



Eastington Community News

edition
194

<https://ecn.eastington.website>

Oct / Nov 2022



Eastington Community News
Love Eastington

Celebrating Community
in Eastington

Your news... your ECN!

Written by You, Produced by Sue Halas and delivered by many!

Dear Readers,

Welcome to a slightly different magazine! Inside you will find articles from your favourite contributors plus lots of new material. My aim is for the magazine to continue to provide local news and views and I welcome contributions.

A big thank you to Jan Low without whose stalwart stewardship this magazine would not have been published!

Best Wishes

Sue Halas



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Deadline for next issue : Monday 21st November (For delivery around 1st December 2022)

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>



We are delighted to have welcomed our families back after the summer break and have had the pleasure of welcoming new families and children into our setting.



We continue to enjoy our outdoor environment and have been enjoying the allotment and all we have grown there. The children have been picking the beans and sweetcorn and using these in their play in the mud kitchen and also offering it to slugs to eat. We have some planks of wood



and tyres and the children have been encouraged to use these to challenge themselves physically which they do very well, making paths and walking across them.

Before the summer we were lucky enough to celebrate the Queens Jubilee with a Jubilee picnic and in light of recent passing we are so glad we marked the occasion with our families. The children made crowns, bunting and learnt the national anthem which was a joy to listen to as they sung it with so much enthusiasm.

We were very proud to see our pre-schoolers off to school at the end of the summer term. It's always a pleasure to see how much they grow in confidence and how they develop in their time with us, some of our children are with us for 2 years so it can also be very emotional, but we hope they are all getting on well at 'big school'.



Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to register your child for a place with us, it is never too soon, and spaces book up fast!

Call 07977342742 or email eastingtonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk

to speak to us about availability or to arrange a visit.

Eastington Primary Primary School

Return to School by Class 4

Class 4 have had a brilliant return to school this term so far.

After a long and sunny summer holidays, the class have started by thinking about our school values: to be kind, cooperative, resilient, ambitious and responsible. As a class we thought about how important it is to work as a team, so we collaboratively took each school value and thought about how this impacted us in our new class each day. As a group we came up with some positive rules for each value, that we aim to follow, for us to be happy and be the best we can each day.

We created our class charter, and we each painted a handprint to show we agree to follow these 'can do' aims each day. We drew portraits of ourselves to show who we are and what we are aiming for. Discussed how we know if we are doing well in our lessons was fun. We compiled lots of ideas to show us how we can be responsible for our learning and understand how we are progressing.

Finally, we thought about what we are looking forward to this year in class...here are some of our thoughts:

'I am looking forward to new lessons and learning new skills in maths.' -Sakura

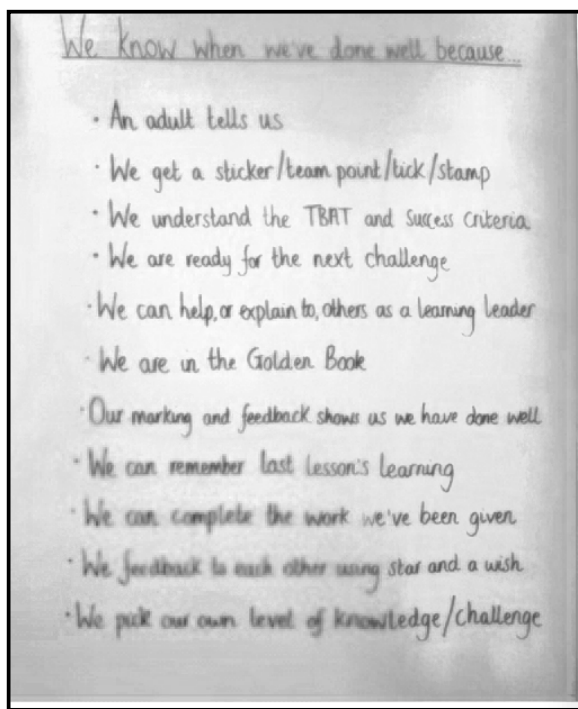
'I am looking forward to learning new things and making new friends.'-Arlo

'I am looking forward to doing new topics in PE.'-Jacob

'I am looking forward to working with new teachers.'-Olivia

'I am looking forward to the whole new school year.'-Sophia

What a great year we have ahead of us! We hope you do to.



The intriguing story of Eastington's church bells

Stephen Mills

There's perhaps nothing more quintessentially British than the sound of church bells echoing across the rural landscape. It's a sound that's been an almost constant feature of village life for many, many centuries.

In earlier times, smaller churches had perhaps just a single bell, but when practically no-one owned a clock of any sort, its regular note marked the passing of the hours, calling the farm labourer to the field, the blacksmith to his forge, and in Eastington's case, many others to the local cloth mills. But obviously, alongside this important role, the main function of church bells was for religious purposes, summoning villagers to services or to announce the fixed times of daily Christian prayer. They also brought people together for happy occasions such as weddings, but at other times, signalled the passing of a relative or neighbour, summoning friends and family to the funeral. Only a few weeks ago, muffled church bells across the country marked the passing of Queen Elizabeth.

In the Christian tradition, up to the 18th century, the ringing of church bells was also believed to drive out demons, but bells might also be rung to heal the sick, to calm storms before a journey, to protect the souls of the dead, or to mark the day of an execution. Some people were of the opinion that bells could ring themselves, especially at times of tragedy or disaster.

So, the ringing of church bells was not necessarily limited to religious purposes, and at important points in history, they rang out to warn the local population of impending danger such as possible invasion or attack. However, for a time, the opposite happened during the Second World War - on Churchill's instructions, all church bells were silenced for a time, only to be rung in the event of a German invasion.

But church bells also came into play when periods of conflict came to an end - for example, at the end of the Great War of 1914-18, a dark period in history that claimed the lives of 21 million soldiers and wounded 21 million more. When the armistice came into force at 11 am on the 11th November 1918 ("the eleventh day of the eleventh month at the eleventh hour") and the guns finally fell silent, the bells of churches scattered throughout the Five Valleys rang out joyously, accompanied by innumerable factory hooters and whistles.

It was somewhat ironic that during the conflict, many church bells around the country had been requisitioned, melted down and used to manufacture artillery shells sent to the frontline. It was doubtless a sad occasion to see bells treated in this way as they were traditionally considered to be symbols of peace and community.

St Michaels's bells

Bells were first introduced into Christian churches around 400 AD although it would take another 200 years for them to feature prominently in Britain. A church could have a single or multiple bells, although the situation could change. For many years, Eastington had a single bell. Keys' *History of Eastington* confirms that from the date of the earliest church warden's entry in 1616, up to 1953, there was only one bell. Numerous other sources confirm that this was the case.

But history hints that in earlier years, Eastington may once have had a peal of bells - the records for St Cyr's church, adjacent to the Stroudwater Canal just outside Stonehouse, suggest that by 1703, it had a total of six bells. Four of these were dated 1636 and said to have come from St Michaels in Eastington. However, it was not until 1953 that Eastington once again had a peal of bells. In that year, St Peters church in Frocester was in the process of being demolished. Fortunately, the tower was retained (it's still there – Figure 1) and a new home found for the peal of six bells that was re-hung in the tower of St Michaels. Work was undertaken by local builder Mr L W Clutterbuck and Whites of Appleton. Along with the bells, he adapted the 1850 bell frame from St Peter's. The Frocester bells replaced the existing single one known locally as 'Mournful Minnie'.



Figure 1 *The surviving tower of St Peter's church, Frocester, the original home of 'our' bells*

The 'new' bells had a long and interesting history before starting their new life in Eastington. Four of the six had been cast by William Wettmore (or Whitmore) in Frocester way back in 1639, one by Abraham Rudhall in 1743, and another by John Rudhall in 1794; two were recast in 1892. The rehomed bells continued to give sterling service up to the mid 1980s at which point it was considered that remedial work was needed. The bell frame had decayed to the point that it was no longer strong enough for safe bell ringing and in 1987, a fund-raising appeal was started to raise the estimated £20,000 needed for the modernisation and repair work. A major part was for a new steel and cast iron bell frame, needed to replace the rickety wooden one. Money was also needed for wheels and wheel assemblies, pulley box and rollers, ropes, headstocks, bearings and so on (Figure 2).



Figure 2 *The peal of six bells in the tower of St Michael and All Angels (courtesy Derek Greenaway)*

In 1989, after a period of silence, following a tremendous amount of hard work (both physical and fund raising), the peal of six bells rang out once again (Figures 3 and 4). The bells were re-dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Jeremy Walsh, Bishop of Tewkesbury. In an interview with *The Citizen* at the time, Tower Captain Celia Harris commented that the final bill might be more than £20,000, but costs had been saved through the stalwart efforts of volunteers undertaking some of the work themselves. Funds for the restoration had been raised through a series of waste recycling schemes, coffee mornings, dances, and concerts.

Incidentally, Tower Captains were appointed to ensure, amongst other things, the good behaviour and respectability of the bell ringers - I'm sure Eastington's ringers have always behaved impeccably!



Figure 3
Eastington bell ringers. From left, Joan Smith, Celia Harris, Robin Harris, and Betty Telling.

From The Citizen, 3 July 1989



Figure 4
Happy bell ringers, 1989
From left to right: Robin Harris, Andrew Cozens, Mike Wiggall, Iris Smith. Celia Harris is sitting in foreground



Eastington Cricket Club

It's fair to say we got off to an absolute flyer this season, winning our opening friendly match followed by wins in the first 3 games of the league. After such a successful start we were soon brought back down to earth, losing our next 3 games. The remainder of the season can only be described as 'varied', with some good wins but a disappointing run of 4 losses, including some tight games we found ourselves on the wrong side of.

Our aim for the season was to target a mid-table finish, we were amongst 3 teams in the middle of the division finishing on exactly the same points, just an extra bonus point would have left us finishing 5th, however due to a low net run rate we finished the season 7th, however this is an improvement on last season.

All results and league tables can be found on our website: <http://eastingtoncc.play-cricket.com>

Honours for the season go to the following:

Batting – Will Beese once again is our leading run scorer with 621. Freddie Burrage picks up the best batting average with 47.80.

Bowling – Paul Hancock takes both bowling awards as leading wicket taker with 29 victims at an average of 17.66.

As always, we are really keen for anyone to get involved with the club in whatever way they can, whether that is as a player, volunteer or showing us support watching games. Everyone is always welcome, so if you'd like any further information or know anyone that might want to be a part of our club, please get in touch with one of us using the details below, you can also follow us and get in touch through Facebook and Twitter.

Club captain: Paul Hancock [07793 145254](tel:07793145254) or paul@hancockonline.co.uk

Fixture information: Roger Beese [07884 438417](tel:07884438417) or rogerbeese@yahoo.co.uk

General matters: Keith Dench [01453 764990](tel:01453764990) or kdench19@sky.com

Facebook: [@eastingtoncricketclub](https://www.facebook.com/eastingtoncricketclub)

Twitter: [@eastingtoncc](https://twitter.com/eastingtoncc)

Paul Hancock

Captain, Eastington Cricket Club

Some Summer Memories!

Ocean Bridge installed and canal path opened...



Celebrating the Jubilee at the apple orchard picnic..



A fun morning at the Yard Sale...





Changes of Leadership for ECO in 12th Anniversary Year

2019-2022 Annual General Meeting

Kevin Dalby stepped down as Coneygree Orchard Warden after 12 years of service in the post. Kevin has been a pillar of ECO for all these years, starting with researching and planning the selection of all the 58 trees you can now see maturing at Coneygree.



Kevin led by example, pouring energy into planting trees (*ramming a support post, left*) building paths and fences.

Often supported by Donna and/or children, Kev was equally active during the annual round of Apple Days. Seen here (*right*) shaking cider apples to be caught in a blanket below (or hitting heads of volunteers holding the blanket)

Coneygree stands as testament to Kevin's enthusiasm, which is appreciated by all ECO members.



"Plant vegetables for yourself but plant trees for your grandchildren"

Other Committee Changes

Since the last AGM, pre-covid, Gloria Morris has retired after 11 years as Treasurer. Her assiduous book-keeping and presentation of accounts was a cornerstone to ECO gaining grants from various bodies from £500 to £8,000. The John Deere sit-on mower is the pride of our assets, ably wielded by husband John. Both John and Gloria were thanked by the AGM for their behind-the-scenes service.

Wendy Fabbro also stepped down as Chair, having steered ECO through the difficult years of Covid lockdowns, social distancing and "rule of six". An un-enviable 3-year stint, much appreciated.

The AGM welcomed John Livingstone as Coneygree Orchard Warden, Andrea Steeden-Crane as Treasurer and Tom Low as Interim Chair.

Debbie Cunningham remains as Orchard Warden, having cared for Brownings Orchard throughout Covid with just husband Mark handling the mowing. Emma Levan and David Aston also carry on, having jointly staged the very successful Picnic-in-the-Orchard on Jubilee Day (and being asked to do it again next year!).

ECO events coming up

Apple Days are with us, if you have any spare apples or pears, please **contact Tom on 823425**

Parish Apple Day will be Saturday 22nd October at the OHMG – fun for all the family – bring apples if you have any to spare but **most importantly bring yourselves**

A schedule for **winter tree planting and spring pruning** will be in the next ECN. Why not join in and learn?

STOP PRESS: *Freshly pressed apple juice now available at the Farm Shop!*

Our Seasonal Recipe

Toffee Apple Pan Crumble

The classic British dessert just got a lot easier and a whole lot more satisfying with this one-pan recipe. An easy-to-make toffee and apple crumble is great for entertaining or a lovely way to end a family meal.

80g unsalted butter

80g granulated sugar

1 vanilla pod, split, or 1 tsp vanilla bean paste

4 bramley apples, peeled, cored and cut into even chunks

Clotted cream or ice cream to serve

For the topping

225g plain flour

150g unsalted butter, cubed

75g light brown soft sugar

Handful hazelnuts, coarsely chopped

You'll also need...

25cm cast iron or heavy-based ovenproof frying pan



Method

1. Heat the oven to 190°C/170°C fan/ gas 5. To make the topping, rub together the flour and 150g butter in a large bowl until it resembles breadcrumbs. Stir in the brown sugar and hazelnuts, then set aside.
2. In the frying pan, melt the 80g butter and granulated sugar with the split vanilla pod or paste, shaking the pan to swirl the mixture together as a caramel. Try not to fiddle with it too much. Cook for 2-3 minutes, then add the apples and coat in the caramel. Cook for 8-10 minutes more until the apple turns golden.
3. Sprinkle the crumble topping over the apples, then transfer the pan to the oven and bake for 25 minutes. Serve with cream or ice cream.

Many Thanks to Pam Swinford

Do you have a Christmas recipe to share in our next edition?

Please email me.. articles@eastington.website

Make the most of your garden in Autumn



My Name is Jess, I am a professional Garden Designer based in Eastington.

My husband and I moved to the village in 2018 with our two dogs. We have always loved getting our copy of the Eastington Community News, and I am thrilled to be adding a regular garden feature.

This time of year can be a spectacular time in the garden;

- Late flowering perennials and grasses are taking center stage, with leaves on the trees creating an incredible show,
- October is still a great time to plant new perennials giving them time to settle their roots before winter,
- And, you can start to think ahead to Spring and plant your Spring flowering bulbs (you still have time to buy them if you haven't yet!)

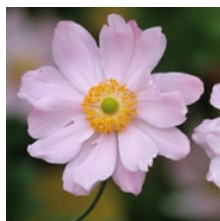
If you are sat feeling that your garden doesn't have much going on right now, I have five plants that you can use in your garden to create a fantastic Autumn show;

If you have space:

1. *Pyrus calleryana* 'Chanticleer' - a narrowly conical medium-sized deciduous tree with glossy dark green leaves, that colour well in autumn. Abundant clusters of white flowers in spring
2. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight' (PBR) a robust spreading plant with dense clusters of long-lasting flowers that emerge mid-summer in lime green, fade to cream and finally turn shades of deep pink in autumn.



3. *Stipa tenuissima* (Mexican feathergrass) clumps of hair-fine foliage wave an endless display of silver-green flower heads, each seed tipped with a long silky filament



4. *Anemone x hybrida* 'Königin Charlotte' a very special late summer perennial. Grows to 60-90cm. Flowers from August until as late as November.



5. *Aster x frikatii* 'Monch' the best Michaelmas Daisy for long display and sheer beauty

If you want more garden tips and inspiration, check out my website or follow me on social media.



www.jhgardendesign.co.uk
[jessica_holcombe_garden_design](https://www.instagram.com/jessica_holcombe_garden_design)
 Jessica Holcombe Garden Design



Autumn Flower and Veg Show



A huge thank you to everyone that entered or just popped in to this year's Autumn show which was held in the village hall on Saturday 10th September 2022. Considering the hot weather and lack of rain, the show was well attended if slightly down on numbers compared to last year's show.

The prizes were won by

- Mr R Hughes for most points in show (men's), best runner beans in show and best allotment which all allotment holders at snaky lane are automatically entered into.
- Mrs Q Jones for most points in show (ladies) and best orchid in show.
- Miss S Reece for most points in the children's section.
- Miss P Haines runner-up most points in the children's section.
- Mr D Haines for most points in the fruit classes.
- Mrs G Glover for best in show with her fabulous display of home-grown greenhouse vegetables. (pictured below)



The next show is the spring show which is booked in for Saturday the 1st of April 2023.

Once again thank you to all that help and sponsor the show.

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Church of Christ the King Eastington



A lot has happened since the last edition of Eastington Community News. Eastington Methodist Church had its last service on 28th August and on 4th September, the new Church of Christ the King Eastington had its first Sunday morning service.

The new church is an independent evangelical church which seeks to proclaim God's message as given to us in the Bible and to serve the local community. We meet at the Eastington Methodist Church Hall opposite the butchers, at least for now, and have taken over the running of the Youth Club and the Toddlers Group from the former church. The new church is a registered charity and is run by Trustees which will be elected by the church members; many of which have transferred from the former Eastington Methodist Church.

We feel there is a lot that God would like to see done here in Eastington and the surrounding area but we need more people to get involved in order to sustain what we do already and expand into new areas of service. In serving God, we see our own faith exercised and sometimes challenged in ways that mean we have to rely on God rather than try and do things in our own strength. In doing so, we see breakthroughs, experiences and miracles that being an isolated Christian sitting at home watching TV, even Christian TV channels, doesn't really provide.

²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10 vs 23-2

Our main services are at 11:00am every Sunday and all are very welcome. If you have children, please let us know you are coming and we will organise some colouring activity for them. Our monthly Café Church services are organised to enable children to take part along with everyone else.

On October 23rd, we will be holding a **Healing Service**. Much healing took place in the Bible and we will be looking at this before offering prayer to those who are seeking healing now. Please don't let the fear of the unknown or unfamiliarity deprive you of this opportunity; it can be life changing but nothing is going to be forced on anyone.

Youth Club – We have enjoyed a couple of outings this summer, indeed one of them was the very first activity of the new church just one day after it took over. This was a trip to Wales where we walked under waterfalls and a few of the braver young people went into the particularly cold river water. It has to be said that the waterfalls were somewhat diminutive after the long dry summer but a good time was had by all.

Youth Club should be running every Friday in October and November from 7:00 – 9:00pm. New members are welcome.



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)		Thursdays 1:00 – 2:30pm
Youth Club (11-18)		Fridays 7:00 – 9:00pm
Sundays at 11am:	Café Church (all ages together)	Sunday Oct 9th, Nov 13th
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@CoCtKE.org.uk
[www. CoCtKE.org.uk](http://www.CoCtKE.org.uk)

Our Lovely Liz... Our first Local Hero.



Liz has lived in Eastington for over 53 years. She was born here and lived in Puddlesworth Lane with her mum and dad. Puddlesworth Lane is no longer a lane but is now the M5!

As a young girl she moved with her parents to Frocester and then later back to Eastington. Liz attended Eastington Primary school and then went on to Maidenhill School.

When she left school she worked in Stroud, firstly at Elizabeth Wool shop and then at Bellmans Clothes shop.

Liz has two sons, Dale and Lee, and two granddaughters who she loves to care for when she's not working. She also enjoys reading and gardening.

Liz has worked at Eastington Post Office for nearly 35 years!

When she started it was situated around the corner before moving into the village shop. During her 35 years Liz has seen the shop change from a Spar to Londis and finally the Co-op.

Working at the post office has certainly changed over the past 35 years.. Not the least moving from book work to everything being computerised.

Liz says she loves her job as it is different every day. She meets so many lovely people from the village, with many wanting to stop for a chat. This was certainly the case when I went to meet with her.

Liz you are definitely a local hero with your cheerful disposition and happy smile!.

We are really lucky to have you - A big thank you from us all!

Would you like to nominate someone who works in our village as a 'Local Hero'?
If so please email me on articles@eastington.website.

Remembering Great Uncle Fred

Val Taylor

Anyone who has travelled through northern France will have witnessed the acres and acres, mile after mile it seems, of Commonwealth War Grave Commission (CWGC) cemeteries with their neat rows of Portland Stone headstones and carefully tended lawns and gardens. They have transformed former battlefields of unimaginable carnage into something poignant and beautiful. Many of us will have ancestors from either or both World Wars commemorated somewhere.



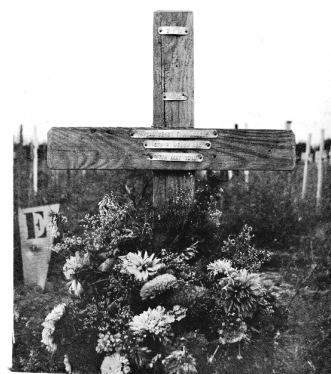
Fredrick William Woolley was born in 1894, the youngest of Edward & Susannah Woolley's four sons. He was my Mother's Uncle and my Great Uncle, but of course neither of us ever knew him.

After war was declared in August 1914, Fred enlisted that autumn with the 3rd City Battalion at Moseley College in Birmingham. In the photo, a group of men are wielding digging tools and standing in a half-dug trench. Fred, on the left, has a pick-axe over his shoulder and a fag dangling from his lower lip. They look scruffy, but comradely and Fred, at least, looks quite cheerful.

So off went Fred to France, now having joined the 16th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Sadly, I don't have much information about his movements before the day he died on 27th May 1918. He had, at least, attained the rank of 'Serjeant'. From references in Terry Carter's excellent book *Birmingham Pals*, I think Fred must have been wounded during the Battle of the Lys (9 Apr 1918 – 29 Apr 1918) and subsequently died at the Medical Unit that was based in Aire-sur-la-Lys, Pas du Calais.

Fred's parents were sent a sombre photograph of a wooden cross in a field of wooden crosses.

I managed to read enough of the information tacked on the cross, so I contacted the **Commonwealth War Graves Commission**, who were able to tell me where Fred is buried. The regiment on the wooden cross was wrong (16th Royal Welsh) – he was, in fact in the Royal Warwickshire Regt. but many such errors must have occurred in the chaos of so many casualties. They got it right on his Portland Stone headstone.



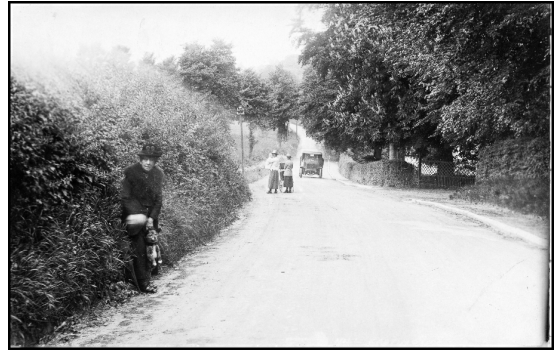
My daughter Joanna, her husband Tom and I went to Aire-sur-la-Lys to seek Fred's grave. We found it in the Commonwealth plots at the back of the rather austere, 'gothic' Aire Communal Cemetery on an appropriately drizzly grey day. The burials here were made from medical units stationed in Aire: 865 British, 15 Canadians, 6 Australians, 1 New Zealander, 4 Indians, 3 British West Indians, 3 French and 7 German Soldiers.

What a waste of young lives.

Please buy a Poppy.

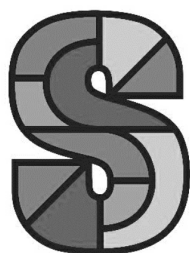


Early Eastington



A selection postcards that belonged to my Great Aunt Phyllis Shill who lived in Eastington all of her life from the early 1900s. Phyllis had close ties with Eastington Church.

Steve Paskey



STROUDWATER TEAM OF CHURCHES

**St. Michael and All
Angels Church
Eastington**



Following the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II we set up a place in the church for quiet reflection and prayer. A book of condolence was made available during the period of mourning and this will be passed on to the local archivist so it can be preserved as a permanent record.

Church Services

Services for October and November will be held as usual on the 2nd and 4th Sundays and in addition there will be an All-Souls service at 2pm on Sunday 30th October.

On the 13th November our Remembrance Day Service will be held at the earlier than normal time of 10.45am so that a minute's silence can be observed at 11am. The service will be followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial in the churchyard.

Looking further ahead in we celebrate Advent on 27th November and there will be a Carol Service on the 11th December both at 11.15 am.

As usual we will be repeating the popular Christingle Service on Christmas Eve at 6pm. If you would like a collection box these will be available at the back of the Church nearer the time or call Jacky on 01453 828682. All proceeds go to the Children's Society

A full list of services throughout the Team can be found on the website so take a look at: <https://www.stroudwaterchurches.org.uk/>

The Bells

Elsewhere in this edition of the ECN Steve Mills has written an article on the history of Eastington Church Bells. Having read this you may be left wondering what is like to actually ring a church bell. If this sparks an interest, we are always looking for new ringers. We practice on Monday evenings at 7.30pm and you will be made very welcome if you want to come along to see the bells in action and perhaps have a go!

Ukraine

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.

Food Bank

Please remember The Stroud District Foodbank, 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. 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.

Library

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 and borrow a book for a modest fee.

Information

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: general queries but particularly events in the Stanleys, Selsley, Frocester, Moreton Valence and Whitminster: rectorstroudwater@gmail.com

Rev Liz Palin: Frampton-on-Severn, Arlingham, Fretherne, Framilode and Saul: tv1stroudwater@gmail.com

Rev Dave Bishop: Stonehouse, Standish, Eastington, Haresfield: tv2stroudwater@gmail.com



Memoriam Notice

Sadly Sue Greenaway passed away on the 1st June after a period of ill health.

My mum Sue, had quite a lot to do with Eastington Church back in the early to mid eighties. I remember the lovely Noel Baker being Vicar at the time and mum being on the rota for Flower Arranging along with Judy Cheshire and a few others. Angela Reader was just starting out as a Lay Reader and as a great team of volunteers the church had a thriving community keeping it all looking beautiful. Mum and Dad have lived in the parish for 52 years so were well known in the community.

Anna Mullins.

Family Announcements

Let us know about your BIG DAY coming up

- email articles@eastington.website

Birthdays in Oct/Nov

Liz Haines

Jan Low

A big Happy Birthday!



Anniversaries

Sue and Paul

Happy Anniversary!



Well, what a summer we have had! So much support from local customers as well as ones visiting the area. Thank you to all those who have supported us. For those who haven't made it yet there are plenty of reasons to visit over the next few months.



Over the summer we launched our very own ice-cream. We make it right here on the farm with our award winning milk. It's a soft serve ice cream – better known as 'Mr Whippy' simple but absolutely delicious. Remember us on those late summer days – you can stroll through the village and have an ice cream half way round! Perfect!

As we move into the autumn harvest is well underway. You'll notice a lot of tractor movement in and around the village as farmers finally get to work after a very long, dry summer. On Middlehall farm the harvesting has been completed and we are now spreading muck, fertilizing the ground and adding nutrients ready to plant cover crops over winter. This year we have planted a real mix of cover crops and if the weather is right will make a beautiful display – and super wildlife friendly with plenty of seed and pollen.

The shop slows a little after the buzz of the school holidays, but there is plenty of planning going on for Pumpkin picking, wreath workshops and of course Christmas!

Pumpkin picking will be held over October half term and surrounding dates. We have a pumpkin patch that has been lovingly grown and we hope you will all come along to pick your own.

We also have some craft workshops organised over the coming months. All details are on our website.

Please sign up to our newsletter at www.eastingtonfarmshop.co.uk – go to the very bottom of the webpage to subscribe. This will keep you up to date monthly with new products, events, and anything else we think is exciting!

B	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	D	A
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What's On!



Fun for all the Family!
Half term activity
Try the traditional skills with
Eastington Community Orchard
Group (ECO)
Bring apples if you have some
Bottles of apple juice for all
“workers”



OHMG Community Centre Snakey Lane

Frocester Womens' Institute



Saturday 8th October

At the Frocester Cricket Pavilion, GL10 3TW

Doors Open 10am

Entry fee 20p

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Lots of bargains Lots of CAKE!

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.

Hope to see you all there!

Eastington Craft and Chat



Frocester Women's Institute



Whist Drive

Thursday 20th October 2022 at 2.00 p.m

At FROCESTER CRICKET CLUB

GL10 3TW

All welcome

£4 entry to include afternoon tea

Contact – Mr N Pitel 01453 762957



ROTARY in the SEVERN VALE

I am pleased to confirm that we have continued our fortnightly breakfasts at The Whitminster Inn and have enjoyed some very interesting speakers.

This Summer this has particularly been the case with speakers from the War Detectives whose research allows the remains of military personnel to be named; Rory's Well, a local charity which has established 127 wells in Sierra Leone and is now helping communities far more effectively and sustainably; followed by Theresa Fisher, our local Tesco 'Community Champion', sharing the much unknown work Tesco undertake in the community in support of those in need.

Our next speaker was from a Stonehouse based charity, Sunflowers Suicide Support, offering support to those who have lost a loved one to suicide. There is lack of such help and support elsewhere and they have received a hundred referrals locally in the first six months of this year alone.

Our latest speaker was David Stephens, providing an update on progress of Vale of Berkeley Railway. Loss of the bridge over the River Severn 1960 closely followed by the Beeching cuts saw the end of service 1964. Skill, dedication and enthusiasm by members has resulted in clearing the site, reconstructing demolished buildings and restoring steam locomotives, culminating in the winning of a lease from Network Rail securing their future. They now have a goal of steam trains running on the track in three years time.



The Willow Trust's Spirit of Freedom

As to hands-on activities, we arranged a day out on the canal for students from Eastington's William Morris College on one of Willow Trust's boats and spent time working in the orchard at Wick Court. We've also managed Frampton Open Gardens this year, which attracted record numbers of visitors raising £3500 for Longfield Hospice.

Very recently we organised our fourth annual rally of interesting cars. This attracted an ever increasing number of participants enjoying the day driving through

the hills and vales of Gloucestershire raising money for Rotary and other local charities.

So, you can see a full summer for Rotary in Severn Vale. However, we always find time to enjoy each other's company socially, with a visits to Stroud Brewery and the Centre for Guide Dogs for the Blind. We also had a most enjoyable afternoon as guests of friends Ted and Bridget Meredith picnicking and exploring the fun and challenges of Croquet a far more complex and skilful game than many realised !

As Summer slips into Autumn, I'm pleased to confirm that over the year 2021/22 we have donated over £11,250 to charities and worthy causes.

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



Please join Eastington Wombles



Litter picking will take place on Sunday 2nd, 9th & 16th October

2nd October -

Group 1 -Adult only from Eastington roundabout to Motorway. 8 am start

Group 2 All age groups from Kings Head to OHMG and playing field. 10.00am

9th October

Group 1- Adult only from Hill view garage to Fromebridge roundabout. 8.00am

Group 2 - All age groups from the Badger to school.

16th October

Group 1 - Adult only from Fromebridge roundabout to the motorway. (Meeting point tbc)

Group 2 All age groups, litter picking around the village.

There are 4 high viz jackets and some litter picking sticks available.

I hope those who have joined us previously as well as new participants will join in with the October clean up.

Please note unless it is torrential rain the litter pick will go ahead.

There is a national push on litter picking so it would be great if Eastington residents joined in especially as there is lots of rubbish following the verge trimming.

Tina J Davies



The Cost of Living Crisis



Here at Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswold Districts we are seeing an increase in demand for our services as a result of the cost of living crisis.

Over the last three months we have seen a 92% increase in requests for charitable help from the same period last year, with people seeking help with food, fuel or hardship fund payments.

Whilst the Energy Price Guarantee announced on the 8th September comes as a huge relief to households, energy bills are still very high. In winter 2021, the energy price cap was set at £1,277 for typical use. The new Price Guarantee starting on 1st October for households on typical use will be £2,500 a year.

If you are worried about paying your bills there are a few simple things you can do:

1. Work out your budget. Find out exactly how much you have coming in, and what's going out, and think about where you may be able to make savings. There is a useful budgeting tool on the national Citizens Advice website (<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>) to help you.
2. If you don't think you can pay your energy bills, contact your supplier. There are schemes to help customers but if you don't tell them you are struggling then they can't help you
3. If you have debts, look at the guidance on debt on the national Citizens Advice website.
4. Check if you might be entitled to any benefits. If you have internet access you can use Turn2Us, Entitledto or Policy in Practice benefit calculators to check what you might get.
5. **Make sure you have received any cost of living payments that you are entitled to. If you are in council tax Band A-D property you should have received a rebate on your council tax and if you are a pensioner, on benefits or disabled there are various extra payments that you should be receiving.**

If you cannot access the internet please call us on our freephone number **0808 800 0510** to access advice.

If you are really struggling and don't have enough food to eat you can call the Trussell Trust Help through Hardship Helpline on **08082 082138**.

Please do ask for help – we understand that these are worrying times.

You can get advice by calling us on our freephone number (**0808 800 0510**) and email advice through our local website (<https://www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/>) under the Get Help section. We are also seeing clients by appointment in our Stroud and Cirencester offices and in the community at various venues across both districts – currently Dursley, Paganhill Community Hub, Stonehouse APT, Wotton-under-Edge, Moreton-in-Marsh and Tetbury.

We are also looking for new volunteers to train as admin assistants in both our Cirencester and Stroud offices – if you are interested please email info@ca-scd.org.uk. We also welcome donations to support our service – find out more on our website <https://www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/>.

Longfield Fire Walk

Can you stand the heat for Longfield Hospice?

Longfield Community Hospice is looking for brave daredevils to take part in its fundraising Fire Walk on Friday 9 December.



Participants are challenged to walk 15ft over hot coals.

The challenge is scheduled to take place in the hospice's grounds in Minchinhampton, from 6-9 pm, where participants will walk 15ft over hot coals at 550 degrees Celsius. The event will be supported by one of the UK's leading Fire Walk companies, UK Fire Walk. Fire walkers will receive training from Scott Bell, who is a two-time Guinness World Record holder for the 'Greatest Fire Walking Distance'.

"Please come along, face your fears and take on this amazing challenge for Longfield. We promise you'll be in safe hands!" "Not everyone can say they've walked on fire, and you'll be raising money for a worthwhile local cause, helping provide free care for patients across Gloucestershire and support for their families and carers too."

Registration is £30 per person and the hospice is asking fire walkers to raise £150 or more in sponsorship. Numbers are limited so people are advised to register soon to avoid disappointment. For more information about the fire walk challenge, and to register, visit longfield.org.uk/event/fire-walk.

WILD HOGS HEDGEHOG RESCUE

Registered Charity no: 1168800

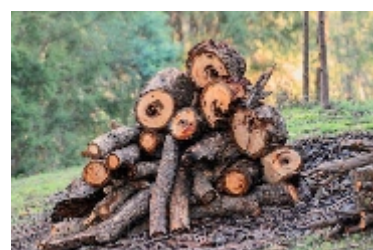
Hedgehog admissions: 07949 976717 General Enquiries: wildhogsoffice@gmail.com

The start of Autumn is the time many people work on their garden. It's a great time to tidy up, put in a pond and cut back trees and shrubs. If you're doing work in your garden please try to leave some area 'untidy' for wildlife. Hedgehogs love log piles and a heap of leaves makes a great nesting place for them. If you are going to burn garden waste, please make sure you light the bonfire on the day you make it or move it before lighting it. Hedgehogs can creep in overnight!

At this time of year, we also get asked about autumn juveniles – hoglets born this summer that may still be small in size. If a hedgehog is out in the day, please call us immediately on the number above.

However, small hedgehogs out at night can be supported in the wild with cat food and water.

- Hoglets can double their weight in a month, they don't need to be rescued just because they're small.
- Hedgehogs can successfully hibernate from 450g
- Hibernation only happens when temperatures are regularly below 5C – frosty days.
- Hedgehogs do not need to be over wintered. They get stressed in captivity and putting out food and water and nesting materials (dry leaves, straw) will help them stay healthy in the wild.



FRAMPTON VILLAGE SOCIETY TALKS

A warm welcome is extended to everyone to come to our series of 2022 illustrated talks held in Frampton on Severn which we hope will be of interest to local people. The talks are normally on Friday evenings starting at 7.30pm in our Village Hall and are organised by Frampton on Severn Village Society, which raises funds for various village projects – please refer to the full programme and dates at the end of this article.

You need not be a member of the Society to attend and the cost is £3.50/per person, but entrance is cheaper for members and tea/coffee plus biscuits are provided for all!

Should you be interested in becoming a member, please contact Kelvin Broad on 01452 740775 or kelvinsbroad@btinternet.com

The remaining Frampton on Severn Village Society 2022 programme of talks is detailed below and will take place in our Village Hall.

We are currently compiling a mixture of local and national topics, plus some live entertainment for our 2023 series of talks and will publish these in future reports once finalised.

Remaining 2022 programme of talks for your diaries:

21st October – AGM and Bill Wood Award Presentation

25th November – S.S. Great Britain – Launch to Re-Launch – Ian Caskie

Early December – Christmas Dinner – In planning

Which Magazine Subscription....

Did you know Gloucestershire Libraries have a subscription to Which? online, to help you make the best purchase decision for your needs.

All you need to do is email ask@gloucestershire.gov.uk or call 01452 426991 to get in touch with the Ask Us team and they can provide you with specific reviews for products such as pushchairs, baby monitors, baby and child car seats, air fryers, toasters, washing machines, ovens etc, that have expert tested by Which?

This is a free service to anyone who lives or works in Gloucestershire.

To find out more please visit: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/ask>

New PCSO To Your Area

To the communities of King Stanley, Leonard Stanley, Frocester and Eastington I would like to introduce myself as your new neighbourhood Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). My name is Tony Martin, I'm new to the world of policing. I'm currently working through what we call the tutorship stage, which is due to finish at the end of March. Starting at the beginning of April I'll be within your communities building relationships.

Please if you see me around say hello.

Tony

Anthony Martin (Police, PCSO, Stroud)

**If you have enough to share,
please remember others in these difficult times**



What is a food bank? How does it work?

Food and other essentials like toiletries are donated at various collection points (see below). These are collected, sorted, stored and organised by a team of volunteers based at the warehouse in Brimscombe. There are 3 paid part time staff , over 150 regular volunteers and a further large team of volunteers involved with collections.

People in need can be referred to the foodbank by any of the caring agencies - these include Citizens Advice, P3, Stroud District Council housing support officers, children's centres, health visitors and social services as well as local schools and doctor's surgeries. Clients will receive a food bank voucher - typically for a parcel of three days worth of food and emergency supplies. Each client will also be supported by a volunteer who can help direct them to other sources of help that may be available, according to specific needs.

How can I help?

Donations of (non-perishable!) food and household essentials are always needed.

There is a collection basket at the back of St Michael's Church, and this is taken weekly to Brimscombe.

Donations can be made directly to the Warehouse at Unit 19, Canal Iron Works, Hope Mills Lane, Brimscombe, Stroud, GL5 2SH between 10-12 or 14-16 Mon-Friday. There are also collection points in Stroud Tescos and Sainsburys. All donations are gratefully received, but of particular need at present are tinned meat and fish, cooking oil and cleaning/washing materials.

If you might like to become a volunteer, or for any other enquires, you can contact Stroud Foodbank on 01453 367077 - more information is available on the website and on Twitter

<http://strouddistrict.foodbank.org.uk> and https://twitter.com/SD_foodbank

Stroud District Food bank is a registered charity (no 1176306) managed by a board of volunteer trustees. It is a member of the Trussell Trust network of foodbanks. <https://www.trusselltrust.org>

