

EYNSHAM

Council & Community

NEWS

Issue 26 – August – September 2017



All together now...

*The Firefighters grapple with 'Rope Wars' –
summing up Carnival 2017 and the spirit of Eynsham too.
Photo © Anthony Morris*

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News in brief

EYNSHAM ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION chair Andy Swarbrick brings us the results of the annual Wharf Road allotments judging. The worthy winners are: 1st, Bridget Pitcher; 2nd, Rob and Moira Wayne Smith; 3rd, Heather Horner. Congratulations to all!

END OF AN ERA: a word of thanks to Adrian Moyes, who started up a Community Website ‘for people who think that Eynsham is the centre of the world’ around the turn of the century. Designed to celebrate Eynsham in an informal way – ‘think of it as the fans’ website’ – it recorded and nurtured village institutions and activities (especially GreenTEA) for many years, but finally gave in to advancing technology and switched off on 28 June.

PARKING: Thanks for your feedback on the ideas from Eynsham retailers group, and your other suggestions too. Do continue to comment at **Eynsham Online > Village Info > Shopping** – or drop us a line and post it through the letterbox at Cornucopia Cooks (opposite the Co-op). We look forward to your thoughts.

THE WAY IT WAS: Thanks to all the visitors and to the groups and businesses who displayed at the Flower Festival in St Leonard’s Church. The sum raised for

charity was £133.56, to be shared between the Fire Services Benevolent Fund and SeeSaw – for bereaved children in Oxfordshire. *Helen Keen & Kathie Tanner*

A voice for Eynsham



Eynsham Planning Improvement Campaign returned to battle against West Oxfordshire District Council at the Local Plan examination in July.

EPIC continues to challenge the Council’s overall housing target; the monstrously unfair 3200 allocation for Eynsham; and the many failings in the site assessment process.

Above all, we object to the lack of consultation. WODC has totally ignored clear evidence, gathered over almost two years by the Neighbourhood Planning team, that *the key issues for Eynsham people are affordable housing and lack of infrastructure provision.*

EPIC is an independent initiative dedicated to *appropriate* development that meets *local* needs. We are open to anyone who has ties to the village. If you are concerned about its future, we can keep you informed or offer you ways to get involved.

- Sign up to the campaign at local shops and pubs – many thanks to them all for their support.
- Keep up-to-date via the public notice boards, follow us on Twitter @epic2031 or visit eynsham.me.uk
- Join our (occasional) mailing list at epic2031@gmail.com
- Help out with admin, or fund-raising, or spreading the word – we *can* make a difference!

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://eynshamnews.org.uk>

Local stories, snaps and snippets are always welcome – and corrections also, thanks! Next issue will be out on 18 September– copy deadline Friday 1 September, though advance notice really helps if you’d like some room to spread.

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Covering all the options

Eynsham Parish Council supports a multi-level response to the challenge of 3200 new homes. Another update from Richard Andrews

Our Neighbourhood Plan (NP) continues through the adoption process as attention switches back to the WODC's Local Plan to expand Eynsham from 2000 to 3200 homes by 2031.

All this has been thrust upon us by WODC, who should really look out for our best interests but instead acted without consulting us and take absolutely no notice of anything we say about their flawed Plan. This is a huge challenge – how does the Parish Council respond for the best overall outcome?

Legally, the NP has to be 'in general accord' with the Local Plan. If WODC says 3200 houses in Eynsham then we have to achieve that – but we can say where and how. It's not easy when WODC allocates so many homes as there isn't much choice about 'where'. The NP does insist development is done properly with enough school places, health care, shops, jobs, places for recreation – the community will get bigger but will still have enough facilities for everyone.

So EPC will ask residents to give our Neighbourhood Plan legal force by supporting it at a referendum, without implying any support to the Local Plan, which we continue to oppose, trying to convince the Inspector to make WODC re-write those sections which adversely affect Eynsham. We have talked with WODC but they won't make substantive changes unless the Inspector tells them to do so.

EPC also engages with developers and we will work with WODC on the details of plans to get the best for Eynsham. We believe it is right to engage positively where we can make things better – just as much as fighting, sometimes with the same people, where we see Eynsham's interests are being overridden.



That's why we work with EPIC in their campaign to oppose the imposition of an undemocratic and ill-considered Local Plan. While EPIC focus on resisting unjust and unjustified decisions imposed without consultation or consent, the Neighbourhood Plan – to which EPIC members made a huge contribution – needs to be ready to make the best of the Local Plan outcome.

The inspector may accept WODC's plan – then we get 1000 houses to the west and 2200 north of the A40 and the NP will be used to minimise the harms. He may tell WODC to do it all again or, more likely, he will require changes, ideally a proper consideration of alternative Garden Village sites and a more realistic number of houses to the west of the village – the NP will have to be taken seriously during any modifications.

Whatever happens, the Neighbourhood Plan is vital to ensure the developers don't have a completely free hand to do what they like to our village.

And then there is the A40 and the Park & Ride. Again we support the principle of good public transport but the County Council's current plans don't address the issues properly and we have said so.

Unfortunately the NP doesn't carry much weight here and OCC seem just as determined to do what they want and ignore the locals. The NP 'recommends' certain measures to improve traffic but that's all we can do within the rules. The Parish Council will keep arguing for more realistic solutions and hope there is some common-sense somewhere in OCC that we can tap into but no one will be holding their breath!

The 'other' New Village of up to 3000 homes south of the A40, west of Eynsham, is still being heavily promoted by Gladman, who surveyed Eynsham residents and, unsurprisingly, found a majority against the GV north of us. EPIC are doing door-to-door work too, so it will be worth checking who you are talking with. For more information about Gladman's plans type bit.do/NewGV1 into your browser (NOT Google).



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Eynsham churches

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www.stleonardseysham.org.uk
Vicar: Duncan Fraser 07810 324088
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

www.eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk
Minister: Revd Zoltan Biro 01865 881670
Church telephone / answerphone: 01865 882203
Church Secretary: Denise Launchbury,
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.

The churches welcome Ride & Stride on 9 September

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Contacts

Allotments: John & Sara Bannister, 01865 880324

Bartholomew School: Witney Road, 01865 881430

Carnival: enquiries@eynshamcarnival.com

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: roads & street lights Taylor Wimpey,
01235 541900; open spaces Remus, 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

MP: Robert Courts, 58–60 High Street, Witney
OX28 6HJ, 01993 225020/robert@robertcourts.co.uk

Noise: WODC, 0151 3432945 (24 hours)

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

Power cuts: 105

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

Toilets: Back Lane Car Park, 01249 822063

Waste Collection: WODC, 01993 861020

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Local councils

EYNESHAM 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
Katy Crowe: 07711 994417
Patricia Crowley: 07791 973118
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

PARISH CLERK: Katherine Doughty,
07956 901622
email 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

*Photos, maps and lots more info at Eynsham Online – Venue Hire **

Baptist Church Hall:	07900 066471
Bartholomew Room/Sports Pavilion:	07956 901622
Cricket Pavilion	07872 103262
Music Room:	07971 529242
Primary School Hall:	01865 881294
Red Lion:	01865 882903
Scout Hall:	01865 881787
Social & Sports Club:	01865 881234
St Leonard's Hall:	01865 881690
Tolkien Room & garden:	01865 881613
Village Hall:	01865 881624
White Hart Function Room:	01865 883093

** We are very grateful to Arthur Green for this iconic venue image – read more from him on page 15*



Patients' corner

*An update from Eynsham Patient Participation Group (PPG)
– Graham Maynard reports*

Our questionnaire, now available in the surgery and online*, has already highlighted a couple of areas of concern to people. This month we'll cover appointments.

When you call the surgery for an appointment, the receptionists will ask questions about your medical problem. Whilst you should not feel compelled to answer, it might help to know that all receptionists are subject to confidentiality rules and this **does speed things up and ensure that you get to see the right medic in an appropriate timescale.**

After 'triaging' (being called by a doctor to assess your needs), you may be offered an appointment at The Hub, on the ground floor at Windrush Health Centre in Witney. Doctors at The Hub deal with acute problems, and you may be referred there if your need is urgent but there is no way you can be seen in Eynsham.

Everyone who has been to The Hub seems to think it's the 'bees' knees' so why not answer those questions and get to see a doctor – *pronto?*

*find the survey link at tinyurl.com/eynsham-PPG

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Have we forgotten?

Dennis Stukenbroeker – Chair, Planning Committee. All council contact details are listed on page 5

Who owns the War Memorial in the Square? No, really, the Parish Council would like to know.

The hundredth anniversary of WWI has created renewed interest to register and record the war memorials that were put up in almost every city, town and village in the country to commemorate the fallen after the Great War. Eynsham was no different.

The Eynsham War Memorial Committee raised funds to erect the memorial in the Square between the Red Lion pub and St Leonard's church. It was unveiled and dedicated on Saturday 2 April 1921 with much ceremony and a church service officiated by Eynsham's formidable vicar, the Rev William Nash Bricknell.

This memorial is voluntarily maintained by the Royal British Legion and Eynsham Garden Club, with assistance from the Parish Council – but it is not known who actually owns the land it stands on.

We know who owned it before. The Parish Council does have a poor photocopy deed showing that this was part of the Red Lion pub, then owned by Morrells Brewery. Emily Alicia Morrell (1854–1938) was orphaned at 10 when both her parents died and she became a very rich heiress. The War Memorial land was included in a trust created before her marriage to her third cousin, George Herbert Morrell (1845–1906). As a widow, her trustees conveyed the triangle of land between the pub and church to trustees for the Eynsham War Memorial Committee in 1921 for £5.

This land was bought for the War Memorial Committee by three trustees: the formidable Rev Bricknell; a retired British Army Officer apparently then living in The Gables; and Mr Edgar Sawyer of Newland Street. The copy deed the Parish Council has is only dated 1921, but as the memorial was dedicated in April, the committee must have got on with it.

Then the trail goes cold. Nothing seems to be known about the War Memorial Committee after their mission was accomplished. Did the trustees or their successors dispose of the land, or did they still own it on trust when they died? There are articles about the War Memorial in various issues of the Eynsham Record – see eynshamrecord.info – but these mainly focus on the men whose names are recorded, not the land or the monument itself. It is also not known who made the substantial Celtic cross with sword.

So... who owns it? Having just completed the Eynsham Parish Council Property Register (accessible at Eynsham Online), I can say that the Parish Council doesn't. Do you know who owns the land, or made the memorial? Answers on a postcard, or preferably on a conveyance – or just email me what you know and I will try and figure out what to do with the information.

Help us to help you

The Parish Council allocates £2500 a year in grants (usually £100–£400) to village groups and voluntary organisations. Recent awards have included:

- Baptist Church Toddler Group
- Eynsham Churches Holiday Club
- Eynsham Good Neighbour Network
- Eynsham Violin Masterclass
- OASIS for Senior Citizens
- Royal British Legion
- West Oxon Citizens Advice

The deadline for grant applications 2018–9 is 14 October; you can download the form on our website or contact the Clerk Katherine Doughty – details on page 5.

Our great outdoors

Sue Osborne – Chair, Fishponds & Footpaths Committees

FISHPONDS: Sadly, back in May, we received reports that someone had been doing some unauthorised digging at the Fishponds, particularly on Harvey's House Mound. The picnic bench there was also badly damaged.

Please remember that the Fishponds is a site of great historical and archaeological interest, and your Parish Council works hard to protect and preserve its heritage and to make it a pleasant place for all to enjoy.

If you notice anything suspicious taking place anywhere at the Fishponds, please do not hesitate to contact the police on 101, or any member of EPC.

On a happier note, we would like to thank the unsung heroes who help to keep the Fishponds free

of litter, dog mess, overhanging branches, etc., on a regular basis as they go about their daily walks. You know who you are!

I have a brief update on the possibility of some dry stone wall training on the site: we may be able to make a start in mid-September – so watch this space and do let me know if you would be interested in taking part and learning a new skill. Meantime, enjoy your wonderful outdoors!

FOOTPATHS: *'The hills were cloudy with woods in the heat. All things were lightly powdered with gold, by a lustre that seemed to have been sifted through gauze'* – Edward Thomas, Oxford

Back in October, I reported two footbridges on Footpath 206/12 (leading north towards Freeland) which badly needed attention. I'm pleased to say that Dan Weeks, from OCC's Countryside Service, confirmed that repairs were due to take place in week beginning 3 July. I haven't had time to check them yet, but you can be sure I'll be adding photographs of them to the online photo map as soon as I do at tinyurl.com/eynsham-pm

Sadly, after 15 years at OCC, Dan is leaving in August to take up a role in the fire service. Despite constraints and funding cuts, he has always responded to our requests for maintenance and repairs, and I'd like to use these pages to say a public thank you to him and his team. OCC will be seeking a replacement, which is a great relief! (I also think this proves how important our network of rights of way is).

I'm aware that the new planting on Wharf Stream Way has been neglected and is now rather overgrown. We are looking at ways to clear the nettles and weeds without damaging the new plants. On a positive note, I was happy to receive the following report: "The Wharf Stream Way is very popular isn't it – have noticed a marked increase in amount of people using it (as seen from our allotment)!"

As always, please send any reports – positive or otherwise! – to me or any other member of the Footpaths Committee.



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Picture this

Patricia Crowley – Chair, Communications Committee

How would you like to see your photography or artwork on the cover of the Eynsham Directory 2017 – delivered **free** to every home in the village? Our talent scouts are on the lookout but you can help their quest. Have a word with Joan Stonham, or any member of the Communications Committee, or email us via the contact form at eynsham-pc.gov.uk/contact.aspx

School's out!



Did you miss the skate jam in July? No problem! The skatepark is there every day and it needs hammering... We love it when you put your litter in the bins as well.

Water blitz

Volunteers needed for one day only!

Schools, groups and individuals are invited to take part in Oxfordshire water blitz on Monday 2 October. Check the quality of your local stream, pond, ditch or river and help to build a water quality picture for the county. Register for your free sampling pack by email to hilary@wildoxfordshire.org.uk – subject line Waterblitz. All results will be mapped on the EarthWatch WaterHub, with the data available to everyone involved.

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Eynsham NAG is a community/police liaison committee representing Thames Valley Police, local councils, partner organisations and local residents.

YOUR OPINION COUNTS. If you have any problems that you feel affect our community, please let us know. Call NAG chairman Ron Hollis on 07770 466237, email ron.hollis@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or talk to our local police team as you see them around.

We are currently reviewing policing priorities for the area. Under new operating agreements, priorities are rotated on a three monthly basis, instead of being adopted for the year, and need to be more focused.

Speeding, for example (a common priority in the past) would need to focus on a specific area and/or time frame. We'd welcome residents' ideas for setting these priorities – any issues affecting your community which would benefit from working together. Please remember, however, that parking is not now a police function but is enforced by WODC.

SPEEDWATCH: Many local villages now operate a volunteer team to help to keep a check on speeding in their community. At present, there is no such team in Eynsham. If you would like to help in putting one together please contact Ron Hollis or any of our local police team. Training and advice will be provided by the police.

JOIN US! We meet in Eynsham about once a quarter and are looking for new members. If you're interested please contact Ron Hollis or any member of our local police team. More details at eynsham-nag.org

Governors' news

Paul Stammers reports from Bartholomew School

The School has a vacancy for a Community Governor and is seeking applications. In particular, the Governing Body is currently seeking skills and experience in the areas of procurement, purchasing, legal, and school-related HR and Inspection. However, people from all walks of life are encouraged to apply.

Governors act as 'critical friends' to the senior leadership team at Bartholomew and provide valuable strategic input into decision making about the curriculum; they monitor students' achievement; and they review exam results. They also help to allocate financial resources to keep the school safe and fit for purpose.

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Some guidance about what governors do can be found at nga.org.uk/Be-a-Governor/Be-a-Governor.aspx

If you are interested (or wish to suggest someone), please email office.4054@bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk

WHAT IT IS LIKE AS A GOVERNOR?

Several committees discuss a variety of matters, from student welfare and exam results to building maintenance and budgets.

We meet several times a term to discuss reports, suggest ideas and agree action plans. However, neither the staff nor governors want to spend hours wrangling over agenda items. Most meetings finish within 90 minutes because we are expected to have come prepared and the chair chivvies things along when necessary.

Although the governing body mustn't act like a fan club for the head and his team, there is a good rapport with the teachers who attend. The matters being discussed can be quite weighty, but there's always a positive atmosphere, which is encouraging, and opportunities to learn more, both online and via training courses.

Ready, steady... read!



Summer Reading Challenge 2017 is for children aged four to eleven. All they have to do is to select six library books (including audio books) and to read them over the summer holidays. They'll collect stickers as they go and a certificate at the end of the challenge.

This year's theme is Animal Agents. The Agents need your children's help to solve some of their biggest mysteries. At each visit to the library, your child will discover new clues to help to solve the Agents' cases, from the missing lunch to the graffiti on the walls.

Find out more – and sign up – at Eynsham Library or visit summerreadingchallenge.org Here, children can give and find book recommendations, join in competitions, and unlock badges and rewards.

A fun, free way to keep your children entertained, and to build their reading skills and confidence!



South Central Ambulance Charity Volunteering

As a Community First Responder

Do you want to experience the reward of helping with a medical emergency without changing your career? We currently have over 650 Community First Responders, who provide life-saving first aid in the crucial minutes before an ambulance arrives, and we're looking for more people who want to experience the ultimate in community volunteering.

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You will often be first at the scene, offering life-saving treatment whilst the ambulance is on its way. In non-life threatening situations, you will be there to comfort the patient, provide information and reassurance. You can choose exactly which hours you wish to volunteer, and will receive first-class training – skills which you can use for life.

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DANDELION
FOXGLOVE

Home front

The GreenTEA Festival at the Village Hall on Saturday 14 October will be **fun**, with games and quizzes for children and adults; local and seasonal food and tasting; and apple and juice give-away. Sue Raikes invites us all to 'make a difference' in the meantime –

more info at eynsham-pc.gov.uk/GreenTEA

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS: See how many August-flowering plants you can find in this month's word search. Thanks again to Sarah Medina – answers in our next issue.

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FOOD FACTS

- Oxford's food system produces more CO2 than all the city's cars.
- An average household throws away £60 worth of food a month.

We can...

- eat less meat and seek out tasty veggie options;
- buy only what we need and use leftovers;
- eat seasonal and local food from local shops;
- grow our own food.

ENERGY FACTS

- A typical house emits 6 tonnes of carbon a year – mostly from heat that is wasted by poor insulation.
- Reducing CFCs from old fridges and/or air con is most effective way of reducing global warming.

We can...

- have a thermal image taken, to show where heat is leaking from our house;
- replace light bulbs with LED lights;
- replace inefficient appliances – for example, install a condensing boiler;
- switch to a renewable energy supplier;
- create our own energy via solar panels or renewable heating.

TRANSPORT FACTS

- Travel makes up 25% of the average UK carbon footprint
- A return flight to southern Spain is equivalent to 5,000 miles in a family car or 10,000 miles by train.

We can ...

- use the bus or cycle as much as possible;
- share journeys with colleagues;
- switch to a more efficient car;
- use the train to replace short haul flights;
- reduce long haul flights;
- shop locally.

Don't miss all that free food in summer hedgerows and free herbs in the GreenTEA tubs in Market Square! – Ed.

Opportunity knocks

Bartholomew Players' next production will be *The Constant Wife* by Somerset Maugham (30 November–2 December). Any local groups who would like to partner us for the Friday night supper would be most welcome!

We need: ten helpers from 17:00–22:30 to set up and dress tables, clear dishes and wash up, serve dessert, clear up at the end of the night, provide 2 good quality raffle prizes and sell 20-plus tickets for the supper show in advance.

You get: free advertising; a free meal; to see the play; and a share of profits from the night. Previous partners include: Acre-End Pre-School; Bartholomew School; Guides; Scouts; Army Cadets; Eynsham Rotary, Day Centre; and Bike Safe B4044 Community Path Campaign, which received £330 as their share of profits from our *Humble Boy* supper show on 19 May.

Enquiries to Denise Santilli: 07721 744020/
bart.players@gmail.com



A new employability course starts in August at Hill End, the 65 acre outdoor education centre in Farmoor, now a charitable trust.

The course will give learners the opportunity to gain work experience in areas such as horticulture, grounds maintenance and hospitality. Help will be available on topics such as career exploration and applying for a job. The course will run on one day per week and you can join anytime in 2017. Each learner's course is expected to last for up to 12 weeks.

As long as you are currently unemployed, all learner costs are covered, thanks to funding from the European Social Fund and the Skills Funding Agency. There will also be help with travel expenses and lunch provided. To find out more please call 01865 863510 and ask for Kim – or visit hill-end.org/cando

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Sue Raikes, chair of RWIE, reflects on the subversive nature of a summer's night out – bringing sunshine to the lives of local refugees. For more information find us on Facebook or go to refugeeswelcomeineynsham.org

If you've ever read the news and felt like groaning in despair, I encourage you to look up and see how, even on your doorstep, there are occasional glimmers of hope.

RWIE was formed in the wake of the Syrian refugee crisis, after a number of Eynsham residents attended a rally in Oxford in September 2015 and realised that there was a shared desire to help those who were fleeing conflict. Since then, the group has grown by word of mouth to a loose network of about 80 people whose aim is to give welcome and support to refugees who find themselves in West Oxfordshire.

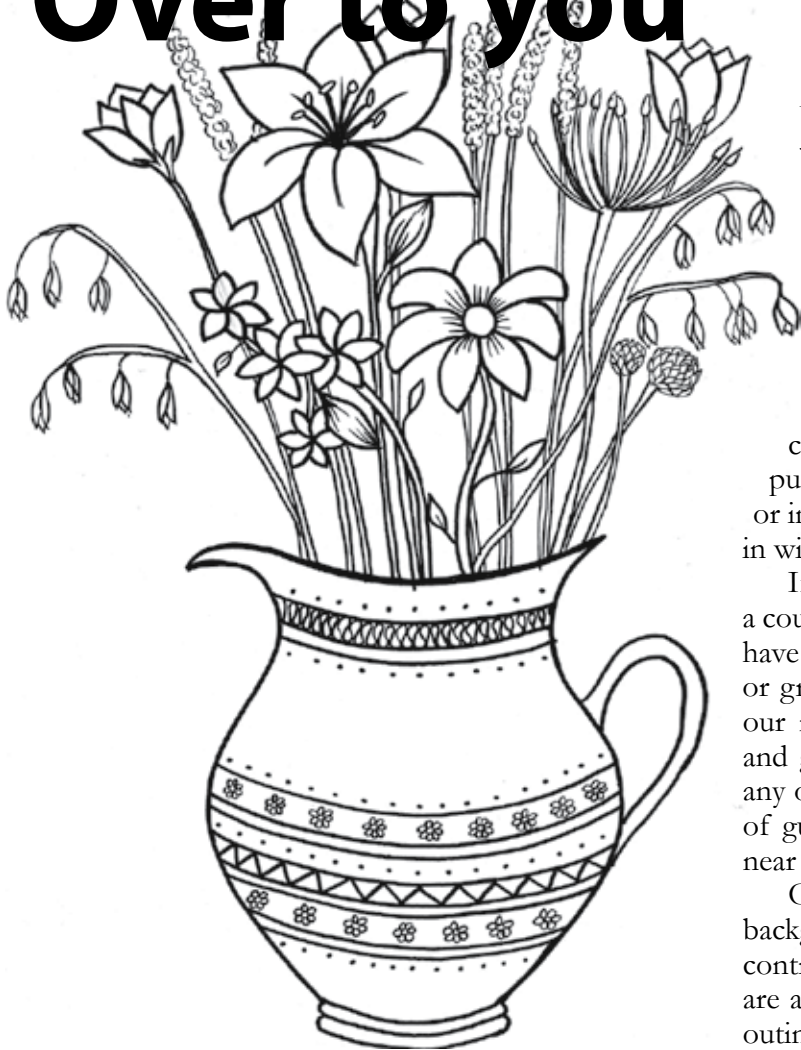
The group's most recent initiative was to organise *Music of the Night*, a performance of songs from the shows, in the beautiful garden of local residents Mike and Margherita. It was a truly magical evening, with an audience of around 120 enjoying the West End-quality performances of soloists David Staines and Rich Oliver (who so wonderfully stood in at short notice for Atlanta Rose). Some of Rich's delightful family (all named after characters in *Les Misérables!*) made an appearance, too – and were ably accompanied by pianist Gina Sharp.

Thanks to the generosity of the artists and event volunteers, who gave willingly of their time and expertise, an amazing £1768 was raised. This will support Syrian refugee families in Witney, as well as the work of Asylum Welcome and Refugee Resource in Oxford.

It's easy to be overwhelmed by the scale of the refugee crisis. Yet just attending an event like *Music of the Night* expresses a desire to help and challenge those who say that it is not our problem – that despite our relative affluence we should ration the help we give to those fleeing war and violence.

Over one million refugees crossed the Mediterranean last year to seek sanctuary in Europe. About one in 50 lost their life in the crossing. The numbers are higher this year. So what can we do? We can support the organisations that run the refugee camps; we can campaign to make Europe and the UK more welcoming; and we can focus on those who are now already in our community and need practical help – to get legal status, learn English, find work, make friends and have a life. Thank you for being part of the story.

Over to you



This month's colouring corner artist is Clodagh Wright, whose work was featured in a recent exhibition at Bartholomew School, showcasing the work of students. How wonderful to have so many talented young people in the village!

All are welcome here, you don't have to be an artist!

We are a small, friendly group, open to all. You would be welcome whether you are an established artist, a complete novice or pursuing a new hobby or interest. If you appreciate art and just want to join in without exhibiting, come along.

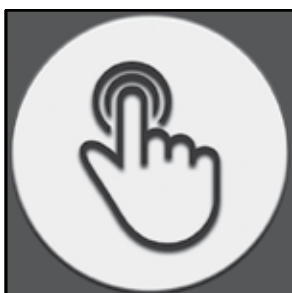
If you are at school or college, retired or just have a couple of hours or more to spend once a month and have an interest in art of any kind, or photographic or graphic and illustrative art, come along to one of our monthly meetings. There you can meet people and get a taste of what our group is about without any obligation to join as a member. We have a variety of guest speakers and demonstrations by artists from near and far. Just pay £2 at the door.

Our members come from a wide variety of backgrounds all bringing new ideas and supportive contributions to our meetings and exhibitions. We are always interested in new ideas for group drawing outings, monthly talks, visits and demonstrations.

For more information call 01865 722989, find us via Eynsham Online or Facebook or visit www.eynshamartsgroup.org



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FINGER ON THE PULSE
 This autumn's Eynsham Directory – delivered free to every home, thanks to sponsorship from Abbey Properties and the Rotary Club of Eynsham – will list over 100 clubs & classes in the village, including

times and venues, along with Eynsham services, shops and opening times.

Be sure to check your entry before it goes to press!
eynsham-pc.gov.uk/cats.aspx

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: Once again, Eynsham took part in this annual fundraising effort, with a house-to-house collection around the village from 14–20 May. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the many volunteers who delivered and collected envelopes – and to the amazing generosity of Eynsham residents – we raised over £2400 to support the work of Christian Aid.

This year, the focus of Christian Aid Week was on refugees. Did you know that Christian Aid has been working to support refugees since the Second World War? And nowadays, this work continues as refugees from Afghanistan, Syria and many other war-torn countries are still in desperate need of support and assistance. For these refugees, and for other people throughout the world whose livelihoods are threatened by war, famine and disease, Christian Aid continues to offer a lifeline. Many thanks to everyone who gave their time and/or money to support Christian Aid's work with the poorest of the poor. *Catherine Baker*

Looking to the future



Eynsham News sponsors Polar Technology report

One of the fastest growing businesses in the local area, a cutting edge precision fabrication business called SST Technology continues to grow and support the local community with a variety of initiatives. Recently presenting at Eynsham Primary school during their Engineering & Science week, sponsoring the local Carnival plus becoming one of the largest employers in the area it's easy to see why the business' appeal is global – dealing with customers from Tokyo to Los Angeles. To support the rapid growth, SST Technology has overhauled its complete manufacturing facility with cutting edge equipment and infrastructure. Now, having over 45k sq/ft of light, temperature controlled space over two sites and further growth planned within the 15 acre Polar Technology Campus, it's an extremely exciting and pleasant place to be.



To achieve this growth we need the best team, if you think you have the skills and mindset to join such a fast moving business dealing with anything from Formula One to Rolls Royce Aero Engines then do not hesitate to get in contact hr@sstubetechnology.com . The business has specific vacancies which can be seen at <http://www.sstubetechnology.com/careers/> but we are always open to speculative applications.

Watch this space, too, as one of the more cutting edge projects SST has been involved with reaches a key milestone as the Bloodhound SSC plans to complete its first low speed runs in Newquay at the end of October this year, before going for 1000mph in the South African desert in 2018!

EYNSHAM VILLAGE SHOW is coming our way and it's time to think about how you would like to get involved!

This year's Show is on Saturday 23 September and, as always, it will showcase the amazing skills of villagers of all ages and visitors from further afield (we've even had entries from Australians!). Here's how to participate!



Pick up or print off an entry form and decide what you would like to enter into the show. There are almost 100 classes to choose from, under the broad headings: fruit, vegetables & flowers; floral arrangement; cookery; photography; children's; arts & crafts; and fun for all. For the complete list and the entry form, call at Evenlode DIY, the library or Jollies or visit eynshamvillageshow.info

Complete the entry form and deliver it with your nominal fee (£1 for your first entry; 30p for subsequent entries; and 30p for all children's entries) to one of the addresses provided on the form. You'll need to do this by 20:00 on Thursday 21 September.

Come along on Show day with your entry/ies between 09:00 and 10:30. One of the organizers will help you to set it out. Judging will then take place by a range of experienced judges from Eynsham and beyond.

The Show is open to the public from 14:00. A raffle and prize-giving begins at 16:00. Entry is free, so come along to the Village Hall and Scout Hut to enjoy and support this wonderful village event!

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People

Opposite, an artist's impression of the start of the 1897 cycle ride from London to Oxford. The weather was atrocious and the last ladies arrived for an eight o'clock dinner at three the next morning!

In 1971, at the height of the hot pants craze, a reader came to Eynsham journalist Don Chapman with his grandfather's papers relating to the Western Rational Dress Club.

It made three stories in the daily column Don then wrote for the *Oxford Mail*, mainly because the grandfather in question, the geologist Sydney Buckman, helped to organise a rational dress cycle ride from London to Oxford in 1897. His party actually cycled through Eynsham on their way to and from this, with his wife and two sisters wearing cycling bloomers.

At the time Don said the subject deserved a book and at last he's got round to writing it – *Wearing the Trousers: Fashion, Freedom and the Rise of the Modern Woman*, which Amberley Publishing are bringing out in September. The book traces the history of the rational dress movement – 'rational' being the Victorian buzzword for anything that right-thinking people should adopt – from 1851, when an American woman, Mrs Amelia Bloomer, publicised Turkish trousers in her temperance and women's rights journal, *The Lily*, to today when the Taliban and Isis have banned women from wearing them in countries where they have been everyday attire for centuries.

Don is launching his book with a talk – visual backup kindly supplied by John Richards – in the Top Room at Oxford Playhouse on Friday 29 September at 17:00. Entrance is free and, if you email don@donchapman.plus.com or ring 01865 881482, he will be pleased to add your name to the guest-list.

If you can't make that event, he will be repeating his talk to Eynsham History Group in St Leonard's Hall on Thursday 5 October at 19:30.



ROTARY CLUB of EYNSHAM has been busy, as usual, supporting Eynsham Carnival and working with the new committee. In July we also supported Human Story Theatre's production of *The Fourth Dog* – which tackled the tricky subject of breast cancer with both humour and tear-provoking pathos. Our new president Jon Riley was inaugurated too, taking over from Terry Glossop who has completed a successful year. The search for an ideal meeting place continues; but for the foreseeable future we are back at the White Hart in Newland Street – our original and spiritual home.

WRITERS IN OXFORD is running a competition for young Oxfordshire writers aged 18–30: inviting submissions of 500 words, either fiction or non-fiction, 'Inspired by Oxford'. Cash prizes total £1000. Entries by email before 1 September to wio@perfecttext.org

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www.bodytalkhairandbeauty.co.uk

Trade secrets



Arthur Green is a book conservator, bookbinder and some time printer, with a strong interest in the history of the book. As goatskin parchment has hit the headlines recently we felt you might enjoy this too.

I recently came across *The Library Handbook of Genuine Trade Secrets* and was fascinated, amused and horrified in equal measure. It gives instructions on how 'the book-lover may spend many a happy hour in renovating or repairing these damaged copies, instead of engaging the services of a skilled bookbinder.' I have highlighted three representative passages.

'Make a fire of green wood (sappy twigs or fresh cut timber). In the dense smoke of this fire hold your print, so that the smoke stains the paper evenly all over, both back and front, until of the required depth of colour. On removing the engraving you will see that the smoke has dimmed the unnatural gloss and toned the paper in such a way that no one could tell it had ever been bleached.'

'Thumb marks or other unsightly blemishes on the margins, also writing ink on the pages of a book, may be erased by slipping a piece of cardboard under the leaf and rubbing very gently with a small piece of fine glass-paper. Don't rub a hole in the paper!'

'Restoring Writing on Old Deeds, Etc.— Lay the parchment or paper as flat as possible and damp evenly with clean cold water. Brush over the writing with a flat camel hair brush dipped in a solution of [fatal if inhaled or swallowed], when the writing will immediately appear plain and readable.'

This wonderfully titled book is a thought-provoking document which reminds us how opinions and attitudes have changed since the advent of the professional conservator; moreover, it gives accounts of historic treatments which help to inform a more open modern conservation practice. From experience, it is common that an item being conserved will have been treated in the past, so a good understanding of past techniques, recipes and chemicals used is valuable – I have seen the detrimental effects of all three of the 'trade secrets' mentioned above. There are, however, glimpses of a more sensitive and hands-off approach in the book and although little of the advice has stood the test of time, the advice on preserving old manuscripts is pretty similar today.

'Old parchments, whether bound or unbound, should be kept in air-tight and dust-proof cases.'

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Carnival!

Many thanks to the numerous Eynsham businesses, groups, individuals and Friends of Carnival who have given time, money and prizes to make our 71st Carnival a success. Thanks, also, to both past and present committee members for their fantastic contribution to our community.

If you'd like the perfect excuse for a shandy down the pub, whilst organising one of the village's best days out and gaining valuable event planning experience, we'll be meeting soon to start planning for 2018! Please get in touch with enquiries@eynshamcarnival.com



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- **Class 2 & Annual Challenge Cup Winner** Peter Pan – Singleton Family; 2nd Look What We've Caught – Carey Foster; 3rd Scooby Doo – Beesley Family
- **Class 3 & Jokab Safety Trophy Winner** Leggett Dancers on Tour – Angela Leggett
- **Donna Jones Trophy** Peter Pan – Singleton Family
- **Class 5 Mixed Groups 2-9 Persons** Winner Eynsham WI; 2nd Battle – Eynsham Day Centre
- **Class 6 - Children Up To 7 Years** Winner Batman – Beth Cooper, Zac Henry; 2nd Daddy's Little Monster – Tabitha Hunnisett
- **Class 7 Children 8-12** Winner Ghostbusters – Charlotte Lawrence, Lilah Schofield, Harry Howell; 2nd Gandalf – Marton Lukacs, Flora Lukacs, Marie Boardman-Dempster
- **Class 8 Ages 13 and above** Winner Supergirl – Ellen Tungelund.

Summertime fun

Sarah Medina has a few ideas to help the children while away the school holidays... without spending a penny!

PLAY OUTDOORS

Children love playing on the equipment in Eynsham's three play areas. Remember to take a bucket and spade for littlies to play in the Oxford Road sand pit! Use the open spaces to run races and play ball games (rounders is great when there are a few of you). Fly kites when the weather is blustery. And don't forget the skateboard park!

CAMP IN THE GARDEN

Not just for kids, but for adults, too... all the fun of a camping holiday, but with no packing to do! Set up or create a makeshift tent, and adorn it with bunting or paper decorations. Mats, air beds, sheepskins, sleeping bags or blankets will make for a cosy night's sleep. Torches and battery lanterns provide all the light you need for bedtime stories, making shadow puppets, and eating midnight snacks. Listen out for wildlife – what's that scurrying outside the tent? Is that an owl or a cat you can hear? And, on a clear night, enjoy the wonders of star gazing. You can even download apps which tell you what's what in the night sky above your own garden.

CREATE WITH NATURE

- Make a daisy chain when it's sunny... or a mud pie when it's wet! Mix smooth soil and water in a bowl until it feels like bread dough. Knead it. It should hold its shape when rolled into a ball. Flatten and decorate with stones, flowers or leaves.
- Make a collage with flower petals, leaves and twigs.
- Be a tree artist! All you need is some paper, crayons – and a tree trunk. Hold your paper over the bark and rub over it gently with crayons to make a tree rubbing. You can also make beautiful leaf rubbings outdoors or at home.
- Make music with grass! Select a broad blade of grass and hold it lengthways, straight, between your thumbs. Blow into the little gap between your thumbs to make the grass whistle! Don't give up... if you don't hear a sound, move the blade of grass a little, or try blowing in a slightly different place. You'll soon get the hang of it!

KEEP A LOOK OUT

Be a detective! How many types of trees can you identify around the village or in Wytham Woods? How many flowers? How many birds and insects? Keep a special notebook and write down what you discover – and draw pictures. If it's too wet to play out, find out more about your discoveries on the internet or at Eynsham Library – read more on page 9.

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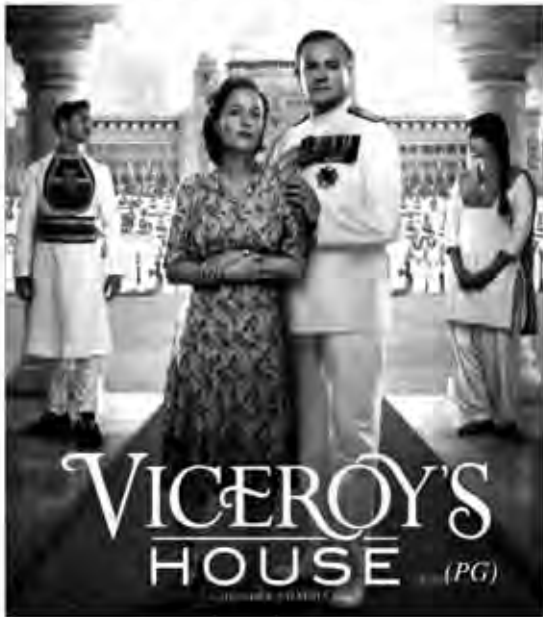
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A LARGE RANGE IN A SMALL SHOP

Cinema at Eynsham Village Hall

Friday 29th September - 7:30pm

Gillian Anderson, Michael Gambon, Hugh Bonneville



The final Viceroy of India, Lord Mountbatten, is tasked with overseeing the transition of British India to independence, but meets with conflict as different sides clash in the face of monumental change - 1 Hr 44 mins

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

Wacky races



A massive thanks to all involved in our 59th Shirt Race: the organising committee, marshals and first aiders; the competitors; the pubs & businesses that sponsor us or provide refreshments; and, finally, the spectators who turn out every year! Winner lists below.

Peter Shrimpton

Men's

- 1st: Ashley Roles and Will Harold
- 2nd: Pete Sonley and Thomas Jones
- 3rd: Dafydd Warburton and Mark Schofield

Ladies – *this photo © Ian White*

- 1st: Lucy Treadwell and Bianca Landay
- 2nd: Cindy Creasey and Julie Walker-Smith
- 3rd: Megan Treadwell and Hannah Edge

Mixed

- 1st: Dave Church and Beth Church
- 2nd: Emily Fisk and Thomas Bocker
- 3rd: Karen Hall and Rob Hedges

Fancy Dress

- 1st: John Denton and Matt Darnell
- 2nd: Chris Jordan and Amy Jordan
- 3rd: Lucy Treadwell and Bianca Landay
- 4th: James Fisk and Paul May
- 5th: Trish Partlett and Nic Saunders

WEST OXFORDSHIRE RAMBLERS

plan a 6 mile leisurely walk on 19 September, along the Thames Path to Oxford with a pub stop (of course), returning on the S1 bus. Non-members welcome. We leave Back Lane car park at 10:30. *Rosemary Clegg: 01865 880105*



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What's on

All events, dates and times are printed in good faith but please confirm them on posters or online

July

- 28 **Dogs Trust storytime**, Eynsham Library 13:30
30 **Presidents Day**, Cricket Club 13:00. *Mini beer festival, BBQ, cream teas, all star cricket, all welcome!*
30 **Litter Pickers**, Baptist Hall 13:45

August

- 4 **Mikron Theatre**, Cricket Club 19:30.
5 **GreenTEA**, Eynsham Emporium 10:30–12:00
5 **Gladman Consultation**, Village Hall 10:00–16:00
9 **Eynsham Society**, Eynsham Mill Walk 18:30.
Enquiries: 01865 881095
9 **Garden Club** 19:30. Dennis West, *Dablias*.
Enquiries: 01865 882417
15–17 **August Oasis**, Village Hall 10:15–15:45.
16 **Carers' Group**, Eynsham Emporium 11:00.
Enquiries: 07557 430875
17 **Open afternoon**, Bridewell Gardens 14:00–16:00.
Enquiries: 01993 868313
20 **Gatehouse Volunteers**: home-made sandwiches & cake for the Oxford shelter.
Enquiries: 01865 881346
21 **Neighbourhood Action Group** – page 8
23 **Fantastic fossils**, Eynsham Library 10:30–11:30.



WEATHER: Grant Paton reports from Queens Lane (photo © Anthony Morris of Farmoor). The first quarter of the year was a little warmer than average by 9% and a bit drier by 15%. The second quarter was warmer by 12% and much drier by 37%. Overall, the first half of the year was warmer by 11% and drier by 26%. Averages are currently based on Brize Norton and Nuneham Courtenay but I will soon have five-year data from Eynsham itself at www.odellweather.co.uk



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September

- 1 Eynsham News copy deadline – page 2
- 2 GreenTEA, Eynsham Emporium 10:30–12:00



- 9 Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride
- 9 Garden Club, RHS Wisley 09:00.
- 12 Women's Institute, Sports Pavilion 19:30.
Liz Woolley, *Beer, sausages and marmalade*
- 12 Eynsham Morris, Last Evening of Dance 20:00



- 15 Blood donors welcome, Village Hall 13:15–15:30 and 16:15–19:30. Tel: 0300 123 23 23
- 15 Open afternoon, Bridewell Gardens 14:00–16:00.
- 16–24 Arts Group, Bartholomew Room 10:00–16:00.
Autumn Exhibition – see posters
- 19 Ramblers Group – page 18
- 20 Carers' Group, Eynsham Emporium 11:00.
- 21 History Group, St Leonard's Hall 19:30.
Mark Davies, *Daniel Harris: jailor, builder, architect...*
- 22 Arts Group, Bartholomew Room 19:30.
Alice Walker, *Show and Tell*
- 23 VILLAGE SHOW – page 13

These listings are open to all community groups and we welcome photos too. Other pages are always open for stories and snippets, comments and corrections – see page 2 for contact details. Next issue will be out on 18 September – copy deadline 1 September

The Eynsham Directory 2017 will have FREE entries for all local groups and businesses. Check yours out and get them right before it goes to print! – see page 12



Visit Eynsham Online at eynsham-pc.gov.uk

Our sponsors

Thanks again to Eynsham Dental Care, Polar Technology Management Group and the Eynsham Churches for their generous support in 2017–18. Relevant features continue.

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Alice in Wonderland was a winning theme in Carnival this year. Here Kathie Tanner and Jean Brown support Eynsham Day Centre with a smile and a topical message. EDC still runs every Monday – enquiries: 01993 701082/07766 054602



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