forgive me if I have forgotten anything.

- Construction has now visibly started at Great Oldbury. Whatever we think of this, a lot of work has gone into trying to make this the best environment for the residents as possible. Some of the outcomes have been an improvement, bridle paths, design and some decisions have been less successful, most particularly the decision on the buffer. Although it was always unlikely that everyone would be satisfied, I do feel we could have done better.
- Beyond Great Oldbury we have seen the local plan prevent some other proposed developments.

Needless to say there is more to do. Next year we will see:

- The Stroud District Council Development and Control Committee consider the Ecotricity Application for a Football Stadium. This was probably predicted in last year's Christmas article, but we believe that this will come to the committee in February. We with others will be making the best case we can to have this rejected.
- A Consultation has started on an update to the Stroud District Council Local Plan. This has a number of alternative proposals including a potential increase in the Great Oldbury development to the north.
- A consultation has started on Parish Boundaries including whether Great Oldbury should be part of Eastington, Stonehouse or a standalone Parish.

Very few of these things are the result of any one person's efforts but are the result of people coming together to working to improve the area we live in.

Thank you to all those that work tirelessly for their local community and, once more, can we wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope you have a well deserved break.

If you have any questions or would like us to help with any District Council issues please contact either cllr.Stephen.davies@stroud.gov.uk (07802 595 307) or cllr.john.jones@stroud.gov.uk. (07808 922918)

Thanks



**Gloucestershire
Constabulary**

Gloucestershire Constabulary has asked us to inform you that they will be actively policing the A417 between Crickley Hill and Cirencester using a highly visible vehicle equipped with a variety of equipment. This includes a new mobile camera that can see clearly what drivers are doing from 1,000m away.

The aim is to improve road safety and reduce crime. Officers will be stopping any vehicle they deem appropriate - whether it is because of poor standard of driving, the condition of a vehicle, criminal intelligence led enquiries or other intelligence like missing persons.

You can help make the A417 safer by keeping a safe distance from other drivers and being mindful of your speed.

Communications and Engagement Department, Gloucestershire Constabulary

Police Headquarters | No.1 Waterwells | Waterwells Drive | Quedgeley | Gloucestershire | GL2 2AN
01452 752629 | Department Number 01452 754466

www.gloucestershire.police.uk | Twitter and Facebook

Church



Eastington Methodist Church

Here we are, already at the end of 2018 – where did it go?! As we approach the end of this year and approach the start of another, it might be a good time to ask ourselves where we are going? At the time of writing, the country, and particularly the politicians, seem to have no idea whether we are going to crash out of the European Union, or stay in it, or sit somewhere in between. To be fair (or not), some of the politicians think they know but many seem to be in some sort of a parallel universe bereft of reality.

Christmas so often seems to be subject to the same sort of confusion. Some doubt it happened, or if it did, not the way the Bible tells it. Some look at it as an excuse for a jolly good time and mix in Santa and excesses of one kind or another with little or no real regard as to what it is really all about. Then there are those who understand the profound and fundamental reason for Christmas and accept it for what it is with joy - God's gift of Jesus to save all who will accept Him. With BREXIT we are all going to end up wherever the process ends up taking us but each one of us has to decide whether to follow Jesus or not and that decision will define our ultimate destiny.

Jesus' Birth Announced
Hands-on activities suitable for all ages with free cakes drinks and lunch
ALL WELCOME!

11am Sunday 9th December
CAFÉ CHURCH
followed by Lunch
... including CURRY!

Café Church in December on Sunday 9th and 16th will, as one might expect, have a real feel of Christmas about them starting with the visitation of the angel Gabriel to the young virgin Mary followed by the visiting shepherds and wise men after the birth of Jesus.

Café Church on the 9th will also be followed by lunch for all that wish to stay. The plan is to have curry (not exactly traditional Christmas fayre but at least we won't be bored with turkey by the 25th this way). There will be alternatives for those who might not like curry and there will be deserts.

Christmas Visitors
CAFÉ CHURCH
with Christmas carols

11am Sunday
16th December
Hands-on activities suitable for all ages with free cakes and drinks
www.EastingtonMethodists.org.uk

Finding a suitable date for **Messy Christmas** has been a challenge this year as the schools break up very close to Christmas. We have therefore decided to hold it on the afternoon of Sunday 16th December and hope that this will also enable some of those who might otherwise have been working to come along as well. Messy Christmas is ideal for families but is perfectly suitable for older people, teenagers and those who are on their own.

On Christmas Day itself, we will be holding our usual **Christmas Day Praise** service with loads of carols and the opportunity to wish each other a merry Christmas and even look at each other's presents.

Over the Christmas holidays, there will be a break in many of our normal activities. **Youth Club** will run up to and including December 21st and is expected to provisionally resume on Friday 11th January but we will confirm this nearer the time.

Ken Burgin – Senior Steward, Ken, Beck & Liz Burgin 01453 827414

Messy Christmas
Cakes Drinks Family Craft Activities
Sunday 16th December 3:00 – 4:30pm
Christmas Theme

Suitable for all ages

Christmas Day Service
10:30am - 11:30am

Church



Eastington Methodist Church - Main Activities

Baby & Toddlers Group	Mondays 10:00 – 11:30am
Prayer Meetings	Tuesdays 8:15 – 9:00am Fridays 8:30 – 9:00am
Lunchtime Bible Study	Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:30pm
Bible Study House group at The Pike Lock House	Tuesdays 7:30 – 9:30pm
Youth Club (11-18)	Fridays 7:00 – 9:00pm
Café Church (all ages together)	2 nd & 3 rd Sundays 11am
Main Services (separate activities for children/young people available)	The other Sundays 11am
For more information call Ken or Rebecca Burgin on 01453 827414 or visit : www.EastingtonMethodists.org.uk	

May we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year from all of us at EMC.

St Michael and All Angels Church, Eastington

Follow The Star

Join us in church this Christmas!
Service and event times:

Christmas Services at Eastington Church

Sunday 16th December at 3pm:
Carol Service

Christmas Eve at 11pm:
Midnight Mass

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



Celebrate Christingle with us

Join us at St Michael and All Angels, Eastington and show a child they're not alone this Christmas

Christmas Eve @ 6pm

To ensure we have enough Christingles for everyone, please contact Gary and Jacky Dingle on 01453 825542 or Mike and Jacky Naylor on 01453 828682 by Wednesday 19th December 2018

christingle.org

Community



Eastington Community Land Trust (ECLT) Ltd

The second Annual General Meeting of the Eastington Community Land Trust will be held on **Thursday 20th December 2018**, at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall

All Members of ECLT are welcome to attend the AGM, you can join on the night - life membership costs just £1.

There will be an exhibition of the designs for the proposed 23 houses for affordable rent, in Claypits.

Our full planning application is now 'in' and being considered by SDC Planning. The planning ref is S.18/2202/FUL. You can see the full details on the SDC website - all positive responses gratefully appreciated!

Tom Low, Secretary

email: tom@eastingtonclt.ltd web: eclt.eastington.website



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www.omegaresource.co.uk



WE ARE SOCIAL







Community



Will you be alone this Christmas?

Or are you a couple who find it difficult to prepare a Christmas meal?

Perhaps one of you is a carer and would like to sit back and enjoy a Xmas meal prepared for you and your family member.

If you are, then we at the Black Shed Cafe in Slimbridge would like to



12:00 Arrival

Full Xmas lunch with all the trimmings
Including wine and soft drinks
Local transport can be provided at no charge.

£15

To book, please contact

The Black Shed Cafe, Shepherds Patch, Slimbridge, GL7 2GP

Tel: 01453 890 609 email: theblackshedslimbridge@gmail.com

NOTE: Some kind people have been sponsoring this event. If you would like to sponsor a lunch for someone, or would like to enjoy a sponsored lunch, please let the staff know. Thank You.

Don't miss out on local events

Bookmark this website:

whatson.eastington.website

and keep an eye on what is going on!

NO Facebook required

Easy to browse

If YOUR local event is not listed,
just email me jan@eastington.website
completely free , no commercial ads

Lynne Jessett



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Thistledown Café

woodfired food, homemade cakes
gourmet coffee & stunning views

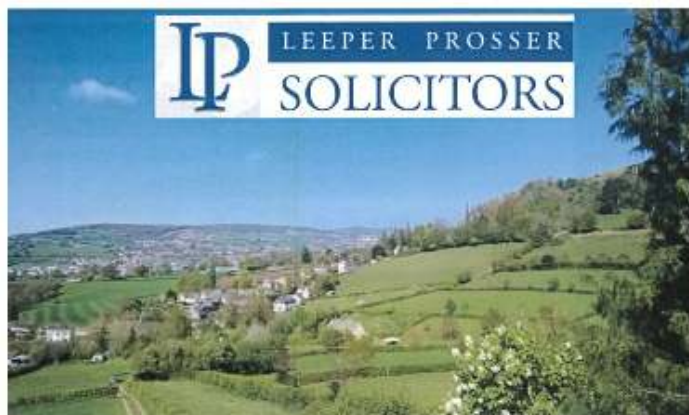


Open Wednesday to Sunday for brunch & lunch

Thistledown Café is located on our family farm overlooking Woodchester Park, with stunning views from our dining conservatory and open kitchen. Our food is prepared with a charcoal BBQ and wood-fired clay oven using local produce, foraged ingredients and free range meats. We serve vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options, and stock a range of locally-sourced alcohols. We donate 5% of all hot drinks sales to charity for tree planting and habitat creation in the local area. We're open 9am - 4:30pm Weds to Sun and offer brunch 9:30am - 11:30am, lunch midday - 3pm and cream teas in the afternoon. Join our mailing list for details of events such as vegan tapas nights, wood-fired sourdough pizzas, storytelling sessions and foraging walks!

thistledown.org.uk 01453 860420 thistledown farm, tinkley lane, nympsfield, GL10 3UH

Community



30 BATH ROAD, STONEHOUSE
GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GL10 2JA

Opening Times
Monday to Friday - 9am to 5pm

Residential Conveyancing
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www.flexicareuk.co.uk



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