

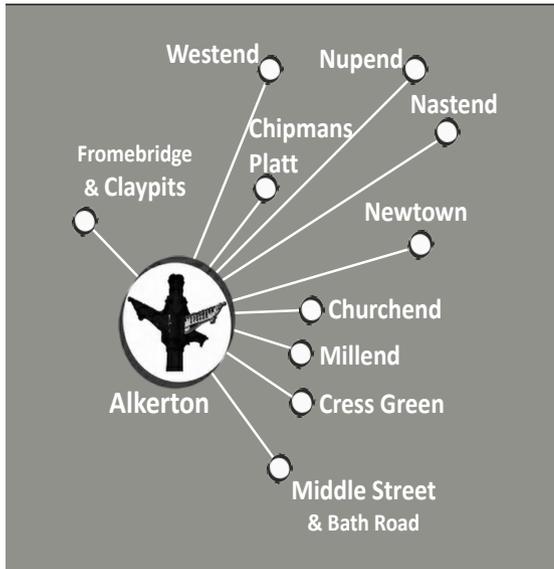


eastington community news

edition
193

<https://ecn.eastington.website>

June / July 2022



Eastington Community News
Love Eastington

Celebrating Community
in Eastington

Signpost

Your news... your ECN!

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



For the last time from us, Dear Readers, Hello!

As many of you will have seen, Jan, Tom and Mary are ready for a break and are stepping down from the production of ECN.

We have had a wonderful time sharing your stories and events and helping to promote the great community spirit that exists in our village. Community is a very precious thing, and we hope that we have helped to nurture it here in Eastington.

But, ECN is not silenced so easily, and will continue after a brief pause in the very capable hands of a brand new production team led by Sue Halas.

I wish Sue every success, and hope that she will derive as much pleasure from celebrating our community with you as we have all done.

So, huge thanks to all who are or have been a part of ECN, and we look forward to joining you, our readers!

Jan, Tom and Mary.

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Deadline for next issue : To be announced!

Please email your articles, stories, photos and events to articles@eastington.website
or, for ads please use advertising@eastington.website

Space is limited - we may omit, edit or shorten articles. Views expressed in ECN are not necessarily those of the editors.

See it in colour : visit the Eastington Hub at <https://eastington.website>

Community

Eastington Community Orchards Jubilee Picnic



Photo: Val Taylor

If you're looking for some fun on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee bank holiday, why not drop in for a family friendly picnic in the village's very own community orchard?

The main entrance is on Spring Hill, between the church and the driveway to Eastington Park.

It's being held at lunchtime on **Friday June 3rd between 12.00 -14.00.**

What can you expect?

Free tea, coffee and fruit drinks will be available, as well as music and a children's treasure hunt.

Volunteers and their families will be on hand to show you around the orchard and can advise you on getting the best from your own fruit trees. We can also and tell you a bit about the work that goes on in our two community orchards - and how you could join us to help protect these great community spaces and enjoy the harvests of the future. You might also have the chance to buy one of the few remaining bottles of the excellent Eastington Apple Juice so lovingly produced by the volunteers from the village's fruit trees last autumn.

There will be plenty of things for you and the children to do and hear about, plus plenty of perfect places for you to set up your own family picnic - or join up with others.

We do have only have a handful of wooden benches, so bring something to sit on - plus one or two things to eat or just nibble, and let us do the rest!

District Council News

For those who use taxis regularly, taxi fares in the District are likely to increase in the summer months. A report recommending a modest increase for the first for four years will be going to Community Services and Licensing Committee in June. This increase should help taxi drivers cover their recent uplift in fuel costs, the extra costs of servicing, tyres and the cost of living.

Refugees from the Ukrainian conflict have arrived in the District, some are being accommodated locally.

It is unlikely that the Planning Application for the Eco Park between J13 of the M5 and Chipman's Platt will be decided for several weeks. Both the SDC Ward Members that cover Eastington have met with the case officer dealing with the application, expressing concerns that have been highlighted in various discussions. These include car parking, particularly on match days, noise emissions and vehicular access onto Grove Lane, along with other pertinent concerns.

Anyone with SDC related concerns can contact either:

cllr.stephen.davies@stroud.gov.uk 07802 595307, or

cllr.john.jones@stroud.gov.uk 0780 8922918



WILD HOGS HEDGEHOG RESCUE

Thank you for your support of this charity which cares for and rehabilitates sick and injured hedgehogs

Hedgehog admissions: 07949 976717 General Enquiries: wildhogsoffice@gmail.com

Please make sure you put plenty of fresh water out for wildlife as it can be life-saving in dry weather.

We recommend feeding hedgehogs with dried cat food. This doesn't attract flies during the hot weather and is good for the hedgehogs. We don't recommend feeding bread, milk, mealworms, sunflower hearts, cooked meats or human food. These can all cause problems for hedgehogs.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Open Day on 10th July. Please do come along and support us. There will be plenty of family friendly activities, stalls and tours of the rescue to enjoy.

WILD HOGS HEDGEHOG RESCUE
OPEN DAY!
 10am-4pm 10th July 2022

Refreshments and cakes! Brockworth Hedgehog Rescue

Face Painting, Crafts for Children, Sweet Stall! **Walk Farm**
Whitminster Lane Teckels Animal Sanctuaries
Frampton on Severn
Gloucestershire
GL2 7PR

Tours of the rescue! **Geordie Bullies**
Springboard Rescue

Tombola, Hook a Hog, Raffle, Nest Guest, Bouncy Castle & More! **The Farm Animal Sanctuary**

www.wildhogshedgehogrescue.org.uk

Groups



Another busy term at playgroup, we can't quite believe where this academic year has gone and that we will soon be going into the final term before the summer holidays. However, they do say time flies when you are having fun, and we have certainly had a lot of fun!

We have enjoyed a lot of time at our allotment this term, planting cauliflower, sunflower, courgettes, peas, lavender and hebes.

The children have been looking for bugs and exploring the bug house to see what has taken up residence and we have spoken about how we look after creatures.



We have had visits from the emergency services, the community PCSO Tony came to talk to the children about the Police and how to find them if they are lost and all the important work they do. The children got to try on some hats and a Police vest and had the opportunity to sit in his truck.

We were also lucky enough to have the fire service come in. They came with their monkey, Buttons, who spoke to the children about how to keep safe and not to touch hot things. The children love to have visits from outside agencies as it's a great learning experience for the children and they are engaged and interested in what is being shown and said.



We were happy to invite our families into playgroup to celebrate the Queens Jubilee. We enjoyed a picnic and garden games, and together celebrated 70 years of the Queens reign. We spent the week with the children making crowns, flags and a few cakes to get the children excited and to help them develop an understanding of the event. It was so lovely to be able to prepare for such a historic event and to be able to share this with the children.

We have limited spaces for September so please get in contact if you require a place.

It is never too early to register your child for a place, please email eastingtonplaygroup@hotmail.com for a registration form.

Finally, Eastington Playgroup would like to say a huge thank you to Jan and Tom for all their hard work in putting the ECN together for so long, and helping the community share their news and achievements.

Groups



Thank you, thank you, thank you!! To everyone that came and supported the performance of 'Bread and Butter' in the church in March. We were truly overwhelmed by the support and the generosity of everyone who came. Both performances were amazing and our ladies from Hicklefords Bakery were absolute stars!!

We raised over £1000 through ticket sales, raffle tickets, and the bar. Some of the money will go to Eastington Church and the rest will go to The Red Cross in support of current events in Ukraine. THANK YOU ALL!!!



We'd love you to keep in touch. Please FOLLOW us on Twitter and Facebook so we can tell you all about what happens next. The journey has only just begun for our ladies from Hicklefords Bakery as they are now moving on to the dizzy heights of a radio play! 'Bread and Butter' was recorded as a radio production in May. Well done ladies!!



What a great day as we recorded 'Bread and Butter' for the radio play version at the studios at @UniSouthWales in Cardiff. The cast were amazing and we had a fab day! Looking forward to hearing and sharing the final cut!Lianne Hadley

Community

Click and Collect: A Lockdown Story

Greg Giddens

Lockdown drastically changed my life, much like it has everyone's lives. For a time, it stole social experiences from us, and forced us to into becoming reclusive. Work became remote for many, isolating us from colleagues. Even going outside was restricted. Our homes became our whole world. For many this was deeply upsetting and unfair, friends and family were hard to reach, hobbies couldn't be enjoyed, and people's lives were put on hold. For me, however, it presented a marvelous opportunity.

The lockdown gave me back something I was missing: time. I no longer had the commute to work to worry about. I rolled out of bed, switched on my laptop, and I was 'at work'. At the end of the workday and just switched off the laptop and I was 'at home'. It was glorious. I couldn't visit friends and family, and sure, I missed them, but that saved another huge chunk of time. I found myself to be time rich, allowing me to dive into something I'd been toying with in my spare time, something I'd always wanted to do, and had experimented with in the past, but had never put in the time and effort to see all the way through. I wanted to develop and release a videogame.

I work as a software developer, and I've worked in this role for the last 3 years. Prior to that I was a security guard, I worked nights and was studying for a degree in computer science in order to find a career in software development. As such, my experience with programming is limited to what I've learnt over the last few years. I'm green still, barely out of software development diapers, therefore, making a game was a daunting proposition. But videogames have always been a passion of mine. I adore playing them, I'm fascinated by how they work and how they've been developed. Creating one of my own would be a hugely fulfilling experience. So that's what I did, I started developing my very own videogame, taking that extra time the lockdown was affording me and using it to learn new skills, find a creative outlet, and achieve a dream of mine.

Approximately 18 months later and my game is complete. In fact, it will be releasing on PC via Steam on June 20th. It's called Click and Collect, it's a casual arcade game about serving customers in a store. I could not be more excited to see Click and Collect release on Steam. Steam is the biggest distribution platform on PC for videogames and being able to release my game on that platform is a wonderful achievement.

18 months of development, though, that's a lot of time working on a single project. I can hear the Click and Collect music in my head. I can complete each level with my eyes closed. I dream about serving customers and points rising above their heads as I do so. So much time spent at my computer programming, animating, planning, writing, crafting and testing was an experience. I can hardly look at my monitor anymore, it makes me sick. I am, of course, exaggerating a bit, the sight of my monitor causes mild nausea at worst. It was a long project that required a lot of work, a huge amount of learning, and a lot of dedication and discipline.

Developing Click and Collect took a lot of time, and as terrible as the pandemic was, without it, I'm not sure Click and Collect would exist. It's a product of circumstance, made real purely because I was restricted in what else I could do. As technical as creating a game is, it's also a very artistic and creative process. It was an outlet for me to build something new, from scratch, and it's a remarkable feeling. It helped keep me grounded and sane during lockdown. It occupied my mind and enriched my soul. I wanted to share this story of developing Click and Collect during lockdown to convey something positive. Despite all the awful parts of the pandemic I bet there's plenty of similar stories to mine about people creating things, discovering things, rediscovering or reaffirming parts of themselves, all due to the restrictions from lockdown. Despite everything, moving forwards is always positive, and at the end of tribulations there can be triumphs.

Community

I live at the Millend Mill, Millend Lane, an address that has the word 'mill' in it so often you'll never question what the building used to function as. It's a building that has adapted throughout the centuries, acting as a woolen cloth mill, corn and saw mill, maltings, animal feedstuffs, storage. It's residential now, but tucked away in the roof, here I sit at my computer, making videogames. It nice that the mill is still producing something, in this case digital entertainment.

I'll be making more games in the future. I'm very proud of Click and Collect but it's not my magnum opus. Storytelling in videogames is something I find fascinating, and this is something I want to explore next. For now, though, if a small, arcade style game about serving customers in a store takes your fancy, made by a local resident keeping themselves busy during lockdown, please check out Click and Collect over at Steam: https://store.steampowered.com/app/1957070/Click_and_Collect/



Eastington Summer Yard Sale Trail

Sunday June 26th

10 am - 2 pm



Have a de-clutter - and/or walk around and grab a bargain!

£5 sellers fee, proceeds to Eastington Church.

Maps will be available on the day from the Badger and the Co-op and from the ECN website and on Facebook.

Don't miss out!

Groups

ROTARY in the SEVERN VALE

I'm happy to confirm that we are maintaining our regular breakfasts 07.00/07.30 at The Whitminster Inn on first and third Tuesday of each month. Our gatherings are always enjoyable with most having an interesting and often entertaining speaker.

Recent speakers have included Stuart Watts, a local man, from Retro Track & Air Ltd. This family company is one of the county's gems. Established 35 years ago to service and overhaul classic racing cars, it went on to service and repair special aircraft. Among these are 'Warbirds' and WW2 Battle of Britain Memorial Flight. Stuart talked us through the company's journey to now a specialist in re-engineering engine parts from 80 year old designs.

We also had the pleasure of hearing one of our members, Mark Johnson, talk about his life and career from inner city Manchester to leafy Gloucestershire. Having left school at age 16 he pursued a career in aero engineering starting at Hawker Siddeley moving on to British Aerospace and spending time working on nuclear submarines. Restlessness in early retirement led him to start a company designing composite components for major manufacturers before moving on to become semi-retired working as a consultant. An interesting and well received presentation.

Another of our number, David Jewell spoke openly about his life in farming. Following the war David's parents moved to Arlingham and through hard work were able to start a farm with 7 acres and just 1 cow. Over time, this grew to 240 acres and 120 cows, the farm that David retired from. David spoke emotionally about starting and growing the business including many amusing anecdotes. One of these was the story of acquiring cattle before having the land needed for them (!), and another of the tale of a young bull playing in the hay tossing it around before turning his attentions to David and promptly broke his leg. Good fortune and much help from friends and family, he and his brother Rob, the owner of St Augustines farm, developed successful farming careers in Arlingham.

Along with our breakfasts, we've been able to enjoy some good social activities. The long awaited and much enjoyed guided visit of Gloucester Cathedral and also the repeatedly COVID postponed tour of the incinerator at M5 J12. Both included too much for this newsletter. Suffice to say, I can recommend them both as worthy of a visit. The history of the Cathedral and the work of Gloucester Energy was shared by very knowledgeable hosts allowing us to appreciate the combination of history and modern environmental developments and success 'in our very own back yard'.

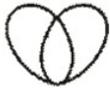
As to community projects, we've recently spent time at Wick Court, Farms for City Children, on a Himalayan Balsam Pull. The team there are always welcoming and grateful for any tasks undertaken and we look forward to our next visit. We've also been able to support young people at Severn Vale School by becoming mentors to them. Helping them make the connection between education and the world of work, helping young people develop attitudes and skills they need to succeed is always rewarding.

Next with community involvement is our support on fund raising walk for Longfield Hospice. This time as marshals and we're really looking forward to helping this very worthy local cause,

--- oOo ---

For information on events and breakfast meetings, please visit www.severnvalerotary.org.uk or contact keith.rog@hotmail.com

Community



Run the Rainbow for Longfield Community Hospice!

Longfield Community Hospice is organising the perfect messy day out for all the family, with its 'Run the Rainbow' event taking place at **Cotswold Airport on 17 July**.



Be prepared for powdered paint, foam, music and even inflatables, as you run, walk or skip through the Run the Rainbow challenge. One thing's for sure, it's going to be colourful! Start with your brightest whites and prepare to be turned into a human kaleidoscope!

Featuring a 5K route suitable for the whole family, it's the perfect summer day out and a great opportunity to raise money for Longfield.

This year Longfield aims to support more than 1200 patients with life-limiting illnesses, carers and family members, through both the Wellbeing Centre in Minchinhampton and through care in patients' homes.

To sign up and see more details, visit longfield.org.uk/event/run-the-rainbow

Registration is £20 for an adult (16 and over) or £15 for a child or sign up to raise sponsorship. This event is kindly sponsored by Taylor Wimpey.



Coming in June the Stanley Players' presents two murder mystery comedies!

In Michael Snelgrove's Hidden Meanings a Fraud Squad investigator looking into the disappearance of £300,000 from a company's accounts, doesn't expect to walk in on Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson, or to find himself investigating a case of murder. But in this hilarious farce, nothing is quite what it seems, and every character has a guilty secret to hide.

David Tristram's Murder in Little Grimley is the latest instalment of his much loved series. It follows the exploits of the sole four members of an amateur dramatic society. Clashes in personality ensure rehearsals are always colourful. However, as opening night of their latest murder mystery approaches, things take a darker turn leaving the cast wondering if life has been imitating art.

Join us for a night of entertainment and laughter at 7:30pm on 23rd, 24th and 25th June at Kings Stanley Village Hall, GL10 3PN.

Tickets available at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/stanleyplayers> or by calling 07547 905708.

**THE STANLEY PLAYERS
PRESENT A NIGHT OF
MURDER MYSTERIES**

**HIDDEN
MEANINGS**
BY MICHAEL SNELGROVE

&

**MURDER AT
LITTLE GRIMLEY**
BY DAVID TRISTRAM

THURS 23RD TO SAT 25TH JUNE
7:30PM AT KING'S STANLEY VILLAGE HALL

Tickets £8 Adults and £6 Concessions
For tickets call 07547 905708 or visit
www.ticketsource.co.uk/stanleyplayers

This amateur production of "Hidden Meanings" and "Murder at Little Grimley" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

History

Memories of Middlehall Farm

Stephen Mills

The Covid pandemic had many of us isolating for protracted periods. Some (like me!) probably spent too much time in front of the television, although others used their time more productively, catching up with various things that had been put off for too long. Such was the case with former Eastington resident Dan Morgan, now resident in the Norfolk town of Thetford.

Dan's family moved to Eastington in 1951 to take over Middlehall Farm – this is located at the Frocester end of the village. Dan's family finally moved on in 1972, although he retains strong links and fond memories of Eastington. His parents' ashes are buried in the 'new' orchard at the farm. Dan kindly shared his childhood memories of growing up at Middlehall, in the process, giving an insight into how much things have changed in farming in the course of a generation.

But let's hear Dan's own words:

Early days

I think that I should point out that we were hardly a conventional farming family. Before the war my Dad was a bank Clerk in the City of London. Leaving the army, they moved to Devon to help on my Grandfather's small farm. Only he wasn't a farmer either - a businessman who had formed the first transport company in Nigeria, and with the profits had bought the farm. I was born in Devon. We moved to Eastington in 1951 (after my Grandfather had died), bringing his herd of Guernsey cows with us.

Dad was hardly typical in several ways: for a start he voted Labour, which made him something of a rarity among the local farming community. Plus he wouldn't allow the Berkeley Hunt onto our land. They trespassed at least twice, on one occasion breaking into the farmyard, and frightening all the heifers. This resulted in Captain Berkeley coming out of his castle to make a grovelling apology! Halfway through the interview my Dad realised my younger brother was there lying on the sofa, with his shoes and socks off!

Having said all this, I loved growing up on the farm, being able to roam the fields, it's where my love of history and archaeology developed. The trouble was the farm was too small to make much money, and none of us three sons were interested. Steve went to Cambridge, me to Art College, and Jonathan did all sorts of things.

An interest in history develops

A couple of years ago I donated a lot of archive material I had about Eastington to Stroud Museum. This included my complete set of 25 inch to the mile maps of the parish, which though printed in the 1920s, had actually been surveyed in the 1880s. On them I marked all the archaeological finds I had made by field walking.

In about 1971 Nick Spencer ploughed the field by the Frome called Ketchpool Tyning - Alfred Keys records the presence of a "Pesthouse" there in the 18th Century. I walked over this field, and found a large scatter of 18th Century material in one area, to the north of the pylon in the field, if I remember rightly. This material is now also in Stroud Museum, along with finds from medieval and post medieval cottages site around Middlehall Farm.

In about 1960 the Sperry Company [based in Bonds Mill, Stonehouse] erected a wooden pole in one corner of my Dad's field, called Tyning. This had a box of electronics on the top of it. A jet plane used to fly around this for a while. I believe it was something to do with the "Bluestreak" missile system. So you can say that Eastington had a part to play in the Cold War!

History

The photos below date from the early to the mid-1950s.



Dan's father bringing the Guernseys in for milking



Some of the Guernseys outside the cowshed. The present farmhouse was built on the cow yard



My brother Steve and myself sitting on a wagon outside the cowshed.

The boy wearing the welly boots, and the girl are two of Les and Sally Jones' children, who lived across the field in "Elm Hay", the last house on the Frocester road.

That end of the cowshed was the dairy, where the milk went through a paper filter and over a cooler into the churns.

Middlehall Farm in the early 1970s. By this time Dad had sold the farm (but not the house or orchard) to Wilf Spencer, who farmed at Claypits. This shot shows the old farm buildings, including the barns, built in 1806 by Richard Workman, who also built the farm cottage.



History



Readers might remember an article in a previous ECN on Billy Goodrich, one of the more eccentric and interesting characters from the village's past (see: Billy Goodrich - Eastington's 'wild man' <https://ecnarchive.eastington.website/history/billygoodrich153.html>).

The photo above was taken in 1906 outside Middlehall Farm. Apparently, the party was on its way to vote in an election. Billy is seated in the 'carriage'. The man behind him is Joe Taylor, nicknamed by Billy as "Poor Pity", as his drinking led to him losing Middlehall Farm and being reduced to the status of farm labourer.

Billy's final resting place is in Frocester churchyard.

Who paid for the headstone remains a mystery.

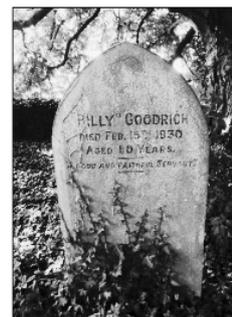
It reads

"Billy" Goodrich

Died Feb 15th 1930

Aged 80 Years

"A good and Faithful servant"



Postscript

Like everything else in life, farming doesn't stand still. Novel techniques are developed, different crops come and go, ownership changes hands, and increasingly sophisticated machinery takes on many of the tasks that only a generation ago, were carried out largely by hand.

Over the years, Middlehall Farm has witnessed many of these changes and it continues to evolve – alongside the normal day-to-day operations, it is now also home to the splendid Eastington Farm Shop.

I wonder what else the future might bring?

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NURSING CARE HOME

Churches



St. Michael and All Angels Church Eastington



The Austerity Lunch held at the Church on 30th April attracted over 60 supporters and the event proved to be a great success. About eight different soups were on offer complimented by a range of puddings and many folk came back for second (or more!) helpings.

We were most fortunate to have enjoyed glorious weather which encouraged full use of the tables and chairs we set out on the south side of the church.

A total of £560.00 was raised for the Red Cross Ukraine Appeal.

This would not have been possible without generous donations of vegetables from Eastington Farm Shop and bread from the Co-op as well as a number of cash donations and contributions from a large band of helpers who made soup, home baked bread and puddings and served on the day.

Many thanks to all.





Churches

We have set up a collection point in the Church for specific items for Ukraine.

The list is as follows:

Boots and new socks, baby food and hygiene items, tinned food, chocolate, torches, batteries, medicines, medical equipment, adult hygiene, clean new underwear and Android tablets.

All items collected are taken on a weekly basis to the Polish Association and Ukrainian Church in Gloucester who then transport the goods overland to the areas in Ukraine where the need is greatest.

Please remember **The Stroud District Foodbank**, too, especially having regard to the cost-of-living inflation and the stark choice between food or fuel which many will face in the forthcoming months. A reminder there is a collection point at the back of the church which remains open during the day time. All donations are gratefully received and taken to the Foodbank on a weekly basis.

The well-used library at the back of the church is re-stocked with fresh books on a regular basis. You are welcome to come into the church for a quiet browse.

Our new web site is now up and running: <https://www.stroudwaterchurches.org.uk/>

Church Services

Our regular pattern of services at Eastington is planned for the next two months on the second and forth Sundays of the month at the usual time of 11.15am.

For further information on forthcoming events taking place in Eastington and across the Stroudwater Team you can ask to receive the weekly pew sheet by emailing: officestroudwater@gmail.com.

If you would like more information or simply to be in touch, please contact one of the Team clergy:

Rev Steve Harrison: rectorstroudwater@gmail.com

for general queries but particularly events in the Stanleys, Selsley, Frocester, Moreton Valence and Whitminster

Rev Liz Palin: tv1stroudwater@gmail.com

Frampton-on-Severn, Arlingham, Fretherne, Framilode and Saul:

Rev Dave Bishop: tv2stroudwater@gmail.com

Stonehouse, Standish, Eastington, Haresfield



Cotswold Canals Trust

Western Depot Logging



LOGS FOR SALE

Collections

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Community

Red Kite over Eastington



20 years ago this would have been a rare sight - Red Kites were virtually extinct in England, due to persecution, destruction of habitat and use of pesticides. They were still present in Wales and they were re-introduced into the Chilterns.

They have since spread their wings as it were, and moved back into Gloucestershire. Derek Greenaway spotted this handsome fellow in Millend.

Fortunately, they are now thriving as we become more aware of the value of wildlife and biodiversity.

Frampton Village Society Talks

A warm welcome is extended to everyone to come to our series of 2022 illustrated talks which we hope will be of interest to all local people.

The talks are 'normally' on Friday evenings starting at 7.30pm in our Village Hall, but during Covid we have been organising some talks electronically via Zoom. We are monitoring the ongoing Covid situation to see when we feel we can safely return to presentations in our Village Hall. We will advise as events unfold (hopefully for the better!) and advertise as applicable to members and the local communities.

You need not be a member of the Society to attend; the non-member cost is £3.50 per person including refreshments if appropriate

For more information contact Kelvin Broad on 01452 740775 or email kelvinsbroad@btinternet.com

PROGRAMME Summer/autumn 2022

- 27th May – Trade on the River Severn in Gloucestershire – Nicholas Herbert
- 24th June – Sweeps to Slaves: Working Children in the Past
- 23rd September – Gloucestershire Observed Through the Diaries of its Inhabitants
- 21st October – AGM and Bill Wood Presentation
- 25th November – SS Great Britain – Launch to Re-Launch – Ian Caskie

Community

Eastington Spring Flower Show March 2022

Once again the Eastington Spring Flower Show in March was a big success, with some amazing cakes and other goodies being displayed as well as all the beautiful flowers.

'Best In Show' was awarded to Mrs S McDonald for this impressive amaryllis
Very well done to all concerned!



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Churches

Eastington Methodist Church



Last Autumn, we announced that the members of the church voted to leave the Methodist Church of Great Britain denomination. This is proving to be a long drawn out process and we are looking to God to bring about a satisfactory or even miraculous outcome..

The decision has been made to close Eastington Methodist Church but we have been clear from the outset that the transformation from the current church to the new one should be done in such a way as to maintain the work and witness of the church within Eastington and the surrounding area with as little disruption as possible.

A particular issue is the future ownership of the building where the church at the denominational level is determined to prevent the building going with us. How this will pan out will depend quite heavily on what our local Gloucestershire Circuit decides to do and there is a critical Circuit Assembly meeting happening just 3 days after the press date for this Eastington Community News.

Hopefully there will be some clarity soon as to the timescales and whether or not we will have to face the challenge of buying back the building at “full market value” even though it would have originally been paid for by our predecessors here at Eastington. If there is an attempt to get planning permission to knock the building down and redevelop the site, and thereby displace the activities that take place there, we hope there will be vigorous local opposition.



In the meantime, the life of the church goes on. At our 12th June Café Church we will be learning about the Holy Spirit who came down upon Jesus’ followers at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is still active in Jesus’ followers today. His presence is very tangible at times and His involvement in our lives can cause truly amazing things to happen. The presence of the Holy Spirit confirms within the hearts of Christians everywhere that what they believe isn’t a myth or some nonsense made up by ignorant predecessors who were easily fooled into believing just about anything.

At our 10th July Café Church, we will be looking at family trees including that of Jesus. Although Jesus was the Son of God and God was His father, he was placed within the earthly family context of Mary and Joseph.

The Café Church services start with hot and cold drinks and finish with cakes. Everyone is welcome and there is something for all age groups to engage with.

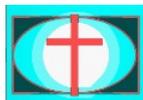
Youth Club – For the first time in 3 years, we were able to take a small group of young people to Spring Harvest at Minehead albeit for only one day on Tuesday 19th April. It involved an early start to enable us to attend the morning sessions. This was followed by a free afternoon to take advantage of the Butlins facilities (principally the swimming pool this time) and then the evening session. We got back a little after 11pm.

We expect youth club to be running every Friday throughout June and July except for Friday 3rd June which is part of the Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend.

Some weeks may find us at the OHMG Snakey Lane park/field for some of the evening and if we get some hot weather, we may deploy the water slide! We would like to hear from anyone interested in helping us run the youth club.



Churches



Eastington Methodist Church

Eastington Methodist Church Main Activities (please check the website for details)	
Baby & Toddler Group	Mondays 10:00 – 11:30am
Prayer Meetings using Zoom:	Tuesdays & Fridays 8:30 – 9:00am
Lunchtime Bible Study (includes a light lunch)	Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:30pm
Bible Study House group using Zoom	Tuesdays 7:30 – 8:45pm
Youth Club (11-18)	Fridays 7:00 – 9:00pm
Sundays at 11am:	Café Church (all ages together) Sunday Jun 12th, Jul 10th
	Morning Services (refreshments afterwards) The other Sundays 11am

If you'd like to know more; or you'd just like someone to talk to; or if we can help in any way; give us a call.
 Ken & Beck Burgin 01453 827414 or 07511197265 or email: info@EastingtonMethodists.org.uk
www.EastingtonMethodists.org.uk

Craft Fair

SAVE THE DATE : SATURDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2022

We are going to be holding a Craft Fair on the above date, at Eastington Village Hall.

Everyone welcome to come in and see the beautiful handmade items on sale (cash sales only I'm afraid).

There will be a variety of things to choose from, such as crochet items, hand made quilts, hand made cards and hair accessories, soft toys, hand made handbags and lots of Xmas goodies, the list is endless.

A great opportunity to purchase items for Xmas or any other occasion.

Tea/Coffee/Biscuits will also be on sale.



In the meantime, have you all seen the jubilee bunting on our flower boxes? - all kindly made by the talented members of Eastington Craft and Chat. Thank you, crafters! Ed.

Community

Frampton Surgery Update

Patient Participation Group (PPG).

We continue to work with the surgery to improve the service. If you have any feedback or suggestions for improvement, please email myppg@framptononsevern.com in confidence, or call Ali on 741988, or Jane on 740964. You can also contact the Practice Manager, Claire Farragher direct via www.framptonsurgery.co.uk – select ‘Administration Office’ and then ‘Feedback and Complaints’.

Appointments – we continue to offer a mixture of routine face to face and telephone appointments which are bookable in advance, and same day telephone appointments for anyone who finds themselves unwell on the day.

If you don't like speaking on the phone, we can speak to someone else with your permission who is involved in your care.

A pharmacy can help with minor ailments in otherwise healthy adults, including hayfever, which can be an issue at this time of year for many people. Please use a pharmacy for minor ailments before coming to us.

Physio, podiatry, healthy lifestyles services - Not all services require our input for referral:-

Physio – a patient can self-refer online at <https://www.ghc.nhs.uk/our-teams-and-services/adult-physiotherapy>. You don't need to tell us you have done so as we will receive the information electronically once you are seen.

Podiatry – a patient can self-refer online - <https://www.ghc.nhs.uk/our-teams-and-services/podiatry/> or ring 0300 421 8800. Again, you do not need to tell us as we will be notified.

Healthy Lifestyles Gloucestershire - support with weight management and a more active lifestyle. They also provide support for those wanting to stop smoking or moderate their drinking. You can self-refer at www.hlsglos.org/referral

There is further signposting for carers and those seeking support with their mental health on our website – www.framptonsurgery.co.uk/digitalpractice/wellbeing-centre

Flu vaccinations - Unlike the previous two years, healthy 50-64 year olds are not eligible for a flu vaccination on the NHS for the upcoming season. We will contact eligible patients when the vaccines are available - usually in October.

Covid Autumn Boosters - We are awaiting further information from the government. We will be in touch with you once we know more.

Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) at Stroud - The Minor Injuries Unit at Stroud is currently undergoing refurbishment but remains open. Patients do need to book an appointment at the moment, Phone 0300 421 7777.



Betty Barnfield

Betty passed away peacefully on Wednesday 27th April, aged 102. A service of thanksgiving for her life was held at Eastington Church on Friday 20th May.

Betty featured in ECN on the happy occasion of her 100th birthday, and had previously written for us about her memories of WWII.

She was well known and loved in the village, where she had lived since 1931. She was an active member of the community in her younger days, singing in the church choir, enjoying success in quizzes and the Eastington Produce Shows, and supporting the British Legion. She remained a member of the Womens' Institute until her passing.

Eastington Community News

News!

ECN is taking a short break

The current production team is stepping down - mainly due to old age and other commitments.

We have been hoping that someone would come along ready to take ECN into the future, but nothing seemed to be happening and we did not know how long the 'break' would be -

- Not too long, as it turns out.

A very capable lady, Sue Halas, has come forward and will be working over the summer to gather a new team together ready for a fresh start in the autumn.

I know that you will all give her the support she will need to ensure the continued success of ECN. ECN has been part of Eastington life for a very long time - and, thanks to YOU, is without doubt the best local magazine around.

So to everyone who has contributed items, to our local business advertisers and to our wonderful delivery team, my personal thanks for your support over the years, and farewell. I know that I leave you in very able hands.

All Best Wishes, Sue.

Jan



You can contact Sue on the usual email addresses
(articles@eastington.website and advertising@eastington.website) and via the website