



# Eastington Community News

A free, locally produced  
publication celebrating  
community in  
Eastington.

**PHOTOGRAPH:** GEORGIE  
BROCKLEHURST

**ISSUE 204**  
Jun - Jul 24



Community | History | Business | Environment  
Youth | Events



# Eastington Village Hall



*For your function or group meeting*

Central village location

£8 per hour

Kitchen, tables & chairs

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Owen Harris Memorial Ground



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Eastington Community Centre,  
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Eastington, GL103AQ



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For articles, stories, photos,  
artwork, events and front cover  
submissions, email:

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To update or submit a new  
advert, email:

**ADVERTISING@EASTINGTON.WEBSITE**

(Discounts available)

(Advert design and photography  
services available)

Thank you to all those who  
already make this publication  
possible, **please support them.**



**PHOTOGRAPH BY:  
GEORGIE BROCKLEHURST**

Some may recognise this oak tree as the beauty that stands alone in the cow field beside Millend Lane. It can be found adjacent to the River Frome along the public footpath, three fields in. It is estimated to be at least 400 years old.

.....  
TO SUBMIT YOUR OWN WORK FOR THE FRONT COVER OF THE NEXT ISSUE, PLEASE EMAIL **ARTICLES@EASTINGTON.WEBSITE**. ALL AGES AND MEDIUMS WELCOME.




# Editor's Note

**Welcome to issue 204.**

**Yes, you may have noticed ECN looks a little different. We had some issues trying to install '90s software onto an equally old computer and it became apparent that it was probably time to upgrade. How's that for honesty? Please bear with us while we get used to our new setup. Have a read, and do share your feedback with us - what do you want in your local magazine?**

**Until next time,  
The ECN Team x**

**P.S. And remember to...**

-  [articles@eastington.website](mailto:articles@eastington.website)
-  [ecn.eastington.website](http://ecn.eastington.website)
-  Eastington Community News

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## PRINTER:



## DELIVERERS:

Eight hundred magazines later... thank you to the twenty-seven lovely people who have delivered this issue.



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# EASTINGTON YARD



**SATURDAY 15th JUNE**  
**10:00am - 1:00pm**

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£6.50 to register to sell

Register at: [eastingtonyardsale@gmail.com](mailto:eastingtonyardsale@gmail.com)

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# STRAWBERRY EXTRAVAGANZA

**Saturday 22nd June 2-5pm**

Strawberries & Cream

P r o s e c c o

**Musical Entertainment  
Childrens Activities**

At St Michaels & All  
Angel's Church Eastington

**Tickets £10.00 | Children £5.00**

Tricia: 07724 551711/01453 822415



# TwoCan Newsletter



BY LOUISE PARTRIDGE



**TwoCan celebrated its 10th birthday in March with a big party for all its members and their families. Despite the weather there was much fun had by all with a BBQ, 'Guess the Baby' competition, 'Bash the Pinata' and a quiz to mark the day.**

As a way of celebrating and raising the charity's profile it has planned a series of events to take place over the next twelve months.

One of the events will be a treasure hunt around Eastington village on 6th August. You may have seen

some of our 'Journey to Independence' members and Birdy, the therapy dog, investigating where the best places would be to set up their markers. They have been walking each week around the village finding suitable spots and putting together a map with their ten chosen locations.

As well as collating their information for the treasure hunt, they have also used the walks as an opportunity to do a river survey. They have been checking on the speed of the river, the quality of the water, the wildlife that the river encourages and the environment surrounding it. One of the things that came from the survey was the amount of litter that they came across on their travels. So, they decided to do something about it, picking up what they find each week, uncovering Costa cups, McDonald cartons, cans and crisp packets.



To add some fun to their walks they have also invented a fitness challenge - a run up Millend Lane, as a result they have now nick named it 'Hell Hill'. If you see them out and about, be sure to say hello and feel free to join them up the hill.



.....  
TWO CAN IS AN INCLUSIVE THEATRE COMPANY BASED IN GLOUCESTER. YOU CAN FOLLOW THEM FOR MORE UPDATES ON FACEBOOK: @TWO CAN INCLUSIVE  
TWO CAN THEATRE.ORG.UK

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LOUISE PARTRIDGE IS EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AT TWO CAN.



# Heart of the Village Newsletter

BY SUE WITHERS



Since our last article in the April to May issue of this magazine, our little pop-in sessions have gone from strength to strength...

Our get together on the 20th March was as successful as ever and graced with an Easter theme. Fabulous Victoria sponges, crispy chocolate nests, lemon drizzle, easter biscuits, rock cakes, tray-bakes and Simnel cake were spread across the head table & towered onto the vintage cake stands. Lovely decorations adorned the room all relating to the Easter theme. The hall looked absolutely stunning. A special basket of mini chocolate eggs were placed on each table for our guests to enjoy. One lucky lady even took home a basket full of chocolates that were donated for our 'Free Door' ticket raffle.

Our next get together was 17th April and had the theme of spring flowers and butterflies. Once again the hall was decked out to

look absolutely amazing. The raffle baskets were filled with scented candles and so much more. Again, beautiful cakes were made and donated; lemon drizzle, butterfly cakes, Victoria sponges, chocolate cake, blueberry muffins, flapjacks and so much more. And our guests piled in once again to savour the delights while the tea and coffee flowed. Some attendees were even treated to a "Bake Away" (A cake to take home!).

We have had kind donations of several vintage crockery sets, cake forks, table cloths and a money tin to take our admissions. We continue to look for small little gifts that anybody would be willing to donate. A notice board was very kindly donated, so we can display all the helpers names on the day, the names of the people who have donated cakes and raffle prize donations. Everybody that has donated in some way have been invited for a free cuppa and plenty of cake - a win-win all round.

All this could not be made possible without our great team of helpers, cakes being made or donated, raffle donations, kind offers of designing and printing our

flyers. A few letters have been sent out to local businesses to see if they would be interested in helping in any way and we have been pleasantly surprised with the response; Eastington Farm Shop have very kindly donated a raffle prize and their gorgeous milk for our next pop-in and Mike Stayte of John Stayte Services at Claypits kindly donated 2 x £10 vouchers. We are extremely grateful. If you run a local business and would like to donate and get a mention, please contact Sue on the number below.

Our next pop-in date is below, it would be good to see you.

.....  
**Wednesday 19th June**  
**2:00pm**  
*Admission £2*

.....  
HEART OF THE VILLAGE IS A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN POP-IN EVENT THAT OCCURS ONCE A MONTH AT THE VILLAGE HALL. LOOK OUT FOR THE TEAPOT CHALKBOARD SIGN ERECTED ON THE RAILINGS OUTSIDE THE HALL ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT AND FOR FLYERS AROUND THE VILLAGE.

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YOU CAN CONTACT SUE WITHERS ON:  
07949 548539.

# Church of Christ the King

BY BARBARA LANG



## Finally some lovely warm weather!

One of my particular joys is cooking outdoors. In the past I have cooked for between 3 and 103 people, or even more, outdoors. Food just tastes so much better and you have all that lovely chatting time around the fire. I hope you are enjoying the sound of birds singing, the lighter morning and evenings and the sights of Spring.

'Is Jesus ALIVE?' This is the question we have been asking in our Bible Study and Youth groups. *Hope Together* and *The Bible Society* produced some great short videos asking this question after discovering through the *Talking Jesus Research*\* that up to 45% of people in the UK do believe that Jesus is ALIVE and that he came back to life after death on the Cross.

It is a surprising statistic but one which suggests

that people may want to ask more questions about Jesus and the Christian way of life. Lots of people feel alone and isolated in our communities today and lots of people feel they have no purpose or are of little worth. The Bible disagrees. Within it's pages you will find how God carefully planned you to live in the World he created. How God knew you before you were born and loves you entirely even if you have no knowledge of him.

You are very precious, valuable and loved more than you know. If you feel alone or find these statements hard to believe, come and meet with us and see what God has done in our lives since we first started looking seriously at faith for our lives.

Here at the Church of Christ the King in Eastington we welcome questions and love to help people find the answers they are searching for. Why not give either Beck a call on 07511197265 or Barbara on 07570401365. We are both happy to meet up with you or take you for a coffee and have a chat about life and the big questions that arise.

Or feel free to come and meet us on Sundays at 11am. For High School students we have Youth Club at 7pm on Fridays. Both events are held in the old Eastington Methodist Church Hall opposite the Butchers in Eastington postcode GL10 3AA.

We look forward to meeting you any Sunday at 11 am.

Always friendly faces and always a good time. Come any week to investigate, explore or grow on the Christian pathway through life. There are answers to even the most impossible questions about life and death, today and tomorrow. We are praying for you.

*\*Hope Together, Evangelical Alliance, Luis Palao, Alpha, Kingsgate. (2022) Talking Jesus Report.*

### Baby & Toddler Group

The Baby and Toddler Group meetings remains suspended at this time.

### Youth Club

Youth Club continues to meet on Friday evenings at 7pm we are currently planning the programme for events and trips for this year and we are accepting new members.

### Prayer Meetings & Bible Study

Prayer meetings are held twice a week on Zoom. Bible Study is a time of thinking about our day-to-day life and learning a bit about what the Bible can help us with. Meetings start with a light lunch and are usually held on Tuesdays.

Please contact Beck on 01453 827414 or 075111 97265, by email [rebecca.burgin@pikelock.com](mailto:rebecca.burgin@pikelock.com) or [minister@coctke.org.uk](mailto:minister@coctke.org.uk) for more information about events or general information about the Church.

### Looking forward to meeting you soon!

BARBARA LANG IS THE NEW MINISTER FOR THE CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING.



# Eastington Church Roof Appeal

BY GILL GLOVER



## Things are moving forward with the roof project.

We now have permission from the *Diocese of Gloucester* to proceed with the works which effectively grants 'Listed Building Consent'. We've also had a preliminary bat survey (yes, there are bats in the belfry) and we were very excited to find that there are possibly some lesser horseshoe bats in one area of the church, and most likely brown long-eared bats in the void above the nave. Further surveys will be taking place over the summer during the evenings. More about bats further down.

The Churchend area of Eastington is particularly bio-diverse and we are keen to see how we can improve this in the churchyard itself. The churchyard is now closed for burials as it is full. It is a designated Public Open Space, owned by the Church

and maintained by the Parish Council. The Parish Council is currently commissioning an ecology survey to advise on how to support and improve the wildlife there.

As part of the fundraising and in order to encourage more people to use the church and visit the churchyard, we have organised a program of events. Please do support these events if you can.

### Saturday 15th June

#### *Eastington Yard Sale*

A craft stall, tea, coffee and cakes will be served on the lawn at Lynton House, Alkerton (the white house across from Broomhall Butchers).

### Saturday 22nd June

#### *Strawberry Extravaganza*

Strawberries, cream and prosecco with musical entertainment and children's activities. See the advert for more details.

### August, date TBD

We will be going batty down at the church and having an afternoon for families to find out some fascinating bat facts, take part in nature trails and have a go at

making a bat or bird box.

### Saturday 21st September

An evening concert of local choirs accompanied by the organ.

..... Further planned events are a 'History Day' in October and a Jazz evening in November.

Finally, we will also soon be launching our 'Sponsor-a-Tile' where you can have the opportunity to designate a roof tile in the name of a family member or friend (or yourself) for posterity. For up-to-date details, follow our FB page: *Eastington Church Roof Appeal – ECRA*.

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MIKE NAYLOR IS PROJECT LEADER FOR THE ROOF APPEAL, YOU CAN CONTACT HIM AT: 01453 828682 or 07796 221188.

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GILL GLOVER IS THE LEAD FUNDRAISER FOR THE ROOF APPEAL, YOU CAN CONTACT HER AT: 01453 828782.



# St. Michael and All Angel's Church Eastington

BY MIKE NAYLOR



## Church Services

Our new pattern of services comes into effect in June when we will be having three services a month. On the first and fourth Sunday of each month there will be a communion service and the service which currently takes place on the second Sunday will be replaced with a new non-communion a "light touch" family service aimed at youngsters and families, to be taken by Rev Alice Wood, who already leads a similar service in Frampton on Severn. All three services will be at the usual time of 11:15am.

## A Bit of History

Shirley Baker, who played the organ in our church for many years and now lives at Scarlet House, has been longing to revisit the Church and play the organ once again. A trip to the Church was arranged with her carer, Em, who accompanied Shirley

and her husband Dennis in the Scarlet House mini-bus. Shirley pulled out all the stops and filled the Church with a spirited rendition of some her favourite hymns including *All Things Bright and Beautiful*. Unknown to us, Shirley had made a needle work and embroidered depiction of a brass memorial in the Church dedicated to Mistress Knevet who died in 1518. She is wearing a heraldic mantle bearing the coat of arms of her husband, symbolising the care and protection a husband gives to his wife. Shirley had painstakingly researched the colours and patterns which would have been used when the plaque was made and the result is stunningly colourful and beautiful. Shirley has donated this to the Church and we hope to display it for all to see, soon.

Dennis, who was headmaster of the village school, having retired in the late '70s, added that Mistress Knevet's father signed the death warrant for Mary Queen of Scots. He also recalled a story about one of the boys from the school finding a cannon ball in the river bed when it was very low, possibly 1976 when there was an exceptionally long, hot and dry summer. I wonder what became of it - does anyone know?

After tea and cake in the churchyard, Shirley and Dennis were taken back to their home. We hope to see them again soon. Shortly after they left, an extraordinary coincidence occurred... a lady came into

the Church and wanted to see the Denny Windows. Apparently, she had just embarked on a sort of pilgrimage, the object being to visit all of the Denny Windows in the UK. No sooner had she left, a very elegant 1937 4.3 litre Alvis car arrived with two couples on a similar mission, although in this case they had almost completed their tour of Denny Windows! The Denny Windows, which can be seen at the west end of the north wall, were designed by Thomas Denny and Richard Web and made in the winter of '92 - '93. They were installed in St Michael and All Angel's by the Bristol firm of Joseph Bell in March, 1993. Other Denny Windows can be found locally in Gloucester Cathedral where a side chapel is illuminated by his work.

The previous week we had a visit from James Davies who is the lead photographer for *Historic England* and was in the process of compiling a definitive update of all Denny Windows, both in the UK and abroad. He was not completely happy with his photographs of our windows and has to return. However, whilst at the church he took a photograph of the funerary monument to Edith Beale, whose husband Robert was an adviser to Queen Elizabeth 1st. The photograph is of such quality that the inscription can be clearly read. A book on the life of Robert Beale is about to be published, more of which will be in the next edition of the ECN and a history day planned for later in the year.



## Church Roof

ECRA (Eastington Church Roof Appeal) is now well established. We need your support so look out for ECRA events, ways to raise money and activities on our Facebook page. We have also signed up to "easyfundraising" as another way of raising money, although the amounts are small every penny counts. If you order things online then please download this app as every order you make from over 9000 businesses then pays us a small amount - without any extra to you! Please look at this link for more information:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/cause/eastington-church-roof-appeal/>

.....  
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](mailto:officestroudwater@gmail.com)

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION OR SIMPLY TO BE IN TOUCH, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE TEAM CLERGY:

Rev Liz Palin:  
[tv1stroudwater@gmail.com](mailto:tv1stroudwater@gmail.com)

Rev Dave Bishop:  
[tv2stroudwater@gmail.com](mailto:tv2stroudwater@gmail.com)

Churchwarden Mike Naylor:  
[mike@mikenaylorsurveyors.co.uk](mailto:mike@mikenaylorsurveyors.co.uk)



**STROUDWATER  
TEAM OF CHURCHES**

## Why sponsor ECN?



As well as funding the £800 it costs to produce each issue, there are a number of benefits for a business to sponsor us:

### Community

By affiliating with ECN, your business will be able to demonstrate commitment to, and support for, the local community, fostering goodwill and building strong relationships with the 2,000+ residents of Eastington.

### Visibility & Trust

Regular presence in this community-driven publication increases brand awareness and credibility among local readers, keeping your business top-of-mind.

### Local Journalism

A sponsorship will help sustain local media, ensuring the continuation of ECN's objective to share important local news, stories, and events, for all. This magazine is a lifeline for many who haven't got much access to the internet and/or social media.

### Who are we looking for?

A local business that strives for the same community-driven ethos, as above. A **local** business is important to us because:

- Local spending boosts local economy and reduces business carbon footprint.
- in this current living-cost crisis, spending money has never been more stressful. Buying local helps local people to pay their bills and feed their families; be it the local butcher, hairdresser, farm shop... all of which are run by real people who care about the quality of their service and the residents they sell to... as opposed to the uninterested, tax-avoiding, large global corporations.

**"If our local businesses thrive, so do our communities. We are all in this together."\***

For more information, please email:  
[advertising@eastington.website](mailto:advertising@eastington.website)

\*<https://keep-it-local.co.uk/>

# Frampton Village Society

BY JOHN NEWTON

## A warm welcome is extended to everyone to come to our series of illustrated talks held in Frampton on Severn...

...which we hope will be of interest to a variety of people; the talks cover both local topics of interest, more general subjects and sometimes a musical or other theme-based show.

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 do not need to be a member of the Society to attend talks. The cost is £4.00 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@outlook.com](mailto:kelvinsbroad@outlook.com).

The May talk was something special:

Given by our Frampton resident Jim Ball, this attracted the largest audience for some time to hear his experience 'From Air Cadet to Tornado Pilot' with numerous slides. Jim followed in his father's RAF footsteps joining as an Air Cadet very young and soon having rides in trainer aircraft, sometimes flying upside down and in formation - which was quite scary! Jim joined the RAF in 1966 to take an eighteen months study/academics course, followed by basic flying training, and advanced flying training where he topped the class.

Jim was always intent on becoming a 'fast jet' pilot; his first two squadrons included a posting in Malta (where he met Patsy, his wife), with short trips to Portugal, Norway and Greece and several worrying moments including fuel leaks, a cabin fire and various instrument malfunctions!

In 1975, Jim and his family were posted to 16 Squadron in Germany, flying the Buccaneer, then being on the front line during the cold war with Russia and on sorties including low level simulated attacks and on

bombing ranges in Germany, often as low as 100ft! Then to Scotland in the Buccaneer in a bombing competition with RAF Jaguars & US A7s, both of which had computer driven bomb sights unlike Jim – however, Jim and his navigator had the best Buccaneer scores, and consequently was chosen to go through an intense two year training course, in preparation for the new Tornado aircraft being built to form the RAF 9 Squadron, to be based at Honington, Suffolk.

Jim and his team showed off the new Tornados at the Farnborough Air Show, flying at 600 knots, 100ft above ground level! Another tricky aspect was learning to refuel in mid-air. By now an experienced 'fast jet' pilot, Jim was shortlisted for the Shuttle programme, but missed out despite being the one least prone to space sickness! However, RAF HQ needed a Tornado specialist and Jim became Deputy Station Commander at RAF Marham.

In 1991, Jim was flying a Tornado coming out of Wales down the Bristol Channel when an engine failed, then both engine fire lights came on and then all the controls



failed, so had to eject! He climbed into his dinghy and the Tornado disappeared into the Channel and was never located.

1993 was the 75th anniversary of the RAF, held at Marham and attended by Queen Elizabeth and other dignitaries, which took up most of Jim's last three months there organising; they assembled at least one of every RAF aircraft for the occasion.

Jim was then promoted to Group Captain based in London, then on to High Wycombe where he was responsible for the day-to-day running of Tornado, Harrier and Jaguar fleets, followed by four months in Italy, then three years in the USAF Air University lecturing on the Air Force Masters course, which Jim had to complete himself first and included international air force officers from all over the world. He ended up winning the Officership award himself!

After a further three years working for the Ministry of Defence in London, Jim finally retired in 2003.

The audience asked Jim to carry on for longer than usual, a fitting tribute to a

remarkable career and a captivating presentation.

.....  
FVS HOLDS TALKS NEARLY EVERY MONTH, WITH AN ANNUAL SUMMER & CHRISTMAS EVENT/DINNER FOR MEMBERS. SURPLUS INCOME GOES TOWARDS VARIOUS FOS VILLAGE OR LOCAL CHARITY NEEDS.

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JOHN NEWTON IS A MEMBER OF, AND REPORTER FOR, THE VILLAGE SOCIETY COMMITTEE.



## Remaining Talks for 2024

### 21st JUNE

Nature Along the Canal with Glos. Wildlife Trust & John Newton

### 9th AUGUST

Visit to Rodmarton Manor (with a meal afterwards)

### 27th SEPTEMBER

Golden age of British comics, 1950-1975 with John Reid

### 25th OCTOBER

AGM & Bill Wood Memorial Presentation

### 22nd NOVEMBER

Gloucestershire's Maritime History in the Edwardian Years with Tony Condor

### DECEMBER

Christmas Dinner & Event to be confirmed.

# Rotary in the Severn Vale

BY KEITH ROG

**The disappointing weather hasn't dampened our enthusiasm and we continue to share each other's company at our twice-monthly breakfast meetings.**

March breakfast saw us joined by Frank & Sheila King from Nailsworth Club, as well as Ian Williams, Head Teacher of Lakefield School. Ian came to thank the club on behalf of the school for sponsoring the cost of their annual visit to the Bloodhound Project in Berkeley. This he explained led to exciting possibilities in other areas in the curriculum and was much appreciated by the children. Various model cars and written comments from the pupils about their visit were passed around and reinforced the opinion that this was a good use of our funds.

Our speaker was Nigel Coyle, ex-Army RSM. He gave an interesting, and at times amusing, talk about his years in the army, starting off when

he joined the French Foreign Legion as an underage 17-year-old. He served with them for the almost obligatory five years, having trained as a parachutist and seen action in Zaire and Lebanon as a UN peacekeeper. He returned to the UK in 1981 and almost immediately joined 3 Para in the British Army. The following year he found himself in the Falklands, where he took part in the hand-to-hand fighting for Mount Longdon where seventeen of his fellow soldiers were killed. On his return he became a PT instructor and then became a weapons instructor before seeing duty in Northern Ireland. Nigel spent some time in Spandau Prison guarding Rudolf Hess, and also a spell in Bosnia. A very engaging presentation that was well received.

Our next meeting was to be our last at The Whitminster Inn and our President, Nick Ellwood, took the opportunity to present a cheque for £605 to Sandra Ashenford, *Farms for City Children*. The speaker was Katerina Pippi, Customer Relations Manager and *Dementia Friends* Ambassador from Scarlet House Care Home. She gave an interesting presentation

about Dementia, explaining this was an umbrella name for almost one hundred types of the disease which affects perhaps 10% of over 65s in a variety of ways. Coping strategies were discussed to help the sufferer and carer in their changing world.

Our following breakfast meeting was held at The Thatch Inn. The speaker was Chris Mitford-Slade, Director for the Cotswolds Canals Project: The Missing Mile. Chris began by explaining how costs had escalated to unattainable levels, necessitating a rethink in the scale of delivery. The first section to be tackled is from Bonds Mill to Pyke Bridge then, following a redesign to reduce costs, tunnelling under the M5. This alone is envisaged to cost around £3m. Chris handled a stream of questions - some of which didn't pull any punches - questions he admitted he had asked himself, but thankfully had found positive answers. A good and confident speaker who promised to return to keep us updated on progress.

Along with our breakfasts we continue to enjoy both social and fundraising events. A very successful fundraising Thai Supper was held by one of our members, Colin Ellis, in



*Summer Concert with*  
**The Severnside Singers**  
**in St Peter's Church, Framilode**

**Saturday 13th July**

*7pm*

We will be singing a wide range of music,  
as well as some sing-along favourites for you to enjoy!



**Adults £10**  
**Children under 18 free**



***To include a glass of wine or soft drink and nibbles***

**Tickets available from Pam Greenfield**  
**01452 740126**  
**The Green Shop (cash only please)**  
**or on the door**

celebration of the Thai New Year. We've also enjoyed social events – namely 'Boules and Skittle' evenings and the most enjoyable meal at The Frocester George with partners and a retired Judge as a very entertaining after dinner speaker.

With best wishes for a happy, healthy and drier Summer from members of Severn Vale Rotary.

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FOR INFORMATION ON  
EVENTS AND BREAKFAST  
MEETINGS, PLEASE VISIT:  
[SEVERNVALEROTARY.ORG.UK](http://SEVERNVALEROTARY.ORG.UK)  
OR CONTACT KEITH:  
[KEITH.ROG@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:KEITH.ROG@HOTMAIL.COM)

KEITH IS REPORTER FOR  
ROTARY CLUB OF SEVERN  
VALE.





# ECN History: Part Two

BY GILL GLOVER

## Welcome to part two of a review of the first ever Eastington Community News, produced in February, 1989.

What a ram-packed issue it was. There seems to be so much going on. We finished the last article with the Royal British Legion Junior Marching band, who it turns out were a bit partial to the odd sherry at Christmas, supplied by their Mums' apparently! More news from the news below...

### **The Eastington and Frocester Blubell Club...**

was formed in 1972 for Senior Citizens and meetings were held twice a month in the Village Hall. The group enjoyed entertainment such as a speaker or singers and a game or two of bingo. They also enjoyed outings in the summer months and were fortunate to have the use of a mini-bus kindly provided by HomeFarmTrust. The outings were particularly enjoyed by the housebound. They had forty-four members and new members were always welcome. Sounds great!

### **The Eastington Royal British Legion...**

via the Poppy Appeal. A coffee morning and a video session showing the Branch's Diamond Jubilee Celebration had raised £1,000 so far with a target of £1,200. Representatives attended the County Conference in Bourton-on-the-Water and received the Marling Cup for small branch efficiency. They seemed very keen on Whist and were just pipped in the quarter finals by Ledbury. There was also a Whist drive at the Village Hall with a competition to win the Henry Penfold Challenge Cup.

### **Women's Section, Royal British Legion...**

was an organisation in their own right with a President, Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. As well as local fundraising initiatives they also visited the sick at home or in hospital, taking gifts and items of need. Fundraising undertakings were...

*"Poppy selling, refreshments for Group Meetings, Wine and Cheese events, Quiz's, Jumble sales – anything to raise money as long as it is legal! We are a great asset to the Men's Section and how would they manage without us."*

Their motto was "service not self".

### **Meals on Wheels**

If referred by medical professionals or the Social Services Homecare Department you could receive a two-course balanced meal for eighty-five pence on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All run by volunteers from a central kitchen in Stonehouse. The service was looking for volunteer deliverers for rounds in Eastington and Stonehouse to undertake this 'rewarding public service'.

### **Gardening News**

Remember this is the February issue when apparently the weather had been wet and mild. Advice on sowing Sweet Peas, forcing rhubarb (to ensure sweet tender rhubarb when other people are making do with the last of the cooking apples) and trying something different – Kohl rabi, a member of the brassica family which is a turnip type of vegetable used in winter. Next is an article on William Morris House which is very interesting and should probably get a slot of its own.

### **The Eastington Map Group**

Aimed to make a Parish Map

with videos of the village and surrounding hamlets. They sought inserts of photographs of an earlier time and commentary from memories of the older members of the Parish. They also wanted to work with children and crafters to make a large curtain onto which would be applied individual maps. And a map showing conservation areas and natural features. They had lots of ideas and were fundraising to support the project. I wonder if any of it still exists?

There are still quite a lot of articles to come, but to skip to the back the 'Additional Information' says:

*"Contributions to this Community Newsletter may be handwritten or typed. If you are going to all the trouble of typing them it would be appreciated if they could be in single line spacing with the standard one clear line between paragraphs – this makes the pasting-up job much easier.*

*Andrew Niblett the Editor."*

Do you have any interesting historical facts or stories about Eastington that you'd like to share with the village? Email [articles@eastington.website](mailto:articles@eastington.website).



## In the 19th century, when Eastington Cricket club was formed...

...the rural English village often had a cricket team that played on the village green. In the 20th century they were joined by employment-based teams where companies had provided facilities for their employees to both attract and retain their workforce.

Such were the teams in the 1923 Cadbury's (Frampton, not Bournville) cricket club scorebook: Oakridge, King Stanley, Brimscombe, Bisley, Incubator Works, Forest Green, Cainscross, Pheonix, Holloway Bros.' Ham Mills, Frocester and Whitminster.

The 21st century has seen a decline in one-team village clubs like Eastington and an increase in larger, property owned clubs running several teams. An Eastington cricketer who emigrated to Perth, Australia last century reported that clubs there were fewer, bigger, travelled much further, and not at all like Eastington (or "Ambridge" in the Archers on radio 4!).

Being a small club means there are, proportionally, fewer players and fewer helpers to do a similar number of activities. If you fancy a game and/or "helping" please get in contact. "Use it or lose it" applies to cricket clubs as much as any other "service"!

---

PAUL HANCOCK IS THE EASTINGTON CRICKET CLUB CAPTAIN. YOU CAN CONTACT HIM ON: 07793145254

KEITH DENCH IS THE EASTINGTON CRICKET CLUB CHAIRMAN. YOU CAN CONTACT HIM ON: 01453 764990

<https://www.facebook.com/EastingtonCricketClub>

# Eastington's Victorian Cycling Club

BY STEPHEN MILLS



**The good old bike seems to have been a feature of life for ever, but only a few generations ago it was still a novelty, largely a plaything of the well-off.**

One of the earliest versions appeared in the 1870s, the well-known Penny-Farthing, or 'Ordinary' or 'high-wheeler' to give it its proper names.

Riding one of these things was quite a precarious undertaking, and many riders were injured through falling off or going over the handlebars. It was the appearance of the 'safety bicycle' in the 1880s that changed everything. These were similar in many ways to today's bikes, with both wheels of the same diameter. The diamond-shaped frame and chain-driven rear wheel became commonplace, and

they even came to boast air filled rubber tyres, rather than the uncomfortable solid tyres of their predecessors. Overall, the safety bicycle was much safer and more practical to ride, and didn't rely on the rider's strength and agility. This was the first generation to experience what we would recognise as 'modern' bicycles.

At first, bicycles were mainly a hobby for the richer elements of society, not yet a means of everyday transport for the masses. They were not cheap and well out of the reach of many working people. In 1900, a typical ordinary bike might cost £8-9, a time when the average wage was often less than £2 a week. A domestic housemaid might earn £20 a year if she was lucky. But as more companies realised that there was a growing, potentially lucrative market, availability increased enormously and prices began to fall. The result was that there was a huge boom in cycling, as

around the world, millions of men and women took to the roads on two wheels for the first time.

The bicycle became, not only a means of transport, but also a significant driver for social change. Cycling now meant that for the first time, working people owned their own personal means of longer-distance transportation, broadening their horizons and bringing a sense of independence and freedom. Cycling was taken up by people from all sections of society, greatly increasing social mixing. However, the most noticeable social change brought about by the bicycle was in the lives of women. Not only did it make them more independent, it even changed what they wore, as cycling demanded less restricting clothes. Sleeves and skirts got shorter, and soon the 'bloomer suit' was the thing for women cyclists to be seen in.

Not everyone was in favour of women taking up cycling



and reports in some medical journals of the time thundered out that “women should never ride bicycles!” It was felt that for various reasons, it was ‘unbecoming’. But it was too late, and the ranks of cyclists of both sexes continued to grow.



So what has this to do with Eastington? Like many towns and villages, cycling clubs began to develop, and Eastington was no exception. Unfortunately, we don't know the names of many of these first intrepid riders, but the club appears to have been set up in 1895. A report of a meeting held in May 1896 stated:

*“We are glad to hear that this Club which was established a year ago has renewed its arrangements in view of the summer months now upon us. Cycling has developed marvellously during the last year or two, especially in favour of the ladies, and great things are being heard*

*of the horseless carriages.”*

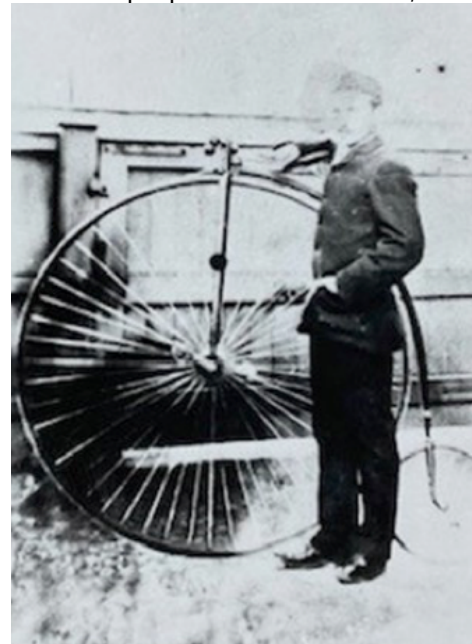
So not everyone objected to lady riders! The Eastington club seems to have been well organised - at the meeting, the Rector was elected president, and Rev P. Ridgeway, Rev M.W. Mountford, Mrs Budding, and Mrs Mayo were appointed Vice Presidents. Mr C.F. Clutterbuck was elected as Club Captain, and Mr Francis Clutterbuck as Vice Captain. Mr A.E. Palemer became Treasurer, and Mr W J.M. Smith was Secretary. Mr Fred Clutterbuck became “the bugler” – it's not clear what his role actually was, unless it was to warn others of approaching bikes?

Club runs took place on Thursday evenings between May and mid-September, starting from the Temperance Hall in Alkerton at 6:45 - 7:00pm. They certainly got around - the programme for 1895 was: Arlingham, Stonehouse via Cross Keys, Dursley, Moreton Valence, Epney, Nailsworth, Stinchcombe via Cam, Framilode, Elmcote, Haresfield, Arlingham, Dursley, Nailsworth, Epney, Elmcote, and Stonehouse via Frocester.

Lamps were “to be lit” from 9pm at the end of May, but got earlier as the evenings drew in towards Autumn - it reached 7.24pm on Sept 10th, all very precise!

In many ways, these early clubs laid the foundation for today's equivalents. Cycling

is as popular as ever, as



evidenced by the many Lycra-clad riders often seen zooming through the village! Seems like nothing's new...

.....  
Images from left to right:  
*Members of the Eastington Club Cycle, a female rider, an early Eastington Penny-Farthing rider.*

---

STEPHEN MILLS HAS LIVED IN EASTINGTON FOR THE PAST 53 YEARS, AND ALMOST SINCE ARRIVING, HE'S BEEN RESEARCHING AND RECORDING THE VILLAGE'S LONG AND INTERESTING HISTORY. STEPHEN'S REAL INTEREST IS IN THE AREA'S RICH INDUSTRIAL PAST; HIS PHD FOCUSED ON THE WOOLLEN CLOTH MILLS OF THE STROUD VALLEYS. HE WORKS FOR PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY AND HE'S ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY.

# Down Memory Lane...

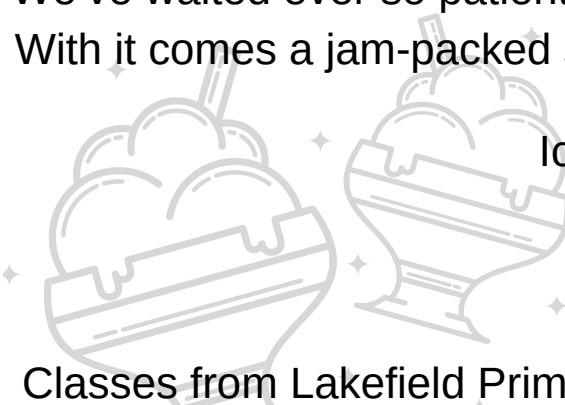


THANK YOU TO MEGAN TIMBRELL FOR THE SCANS.



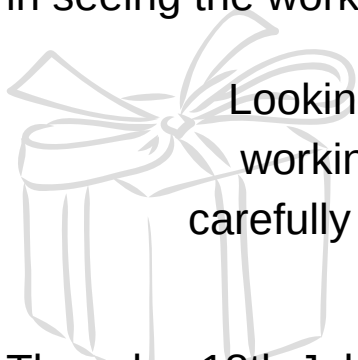


We've waited ever so patiently for summer, and it's finally here to stay! With it comes a jam-packed schedule here at Eastington Farm Shop...



Ice cream is back: made right here with our amazing milk, it's the perfect way to beat the heat. Taste the goodness for yourself!

Classes from Lakefield Primary and Stonehouse Park Infant School had an amazing time on their farm tours recently! But our tours aren't just for kids - get in touch if your local group is interested in seeing the workings of our dairy farm.



Looking for an end-of-term present for a teacher that's been working their socks off? Why not gift them a new pair? Our carefully curated gift selection is the perfect place to find novelty socks and so much more...

Thursday 18th July marks the return of Burger Night, and what goes better with gorgeous grilled beef than the summery melodies of the Steel Pan Band? Come down for a burger and a boogie from 6:30 on - we'll be celebrating extra hard, as it's our 5th birthday too!



Finally, if you have retail or hospitality experience and are looking for gap year work, or a permanent career shift - we want you! Available positions can be found on our website.

NORMAL OPENING

HOURS:

CLOSED MONDAYS

TUES-SAT: 9AM-5PM

SUN 10AM-1PM

[WWW.EASTINGTONFARMSHOP.CO.UK](http://WWW.EASTINGTONFARMSHOP.CO.UK)

01453823655

See you soon!



# DID YOU KNOW?

The UK's telephone network is being upgraded from the analogue network to a digital system.

You will be notified by your supplier ahead of the change. For most, this change will be completed nationally by December, 2025. For some the change will be simple but for others, new equipment and support may need to be put into place.

## THINGS TO CONSIDER:

### ALARM SYSTEMS

### POWERCUTS

(ask for a 'resilience solution' if a mobile phone for emergencies isn't an option)

### SCAMS

(this transition should **not** cost anything)

Your supplier has a duty to support you during this transition.

---

For more information, search: '**VoIP**' or '**Changes to Landline Telephones**'

## Job vacancy: Play Worker (part time)

Mother Goose operates a small, friendly, relaxed before and after school club on Eastington Primary School site for children in our school. During their daily sessions they provide simple snacks for the children and help/supervise the children with play activities.

Mother Goose is looking to employ additional staff. Mother Goose is happy to provide training so a positive approach with children and being happy to learn is the key. Ideally Mother Goose is looking for staff who can do mornings and afternoons but is also open to staff who can do mornings or afternoons. The Mother Goose team are a really friendly and look forward to welcoming new members into their team. If you want to apply or want to find out a little more please contact Mrs Beccy Curtis via the details below. Please do share the advert with grandparents/others who might be interested in the position too.



Position: Playworker

Site: Eastington Primary School

Hours: 7.40-8.40am and 3.15-5.15 Mon- Fri

Pay will be based on experience.

All relevant training can be provided.

DBS and references required.

Contact Beccy via email: [Beccypeg@hotmail.com](mailto:Beccypeg@hotmail.com) Or phone: 07854165418

## Make an impact in your borders

When it comes to planting borders there are a few golden rules I follow as a Garden Designer.

These rules are simple but highly effective to ensure that your garden borders pack a punch for years to come.

### Size matters

Avoid narrow borders, they might be tempting in a smaller space but they often make your garden look smaller, they are harder to maintain and there won't give you any real impact or seasonal interest. Try and aim for at least 75cm in depth at the very least. In this case bigger is better!

### Less is more

It is so tempting to go crazy in the garden centre at this time of year. But when it comes to buying varieties of plants less is definitely more. Opting for fewer varieties but buying at least 3 or 5 of the same plant will give you a much better result.

### Complimenting colours

Thinking about your colour combination up front can really help focus you when it comes to buying plants. Choosing around 3-5 colours will help give you variation and interest, purple, blue, pink and white is often a huge hit with my clients.

### Right plant, right place

This might be boring to hear but if you want to make your money go further, you need to check the plants you are buying will suit the place you are planting. If you have a spot in full sun, make sure you have got plants that can tolerate hot and dry conditions.

### Aftercare

The biggest reason that garden planting fails is due to aftercare. All new planting needs to be cared for with regular watering in the first 1-2 years whilst establishing. Avoid planting up your borders during the height of summer, not only is it harder work for you, but the plants will find this much more stressful and have a higher risk of dying.



[www.jhgardendesign.co.uk](http://www.jhgardendesign.co.uk)



[jessica\\_holcombe\\_garden\\_design](https://www.instagram.com/jessica_holcombe_garden_design)



Jessica Holcombe Garden Design



[jess@jhgardendesign.co.uk](mailto:jess@jhgardendesign.co.uk)



## To cut or not to cut?

Private gardens in the UK cover a larger area than all the country's nature reserves combined. This is why you hear of campaigns such as the 'No-Mow May' where participants are encouraged to leave the lawn for a month to grow wild. The problem with campaigns such as this is that after 'rewilding' occurs and the lawn's biodiversity improves, it is all cut away again come June.

The new recommendation seems to make more sense; to leave wild patches in your lawn all year-round. Allowing lawns to grow longer during these coming summer months is beneficial for several reasons. Taller grass

provides natural shade to the soil, helping to retain moisture and reduce the need for frequent watering. This, in turn, promotes deeper root growth, reduces flooding, encourages drought resistance, cools urban areas and captures pollutants. No more browning here. Not only that, maintaining a higher grass height reduces soil erosion and compaction, fostering a more robust and resilient lawn ecosystem.

So, this summer, consider joining the grassroots movement; elevate the mower blades, mow less frequently and welcome the daisies, dandelions and clover that provide crucial habitats for wildlife and various insects, including ants, bees, and butterflies. Nature isn't supposed to be neat.



## Have you seen?



The *Yellow-Legged Asian hornet* is a 'reportable' pest, which means if you think you have spotted it, this should be reported to the National Bee Unit via the **Asian Hornet Watch app**, due to being one of the biggest threats to UK honey bees and other pollinators. They can be very aggressive if their nest is disturbed – keep a distance of at least ten metres away. For more information, search 'Yellow-Legged Asian hornet'.

## EASTINGTON WOMBLES

The Wombles are back! If you see these shy and wonderful little creatures litter picking, please drive by carefully and express our thanks!

.....  
If you'd like to help, join the group on facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/873620303371384/>





## Girdling

When a new tree is planted it is normally necessary to provide some form of support. The worst form is pictured on the right: from afar one might think the tree is sensibly supported, but underneath the damage is clear; the buckle has been nailed to the stake with no room for growth. This is called girdling. Because the bark is what keeps the tree alive, this process of strangulation interrupts the flow of nutrients and water between the roots and leaves, thus multiple stakes and ropes are preferred.

Unfortunately, girdling is now becoming more and more common because trees are being planted to fulfil a mandatory

‘green’ policy, otherwise known as *greenwashing*. Unsurprisingly, the small print tends to lack in long-term care, which results in young trees that struggle to grow and eventually die. When purchasing and maintaining staked trees, consider the following:

- Make sure the tree has space to move and grow for a strong trunk and root system.
- Make sure the stake(s) provide sufficient support during strong winds.
- Remember to adjust buckles, if present, each spring, and eventually remove once the tree is established.

.....  
If you'd like to know how to look after your local trees, check out:

**<https://treecouncil.org.uk/tree-wardens/tree-warden-resources/>**



## Water

All UK water companies (including Severn Trent Water) are being faced with significant criticism for discharging sewage into rivers, a practice that poses serious environmental and public health risks.

These sewage releases can introduce harmful pathogens and pollutants into waterways, degrading water quality and harming aquatic ecosystems. The contamination disrupts the habitats of fish and other wildlife, leading to declines in biodiversity. This means our local rivers are unsafe for recreational activities. For more information, search ‘Cancel for Clean Water’.



## SPOTTED

Wild Hogs Hedgehog Rescue have placed signs in hotspots where hedgehogs have been reported killed on the road. They hope it will make people more aware and take more care while driving in these areas, especially at dawn and dusk.

.....  
For more information:  
**[wildhoghedgehogrescue.org.uk](http://wildhoghedgehogrescue.org.uk)**

# Walks and Waterways

BY PAUL HALAS



As one attempts to trek down the Frome from the Council Offices, the river subdivides yet again, and thanks variously to fences, hedges, blocked footpaths and overgrown nature it's hard to follow any of them. At this point, as usual, following the canal is the easiest option, and a very pleasant one too. The reedmace is growing several feet a day – or so it seems – waterlilies have appeared in great clumps, just getting ready to bloom, and the vibrant yellow flag-irises line several sections of canal bank.

Insect life is abundant too. Sedge flies, stoneflies, the first of the damsel- and dragonflies when the sun comes out. It could be a little early to spot mayflies, but it won't be long. Most of the fish species in the canal

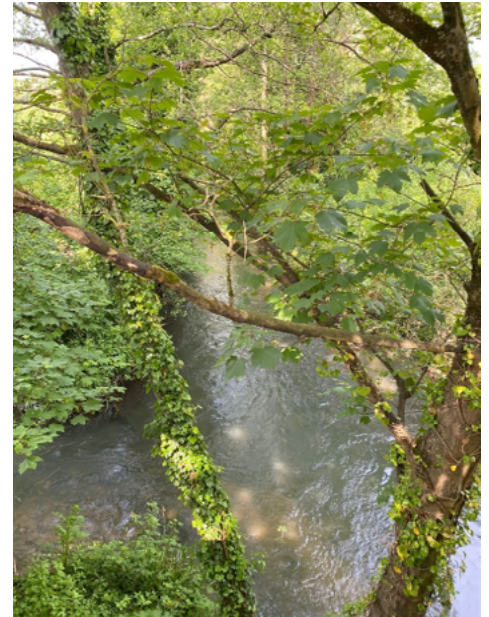
have already spawned, and the water teems with fry and fingerlings. The only ones dragging their fins are the laconic tench, which surely will get down to it soon, now the temperatures are higher. Incidentally, this is one of the best times to spot them, when the water is sufficiently clear. Normally they keep themselves to themselves, but the greeny-bronze tench, with its tiny red eyes, is a most attractive fish: an anglers' favourite.



A branch of Frome is visible from the bridge at Ryford, but they're all pretty hard to access until one approaches Stonehouse, and all the little Fromelets go for a meander through several meadows. Here they look like the quintessential small English trout stream – just there don't seem to be many trout present. Otherwise, they are quite gorgeous.

Back with the canal, one passes the serene Saint-Cyr church and then the old canal basin at the revamped Ocean bridge. This is where a bream shoal seems to have taken up permanent residence. Again, they're easy to spot on bright days when the water is clear. They look like bronze dinner plates and tend to mooch around in no hurry at all, grazing like cattle. One often sees all the other species too,

the roach, rudd, perch, pike and tench.



If you're lucky you spot a kingfisher or two streaking by, otherwise the canal hosts coots, mallard, herons, dabchicks, and as ever, swans (frequently demanding with menaces). Present too are otters, which, in the main, have given up trying to catch a living from the river.

The rivers follow their various paths through the meadows towards Eastington, one of them passing the outflow from the Stanley Downton sewage works. Various studies have been carried out to ascertain fish population levels, and the results have been worrying. Trout aren't doing at all well compared to a few decades ago, and regarding the smaller species, such as bullheads, minnows and loach, the numbers one should expect simply are not present. Sewage outfall is much in the news at present, and apparently, it's a problem in our back yard too. But that's not the entire story for the river's absent fish: stocks are low from Chalford downwards.



# Down the allotment

where community, nourishment and sustainable living come together

BY LUCINDA BROCKLEHURST

## WHAT'S GROWING?

Unless you are a veg-growing pro there isn't actually much to harvest right now; those little shoots are finally poking their heads out of the soil; fruits are only just sprouting from their flower.

Spring - it's the season of promise, which if one were to be completely honest, has not been very promising this year. Weeks spent nursing those little baby shoots, we then plant them out, all positive thoughts, to wake the next day and find they have all been decapitated. "It's a bad year for slugs", allotmenters tell me. One pro claims it's due to the climate; they have managed to survive the warm winter and are now ready for armageddon; human vs. slug. I find myself googling, "are slugs useful for anything?" Apparently, yes. The most obvious is their role in the food chain; tasty nibbles for wildlife and, I read, they add nutritional value to our soil - well of course they do, they're eating our delicious seedlings.

Despite the setbacks, we persevere. Growing veg is honourable, medal-worthy work in my eyes, considering the effort clay soil requires, our limited schedules and the growing costs of *everything*... my decapitated seedlings salute thee. And if you haven't yet tried growing your own food, that's okay too, at least you don't have to contend with the slugs...



For those thinking of joining the waiting list for a plot at Eastington's allotments, and for anyone who is still on the waiting list, there is an association assembling with the objective of encouraging the council to acquire new land. With a second housing development in the works, the demand for plots will only increase. We hope to mitigate this situation by coming together to speak for the community and create change. Join our WhatsApp group by scanning this code:





# Insights at



# SPINAVITA

CHIROPRACTIC

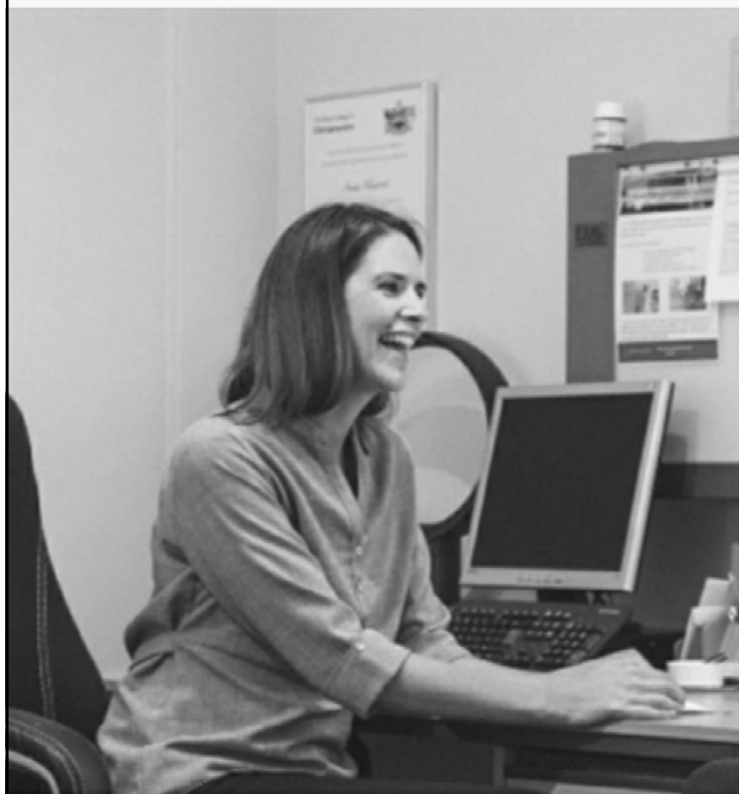
We walk every day without a second thought, however, walking is a commonly underestimated activity. The Spinavita team recommend walking because it is a cardiovascular and aerobic activity, meaning it increases your heart rate and oxygen flow. The benefits include: lowered blood pressure, reduced risk of cardiovascular disease, prevents type 2 diabetes, reduces stress and depression, helps bone health, aids sleep quality, and improves muscular endurance and energy.

We often hear we should aim for 10,000 steps a day; while there is no science to support this number, it does show the more steps, the better. Even a brisk 10-minute has benefits; keeping moving helps reduce back pain. This also counts towards the recommended 150 minutes of weekly exercise.

Brisk walking is considered moderate-intensity and low-impact, which does not put excess strain on our joints. A brisk walk is about 3mph; you should be able to talk, but not sing.

If you need some motivation to walk, make it part of your routine. Perhaps join a walking group, listen to music, challenge yourself to use stairs rather a lift or stop using the car for short journeys. You can also download the Active 10 app which can track your walking, provide goals and reward your achievements.

.....  
If you are in pain or want to get back to being active to reap the benefits of walking, contact us today to find out how we can help you on 01452 883232.



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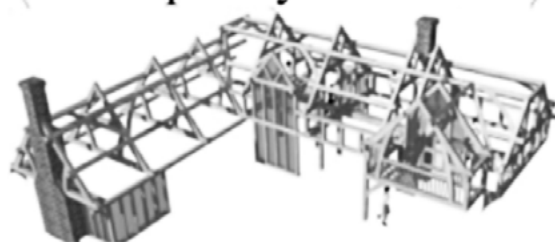
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#### SUNDAY

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### Contact:

Elizabeth-Anne Ponting

079 1001 6565

[ab.east.piano@gmail.com](mailto:ab.east.piano@gmail.com)



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**Lucinda Brocklehurst.**

[hello@lucindabrocklehurst.co.uk](mailto:hello@lucindabrocklehurst.co.uk)

[www.lucindabrocklehurst.co.uk](http://www.lucindabrocklehurst.co.uk)



We have had a great term filled with good weather, and lots of exciting activities.



We started the new term with our Ofsted inspection and are very proud to announce we received an overall rating of good. We work so hard to ensure all children are given access to the best possible learning activities, so we were really pleased to have our hard work recognised.

On the same day, we had a visit from one of our parents who very kindly brought her lambs in for the children to see. We read the story of stick man, and collected sticks to make our own, decorating them with bits of fabric using our fine motor skills. We made tasty treats to encourage us to make choices, use tools and discuss and encourage healthy eating. We made pizza, choosing our own toppings, made smoothies and sandwiches choosing the filling and enjoying it for snack.







# Well-Being/Sport Leaders

EASTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## At Eastington Primary School, we have Year 5 children that are Well-Being/Sport Leaders.

Part of our role is to promote positive playtimes with our 5 ways to Well-Being. We create a safe and enjoyable place for everyone to thrive. As Members of the School Council we will explain what each of the 5 ways of Well-Being are.



### Keep Learning

**K** – Keep learning to be smart.  
**E** – Exciting activities like animal footprints.  
**E** – Especially for you.  
**P** – Perfectly organized to surprise you.

**L** – Learn new things.  
**E** – Embrace new opportunities.  
**A** – Amazing activities.  
**R** – Realise new things.  
**N** – Never boring.

**I** – Interesting and fun.  
**N** – New experiences.  
**G** – Great fun.

*By Antoni and Ollie*



### Connect - Talk and Listen, Be There, Feel Connected.

For *Connect* we have wooden blocks with challenges on. The blocks have questions on them, eg: find someone who has .... (had a good day, a pet). This starts conversations and connects us together.

*By Sophie and Jesse*



### Be Active - Do what you can, enjoy what you do, move your mood.

We plan and set up different obstacle courses each day to help us move around and have

fun! Creative props are also used to help us imagine we are in an ocean or in Africa. Playtimes whizz by through being active.

*By Katie and Safiya*

### Take Notice – Remember the simple things that give you joy.

In *Take Notice* activities, you can explore the environment. Finding rocks is fun and there are magnifying glasses and binoculars to help spot local animals. There are also 'Can you spot?' cards which encourage everyone to look for things in nature around us.

*By Alex and Carter*



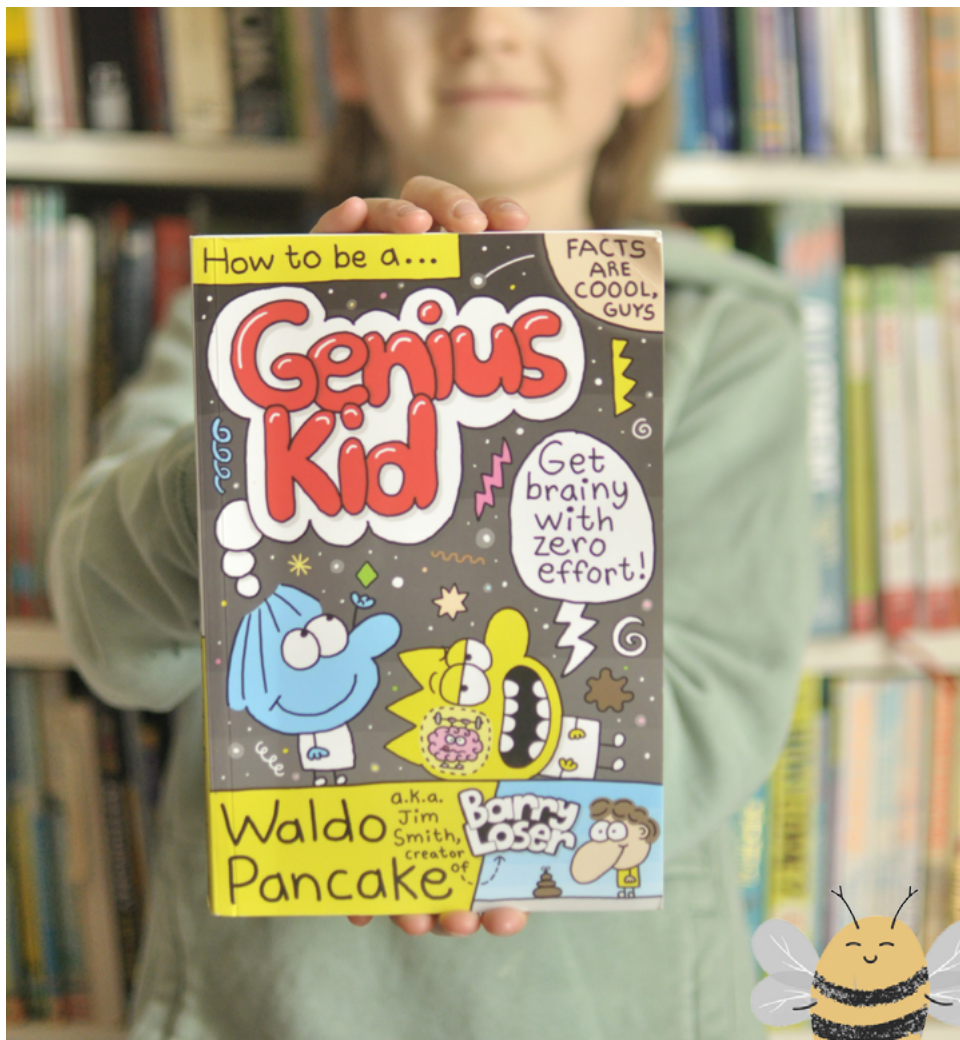
### Give - Give your time, your words and your presence.

There are lots of ways to *Give*. Sitting with your friends and talking while drawing or creating origami gifts for others. Children have a blast and make others smile too! :)

*By Marnie and Yasmin*







# Jay's Book Corner

REVIEW BY:

Jay

TITLE:

*How to be a  
Genius Kid*

BY:

Jim Smith

## WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

"It's about how to become a genius kid. Graham Knee thinks he's a genius but he's not quite yet. Flea is more intelligent than Graham and knows more stuff, especially lots of facts. And they both decide to write a book of facts which is eventually the book I am holding in the picture above!

One fact in the book is a sun fact: when the light from the sun goes into our eyes, the sun has already got four years older. Another character which I forgot to mention earlier is Professor Clever.

And one of Professor Clever's brain facts is that there are 100,000 miles of blood vessels in our brain!"

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PART AND WHY?

"I like that it is a comic strip with plenty of pictures, speech bubbles, thought bubbles and punctuation and the lettering is quite big. My favourite part is when they are sat down doing nothing and a huge jumbo jet flies over Graham and Flea. My other favourite one, which is quite a tasty one, they like to drink

cans of 'Splupfz' which I wish I could have some, but unfortunately it doesn't exist!"

## WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECOMMEND THIS BOOK TO?







"It's good for new readers. It's good for little reading breaks on the sofa."

.....  
*How to be a Genius Kid* will be published this month (June, 2024).

Guest reviews are welcome. If you are under 16 and would like to submit your own book review, email: [articles@eastington.website](mailto:articles@eastington.website) with answers to the questions above and a photograph of your choice.

# BEE FACTS

To celebrate National Garden Wildlife Week 2024, here are some bee facts for you to marvel over:

-  Bees have existed on earth for about thirty million years.
-  Honey bees have 5 eyes, 6 legs and 4 wings.
-  One honey bee will only make 1/2 a teaspoon of honey in its entire life.
-  A worker bee lives for about 35 days.
-  A bee colony can visit over 500 million flowers in 1 year.
-  A queen bee can lay up to 3,000 eggs per day.

Sources:  
<https://www.comvita.com/blog/10-astounding-facts-about-honeybees>  
<https://rustnutrition.com/blog/2023/05/19/the-amazing-work-of-bees/>

# The FUN Bit

Can you find the buzzy bee?



This worker bee is looking for pollen, see if you can spot them... (there are 9 to find!)

july  
village  
farm  
church  
tractor  
eastington  
june  
snakey  
frome  
mill  
canal  
field

v	f	r	o	m	e	i	u	z	g	k	d
i	c	h	u	r	c	h	a	s	q	n	r
l	m	i	l	l	f	i	e	l	d	y	l
l	e	a	s	t	i	n	g	t	o	n	f
a	h	s	n	a	k	e	y	o	e	j	a
g	k	g	b	f	e	c	a	n	a	l	r
e	h	e	j	u	l	y	j	u	n	e	m
f	l	e	p	t	r	a	c	t	o	r	f

JUNE

2nd June, 10:00am  
**Eastington Wombles Litter Pick**  
Meet @ The Badger

3rd June, 7:30pm  
Every Monday  
**Board Games Night**  
@ The Badger

.....

4th June, 2:30pm  
Every Tuesday  
**Coffee and Conversation**  
@ The Badger

5th June, 9:30am  
Every Tuesday (in term)  
**Frampton Toddler Time**  
@ Cadbury Hall

6th June, 10:00am  
Every Thursday  
**Coffee, Bingo & Chat**  
@ Village Hall

.....

7th June, 9:30am  
Every Friday  
**Craft & Chat**  
@ Village Hall

9th June, 4:00pm  
**Live Music: Sweet Child**  
@ The Badger

.....

13th June, 7:30pm  
**Bingo Night**  
@ The Badger

13th June, 7:00pm  
**Parish Council Meeting**  
@ Village Hall

15th June, 10:00am  
**Eastington Yard Sale**  
@ Village

19th June, 2:00pm  
**Heart of the Village**  
@ Village Hall

21st June, 5:30pm  
**Walk for Longfield**  
@ Minchinhampton

21st June  
**Nature Along the Canal**  
@ Frampton Village Society

22nd June, 2:00pm  
**Strawberry Extravaganza**  
@ St Michaels & All Angel's Church

29th June, 7:00pm  
**Quiz Night**  
@ Village Hall

JULY

7th July, 12:00pm  
**Summer Fete & Duck Races**  
@ Eastington Primary

11th July, 7:00pm  
**Parish Council Meeting**  
@ Village Hall

13th July, 7:00pm  
**Sevenside Singers Summer Concert**  
@ St Peter's Church

14th July, 4:00pm  
**Live Music: Luke Gittins**  
@ The Badger

18th July, 6:30pm  
**Burger Night**  
@ Eastington Farm Shop

23rd July  
**School Holidays Begin**

.....

If you'd like to add an event that will be happening in August or September 2024, please email: [articles@eastington.website](mailto:articles@eastington.website).