

EYNESHAM

Council & Community

NEWS

Issue 31 – June – July 2018



Congratulations to Eynsham Netball Club - 2017–2018 winter season winners! We have had such a fantastic year that we wanted to share it with the village and what better way than through Eynsham News? Photo © Brianna Wilkins, story overleaf

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Every year is an anniversary for someone but we seem to have hit the jackpot this year – with a bicentenary for Eynsham Baptist Church and 30 glorious years for Eynsham Day Centre (page 14), 100 years of Eynsham Scouting, 60th birthday celebrations for the Shirt Race (page 18) and an improbable 44th for Eynsham in Bloom – page 11.

Meanwhile, the Community Choir is feelin' good at five (page 16) and your free Eynsham News marks an occasion of its own on page 3. Nor have we forgotten the end of World War I, as you'll see on page 17.

Briefly...



BRIDEWELL ORGANIC GARDENS

Reg. Charity 1158456: The walled garden and vineyard at Wilcote (OX7 3DT) will open on Sundays 10 June and 15 July from 14:00–17:00. Suggested donation £4, children free. Refreshments, plants, Bridewell produce, products and our own organic wine will be on sale. Tel: 01993 868313 / 864530 or visit bridewellgardens.co.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: the coordinator for Eynsham is now Lucy Edwards. Contact her on 07833 696643 or email nhweynsham@gmail.com

OXFORDSHIRE COTSWOLDS GARDEN

VILLAGE: members of the public are to be consulted on proposals for a site off the A40 north of Eynsham. The first consultation events, scheduled for June, will see Grosvenor share the results of its early analysis work. Register for updates by email: oxfordshirecotswolds@fourcommunications.com

ROAD CLOSURES: B4044 Oxford Road will be closed to ALL traffic for up to 3 nights 18–21 June (20:00–06:00) from the junction of B4449 to the junction with B4017 Cumnor Road, for carriageway surfacing works. Contact Simon Marsden: 08453 101111 / 07718 657179



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Season winners!

Eynsham Netball Club – continued from page 1. To find out more about them visit eynshamnetball.co.uk

From our humble beginnings over a decade ago as a small group of mums, who wanted to do some exercise and have an excuse to meet up, we have grown to a well-established club with over 70 members. This year we entered six teams in the Oxfordshire league and we came FIRST in FOUR divisions. How amazing is that!

Congratulations go to two of our junior teams – Eynsham Eagles (U16s) and Eynsham Endeavour (U14s) who fought hard to win their divisions. And a huge pat on the back to our two adult teams – Eynsham A and Eynsham B who won the second and third divisions.

Of course, we want to thank our coach, Emma Talmage, for sticking with us through thick and thin, and our assistant coach, Karen Paxton, for always being there to support us when we need it. Special thanks also go to the volunteer helpers, the umpires and the mums and dads who support the girls at their matches.

We'd also like to thank groups and businesses in the community for their generous financial support over the years: The Parish Council, The Lottery Fund, The Bay Leaf, The Emporium, Eynsham Cellars, Rainbow House, The Co-operative, and the pubs including The Swan, The Queen's Head and The Newlands, who don't bat an eyelid when we order '15 lime and sodas' and allow us to use their premises for our meetings. Thanks to you all!

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 at eynshamnews.org.uk

Local stories, snaps and snippets are always welcome – and corrections also, thanks! Next issue will be out on 30 July – copy deadline Friday 13 July, though advance notice really helps if you'd like some room to spread.

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Plans not jams!



On 21 April Eynsham Planning Improvement Campaign took direct community action – this photo © Ian White. Angie Titchen reports below.

Over 100 Eynsham residents marched along the A40 waving banners and shouting for sound, creative plans – **sort out transport before building houses**. This action, with more to come, is needed because local democracy has been compromised and time is rapidly running out.

Eynsham residents have given their views at public meetings, hearings and written consultations. Their message is clear: the draft West Oxfordshire Local Plan for housing (which WODC hopes to have adopted this June!) is deeply flawed and the County Council Transport Plan is totally inadequate. Taken together, residents can only see chaos, gridlock and development of dormitory housing of the wrong type with inadequate infrastructure. In our Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan (still awaiting approval!), we show that we are YIMBYs – Yes, in my back yard! We want 750 houses integrated into the west of the village with a new primary school and convenience store. We want development to provide homes that local people can afford and doesn't ruin the countryside. So we are standing up and making ourselves heard!

Fed up with the 'Jams instead of Plans'? Join us in URGENT direct action on the A40 on 15 July and sign our petition! For information visit eynsham.me.uk



Your free newsletter

As Eynsham News embarks on a sixth successful year, it feels appropriate to indulge in a brief overview.

The News Group is completely independent. Like one wise resident, since departed, we try to bear in mind three things: that Eynsham, like all other villages, has changed and will continue to change; that no particular part of the village or interest group should have special priority; and that it's often those who make the least fuss whose need is the greatest.

A small army of volunteers ensures that our only expenses are for layout and printing. The cost of delivering a 'free' copy to your home six times a year is £2.58 pence. Renewed thanks, therefore, to our long-term sponsors Eynsham Dental Care and the Eynsham Churches – and to all the local businesses who choose to support us by advertising. We still have a few spaces for this coming year, if you're interested: please contact Sandy Hellig – details opposite.

The advertising manager, treasurer and editor are working almost entirely single-handed at present. Sandy, Tom and Joan would really welcome help – do give it some thought and get in touch.

We are delighted to report three new volunteers for the delivery team. If you'd like to get involved, please contact Pam Breeze – opposite.



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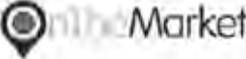
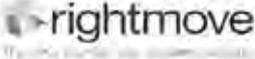
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www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk
Vicar: Duncan Fraser 07810 324088
Church Office & Secretary: Jan Macdonald
21 High Street 01865 883325 /
stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

www.stpeterseynsham.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.

Save the date! Three Churches Holiday Club – page 16

Making a difference

A round-up of recent initiatives by local people and reminder of grants available for Eynsham residents

- **Eynsham Consolidated Charity** can make grants to relieve need, hardship or distress.
- **The Bartholomew Educational Foundation** can make grants to students, apprentices, etc. aged under 25.

The trustees meet four times a year, in February, May, late August or early September, and November. If you need help, or know of someone who needs help, or want more information, write to the Charities' Clerk Robin Mitchell at 20 High Street, Eynsham OX29 4HB or email robinmitchell255@gmail.com during the month before the next meeting, if possible, though any urgent applications will be dealt with quickly between meetings if necessary. For more details see Eynsham Online: bit.ly/eynsham-grants



The **MIKE NIGHTINGALE FELLOWSHIP** charity fashion show on 3 March was a great success. A huge thank you to the ladies of Eynsham who turned out to support us. Cold, snowy weather did not deter their enthusiasm and a good time was had by all. We enjoyed seeing our own models – Julie Macken, Julia Loken, Kate Ferrier, photo © Sara Draper – strutting their stuff! Thanks also to everyone who helped get the show on the road. We made an impressive £1,250 which will go a long way to helping the deprived children in South Africa. *Margherita Pierini*

PATIENTS' CHARITY: Many thanks to those of you who placed your green tokens in the Eynsham and Long Hanborough Medical Care Group slot at Waitrose in Witney at the beginning of the year. On 10 April Eynsham trustee Don Chapman picked up a cheque for £291 from branch manager Andy Godman at the supermarket's latest Community Matters coffee morning. This is a welcome boost to the charity's fundraising efforts, which among other services finances a medication delivery scheme for housebound patients.

Our Contacts column returns in July; in the meantime copies of the Eynsham Directory 2018 are still available at Eynsham Library and Post Office.



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Patients' corner

A Carers' Support day and an update on service at the local Lloyds Pharmacy – Graham Maynard reports

Carers Oxfordshire, working alongside the GP practice and Patient Participation Group, are hosting an event at Eynsham Village Hall from 10:00 to 19:00 on 15 June. It can be difficult for carers to look after their own well-being and some may feel isolated or overstretched; so this day provides an opportunity for you to get together and access advice from specialists in dementia support, mental health, and the Community Information Network. You will also be able to have a health check and time to consider your own needs over a cup of tea. For a change this day is for carers, not the ones you look after, *so come along and relax for a while!*

Service levels at Lloyds have undoubtedly improved: additional staff have been employed and the team is more able to cope with demand, so queues are shorter, and they issue some 360 prescribed medicines every day with very few delays. However, there is still the occasional glitch which they are trying to sort out both internally and with the surgery. The Manager is keen to remind everyone of three issues that make what appears to be a simple service far from being so: issuing urgent prescriptions must take priority over the routine and this upsets a smooth workflow; there are 5 types of prescription – acute, paper batches, automatics, electronic, and repeats – which have to be processed differently; and lastly, obviously they cannot carry absolutely everything in stock, so occasionally items must be ordered and patients have to wait for a while.

On a completely different subject, we think that after its first year the PPG is 'finding its feet' and helping improve medical care in Eynsham; however, if you think otherwise or have some issues for us to tackle please let us know via eynshamppg@gmail.com



DEMENTIA OXFORDSHIRE offers information, advice and support to people living with dementia and their families. Our team of dementia advisers visit people in the confidence and convenience of their own home – with the aim of helping them feel valued, informed and supported with all areas of their diagnosis. The service is free to access and operates a dedicated support line from Monday to Friday between 09.00 and 18:00. Please call 01865 410210 to make a referral, or for any general information and advice, or visit dementiaoxfordshire.org.uk



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Public services



Dennis Stukenbroeker – Chair, Parish Council Planning Committee

West Oxfordshire District Council's plan to build 1000 houses on the west side of Eynsham has moved another step closer. Taylor Wimpey has submitted a detailed planning application to WODC for 160 homes west of Witney Road. WODC previously granted outline planning permission in 2017, approving the development in principle.

The only access for all 160 homes will be through Thornbury Road to Witney Road, opposite Bartholomew School, one of the most congested traffic areas in Eynsham. Eynsham Parish Council was one of many parties who objected to this access at the time. However, Oxfordshire County Council allowed the proposal to proceed and outline permission was granted. Taylor Wimpey will pay £357,424 towards OCC's plan for a priority bus route between OCC's proposed Eynsham Park & Ride and Oxford.

The Taylor Wimpey plan does allow for further access to the west if and when another access road is built between the A40 and the B4449, but there are no current plans to do so.

The application provides for 50% affordable housing, in accordance with WODC's local plan. While supporting the development as a whole, Eynsham Parish Council has criticized this application, saying 'it is disappointed by the unimaginative lack of mix of market and affordable homes, which tends to ghettoize the affordable housing within an out-of-date planning model.'

The Parish Council also questioned the emphasis on larger three, four and five bed houses (64% of the total) with little provision for downsizers or lifetime homes. First time buyers would have only five houses with two bedrooms to choose from. The Council also criticized the bunching of the higher, three storey, buildings in the highest area of the site, increasing the visual impact of the development from both the surrounding countryside and the village itself.

Taylor Wimpey also built the 100 dwelling Eynsham development in Hazeldene Close. In a meeting with the builder prior to this application and in its response, the Parish Council expressed concern about the inadequate provision for maintenance of the public open spaces left by Taylor Wimpey at Hazeldene Close, which has caused serious concern to the residents.

The builder has submitted with its application a construction traffic management plan, designed to mitigate the substantial impact on Thornbury Road residents and the village as a whole from this large construction project. This includes limiting the times for heavy goods construction traffic and delivery vehicles and on-site parking for employees and contractors.

This development is likely to result in a significant change in road markings along Witney Road and Thornbury Road, with an increase in double yellow lines in the vicinity of Bartholomew School

Documents and plans can be seen on WODC's website using reference number 18/01009/RES and 15/03148/OUT for the outline planning application at westoxon.gov.uk/planning

Our great outdoors



Sue Osborne – Chair, Fishponds & Footpaths Committees

Clearance work at the Fishponds was completed in early spring – this photo © Katherine Doughty. Silt and vegetation was removed from the outlet and inlet channels and duckweed was cleared from the surface. The flow improved immediately, helped by the long spells of rain we had at the end of March and beginning of April – and by independent work at

the source of a spring in the grounds of Abbey Farm Barns. Some frogspawn was spotted already (it has probably turned into frogs by now) so we have high hopes for the renewed health of the water.

A new bench was installed on Harvey's House Mound in mid-April, just in time for a lovely spell of warm weather (at last!). Let's hope we get many more bright, picnic-friendly days so we can all enjoy using it.

Litter and dog poo have been at a minimum over the last few months; many thanks to all who make an effort to dispose of their waste thoughtfully.



FOOTPATHS: A huge 'thank you' to the Wharf Stream Team, who have hung up their hats (and tools, and waders and boats) after 12 years working towards their objective 'to open up the stream for canoes and small boats'. This they achieved on a purely voluntary basis; and usually with just three men on Thursday mornings. Their enthusiasm, passion and expertise have been second to none and the results speak for themselves – this photo © Ian White.

You can read about their history and exploits in their feature at Eynsham Online: tinyurl.com/WST18. As they say, without regular maintenance, nature will surely fight back and the stream may well become impassable again. That would be a great shame, so if anyone wants to take up the baton and form a new team, please contact me.



FINGER ON THE PULSE

The public notice boards around the village are a brilliant way to keep in touch. Many thanks to the groups and individuals who help to keep them tidy, relevant

and interesting.

If you spot posters that are out of date, or taking too much space, please feel empowered to remove them! A modest size can be just as effective and won't outstay its welcome...

Less happily, the walkers among you will have noticed that the travellers left a horrible mess at the start of the bridleway just off the A40, next to the Tesco garage when they moved on (BP 206/31). Likewise, someone has dumped some builders' rubble on the footpath east of the B4449 (FP206/8). I hope that by the time you read this both routes will have been cleared and we can all enjoy the scenery again.

As always, if you spots problems on our footpaths and rights of way – thoughtless vandalism, overgrown vegetation, broken bridges or stiles, etc. – please contact me or any other Parish Councillor and we will follow up. Alternatively, do report directly to Oxfordshire County Council through the public rights of way reporting map at camsv.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Job vacancy

*Eynsham Parish Council wishes to employ a reliable and enthusiastic **Play Area Supervisor / Maintenance Operative***

Tasks include regular inspections and maintenance of play areas, car park security, litter collection, installation of street furniture, limited vegetation / tree maintenance and various painting and decorating tasks at the Council's properties. Other duties to be undertaken as requested by the Clerk to the Council. The ideal candidate will be multi-skilled with a good knowledge of Health & Safety. You will be able to work without supervision and have a 'can do' attitude.

The role is 15 hours per week @ £8.96 per hour plus holidays and pension scheme (subject to eligibility). Training will be provided where necessary.

For further information and an application form, please contact the Clerk, Katherine Doughty: 07956 901622 email epc.clerk@eynsham-pc.gov.uk

Eynsham Parish Council wishes to thank Leslie Gerrans for her many years as Key Keeper to the Council's properties. The Council is now looking for a resident who could take over from Leslie. Please contact the Clerk for further information.

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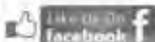
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Governors' report

Paul Stammers has an update from Bartholomew School

The full governing board gathered for a specially-arranged meeting about a proposed new uniform for the school and the options available, before agreeing to a new look.

Governors held an in-depth discussion of the senior leadership team's proposals, taking account of stakeholder responses (parents and students had their say during April) and Department for Education guidelines.

There were several reasons for the change, such as staff wanting to ensure appropriate clothing was being worn and to avoid spending valuable teaching time enforcing the school dress code. It's also been 12 years since the current uniform was adopted and many staff and governors believed an update was due, to reflect the fact that these days Bartholomew is an academy and rated as 'outstanding' by Ofsted.

The new uniform will comprise a navy blue V-neck jumper, white shirt and charcoal skirt/trousers. It will be introduced in phases, from this September.

It won't be long before work begins on creating the new building at the front of the school. The latest architect's impressions have been put on the school website – see bit.ly/2IxByV6

PTA Fundraising Event

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parents.4054@bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk

No ticket sales on the door



Thank you to everyone in Eynsham who cast a vote on 3 May. I very much look forward to representing the village and working to get the voices of local residents heard at District Council level.

It was a pleasure to speak to so many of you during the election campaign. The most common concerns raised were housing and potholes, though a variety of other subjects were also mentioned. One thing is for certain – the next couple of years will be a busy time with many decisions to be made about housing and infrastructure in the local area. My priority will be to help try to preserve the village’s special character, putting people’s quality of life above growth and development for the sake of it. If you have any questions or issues you would like to raise do get in touch. Cllr Carl Rylett, carl.rylett@westoxon.gov.uk

The traffic issue

The last Eynsham News asked readers which traffic-related issue should be tackled first with ‘developer funds’ from new housing around the village – parking/congestion OR traffic speeds. Here are the results.

Of the 32 slips returned, 18 (56.25%) selected central parking/congestion, with 3 references to the village being used as a Park & Ride; while just 4 (12.5%) selected traffic speeds on entry/exit roads. These attitudes mirror the experiences reported by Eynsham Retail Group. Other choices were potholes (2), the toll bridge (2), cycle paths (1) and the A40 (1). Three people ticked both boxes and one slip was blank.

By way of comparison, the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Statement (2016) records 26 mentions of congestion (with 17 references to an informal P&R site); and 19 ‘votes’ for a 20mph zone. The focus for 2018 is firmly on parking/congestion, maybe because increased traffic volumes make speeding almost impossible at most times of day, except perhaps along Witney Road.

Then and now, given a population over 4500, the responses may be too few to justify any significant spend. Eynsham News will urge the Parish Council for more meaningful consultation before their £500,000 ‘20mph scheme’ is finally committed. Incidentally, their research costs appear to have risen to £7160 and the consultants’ final report has not been published yet.

Our thanks to all who took the time to respond to our survey and to the shops who helped with publicity. And congratulations to Jenny Haskett who won the draw for a £25 voucher, to spend in one of our independent retailers.



Eynsham Neighbourhood Car Scheme provides volunteer drivers for people in the village who are otherwise unable to reach their health care appointments – at the local health centre, in Witney and in Oxford.

Right now we are looking for a few more drivers to join us, especially for those little local trips. Most of our drivers are retired, but perhaps as a mum, you have some time to spare on weekdays between the school runs? Perhaps you are someone who works at home and could do with an hour away from the computer sometimes? We don’t ask for a definite regular commitment, but we do ask if we can identify a few days in the week when you might be available. We then just need you to look at emails every day and respond quickly with a yes or no. We pay a mileage rate so you are not out of pocket. Our telephone number is for potential volunteers as well as for people needing a lift. Why not give us a call to find out more about it?

Eynsham Neighbourhood Car Scheme: 07469 764174

Transport futures

Electric Vehicles, or ‘EVs’, are much in the news with all car manufacturers bringing out electric models. There are many benefits to this for everyone – not least a significant improvement in local air quality and the related positive impact on human health. Are you curious to know what it’s all about? Thinking of maybe getting one yourself? Then come along to the Green TEA café on 2 June, from 10:30 at the Emporium for an opportunity to hear more and ask questions! Local residents Helen and Al recently switched to a 100% electric Nissan Leaf 2.0 and have been on a journey of discovery. They’re happy to share their knowledge and experience to anyone interested.

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Home front

Wise words on computer scams from Bob McIntyre. Find him any first Tuesday of the month 10:00-12:00 at the Emporium or call 01865 880600/07768 732123

An all too familiar story: your computer or internet is misbehaving and you think 'I'll do something about it when I have time'. Then, out of the blue, the phone goes and a friendly voice says 'Hi. I'm from Microsoft/BT/TalkTalk' (delete as appropriate) 'and we can see that you're having trouble with your PC/Mac/internet/router' (as appropriate) 'and we'd like to help you sort things out'. You think 'well that's true and perhaps they know something about it'; so you follow their instructions and let them into your computer...

Unfortunately you've just embarked on the road to disaster, possibly to serious financial loss and weeks of worry. Because these friendly people are not interested in sorting out your computer but looking through it to see if you have anything interesting. And believe me everyone has something valuable on their computer: saved passwords, bank details, even that scan of your passport you did last year. All of which they can use to impersonate you; to steal your identity and your money. Some even charge for their 'services'!

They will stop at nothing, using a whole range of psychological tricks, to deceive you into giving them what they want. So let's nail the problem now:

- Major companies such as Microsoft, BT and others do not ring home users to tell them they have a problem.
- If anyone rings you and tells you there is a problem – no matter how plausible they seem – put the phone down.
- Never ever allow anyone access to your computer from the internet unless you know them very well.
- If you do get scammed, tell your bank/card company immediately, inform Action Fraud (0300 123 2040) and ask for help to get your computer cleaned as the scammers often leave a 'backdoor' so they can get into your computer again.

WALNUT SAPLINGS, ANYONE?

Can anyone re-home one of the young seedlings sprouting in my garden – currently about 18 inches high and in full leaf? They do need a bit of space eventually! Please contact Janet: 01865 8824888/jehaskett1@googlemail.com



Hazeldene meadow

Margaret Key describes how this recent housing development is giving something back to our community

As relative newcomers to Oxfordshire, and especially to Eynsham, we understand how local residents must have felt about the impending development at Hazeldene.

We wanted to move to the area to be close to family and grandchildren. After searching for over a year, we realised that Eynsham was the only village that seemed to fit our requirements: friendly people, good range of independent shops, plenty of clubs and associations and a feeling of 'belonging'.

We viewed a property on Hazeldene and were persuaded by the trees, open spaces and meadow which deserve nurturing and protecting. In our first year we met like-minded people; and our thanks go to Martin Flatman for his help with the necessary contact names at Taylor Wimpey and associates. We found a group of willing residents to work towards restoring the area at the main entrance to the meadow it is designated to be.



Readers may have noticed the bare patches that have recently appeared in the grass. We have taken advice from Wychwood Trust – to clear several one-metre squares within the area, sow yellow rattle seeds which hopefully will feed off the grass roots and allow the yellow rattle to flourish from March. Then in autumn to sow suitable wild flower seed which eventually will spread and return the area to the meadow originally envisaged. We are working closely with the ground maintenance company who have agreed to ensure our needs are met.

The grass has been cut very closely to try to suppress the very tough grasses and will not be cut again until September, when it will be strimmed and the cuttings left for a couple of weeks to allow any seed heads to dry. It will then be raked by hand so the seeds are left to flourish the following spring. Ground maintenance have offered to donate wild flower seeds to help with our ambitious plan.

Hopefully the flowers in spring 2019 will reward us all for our work. Please watch with us and see if the ambition comes to fruition.

Eynsham's gardens will be open on Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 June this year. Martin Flatman delves into the past and brings us up to date. Contact him on 07719 646790/email frmartinflatman@gmail.com



Our history goes back to 1974, when the Eynsham Society persuaded five people to open their gardens to raise money for serum and equipment to treat the beautiful elms in the village from Dutch Elm disease. The next Open Gardens was in 1982, when 12 gardens opened. The programme for that year is headed 'Eynsham in Bloom 1982', so Eynsham has a fair claim to be older than Oxford in Bloom, which started in 1985.

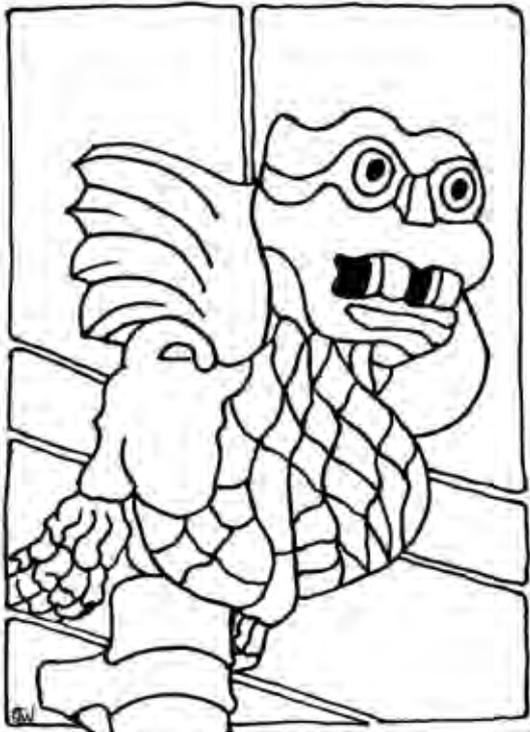
Our gardens appear to have opened every year at this time but there are some gaps in the history that readers may be able to fill in. The event was usually organised by Eynsham Garden Club, who were first asked to help in 1984, then again in 1985. In 1991 they worked with Eynsham Society once more, raising £326. 14 gardens were opened in 1993, with refreshments served in some, notably at The Elms. 1994 was the best year yet: £400 was raised for charity and refreshments raised a further £350 profit. Gardens were opened in 1997; then in 2000 it was suggested that they should open every other year. At about this time Phyllis Pimm took over and ran the event until 2007 when she handed over to Pat Martin (Whitlock). When Pat moved away in 2012 there was no one to immediately take over so it was not until 2014 that I stepped in and with the support of a splendid team we began again to open our gardens every other year.

This year (2018) some rather older history will be revealed, as the medieval Holewelle will be open via one of the gardens in the Abbey Farm Barns complex, along with the garden that lies over the remains of Eynsham Abbey – indicated by plaques around the site.

We have a variety of different gardens on offer – some large and some quite small – and the people who own them will be there to welcome you and chat enthusiastically about their patch. A programme costing £3.50 gives you entrance to all gardens from 14:00-18:00 on both days (under 16s are free). You can buy one in advance from Evenlode DIY, or during the weekend from the first garden you visit or from the stall in the Square. Flyers announcing the winners of the Front Garden Competition will be included in the programmes too. Do try to come.

Proceeds this year will go to Abingdon Riding for the Disabled, Eynsham Day Centre and Eynsham Fire Service – all serving the community of Eynsham.

Over to you



Many thanks to Beth Wood for introducing these gargoyles from St Leonard's church – there's so much to see while out around the village in the summer! You can print out a bigger version at eynshamnews.org.uk

Some things never change – or only in a good way. **Eynsham Country Market** (then part of the WI) opened in May 1984 at St Leonard's Hall. Over 34 years on, the range of goodies on offer continues to expand. Any Thursday morning except January you'll find cakes, preserves and cookies, local eggs, herbs and flowers, seasonal fruit and vegetables or plants for planting out; while the crafts run from matinee jackets to walking sticks, from greeting cards to intricate needle-felted buttonholes. Not to mention friendly faces, excellent tea or coffee and the occasional harp recital. Tempting tastings – monthly or thereabouts –

are chosen to follow the calendar or match a topical theme: look out for 'Royal Celebrations' on Thursday 14 June.

Have you time or skills or produce looking for an outlet? Or a hobby you could test out by joining the ECM team? Suppliers (men and women) don't have to roll up every week. As a County Market 'shareholder' (a share costs just 5p) you receive 90% of your sales price, plus a year-end dividend if funds allow. Drop in and have a word – you're sure of a welcome.

GRAND PLANT SALE, COFFEE SHOP & CRAFT SALE Saturday 2 June 10:00–14:00 in The Square and St Leonard's Hall. After last year's success in raising £900 for the Holiday Club, which enabled us to run it at reasonable cost, this year we are expanding into The Square. Hundreds of reasonably priced annuals, perennial and bedding plants will be on sale, together with vegetable plants and terracotta plant pots. Cake will on sale in the Coffee Shop in St Leonard's Hall; there will also be craft and other stalls. All proceeds are for Eynsham Churches Holiday Club (mornings Monday 30 July to Friday 3 August) at the Primary School. Children can also be enrolled for the Holiday Club at the sale. Please come and stock your gardens! *Chris Sugden*

FLOWER FESTIVAL, St Leonard's Church Saturday-Sunday 7-8 July 10:00– 18:00, Monday 9 July 10:00–15:00. The theme this year is 'Anniversaries', which hopefully gives all our budding florists free rein with some wonderful ideas. I have taken over organising this event from PCSO Helen Keen, who was in charge for the last two years. After writing to groups and others who took part last year, I have 37 confirmed so the church should be full of colour and fragrance again. Bartholomew School students are displaying entries around the font to mark the school's 60th anniversary. Eynsham Scouting are celebrating a centenary and Day Centre 30 years. If anyone else wishes to take part, please contact me. *Kathie Tanner 01865 880994 / eynshamflowerfestival@btinternet.com*

Do you enjoy baking, cooking or growing and fancy an income from selling your goods?



We are currently looking for more producers to join our friendly team. Our market is open every Thursday from 09:00–10.30 in St Leonard's Hall. If you are interested, please call Sue Butler-Miles (01865 880928), or look in at one of our markets for an informal chat and a coffee.

d@vengers.com or why not drop in. £10 per class. Please bring your own mat.'"/>

Solar success

The sun is shining and The People's Power Station is busy generating clean, green energy from thousands of solar panels, says Sarah Couch. Read more from GreenTEA outside the Village Hall

Solar power in Oxfordshire is a big success story. There are now 223 sites plugged into the People's Power Station, generating enough energy to power an amazing 19,400 average households. In Eynsham we are doing well with 11 installations plugged in, generating nearly 65,000 kWh a year – that could power over 20 houses for a year – and this doesn't include pv panels on Cottsway houses, as these are counted in Witney. But we know there are many more, so take a look at the website, think about installing pv panels if you do not have them and plug in! peoplespowerstation.org



TIME FOR A SWIFT WALK? The swifts are back from Africa and their screeching and swooping over Eynsham marks the beginning of summer. Last year at least 14 swift boxes went up around the village so we hope these amazing little birds will find the village swift friendly. To find out a bit more and to see how they are doing, we have arranged a walk with swift expert Chris Mason on the evening of Wednesday 25 July. We will start at 19:00 in the Square for an informal talk, then stroll around the village looking at nest sites, finishing back in the square to sit out and admire the swifts overhead. *Sue Chapman suechapmane@hotmail.com or Sarah Couch: 01865 464056*

WANT TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND FUN? Come and join Bartholomew Players – we meet 19:30–22:00 every Wednesday at Eynsham Village Hall. We have been active for over 40 years and stage two productions a year, in May and November.

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Jane McDonald Meridian meridianclinicstudio.co.uk jane@meridianclinicstudio.co.uk 07930 343156	Steve Sharp Sharp Spirit sharpontheedge.wixsite.com sharpontheedge@rocketmail.com 07833 655400
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Check our websites for dates, times and venues of classes and 1-1 sessions in Eynsham

We welcome new members in a variety of roles – acting, stage management, props, costume, set design and construction, lighting, sound – whatever you wish to turn your hand to! Contact publicity officer Denise Santilli: **07721 744020**, email bart.players@gmail.com or visit bartholomewplayers.co.uk

Village show

Saturday 15 September will be here before we know it, says Fay Taylor-Ball

We're beginning to put together the class list, so keep an eye on eynshamvillageshow.info and our Facebook page – prints to follow in the usual places nearer the time. Here is a reminder of the photography classes for 2018 – so, get snapping!

- Green
- A Blast from the Past
- Clouds
- Little Creatures
- Down by the River.

Photos must be no bigger than A4 and unframed, so we can display them easily on the boards which are sponsored by The Cuckoos Nest Gallery.

We shall have all the traditional classes along with some new ones to keep you on your toes! So get baking, jam making, growing, crafting and flower arranging! There will be classes for children too, of course, so please do get them involved. Oh, and there will be tea and cake provided by Eynsham Country Market, always scrummy! We look forward to seeing you again soon.

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People



In March 1818 Eynsham Baptist Church moved into their newly built and consecrated church building. The community had been together for some years but now they had a proper place of worship. Two centuries later, the church is still in use and is home to a thriving church community. Over the years the building has been expanded and is now used every day of the week by the church and local community groups.

We are inviting the community of Eynsham to join us and help us with the celebrations on 14 July from 15:00–17:00. There will be a barbecue in the village square and refreshments in the church. We look forward to greeting old friends and making new ones.



A blast from the past of Shirt Race: now 60 years young. Thanks to the family of Keith Green for these photos. Check out the image archive at Eynsham Online for lots more memories and send in your contributions too!

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Then... and now



On 23 April, Eynsham Day Centre celebrated thirty glorious years. Over seventy current members, their families, former helpers and friends from the past and present enjoyed a wonderful afternoon party. The fun started with some special musical entertainment, followed by dancing and enthusiastic singing by all. We then sat down to the most delicious tea while watching a slide show of memories from the past thirty years. There were two magnificent cakes to cut – and fizz with which to toast our splendid day centre.

So here's to the next decade and we are always pleased to welcome any new members or volunteer helpers. Come and see us any Monday in the Village Hall from 10:00-14:30 or call the secretary, Jane Johnson (01865 882924) for more information. You will be given a very warm welcome and can see what fun we have every week.

COMMUNITY DAY

Don't miss the Community Day at the Village Hall on Saturday 9 June from 10:00 to 16:00. Come and see what the village has to offer you! A wide variety of local clubs, groups, charities and other organisations will be promoting themselves with displays and information. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

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BRIAN HITCHINS: Eynsham Croquet Club announce with great sadness the loss of their Life President Brian Hitchins, who has died after a long illness bravely borne. This photo © Tony Newport shows him receiving the Centre Stage Trophy in September 2014. Our thoughts are with Marion and their family.

We must acknowledge his considerable contribution over the years, ably supported by Marion, to ensure the thriving club of today. A fuller notice will appear in our next newsletter.



Lifelong learning

A tribute from family and friends to Robert (Bob) Weedon, shown here as president of Eynsham Probus in 1998

Bob grew up – and met his future wife – in Birmingham. Teacher training was interrupted by World War II: he was involved in the D Day landings of 1944, then served in Holland and Kenya. After marrying Joan in 1950, he taught at a secondary school near High Wycombe while helping her to run their bed & breakfast at evenings and weekends. The family (now with 3 young girls) moved to Eynsham in 1967 when Bob became inspector of schools for the County Council. He got involved in the community as a parent governor at Bartholomew School; took an MA in education at Sussex University in his fifties; and lectured at Culham College near Abingdon, eventually building up and running their resource centre. His practical skills were used to help friends and neighbours, as well as around the family home. Bob was an active member of Eynsham Probus after retiring (1986–2018), though four years leading up to Joan's death in 2012 were devoted to her care. He was regularly seen around the village lately, collecting orders from Country Market, attending lunches at the Baptist Church, coping cheerfully with failing sight and remaining independent with support from friends and family until he succumbed to a stroke in March.

OXFORD VILLAGE BAND

Caller – Dave Townsend
BARN DANCE
 in aid of Helen & Douglas House and Eynsham Day Centre. Eynsham Village Hall, Saturday 14 July 20:00 – 23:00. Full bar. Tickets £9 (under 18s £5) at Evenlode DIY or on the door



EYNSHAM NEWS

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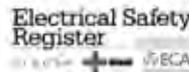
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New members welcome - see Eynsham Online: Eynsham Community Choir for more information. Email: eynshamcommunitychoir@gmail.com Telephone: 01865 881151

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Recreation



An update on Eynsham Carnival – THE event of the year!

Congratulations to Lia Stratford who was crowned Carnival Queen at our Carnival Family Disco in March! She will be joined in the parade on Saturday 7 July by deputy Ella Goodenough and attendants Jessica Smith, Anoushka Rhodes, Ami-Lee Peers and Teagan McColl.

New for Carnival 2018! For more info or to sign up to events email enquiries@eynshamcarnival.com

- Rope wars returns, but as well as a mixed event there will be a female only Tug of War competition. Get your team together and come to the draw night at 19:30 in The Newlands on 23 June.
- K9 Playtime Academy Dog Show - does your dog have the waggiest tail? Are they a whizz at party tricks? Or simply the best? Enter your furry friends to perform in the arena on Carnival day!

ADVANCE NOTICE – SHIPWRECKED:

Eynsham Churches Holiday Club 2018 for children of primary school age runs every morning, Monday-Friday 30 July to 3 August at the Primary School. There are Early Bird discounts until 2 July. For details and application forms please email eynshamhc@gmail.com or visit tinyurl.com/eynsham-hc

AUGUST OASIS looks forward to welcoming old and new friends to the three activity days in the Village Hall. Please note that the dates are later this year, in

the final week of August. Brochures and application forms will be out in mid June, but if you want a preview, the activities have already been posted at Eynsham Online: bit.ly/eynsham-oasis

CROSSING BORDERS – to Calais and back:

a photographic exhibition by Ania Ready, hosted by Refugees Welcome in Eynsham as part of Refugee Week



This exhibition is Ania's personal story of a trip to Calais that was both heart-breaking and heart-lifting. Ania captures these moments and emotions in her images from La Linière refugee camp in Northern France and Help Refugees and L'Auberge warehouse in Calais. Please come! Bartholomew Room, The Square: Thursday 21 June 09:00–16:00, Friday–Sunday 22–24 June 11:00–16:00, home-made cake sale Saturday only. Enquiries: a.titchen@gmail.com

EYNSHAM COMMUNITY CHOIR is thriving in its fifth year. At the first few meetings we sang simple songs in two-part harmony, rounds and in unison. In early years our numbers stabilised around 20. Now we're a mixed bunch of 30 songbirds. We've learned a lot about singing, good breathing and movement which helps our singing, pitch and tone. It's not all about technique though. This year we took to the challenge of our choir leaders and have been singing four-part songs in glorious harmony. Though demanding to learn, we are delighted with the result – that 'feel good' factor is worth all the effort. Our choir leaders arrange and write songs for us too. Everything is taught by ear. Some singers learn with song-sheets, others use a score to guide them. The choice is up to each singer. Come hear us celebrate our 5th year together at Eynsham Sports Pavilion on Carnival afternoon, 7 July. *Anne L Ryan*

FREELAND ORCHESTRA offers an afternoon of lovely music in St Leonard's Church on 30 June at 15:00. Under Musical Director Wendy Marks, they will be playing Hérold's exciting 'Zampa' overture and Haydn Symphony No 99, ending with 'The Land of the Mountain and the Flood' by Hamish MacCunn – which some of you may remember as the theme music for Sutherland's Law back in the 70s! Tickets £5 on the door, under 18s free. Then at 19:30 West Oxfordshire Winds, West Oxfordshire Clarinets and West Oxfordshire Learners combine to provide a very varied evening of enjoyable music, with music from Bach to recent Disney favourites with lots in between! Tickets £5 on the door, under 18s free.

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OXFORDSHIRE PERFORMERS CLUB

provides a forum where adult amateur musicians can gain experience and confidence performing in a friendly and supportive environment. We meet at the Music Room on occasional Sunday afternoons at 15:00 – next dates are 3 June and 15 July. Instrumentalists and singers at any level are welcome, as are friends and family who would like to hear you perform. Both learners and experienced players are welcome to try out their pieces, before examinations or a formal concert. Find us on Facebook or visit oxfordshireperformersclub.co.uk

HISTORY GROUP: The few remaining vacancies for our summer visits – each on a Wednesday – are now open on a ‘first come’ basis. Please contact Philip Spencer: 01865 881025/spencer633@btinternet.com
6 June: all day coach visit to Wimpole Hall and Garden near Cambridge, leaving Back Lane car park at 08:30. Cost £28, National Trust members £14 (please bring membership cards!).
4 July: two-hour private visit to St Cross College, 61 St Giles, meeting at the entrance at 13:45. Cost £5.
18 July: two-hour private visit to Somerville College, 61 Woodstock Road, meeting at the entrance at 13:45. Cost £5.

EYNHAM RECORD: Our latest issue (35) focuses mainly on the man-made disaster of World War I, through a study of some war memorials, the story of a local ‘tankie’ and some other Eynshamites, a medal lost (and found); and a little rosebud, destined never to bloom but still treasured. Steve Parrinder’s article on the Black Death covers one of the world’s greatest natural disasters. Copies £5 are on sale at Evenlode DIY and in Eynsham Library. *Cate Foster*

A VINTAGE AFTERNOON TEA DANCE will be held in Eynsham Village Hall on Saturday 16 June from 16:00–20:00 in aid of the RBL Poppy Appeal. This event is to commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War. Tickets include cream tea, sandwiches and hot beverages – all served on vintage china, of course. Should you prefer something stronger, feel free to BYO! After tea, the dancing will be led by the Leggett School of Dance. So whether you are a seasoned dancer or just a beginner, dust off those dance shoes and come along to join in the fun. There will also be a raffle, again for the Poppy Appeal. Tickets £10 are available from Evenlode DIY or from Julie Jordan: 01865 880042.

WEST OXFORDSHIRE RAMBLERS meet at Back Lane car park on Tuesday 19 June at 19:00 for a leisurely 9-mile circular walk to Pinkhill Lock and along the Thames Path back to Eynsham – with a pub stop, of course. Non-members are welcome as usual. Enquiries: 01865 880105 / 07539 794759

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The organising committee has reluctantly decided to raise the Shirt Race entrance fee from £2.50 to £3.50. This is mainly due to a 50% rise in our insurance premium. Here is a breakdown of expenditure in 2017:

- insurance – £313 (it will be £467 for 2018)
- prize monies – £250
- administration – £96
- advertising/publicity, engraving, etc. – £252.

As you see, our biggest cost is insurance. For any public event that is held/run on a public highway the District Council requires a management plan, *plus confirmation of public liability insurance cover of £10m*. We cannot legally go ahead unless our management plan is approved and this level of insurance is confirmed.

Thanks for your understanding and we still hope to see lots of you at the start line this year. It would be great to get 60 teams for our 60th year. Walk it, run it, come and join the fun and make it a great one.

THE BIG ONE: Preparation for our 60th Bash in the White Hart garden from 14:00–20:00 on 2 June is well under way. There will be music from local bands, Wine Stain, Beard of Destiny, Ella Martini and to close ‘The Brilltones’. We are also planning a film extravaganza – past Shirt Races showing on a loop on a big screen in the Function Room for all to see. There will be a food stall, a stand for that ESR merchandise moment, a raffle with a range of prizes and hopefully fun for all in a effort to raise funds for continuing the Shirt Race, so please come along and support us.
Peter Shrimpton

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Eynsham Roadrunners

COME RUN WITH US! Eynsham Roadrunners are a friendly, welcoming group of people who meet at 18:30 every Wednesday for a club run around the village and surrounding countryside. As a very active club for both running and social events, we encourage members to join in the fun whenever they can. We welcome runners of all standards, so no matter what your ability you will always find a friendly face to run with. For more details, please contact Charmian Maskell: 07792 347242/email charmianmaskell48@gmail.com or visit eynshamroadrunners.org.uk

What's on

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

After-school swimming lessons at Eynsham Primary School on Mondays from 4 June for beginners aged 3-plus, summer holiday course daily 30 July – 3 August. Call 07870 662483 or visit oxfordswimmingacademy.co.uk



June

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- 2 **GreenTEA**, Eynsham Emporium – page 9
- 2 **Shirt Race Bash** – opposite
- 3 **Performers Club**, The Music Room – page 17
- 9 **Community Day**, Village Hall – page 14
- 9–10 **OPEN GARDENS** – page 11
- 12 **Women's Institute**, St Leonard's Hall 19:30.
Ian Scott-Hunter, *ex Royal Footman*
- 13 **Garden Club**, Village Hall 19:30. Victoria Logue,
Gardening for Wildlife
- 14 **Country Market**, Royal Celebrations – page 12
- 15 **Carers Roadshow**, Village Hall – page 5
- 15 **Bartholomew School PTA** – page 8
- 16 **Vintage Tea Dance** – page 17
- 18–21 **Overnight Road Closure** – page 2
- 19 **Ramblers Group** – page 17
- 20 **Carers' Group**, Eynsham Emporium 11:00
- 20 **Eynsham Society**,
visit to Whittington Court 13:15
- 21–24 **Refugee Exhibition** – page 16
- 24 **Litter Pickers**, Baptist Hall 13:45
- 27 **Arts Group**, Bartholomew Room 19:30.
Caroline Meynell, *Light in the Landscape*
- 30 **Primary School**, Summer Fair 12:00–15:00
- 30 **Freeland Orchestra**, summer concerts – page 16
- 29 **Community Cinema** – page 20

B4044 BOTLEY TO EYNSHAM PATH

Public consultation for planning application

Saturday 30 June Farmoor Village Hall 10.00–13.00
Thursday 5 July Eynsham Village Hall 17:00–20:00

The BikeSafe campaign to have a path built along the B4044 between Eynsham and Botley is now in a position to formally apply for planning permission. Before we do that we would like everyone who is interested to see the plans, make comments and suggestions and to continue the huge support the campaign has received over the last 6 years. Everyone is welcome to come along and help us take this big step successfully. John Blackie – *Trustee BikeSafe*



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July

- 5 **BikeSafe consultation** – *page 19*
- 7 **CARNIVAL AND SHIRT RACE**
- 7 **GreenTEA**, Eynsham Emporium 10:30–12:00
- 7–9 **Flower Festival** – *page 12*
- 7–15 **Arts Group**, Bartholomew Room 10:00–16:00.
Summer Exhibition
- 8 **Eynsham Society**, Garden Party 18:00.
Enquiries: 01865 880563
- 10 **Women’s Institute**, Scout HQ 19:00.
Garden Party
- 10 **Garden Club**, Sports Pavilion 19:00.
Summer Party. Enquiries: 01865 880342
- 13 **Eynsham News** copy deadline – *page 2*
- 14 **CELEBRATION IN THE SQUARE** –
page 14
- 14 **Barn Dance**, Village Hall – *page 15*
- 15 **Bridewell Open Gardens** – *page 2*
- 15 **EPIC demonstration** – *page 3*
- 15 **Performers Club**, The Music Room – *page 17*
- 17 **Traffic Advisory Committee**,
Bartholomew Room 19:30.
- 18 **Carers’ Group**, Eynsham Emporium 11:00
- 22 **Gatehouse Volunteers**: home-made sandwiches
& cake for the Oxford shelter.
Enquiries: 01865 881346
- 25 **Arts Group**, Bartholomew Room 19:30.
Claire Christine Sadler, *Graphite Pencil and Charcoal*
- 20 **Community Cinema** – *opposite*
- 25 **Swift Walk** – *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 30 July – copy deadline 13 July.



Visit Eynsham Online at eynsham-pc.gov.uk

Our sponsors

Thanks again to Eynsham Dental Care and the Eynsham Churches for their generous support in 2018–19.

We still have a few advertising spaces for local businesses in the coming year. Please contact Sandy Hellig for more details: 07551 876285, email sandy.hellig@gmail.com or visit eynshamnews.org.uk

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'I think the graffiti wall is a great addition to the Eynsham skate park and well used. Some very talented young people around' – PCSO Helen Keen

Cinema at Eynsham Village Hall

Friday June 29th @ 7:30pm



Friday July 20th @ 7:30pm



THE POST showing May 25th @ 7:30pm

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