

# EYNESHAM

## *Council & Community*

# NEWS

Issue 21 – October - November 2016



*Six-spot burnet moth on field scabious, photographed by Sue Chapman on the old railway line west of Station Road. Sue says the only other local place to see them is Stonesfield Common*

Here's another bumper issue, with more going on than ever – plus another insert from the Neighbourhood Planning group. Please take time to read it; come to their meeting on 5 October; and guide them by answering their questions as far as you can.

### **In this issue**

- Eynsham futures 3
- Contact sheets 4 – 5
- Public services 6 – 9
- Home front 10 – 11
- Over to you 12 – 13
- Local people 14 – 15
- Recreation 16 – 18
- What's On 19 – 20

## Free publicity



Your tablet-friendly/smartphone-friendly village website opened very recently, thanks to Parish Council funding. The central Diary for community groups has made a welcome return; and entries for local shops and services are more popular than ever before. To quote one user, “The website is easy to use and you have done a *tremendous* job of work there, folks!”

**TAKE CONTROL:** Local groups and businesses can now manage their own entries, create news and events, upload photos and PDF documents; and add extra pages (and editors) if they wish. Every organisation in the Eynsham Directory is being alerted to this upgrade.

The input system is very user-friendly, with guidance at every step, but the designer has offered a demonstration to help you further – details follow.

Date/time: Tuesday 27 September, Eynsham Village Hall (small hall), starting 18:30 sharp. Please come along if you're interested, and sit at the front, he doesn't bite! Supporting videos are going online as well, so if you can't make the date you certainly won't miss out.

The advertisement for 'the red corner' features a large, multi-functional office copier as the central image. The background is a light grey with a pattern of small, dark circles. Text boxes with arrows point to various parts of the copier, highlighting benefits: 'WORKFLOW SOLUTIONS', 'INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY', 'MANAGE COSTS', and 'SECURITY'. At the top left, the text 'the red corner' is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font. To its right, the tagline 'Putting the red in Prepared' is written in a smaller font. At the bottom, a dark grey banner contains the text 'SALES, SERVICE AND SUPPLIES FOR...' followed by a list of services: 'PHOTOCOPIERS', 'DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS &amp; SOLUTIONS', and 'MFD'S'. Below this list, the website 'www.theredcorner.co.uk' and the phone number '01865 887555' are displayed. A small Canon logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the advertisement.



*As we go to press, Eynsham Shirt Race Chairman Peter Shrimpton writes of a possible Carnival rescue package.*

With the stepping down of the Carnival Organising Committee, members of the Shirt Race Committee are looking at the feasibility of organising an event to take place after the Shirt Race – there's a statement and more detail on our Facebook Page.

The staging of any event very much depends upon the range and number of volunteers, so it will be the offers of assistance, together with the response from our meeting on 15 September, that will decide the sort of event that we may propose to carry out.

Whatever is decided has to be workable and enjoyable for all involved – not only the organisers but the volunteer helpers, as well as those attending. We certainly wish to make it clear from day one that it will **not** be on the scale of the current Carnival and we would aim for local organisations and local businesses to feature strongly in the content. This is for Eynsham and should be a showcase for what there is to offer in this village.

All comments or queries should be addressed to [esr@eynsham.net](mailto:esr@eynsham.net) – together with your contact details.

**EYNSHAM NEWS** is published by a local, not-for-profit voluntary group, set up solely to produce a community newsletter of broad general appeal. Free delivery to every household is arranged by volunteers. Eynsham News is also online, for family and friends around the country and overseas: visit <http://issuu.com/eynsham1/>

Local stories, snaps and snippets are always welcome – and corrections also, thanks! Next issue will be out on 28 November – copy deadline Friday 4 November.

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Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the News Group. Inclusion of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product, service or event.

# eynsham futures

## ANOTHER 2200 HOUSES – all change for the Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan

A lot has certainly changed since the last edition of Eynsham News. You will find a separate insert explaining and asking for your opinion on the latest developments.

As far as EFSG, the Neighbourhood Plan team, are concerned the need for another 2200 houses on our patch came as quite a shock but we have to deal with things as they are so we have tried to apply the same principles to this new development as we have done so far.

There will always be a balance of harms and benefits which has to be made. People do need homes and workplaces but are we building more than is really needed? Will we build on so many fields that there is no countryside left? Are the roads going to be so congested that we can't get to school or work in a reasonable time?

Our 'vision' has been to keep Eynsham a great place to live for those of us living here now and those who join us in the future. We have had to ask ourselves what makes this a really good place to live when it's not pretty enough to be in a calendar, not exclusive enough to feature in Country Life and probably won't feature in many tourist books either.

Size matters to a degree and we have set a target of retaining a walkable village where no one who is reasonably mobile lives so far from the centre that they have to get in their car to reach the shops or schools – but remember, we are also large enough to have shops and schools, which many smaller places do not.

Above all Eynsham is a community and a very diverse one in terms of background, skills, wealth and age yet we manage to get on together, to share the same clubs and societies and treat each other with courtesy and respect.

There are practical issues of which the A40 is perhaps the most pressing; there is a determination that something must be done but with limited cash so far to make it happen.

Affordability is so bad around Oxford that even 'social' housing is unaffordable for many and two good wages are needed before purchase becomes a possibility.

### So would a new village help?

We have put the options in the questionnaire you will find inside this copy of Eynsham News and a more complete analysis on Eynsham Online. Now we need your opinion.

We will put collection boxes in village shops for your responses which don't have to be returned

until 7 October so you can go to the public meeting on Wednesday 5 October in the Village Hall before you decide.

### What happens next?

We are updating the Key Documents on the website as these have now been overtaken by events. Comments on the 'old' plan will still be valid – most of the Neighbourhood Plan (ENP) is unchanged – but we really do need your feedback by e-mail please. We will record and respond to all your comments.

The rest depends on what you say. If you want us to continue there will be further periods of consultation with you and statutory bodies, some revising of the plan and your final vote around May 2017. That is unless national or local policy suddenly changes – as it may well do, based on recent experience.

More important we will have something to put towards the West Oxfordshire Local Plan which goes for further examination early next year – the Inspector is likely to consider the ENP with its local consultations and comments significant when he makes decisions that affect Eynsham and we need to be prepared.

Contact Richard Andrews on 01865 880106 or email to [eynsham.futures@gmail.com](mailto:eynsham.futures@gmail.com)



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# Eynsham churches

## ST LEONARD'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Vicar: vacancy - see page 15  
Church Office & Secretary: Jan Macdonald  
21 High Street 01865 883325  
email stleonards\_stpeters@btconnect.com  
**SUNDAY SERVICES**

Holy Communion 09.00, Morning Service 10:45, Evening Service 18:00

**WEEKDAYS** Monday Prayer Meeting 07:00,  
Wednesday Communion 09:30

## ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

www.stpeterseysham.org.uk  
Parish Priest: Father Mark Lagorio 01865 881613 /  
stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com  
Retired Priest: Fr Martin Flatman 07719 646790  
**SUNDAY SERVICE** Sunday Mass 10:00  
Saturday Mass of Sunday 17:00

## EYNSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Revd Zoltan Biro 01865 881670  
Church telephone / answerphone: 01865 882203  
Church Secretary: Denise Launchbury,  
82 Shakespeare Road 01865 881128 /  
eynsham.baptists@btinternet.com  
Church Treasurer: Bob Thiele 01865 426203  
**SUNDAY SERVICE** with Junior Church 10:30; Songs of Praise  
2nd Sunday of month 15:00.

*You are warmly invited to any of the Harvest services featured on page 18 this month. Cave Quest and Oasis, supported by the 3 churches, are reported on page 16.*

## Greens Funeral Services

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**Tel: 01865 880837**

**8 Bridge Street Witney**

**Tel: 01993 776486**

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# Contacts

**Allotments:** John & Sara Bannister, 01865 880324

**Bartholomew School:** Witney Road, 01865 881430

**Carnival:** Clive & Kathie Tanner, 01865 880994

**Chemist:** Lloyds Pharmacy 64 Acre End Street,  
01865 881283

**Childcare:** Health Visitors, 01993 881887

**Chiropody:** Baptist Church Hall 2nd Monday,  
01865 880871

**Dentists:** 4 Cassington Road, 01865 880047

**Dogs:** WODC, 01993 861020

**Electoral Services:** WODC, 01993 861410

**Fire Station:** Station Road, 01865 881337;  
emergencies 999

**Flooding:** early warning 0345 988 1188; sandbags  
WODC 01993 861000 (out of hours 0845 3039706)

**Gas:** enquiries 0845 835 1111, leaks 0800 111 999

**Grass Cutting:** Parish Council, 07956 901622

**Hazeldene Close:** open space and street lights  
Remus Management Ltd, 0121 766 1480

**Library:** 30 Mill Street, 01865 880525 - *plus wi-fi*

**Market:** St Leonard's Church Hall, 01865 880928

**Medical Centre:** Conduit Lane, 01865 881206

**Noise:** WODC, 0151 3432945 (24 hours) – thanks!

**Pest Control:** WODC, 01993 861060

**Planning:** applications WODC 01993 861420

**Play Areas:** Parish Council, 07956 901622

**Playing Fields:** Management Committee Sue Brown,  
01865 464267

**Police:** Village Hall Back Lane, incident reporting 101,  
emergencies 999

**Post Office:** 39 Mill Street, 01865 881159

**Primary School:** Beech Road, 01865 881294

**Recycling:** District Council, 01993 861025

**Road Repairs:** Oxfordshire Highways, 0845 310 1111  
– emergency reports only

**Social Care (OCC):** 0845 050 7666,  
emergencies 0800 833408

**Sports Centre:** Back Lane, 01865 731090

**Street Cleaning:** WODC 01993 861020

**Street Lights:** 24 hour fault line 0800 317802 - page 8

**Toilets:** Back Lane Car Park, 01249 822063

**Waste Collection:** WODC, 01993 861020

## In brief

New waste & recycling calendars, starting from October 2016, are available to download from the WODC website. They will remind you which bins to put out each week, as well as any changes over Christmas and Bank Holidays. Just key in your postcode at [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk)

Alternatively, you can sign up for FREE email updates (including nearby planning applications) at:  
[www.westoxon.gov.uk/beintheknow](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/beintheknow)

## Local councils

### EYNSHAM PARISH COUNCIL (EPC)

Richard Andrews (Vice-Chair): 01865 880106

Jane Baldwin: 01865 435129

Gordon Beach (Chairman): 01865 880979

Andrew Bickley: 01865 884496

Sue Brown: 01865 464267

Patricia Crowley: 01865 731303

Peter Emery: 01865 731199

Ross Macken 01865 882415

Andy Mosson: 01865 880889

Sue Osborne: 01865 880285

Nick Relph: 01865 464264

Dennis Stukenbroeker: 01865 880609

Mark Zumbuhl: 01865 422207

Email formula: [firstname.lastname@eynsham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.lastname@eynsham-pc.gov.uk)

### PARISH CLERK Rachel Faulkner, 1 Glovers Close

Woodstock OX20 1NS: 07956 901622

email [epc.clerk@eynsham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:epc.clerk@eynsham-pc.gov.uk)

### OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (OCC)

Charles Mathew: 01865 882205

County Hall: 01865 792422

### WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Peter Emery: 01865 731199

Edward James: 01865 731009

Peter Kelland: 01865 880028

Council Offices: 01993 861000

## Halls for hire

<b>Baptist Church Hall:</b>	07900 066471
<b>Bartholomew Room/Sports Pavilion:</b>	07956 901622
<b>Music Room:</b>	07971 529242
<b>Primary School Hall:</b>	01865 881294
<b>Red Lion:</b>	01865 882903
<b>Scout Hall:</b>	01865 881787
<b>Social &amp; Sports Club:</b>	01865 881234
<b>St Leonard's Hall:</b>	01865 880107
<b>Tolkien Room &amp; garden:</b>	01993 881487
<b>Village Hall:</b>	01865 881624
<b>White Hart Function Room:</b>	01865 883093

The Village Hall Management Committee are pleased to announce an important upgrade to the kitchen. It now boasts a fully commercial cooker, with six large gas burners and a powerful electric oven, in place of the unsatisfactory previous one. They hope this will encourage potential hirers to use the Hall to full capacity. A second refrigerator is also available now, kindly donated by Norma Gummow.

# EYNSHAM Good Neighbour NETWORK

Eynsham Good Neighbour Network has a willing team of volunteers. Some typical jobs we tackle are minor clothes repairs, garden tidying, shopping, ironing, changing light bulbs, walking dogs. There is no charge for our help. We are all DBS checked. We are here for you and the village.

If you need companionship, or an odd job doing, please feel free to call us on 07443 564516.

### EYNSHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD CAR SCHEME

provides a service to residents in the village who need to get to health care appointments and are unable to use public transport or call on family and friends.

Interested in using the scheme or becoming a driver? Ring our co-ordinators on 07469 764174.

**NOW WE ARE THREE:** Another helping hand has just become available from the County Council: see page 9 for the Comet transport scheme.

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# Public services



## Fishponds update

*Sue Osborne – Chair, Fishponds Committee*

One Wednesday evening in July, fellow councillor Peter Emery, Gav and I walked round the Fishponds to do the monthly risk assessment. We were greeted at the pond itself by a lovely sight – a large family group, with small children, wine in paper cups (not for the small children, I hasten to add!), a picnic, and boats. Yes, proper full-size wooden boats – thanks to Gav for this photo. They were all having a smashing time; we finished our assessment and left to the shrieks and laughter of a happy group on a balmy evening.

Sadly, there is also a negative to report. We discovered that the bench on Harvey's House Mound needed a repair, so Peter volunteered to come back next evening to try and fix it. He found that the bench and the ground (which had been clean and clear that morning, so we know it was nothing to do with the boating party) were covered in rubbish, a still-warm barbecue and lots of food, including half-eaten burgers. Disgusting.

It is so very disheartening to see such thoughtlessness when people put in a lot of time and effort to make things nice for others. Please, please put your litter in a bin or take it home. Don't ruin our environment with your mess. Thank you.

**Volunteers needed for one day only!** Schools, local groups and individuals are invited to take part in the county wide water blitz on 3 October. Check the water quality of your local stream, pond, ditch or river and help build a water quality picture for Oxfordshire. Register for your free sampling pack by emailing [hilary@wildoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:hilary@wildoxfordshire.org.uk) and join in on 3 October. Earthwatch have volunteered to handle the data and map all results on their global water-hub with the resulting data available to everyone involved.

## Grants for groups

On 8 November the Parish Council will be considering bids from community groups for the financial year 2017/8. Deadline for your application is 21 October. Details and form are at Eynsham Online or from the Clerk. *All Council contact details are listed on page 5.*

## Planning news

*Dennis Stukenbroeker – Chair, Planning Committee*

### WODC LOSES 77 HOMES APPEAL

Seventy-seven homes can now be built on the former Eynsham Nursery and Plant Centre site on Old Witney Road. The appeal by Vanderbilt Thames Valley Ltd against the July 2015 refusal by West Oxfordshire District Council (see Eynsham News Aug-Sept. 2016) was granted by government inspector GP Jones on 2 August 2016.

This is the first major loss on appeal by WODC in its battle to prevent speculative development on the west side of Eynsham in advance of a comprehensive development plan being pursued by both WODC and Eynsham Parish Council.

The inspector said because WODC still did not have an up-to-date Local Plan and the parish council's neighbourhood plan was still being drafted, the developer was entitled to consent under the government's National Planning Policy Framework presumption in favour of sustainable development.

He further said that the development would have an impact on the west of Eynsham, but this was outweighed by the provision of 77 dwellings, including 39 affordable homes. The decision stated the district had an under supply of housing in recent years and the likely impact of Oxford City's unmet housing need having to be met in part by West Oxfordshire was also a consideration.

Eynsham Parish Council had objected that this would be an isolated development with access only from an extension to Old Witney Road for all vehicular, cycle and pedestrian traffic. It would add further to Eynsham's existing traffic problems without contributing to an improvement in the highway infrastructure.

The full decision, as well as the application and appeal documents are available on the planning pages of [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk) at reference 15/00761/FUL.

Eynsham may get its first 'science park' and a bigger stake in the 'knowledge spine' stretching from Harwell to Bicester which is being promoted by Oxfordshire County Council. Polar Technology has made a planning application (16/02369/FUL) to extend its existing building off Station Road, previously occupied by Oxford Instruments and WS

Supplies, as well as building new offices and research and development buildings for its two main businesses, SS Tube Technology and Lentus Composites.

Polar, which specialises in the design and manufacture of high value engineering components and assemblies for the motor sport, medical, aerospace and other high tech industries, currently employs 106 full and part time staff in Eynsham and 25 in its Sutton premises, which will be moved to Eynsham. It plans to increase its work force to about 400 by 2027.

The Parish Council supports the expansion of Polar Technology in Eynsham, but expressed some reservations about the present application. The six hectare site will include land on the flood plain and a scheduled ancient monument. While these will not be built on, it will represent a substantial incursion into the countryside to the south of the village.

The parish council was also concerned about the traffic to be generated by the expansion, which will have 420 parking spaces and a second entrance opposite the existing entrance to Oakfield Industrial Estate on Stanton Harcourt Road. The application says the development will generate over 500 new vehicle trips a day. This will include private cars and heavy goods vehicles. While many of these could access the site from the B4449 bypass, it will inevitably increase through traffic in the village itself and over the toll bridge.

## Skatepark success



*Sue Hunt reports – image © Colin McMaster*

To quote one of the users “this is the best thing that has ever happened in the village”. With huge thanks to WREN – FCC Community Action Fund, Eynsham & District Rotary Club, Eynsham Parish Council, Cottsway Community Fund and the Doris Field Trust and all the hard work of the members of the skatepark committee who have made this possible.

## Wharf stream way

*Sue Osborne – Chair, Footpaths Committees*

Local artist Godfrey Phillips has been commissioned to create two sculptures of railwaymen where the dismantled railway crosses Wharf Stream Way; and they’re coming on apace. A scrub-bashing party was mustered in July to clear the area where the work is taking place – many thanks to Godfrey, his studio assistant Amanda, Mike, Roger and my partner Gav for help with this. Since then, Godfrey and Amanda have been working on site most days and they report a good flow of visitors. They are more or less at the end of the chainsaw stage and the figures look very lifelike already. Do take a walk along there if you can – it’s fascinating to see the artworks taking shape in front of you!

We are very aware that the entrance of the Wharf Stream Way, opposite Hazeldene Close where the Thames Water station is, is still pretty grim and unwelcoming. We’re hoping to put together another working party to improve the area, with the support of Ian Crump, Thames Water’s Biodiversity Field Officer. We couldn’t do these things without the willing volunteers who step up to the mark every time, so a heartfelt thanks to all of you. Please keep your eyes peeled for the next working party date/s.

I noticed last time I walked the Way that the log bench near the Wharf Stream crossing was completely overgrown. I was about to contact OCC’s Countryside Service for help, when I walked it again last week and found that the undergrowth had been cleared. What a lovely surprise! I suspect that the Wharf Stream elves have been at it again, but whoever it was we’re incredibly grateful.

This has been quite a “Wharf-Stream-centric” piece, but I can confirm that all the other footpaths have been (or have very nearly been) walked and a report will be sent to the Countryside Service this autumn. As ever, please send any problems, etc., to me, the Countryside Service, or any other member of the Footpaths committee. Thank you as always for your input!

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## Couldn't make it up

The County Council has had to reduce its overall verge mowing to one cut a year, in response to financial pressures. The timing was chosen to avoid overlong grass in the autumn, though it generated many complaints about access/visibility on cycle paths. So residents were glad to see the B4449 / B4044 Oxford Road roundabout being cleared at the end of August ... but horrified later to find the 3 beautiful rowan trees had been cut down too. The officer's response follows:

*"To be honest, I was unaware of the nature of the vegetation on the roundabouts, the brief (as far as I was concerned) was to level the vegetation, which is what was done. Apologies if it has offended anyone."*

## Flu clinics

Seasonal flu clinics begin on Saturday 1 October, with further Saturday clinics on 8 and 15 October plus a Thursday clinic on 13 October 11:00–15:00 at Freeland Village Hall. Please ring 01865 881206 to make an appointment if you...

- are aged 65 years and over
- have asthma and are on regular inhaled steroids
- have heart disease
- are diabetic
- have a kidney or liver problem
- have had a stroke
- have an illness or are taking medicine that lowers the natural immune system.

## Notice boards

Please think of other users when you post your notices! A modest size can be just as effective and won't outstay its welcome...

## Orchard Centre

The Orchard Children's Centre next to Eynsham Primary School welcomes mums, dads, grandparents and carers with babies & children under five.

All activities are FREE; just turn up Monday-Thursday 09:00–17:00 or Friday 09:00–16:30. Regular events in term-time include the ever-popular Ring a Roses (babies & toddlers welcome) and Baby Group with health visitor clinic (both on Thursdays); plus baby weaning workshops (3rd Friday of each month). For this term's bookable events call 01865 880686 or visit <http://www.oxonchildrenscentres.org.uk/orchard>

# Smart thinking

Eynsham Library reopens on 4 October after a comprehensive refurbishment (part-funded by the Friends of Eynsham Library). This includes new layout, new shelves and an increase in stock.

But these solid improvements are dwarfed by extended opening hours: we are promised a 7-day service, thanks to an investment in new technology. While staffing hours remain the same, library users can now sign up to access the building outside of staffed hours via an access card and PIN. Smart systems also ensure efficient use of heat and lighting, plus extra security measures of course.

Eynsham and Summertown are pioneering this new service. As budgets come under increasing strain this far-sighted approach is particularly commendable.



And for people who cannot get to a library, the County Council is now looking for volunteers to choose and deliver books to their door. Expenses are reimbursed and you can do as many or as few journeys as you wish.

# Transport

Stagecoach has decided 'with regret' to reduce their Route 11 service to reflect the level of passenger trips. It now runs Monday-Friday only and no longer serves Spareacre Lane.

On a brighter note, Route S7 (Monday-Friday) now includes a peak-hour journey from The Evenlode at 06:57, reaching JR Hospital at 07:45 and Oxford Brookes at 07:50; and an evening journey from Brookes at 17:10, reaching The Evenlode at 18:03.

There's also a reprieve for the Lower Windrush Bus connecting Standlake, Northmoor, Bablockythe, Stanton Harcourt and Eynsham on Tuesday and Friday – five trips a day from Eynsham between 10.30 and 13.34 and four times a day from Standlake between 10.04 and 13.18. But it will continue only with your regular support so get on board and bring your friends!



Do you remember Dial-a-Ride? Oxfordshire Comet is a new bookable service for people who can't access suitable public transport. It's available from Monday to Friday between 10:15–14:30 thanks to another efficiency saving (using spare capacity from school runs, etc). The 16-seater vehicles are fully wheelchair/pushchair accessible. To register (£3) or book call 01865 323201.

Eynsham Car Scheme coordinators say "this complements our volunteer scheme beautifully. It allows individuals and groups to do social trips – to supermarkets, coffee shops, etc. – just the sort of thing we can't do with our focus on health care appointments." And Shirley Green adds "A big thank you to all the people that help with Eynsham Car Scheme, they are all doing a brilliant job and I'm very grateful for the service that they do. Thank you to all."

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# Home front

*Gardener on the street Dennis Stukenbroeker calls for a bit more thinking 'outside the box'.*

Are you committing a nuisance? If your property borders on a highway or footpath, you may be.

It's been a funny old year. The vegetation in your garden has taken off at the end of the summer and you've probably given it a good prune back. While your garden may now be neat and tidy, have you gone out and looked to see what your trees and plants have been doing on the other side of your wall or fence?

Many of Eynsham's footpaths are very narrow and a lot of pedestrians, including the disabled and those in mobility vehicles, may not be able to avoid coming into contact with your low hanging branches and rampant ivy.

Eynsham Parish Council regularly has to clear areas like Wastie Lane and Pug Lane (with thanks to Trish and Caroline who keep their stretches spotless). The County Council can issue enforcement letters to property owners who allow trees and vegetation to obscure the view on roads and at bus stops.

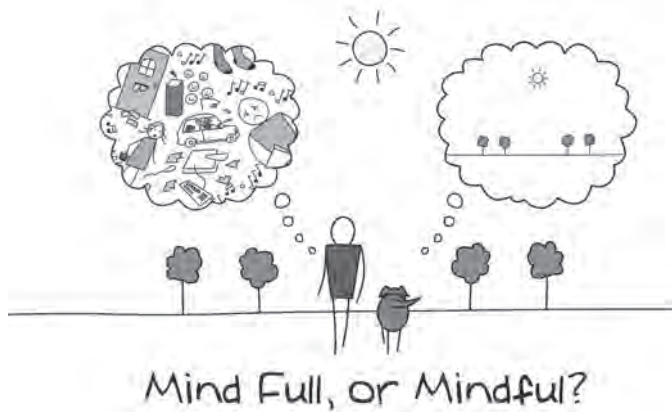
So, while you're out trimming your trees and cutting back your climbers, why not also be a good citizen, look down, and cut those nettles and pick up any rubbish as well.



**FLEXICARE** is a small, local charity that provides baby-sitting to families with a disabled child within 10 miles of Oxford city centre, including the Eynsham area. They are raising funds to help them continue this valuable work:

you may have spotted the bunting at Swinford Toll Bridge on August Bank Holiday Monday.

Flexicare are also recruiting volunteers to babysit for children with a wide range of disabilities. As part of the team, you help on your terms – where, when, how often – it's all up to you! Volunteers with a care or nursing background are especially welcome, but training is available as needed. For more information please contact the coordinators on 01865 321881 or 07342 041 388, email [admin@flexicare.org](mailto:admin@flexicare.org) or visit [flexicare.org](http://flexicare.org)



Would you be interested in forming a mindfulness group in Eynsham? It would aim to meet weekly to develop a supportive community of practice. If you're interested in being part of this group and would like to find out more please contact James Bird: james@thebirdsonline.net

## Received with thanks

**EYNSHAM FIREFIGHTERS** completed their 12 mile Tough Mudder course in August, raising over £4,420 for their chosen charities. They now wear T-shirts saying "never ask me to do that again!"

**OPEN GARDENS 2016** were able to give £540 to both Eynsham Day Centre and Eynsham School and £50 to the Fishponds and Footpaths Meadow Project to buy seed. Other groups, notably the Guides, St Peter's Church and Oxfordshire Air Ambulance also benefitted through the sale of teas. *Marie Mills*

**OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND** writes to thank "wonderful friends at the Eynsham Arts Group for all the work that went into the most successful exhibition and sale of art work by Penny Noel. I'm delighted to hear that it was such an enjoyable occasion. I am very grateful indeed for the £1,287.62 that was raised and donated for our work helping sight impaired people to retain and develop their independence."

## Warmer winters

*Your Majesty – ma'am,*

Congratulations on a right Royal spring and an Olympic summer from all of us at Green TEA in Eynsham. To celebrate we would like you to join us for our annual Apple Festival with added Energy on Saturday 15 October

As our Queen, as a mother, grandmother and great grandmother, we know that you are concerned about our shared future and wish to ensure our planet thrives for another 90 years. In Eynsham we have been

helping residents to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle – our Festival is a great opportunity to see what we do, talk to experts and go home with loads of new ideas and free apples!

We promote local, seasonal food and encourage people to buy from local producers. Our orchard of nearly 40 local apple and other fruit trees is planted on accessible sites across the village – all designed for public scrumping. We will have the map on show at the event. At the Apple Festival we have experts to identify the varieties in your orchards, we taste them, juice them and give them away!! As you know is often tricky to get our grandchildren to eat fruit and veg, so this year our theme is children's food – with lots of creative ideas and tastings. And honey tasting!



And as we go into autumn it is time to think about those energy bills. We know that old houses can be cold, draughty and expensive to heat. But there are some simple things that can be done, such as radiator foil behind the radiator so the heat goes back into the room and not the wall! We are aware that you may not be able to put double glazing in your listed properties, but loft insulation is a must!

Individual monitors on appliances make us (and your staff) more aware of electricity use and thus help to reduce waste and costs. Heavy curtains can make a real difference in a draughty house. Each winter we offer to take a thermal image of people's houses to show where heat is being lost. Do come and sign up to have your house(s) done this winter. And we are demonstrating the real difference that low energy light bulbs can make to our bills – perhaps you could share your experience in your palaces?

We would love to show you the solar panels on the roof of the Village Hall and the benefit to our community every day. We are proud of carbon savings we have achieved in our homes, Village Hall, school, local church and sports pavilion – but that is small fry compared with what you could do!

We applaud the Windsor hydroelectric scheme. Why not follow up with solar panels at Buckingham Palace, a hydro scheme at Balmoral or ground source heating at Sandringham to show your great leadership and encourage others to do the same? We do hope you will join us on 15 October. *Sue Raikes*

# Over to you

*Grateful thanks to Julia Loken for this amazing contribution to our Colouring Corner – also available online – and to Paul Hughes, who recommends us to find time for bird watching, however small our garden.*

Having a pond in what is now a mature garden gives us an attractive focal point and a useful resource for our birds. On most days of the year we have a steady flow of avian visitors who use the pond for bathing, drinking and feeding. Unfortunately for our newts, the blackbirds have thrown themselves (literally) into newt catching so we often have up to six blackbirds around the edge of the pond that suddenly jump in to grab an unsuspecting newt and then run off to the lawn where they dispatch their prey. For us, the downside to this is that they appear to have little interest in the bountiful mass of slugs that inhabit the undergrowth. However, they do appear to enjoy digging up plants that have been recently installed. Perhaps it's the idea that the fresh compost may have tasty things in it?

Other birds that use the pond for bathing include dunnock, wren, blue tit, great tit, long tailed tit, blackcap, house sparrow, greenfinch, goldfinch, goldcrest, collard dove, woodpigeon, fieldfare and redwing in the winter and finally the starling who win first prize for entertainment when they arrive en masse, parents and juveniles, and bathe together all at the same time – all twenty of them!

So, if you want some entertainment other than the TV or your iPhone, put some water in your garden, just enough for the avian life to drink and bathe and you will have hours of interest and amusement.

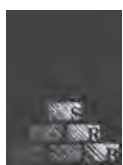


*Below, some timely advice on preparing our gardens for colour next year from David Rivalin.*

*Contact [david@monsieurjardindesigns.co.uk](mailto:david@monsieurjardindesigns.co.uk)*

There are two categories of bulbs: summer or spring flowering ones. From now until November, it's the spring flowering ones that need planting..

- In mixed borders, to fill the gaps left by perennials which get cut back in the winter: scilla sibirica, iris reticulata, cyclamen coum.
- Under trees, to create carpets of flowers: good choices are ornithogalum nutans (Star of Bethlehem), anemone nemorosa or bluebells.



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- Amidst deciduous shrubbery, whose greenery will hide the big leaves of bulbs after flowering. Use *eranthis hyemalis*, daffodils, hyacinthus.
- On lawns to create waves of colour, or even an early spring flower meadow. Here bulbs with small leaves which finish quickly are better: crocus *chrysanthus*, *chionodoxa luciliae*, snowdrops.

## Point of view

*Parish & District Councillor Peter Emery supported the District Council application for a Garden Village north of Eynsham in July. He explains why he did so below.*

I supported the bid because a complex set of factors make the Eynsham area the only sustainable site to take both Oxford City's unmet housing need and to take a share of the additional housing that reflects the revised forecast for housing within WODC.

WODC cannot place Oxford City's need across the District because of a 'duty to cooperate' and Oxford City insist that the housing be as close to the city as possible. As the Garden Village brings with it some funding and the guarantee of at least the minimum services necessary for a settlement (schools, community centre, health centre) and plenty of green space AND a new Science Park is part of the bid I felt that this managed expansion, based around a new settlement, and the extra investment the Science Park would bring was preferable to a village under constant attack from speculative developments that are increasingly seen as 'winnable' by the landowners even where WODC planners refuse them.

If the Garden Village bid were to fail then that is another matter entirely and my attitude to the expansion, without this infrastructure and without the jobs and investment from the Science Park might well be considerably different and indeed hostile to such development!

If you want to discuss this or any other matter with me or my two colleagues, Edward James and Peter Kelland, our contact details are on page 5.

## Teamwork pays off



*A good thing David Miller's Wharf Stream Team still maintains our historic link to the Thames. Richard Bossons of Henley made contact via Eynsham Online to ask about getting a 24' double skiff to the Talbot at the end of August. Here is his photo and story.*

We made it to the Talbot! A bit of a struggle with the reeds clogging the prop all the time but well worth it as it was utterly idyllic and tranquil.

We didn't go in the skiff in the end and went in our outboard boat. It was difficult to imagine all the work you and your colleagues must have done to clear the stream. Also difficult to picture barges laden with stone coming down, though you could make out the original banks in some places. My wife is from the Danube Delta area in Romania and it reminded her (and me) of the expeditions we have made up the Delta's small creeks and tributaries as the reedy landscape is very similar, and it was sunny and hot!

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# People

**KATIE O'DONNELL** writes "My mum had a nasty fall in Oxford city centre on 26 August and a very kind lady who mentioned she was from Eynsham helped her and stayed with her until I was able to get there. We would like to say a huge thank you to her for being so caring."

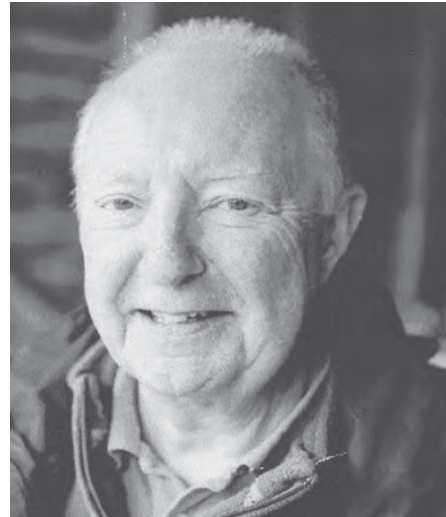
**GILL AND IVOR PRATLEY** thank the many kind people of Eynsham who were so caring and helpful to them both when Ivor had several falls in Witney Road and Spareacre Lane recently. They would also like to thank neighbours in Tilgarsley Road for support and offers of help.

**SCOUT GROUP:** Trevor Winstone appeals to parents, guardians, relatives and friends.

Eynsham Scout Group is in great danger of being closed. We recently lost our long-term Group Scout Leader Sue Greenwood, after many years of dedicated work in Scouting. I find myself in the role of Acting Chairman, having resigned in April due to work issues. Unless these two key roles are filled it is inevitable the District will mothball the Eynsham Group, or maybe even close it.

Very few Scouting leaders arrive with direct experience – all we ask is enthusiasm for the role which lies ahead. Scout Association training is open to all adult members. As you learn you can also build skills which help with gaining employment or career development.

Please ask anyone you know who may be suitable to give me a call. If you want to help out but do not feel you can commit to every meeting, please get in touch as your support will be very welcome. You will join a strong team who have provided many years of successful Scouting. If you can offer help in any way do call me on 01865 880990 or 07747 074649 or e-mail [trevorwinst@gmail.com](mailto:trevorwinst@gmail.com)



**CLIVE STONE**, who lost his battle with cancer earlier this year, joined the bank as a school leaver. He was told he should not expect much promotion because he was brought up on a council estate. But with his fighting spirit, which was evident in all he did to the end of his life, he proved them wrong.

His five years in Eynsham were marked by his wife Jan's death shortly after their arrival and by his own battle with ever-increasing cancer. Yet he thought little of his own health problems but devoted much time to campaigning for change, meeting David Cameron on several occasions and being awarded an MBE for services to cancer patients in 2011. He worked tirelessly in setting up the government's Cancer Drugs Fund; and in recognition of this he was nominated to carry the Olympic Torch through Woodstock in 2012.

Locally, he set up a kidney patients' group at the Churchill Hospital and served on a committee looking into hospital food. He gave emotional support and practical advice to many who phoned to ask for help; contributed weekly columns for the Oxford Mail on cancer related issues; and appeared in a series of TV programmes about cancer and other medical conditions.

Clive also helped to set up Eynsham Good Neighbour Network in September 2013, after many months' work behind the scenes. He brought invaluable experience and advice to a very capable

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committee. He stepped down only as his cancer continued to progress.

As a member of St Leonard's Church his Christian faith was a bulwark of support to him, with an emphasis on its outworking in everyday issues such as justice, poverty and tax evasion. In his last few years his two young granddaughters, together with his enduring sense of humour, helped to see him through times of increasing pain and weakness.

Clive was always good company and a good guest at anyone's dinner table. When asked what he did before retiring he would say "a banker" followed immediately by "not the modern type!" His presence is missed in Eynsham by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

## Moving on



*Farewell from Rev Morey Andrews and family – at the top of the Old Man of Coniston this summer*

Looking back to March 2006 it does not seem real that we will be gone from the village in September. I really want to say thank you to all who have made me welcome. The church I have served in Eynsham has been amazing, not to mention Cassington too!

In the community, my memories start from the Morris men's invitation for a pint on my first Tuesday; being trustee for a few charities in the village; being a regular at the gym and making new friends; running the Eynsham 10km race on the last Sunday of November each year; visiting local shops; riding in the carnival parade; hosting events in the church; joining the other two churches in shared opportunities; being a governor and director of the local schools... the list goes on. I sometimes wonder how I got any work done.

Where am I going? To the West Country – the town of Bridgwater to be precise. I am taking on a new role involved in church growth. An exciting and scary opportunity as the job does not exist right now. I have truly enjoyed my time here and have made many new friends. I will miss above all the people who have made us so welcome.

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# Recreation

**AUGUST OASIS** was very successful once again and we give many thanks to all who helped in any way on the three days, as well as behind the scenes. There were workshops as diverse as brass rubbing to butter making, flower arranging to Countdown – as well as talks and demonstrations on wood turning and local history and a Tea Dance (our two local PSCOs proved very light on their feet in spite of their police issue boots). To say nothing of the fine lunches and cakes each day.

We now look forward to the OASIS Carol Service on Thursday 8 December at 14:00 in the Baptist Church. *Lin Miller*



**EYNESHAM CHORAL SOCIETY** is starting to prepare for the Christmas concert in St Leonard's Church on Saturday 3 December – Vivaldi's Gloria, Schubert's Mass in G and Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols; musical director Stuart Dunlop. We rehearse in Eynsham Primary School on Tuesdays at 19:30. New members are very welcome, no auditions necessary. Enquiries to Mick Durham (Chair) at [mickdurham@aol.com](mailto:mickdurham@aol.com) or Marie Bridge (Secretary), [marie.bridge1@gmail.com](mailto:marie.bridge1@gmail.com)



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**EYNESHAM COMMUNITY CHOIR**, under its leader Anne L. Ryan, gave a concert in St Leonard's Church on 9 July and raised funds for Eynsham Day Centre, its charity for 2016. They performed a variety of songs from different cultures and genres, including Russian folk, a medieval hymn, a very moving African tribute to Nelson Mandela, with some 60s pop thrown in before retiring to strawberries and Pimms.

The choir meets on Thursdays in term time 19:30–21:30 at the Baptist Church Hall as from 29 September. More men are particularly welcome! We learn by ear so no need to be able to read music, nor are there any auditions. You will learn about singing, harmony, rhythm and have fun doing it. If you'd like to come to a taster session, contact Anne on 01865 880858 or [eynshamcommunitychoir@gmail.com](mailto:eynshamcommunitychoir@gmail.com)

**FLEDGELINGS SING** singing fun for little ones is open to all under-fives on Wednesdays in term time 10:30–11:30 at the Scout Hall, Back Lane. £2 per family per session, refreshments included. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Drop in or contact Marie Mills: 01865 882085/[mandcmills@tesco.net](mailto:mandcmills@tesco.net)

**ONE WORLD WEEK** sale on 22 October Baptist Hall 10:00–12:00 is an opportunity to buy Christmas cards, wrapping paper and small gifts from Sobell House, Traidcraft, Save the Children, Oxfam and Baphumelele children's home. Come and browse, enjoy refreshments and a chat. *Angie Cox*

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	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Years 9 &amp; 10</u> Monday 18:30 – 20:00</p>
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**CAVE QUEST:** For the first time in 18 years, Eynsham churches put on a holiday club for children aged 5–11 at the end of July – thanks to Suzanne Peedell for the photo. We are most grateful to the leaders and to those who helped with the set, with transport and storage, and donated extra funds. For details of next year's club please email [eynshamhc2016@gmail.com](mailto:eynshamhc2016@gmail.com)



**ROTARY CLUB OF EYNSHAM:** Following our collaboration with Bartholomew Players for their Relative Values supper show in May, Bartholomew Players Chairman Gareth Hammond (L) presented a cheque for £320 to our President Terry Glossop as our share of the profits, which will be used for local charitable causes.

Due to the imminent closure of The Evenlode, we meet at a variety of local venues over the next three months while we try to establish a new permanent home. For more information please visit Eynsham Online. Our next fundraiser will be the popular annual Race Night at Eynsham Village Hall on Friday 14 October – first race at 19:30. Do come and join us for this fun and worthwhile event. *Tessa Hammond*

**YES, PRIME MINISTER:** Bartholomew Players' next production is a sharply satirical comedy from the writers of the original TV series, Wednesday 30 November to Saturday 3 December at Eynsham Village Hall. After all the political intrigue and changes in the UK over summer 2016, we thought this would be a relevant and entertaining play. As usual, we are partnering with a local group for our Charity Supper Show – this time the Army Cadets. We look forward to seeing you! *Denise Richards*

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(15 - 1hr 42mins)

Friday 25th November 7:30pm

kate Beckinsale xavier Samuel chloe Sevigny



(U - 1hr 33mins)

Tickets available in advance from the 'Nice People' at Evenlode DIY

## HARVEST AT THE EYNHAM CHURCHES

*Everyone Welcome*

**Harvest Services on Monday  
26 September 2016**

**13:45 at the Day Centre in  
the Village Hall and  
15:00 at Beech Court Nursing Home**



**Eynsham Baptist Church  
Sunday 25 September 2016**

**10:30 Harvest Service  
Leader and Preacher: The  
Revd Zoltan Biro**

Monetary gifts to the Baptist  
Missionary Society (BMS)  
Gifts of produce suitable for donation  
to the North Oxfordshire Food Bank  
and The Gatehouse Project for Oxford's  
homeless will be most welcome, please.

*The service will be followed by a Bring  
and Share lunch in our main hall.*

**St Leonard's, Church of England  
Sunday 25 September 2016**

**09:00 Harvest Holy  
Communion Service**

**10:45 Harvest Morning Worship  
Guest speaker and focus  
on 'Tearfund'**

*This will be followed by a frugal lunch  
in St Leonard's Church Hall*



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# What's on

## September

- 18 **Gatehouse Volunteers:** 01865 881346
- 20 **Eynsham Futures,** Bartholomew Room  
19:30 – p 3
- 21 **Carers' Group,** Eynsham Emporium 11:00.  
Enquiries: 01865 881396
- 23 **Community Cinema** – page 18
- 24 **VILLAGE SHOW,** Village Hall 14:00
- 25 **Litter Pickers,** Baptist Hall 13:45 – *postponed to  
2 October*
- 27 **Website demo,** Village Hall 18:30 – page 2
- 28 **Medical Centre** closes for staff training 13:00–  
18:30, please call Long Hanborough: 01993 881330.
- 28 **Arts Group,** Bartholomew Room 19:30

## October

- 1 **GreenTEA,** Eynsham Emporium 10:30–12:00
- 2 **Joe Wilkins Memorial Charity Match,**  
School Piece 12:30
- 2 **Acoustic Club,** White Hart 20:00: 01865 731787
- 3 **Water blitz!** – page 6
- 5 **PUBLIC MEETING,** Village Hall – page 3
- 6 **History Group,** St Leonard's Hall 19:30.  
Julie Godson, *The Thames Water Gypsy.*
- 10 **Helen & Douglas House,** The Talbot 19:30.
- 11 **Women's Institute,** St Leonard's Hall 19:00.  
Harvest Supper & Auction.  
Enquiries: 01865 882011
- 12 **Garden Club,** Village Hall 19:30. Rob Jacobs,  
*Herbaceous borders.* Enquiries: 01865 880342
- 14 **Rotary Race Night,** Village Hall – page 17
- 15 **Apple and Energy Festival** – page 11
- 18 **Eynsham Futures,** Bartholomew Room  
19:30 – p 3
- 19 **Carers' Group,** Eynsham Emporium 11:00.
- 19 **Eynsham Society,** Village Hall 20:00.  
Enquiries: 01865 880563
- 20 **Allotments Association,** AGM 19:00
- 20 **History Group,** St Leonard's Hall 19:30.  
Shaun Morley, *Victorian Friendly Societies.*
- 22 **One World Week Sale** – page 17
- 26 **Arts Group,** Bartholomew Room 19:30
- 18 **Gatehouse Volunteers:** 01865 881346
- 30 **Litter Pickers,** Baptist Hall 13:45.
- 28 **Community Cinema** – page 18

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# November

- 3 **History Group**, St Leonard's Hall 19:30.  
Graham Tremelow, *British Poster Art*.  
Enquiries: 01865 882400
- 4 **Eynsham News** copy deadline – page 2
- 5 **GreenTEA**, Eynsham Emporium 10:30–12:00
- 6 **Acoustic Club**, White Hart 20:00: 01865 731787
- 8 **Women's Institute**, St Leonard's Hall 19:30.  
Malcolm Thick, *History of your Christmas dinner*.
- 9 **Garden Club**, Village Hall 19:30.  
Mark Vickers, *Thatching*
- 14 **Helen & Douglas House**, The Talbot 19:30.
- 15 **Eynsham Futures**, Bartholomew Room 19:30.
- 16 **Carers' Group**, Eynsham Emporium 11:00.
- 16 **Eynsham Society**, Village Hall 20:00.  
John Ashdown, *Churches from Ireland to the Urals*.
- 17 **History Group**, St Leonard's Hall 19:30.  
John Richards, *Early BBC radio*.
- 19–27 **Christmas Art Exhibition**,  
Bartholomew Room.
- 21 **Eynsham NAG**, Bartholomew Room 19:00.
- 25 **Community Cinema** – page 18



- 27 **Eynsham Roadrunners**,  
Bartholomew School 10:30. 10k Race and fun run

These listings are open to all community groups and we welcome photos too – how about some from the Skatepark launch? Other pages are always open for stories and snippets, comments and corrections – see page 2 for contact details. Next issue will be out on 28 November – copy deadline 4 November.



Visit Eynsham Online at [eynsham-pc.gov.uk](http://eynsham-pc.gov.uk)

## Our sponsors

Thanks to Eynsham Dental Care, Pimms Commercial Properties and the Eynsham Churches for their generous support in 2016/17 – relevant features continue.

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*Try carving a word on your baby pumpkins for next year's village show! Image © David Rivalin*

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