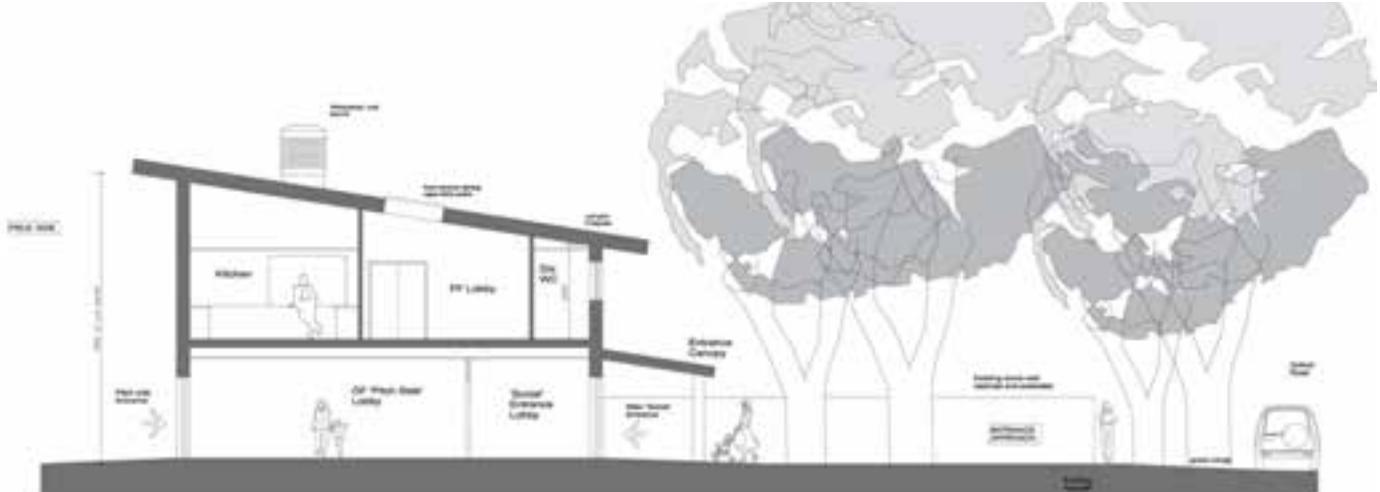




EYNSHAM NEWS

Issue 45 - October 2020



Re-build proposal for Eynsham Sports Pavilion, designed by Stanhope Wilkinson Associates – see Parish Council note below

Grand designs... and people power!

After several revisions, architect plans have now been finalised and a planning application will be submitted to the District Council shortly. The designs can be found at eynsham-pc.gov.uk/Sports-Pavilion

The application will include the usual statutory public consultation but please don't hesitate to contact the Clerk before that to provide feedback.

What's on in October

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------|
| 4 | GreenTEA Festival – page 4 |
| 6 | Full Council 19:30 |
| 16 | Eynsham News contributions 17:00 |
| 20 | Full Council 19:30 |
| 23 | Salt Cross Area Action Plan – page 2 |
| 25 | Run Wytham Woods – page 4 |
| 27 | Litter Pickers 14:00 – page 4 |

Be prepared – your flu jab

Eynsham Medical Group's regular enquiry number is 01865 881206. Sincere apologies to everyone who was inconvenienced by the misprint in our last issue.



Planting snakeshead fritillary bulbs in the new Playing Fields Meadow – photo © Catriona Bass.

Over 40 of our nature recoverers – from South Leigh, Freeland, Cassington, Stanton Harcourt, Standlake and Eynsham – did it! One thousand bulbs, kilos of wildflower seed and pots of our rare local perennials, planted on Nature Recovery Network's second Nature Recovery Day. Eynsham now has four new meadow sites (the Playing Fields, Churchyard, Fishponds and Dovehouse Close) totalling nearly one and a half acres...

Continues on page 6

Salt Cross – the saga continues

WODC public consultation on its draft Area Action Plan for the garden village runs until Friday 23 October: see westoxon.gov.uk/gardenvillage

Much of this reflects EPIC's and Green TEA's policies and proposals and goes beyond the standards in Grosvenor's Outline Planning Application.

It is refreshing to see that the draft makes Climate Action its golden thread linking all other objectives; and that this was also seen as the most important issue by the public. We welcome the requirement for net zero carbon building with renewable energy generation, 25% biodiversity gain and options for active travel, community ownership and management. But some of these things will happen only if we demand it – please see next column.

After consultation, the draft AAP will go to the Secretary of State for independent examination. It needs to be found 'legally compliant' and 'sound'. Where proposed standards are better than the minimum required, there needs to be robust supporting evidence to withstand challenges from developers; and robust monitoring and evaluation to ensure standards are met. So we all need to look at these carefully, to support strongly where we agree and suggest improvements.

Over the next few weeks EPIC and GreenTEA will provide our guidance on responding to the AAP at eynsham.me.uk – *Sarah Couch*

Grosvenor's Outline Planning Application is still open for comment – printed documents in Eynsham library, guidance and response template at bit.ly/OCGV-now

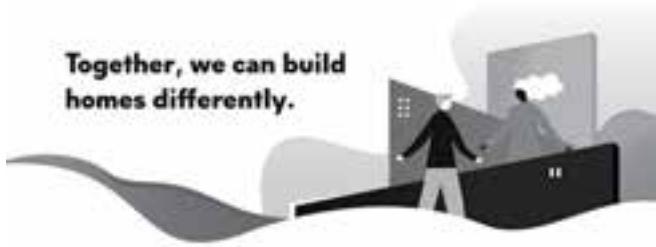
The Eynsham Society has consistently opposed the so-called Garden Village, says Jolyon Cox:

- The transport infrastructure is already inadequate, yet additional new residents will presumably commute to Oxford – else how does this meet our district share of Oxford's unmet housing need?
- Commuter traffic goes mainly to the M40 or the major employment centres in east Oxford, not the city centre. Absent a bus lane all the way to these destinations, the 'Garden Village' will massively increase A40 congestion.
- To avoid overstretching Eynsham's resources,



the new settlement must have its own facilities before houses are occupied. Even then, facilities may migrate over time to the 'Garden Village' – out of reach for many Eynsham residents.

Together, we can build homes differently.



Community-led housing schemes are set up and run by a local, independent, not-for-profit organisation. The organisation will ensure homes for rent, sale or shared ownership remain affordable for local people.

Representatives from Collaborative Housing are partnering with WODC to run a series of training workshops for Salt Cross garden village and the surrounding area. Details from fiona@cohohub.org.uk or deborah.wyatt@publicagroup.uk or visit bit.ly/wodc-CLH

Parish Council Update

Play Areas: I am pleased to report that two of our three play areas plus skate park are now open. We ask that you check the Covid-19 notice before entering, as there are maximum numbers permitted, a requirement not to consume food or drink and other guidelines to follow. If a play area is at capacity, please come back another time. Please also don't forget that (at the time of writing) groups are limited to a maximum of 6.

Regrettably, the annual RoSPA inspections undertaken as a first step to re-opening the play areas found several pieces of equipment at Dovehouse 'Come and Play' are a high risk to safety and need substantial repair work. PLEASE do not allow your children to climb into this area – it is closed to safeguard their health. The area is padlocked and warning signs are displayed. We are working to repair or remove the equipment as quickly as possible to allow it to re-open.

Councillor Mark Zumbuhl adds: "The 'Come and Play' has been very popular since it opened in 2010 but a lot of the wooden equipment is nearing the end of its natural life. We plan to replace and update the facilities over the coming year or two, as we have at Old Witney Road in the last couple of years; and we will be seeking your input into what play items you would like to see installed in the future."

Happy new school year!

Traffic management: The Parish Council had proposed a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order, to limit traffic through the village centre in view of Covid, as reported earlier. Following a substantial number of objections, the Order has now been cancelled.

The Council will review the process, consider a future 20mph village speed limit / ‘Gateways Project’ and obtain data/ support from Oxfordshire County Council to help inform future transport work. A note on the background and EPC objectives (January 2018) is online at bit.ly/eynsham-20mph

Funding for EPC’s regular activities & administration currently relies on council tax (80%) and bookings. Significant new projects may depend mainly on grants and loans, since hopes of any ‘windfall’ from major housing developments have been dashed. – *Ed*

Bartholomew School virtual open day

We have had a busy but positive start to the new academic year and I continue to be impressed with how students and staff have settled well in their new routines and adapted to the new systems.

We recently had a film crew in school helping us to make our Virtual Open Day aimed at current Year 6 students applying for secondary school places. Our film will go live from Tuesday 29 September so please check our website bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk

We hope you feel as proud of our school as we do. We love this photo, taken during filming, of one of our drama teachers, Miss Band, working her ‘magic’ with a group of Year 8 students!

Wingardium Leviosa! – a Harry Potter spell



May I take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have shown us over the recent months and hope that you all stay safe and well. – *Craig Thomas, Headteacher*

The new year at Eynsham Community Primary School kicked off on 2 September after almost 6 months of disruption from the Coronavirus crisis. Staggered start times, year group bubbles, restrictions on parents on site, extra cleaning, and virtual whole school assemblies on Zoom are among the measures aimed at keeping the children and staff safe.

Although the school stayed open throughout lockdown to take care of keyworker kids, and welcomed back select year groups in June, teaching staff and students were also quick to embrace new technologies to help keep the remote cohort engaged with their learning. Innovative use of Google Classroom enabled children to benefit from some video-based lessons from their teachers, as well as daily tasks, feedback, and virtual class meetings.

Reflecting on her experience, Lottie (10) said, ‘I especially liked the videos of Miss Davis reading chapters from *Cosmic*. It was the best part of the day.’

Deputy Head, Mr Reeves explained, ‘It was important for us that the curriculum continued in as engaging a way as possible, whilst overcoming the barriers of being at home. We are really proud of how the adults and children adapted to this new form of learning. Thank you to those parents who worked incredibly hard with their children whilst often working from home themselves. The children seem overjoyed to be back with their friends and teachers and have settled into the new routines brilliantly.’

Abigail (9) agrees, ‘Home schooling was pretty tough because we had to do it all online and some of the work even my mum didn’t understand! I’m really excited about going back to school because I get to see all my friends again and meet my new teacher.’



To find out more about what’s going on at Eynsham Community Primary School, go to: eynsham.oxon.sch.uk

It's all happening!



GreenTEA Festival – Sunday 4 October:

This year's festival takes the form of a village walking trail to show the work that GreenTEA and others are doing towards a greener and more resilient community. The event has been designed to be Covid-19 safe, with sites to be visited by family groups in any order to maintain social distancing.

Activities and information include:

- Apple growing, juicing and apple giveaway (bring your own cup)
- Allotments and Peace Oak orchard
- Transforming Eynsham – energy for the future
- Eco houses – meet the experts
- Electric cars and bikes
- Children's puzzles and activities

Collect a map from any of the locations or download your copy via the website or QR code above.

Bump to One is back! The parent/carer and baby group has recommenced on Mondays in St Leonard's Church from 10:30–12:00. We are working within the Covid guidance on 'established support groups for new parents'. Do call 01865 464238/880952 or drop in sometime. –

Sue Greenwood & Jenny Hogan

Busy Bees stay & play fun for preschool children aged 0–5 and their carers is back up and running on Fridays from 09:30–11:00 at the Baptist Church Hall. Don't forget your face mask!

Maya: 07547 165550



We have had a wonderful start to the autumn term, welcoming back many children alongside many new ones. Their happy, smiling faces as they run up to the door shows us how resilient children can be – even through such disconcerting times. Pre-school life continues almost as usual (just with even more handwashing!); playing outside as much as possible, experiencing the change of the seasons and making friends. Our pre-schoolers live 'in the moment', finding so much joy in the small things around us. They love our new 'fairy garden' which has been marvellous for developing imagination and language skills. We are almost full this term but if you would like to put your child's name down for later in the year please call 01865 883893 or email manager@eynshampreschool.org – Jackie Taylor

Pounds for Pumpkins: Eynsham Primary PTA will be holding a spooktacular virtual pumpkin carving contest in Halloween week. Share your little monsters' pumpkin designs on their Facebook page and be in with the chance of winning a prize. Entries cost £1, plus for every pumpkin sold by The Market Garden in October a donation will be made to the school.

See facebook.com/groups/eynshamprimarypta

Virtually Run Wytham Woods: Due to the ongoing Covid situation, this year's Run Wytham Woods 10K and Fun Run (rescheduled from June) can no longer take place. Registrants will be contacted by email. The organizers are exploring other options for a virtual race in lieu of the run on October 25. For the latest news please visit www.runwythamwoods.org

To make a one-off or regular donation, to help fill the shortfall in Eynsham Primary PTA funding due to the restrictions on events-based fundraising, contact eynshamprimarypta@outlook.com

**TENNIS IN EYNSHAM
EVERY SUNDAY!**

For Juniors and Adults

4 - 7 years	11:00 - 12:00
8 - 11 years	12:00 - 13:00
Adult Beginners	13:00 - 14:00

Drop-in for £7.50 per session, or £36 for a 6 week block (20% discount = £28 per session)

01865 464238 | www.eynshamtennisacademy.co.uk

FREE electric blanket checks: Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue service is running free checks from 5–9 and 19–23 October to make sure your blanket is safe to use this winter. To comply with Covid restrictions, we will post you a plastic bag and label, collect the package from your house, take your blanket to be tested and then return it to you. To book your collection call 01865 895999 Option 1 or email communityengagement@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Litter Pickers, 27 October: we now meet *in the grounds* of Eynsham Baptist Church in view of Covid, to collect equipment, arrange routes etc. Newcomers are welcome as ever! – Pam Breeze: 0791 174434

Answers to the 'Street Names' puzzle (page 7)

1. Old Witney Road, 2. Conduit Lane, 3. Mill Street, 5. Dovehouse Close, 6. Acer End Street, 7. John Lopps Road. Odd one out is 4. Salt Cross Garden Village

What we did this summer



Eynsham Churches Virtual Holiday Club:

Over 50 children of primary school age tuned in from 17–22 August with their parents, carers

or grandparents to enjoy a locally-made video and get involved with follow-up activities. Suddenly, weather was not an issue! There's a full report at Eynsham Online. – *Chris Sugden*

Eynsham Cricket Club had great plans for summer 2020. We had two strong men's teams, thriving junior sides and with our women's team entering a hardball league for the first time we had high expectations of success. Then along came Covid. Strict social and physical distancing measures stopped play until mid-July when we managed just a few friendly games.



Congratulations to our under 15 team, taking the plate award in their first ever 6-a-side tournament on 31 August!

We are now planning for the 2021 season; so if you fancy playing cricket with a very friendly and sociable group, whatever your age or standard, please email eynshamcc@gmail.com – *Ian Miller*

Football for Under 12s: Our team was formed in September 2012 when the boys were in Foundation – a mix from Eynsham and Freeland, with two keen dads as joint coaches. Over the years our numbers have grown, and we have a strong team who have done the village proud with their progress. For the 2019-20 season, Eynsham U12s were part of the Champions Cup, made up of 32 teams from across the league. They played knock out games getting them to a semi-final that went all the way to penalties with Eynsham coming out winners. The final had to be delayed to the end of August due to Covid, but the team stepped up and after a great battle came a very close second. Well done lads. – *Matt 07766 721744 / m.long68@btinternet.com*



Eynsham WI like many village organisations is unable to hold our monthly meetings so on a perfect August morning some of our members enjoyed a leisurely stroll along Wharf Stream Way. We ended the walk at the Playing Field where we were met by several other members and all enjoyed a socially distanced picnic – photo © Jane McHarg. We are now thinking about our next socially distanced meeting. – *Margaret Robinson*

Mary Evans's 70 years as a member (reported in issue 43) were formally recognised in September, when Eynsham WI President Christine Batts presented her with a bouquet and a framed certificate from the National Federation of WI's Trustees. Mary also unveiled a new WI notice board on the Bartholomew Room; and Ian White's photos spread far and wide!

Bartholomew Players have reluctantly postponed their autumn show to spring 2021 because of the uncertainty generated by the pandemic. We have been meeting remotely via zoom for socialising and online drama, but we look forward to engaging with the local community as soon as we can. Meantime, we welcome enquiries about joining us to bart.players@gmail.com and visits to our website bartholomewplayers.co.uk

North Leigh Roman Villa

welcomed visitors to three open days this summer with wonderful weather and plenty of room for all. A few lucky children helped give the mosaics their first deep clean in



a decade, Roman helmet optional! The site is just a short ride from Eynsham and open all year round. Contact the volunteers by email NLRVvols@gmail.com or FB @northleighromanvilla

People power!

(Continued from page one) Eynsham now has four new meadow sites, plus an allotment for propagating seed and plans for tree and hedge-planting. What's more, the network is growing: several other local greens are now being transformed for wildlife by the residents who collectively own them.

It shows how effective we can be when we join forces as a network of enthusiasts, local experts, councillors, community groups and local businesses – a whole much greater than the sum of its parts. – *Catriona Bass*

And one that got away...



As you will know from earlier newsletters, we really hoped to hold this year's EVS on Saturday 31 October. We had planned a one-in-one-out system to allow 30 people in the hall at a time; but rules around how many people can gather then massively reduced – to six. The committee and I agree that it really won't be an Eynsham Village Show under such circumstances. We will of course be back next year and hope that we can all marvel once again at what this amazing village produces and puts on display. Here's to 2021. – *Fay Taylor, Chair, Eynsham Village Show*

Enjoy EVS 2019 gallery at bit.ly/eynsham-show

Topical tips

Security matters – 1: Thames Valley Police is inviting individuals and businesses equipped with CCTV to register with their new Digital Evidence Management System, in case footage should be needed in the future. This is especially beneficial under Covid requirements to minimise contact and transfer of material. So if your business has CCTV please email Helen: helen.keen@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Security matters – 2: Remember Bob McIntyre's wise words on computer scams! Major companies like Microsoft and BT do not ring home users to tell them they have a problem. These friendly people are only interested in finding something of value to them. If you weren't expecting the call, no matter how plausible they seem, put the phone down. And the same applies for emails: if an 'opportunity' seems too good to be true – it probably is.

Families and friends



As a mum, I struggled to find a part-time job to fit around my family life. That is, until I became an on-call (part-time) firefighter. I respond from home, so most of the time I still spend with my family.

Being an on-call firefighter also means a role that is exciting, challenging, where I never stop learning new skills, and that gives me unmatched job satisfaction. It keeps me fit and healthy. And it's paid employment. I couldn't ask for more.

Why not drop in at Station Road any Tuesday evening or call 07557 733115 for a chat? I look forward to hearing from you! – *Olga Patterson*

Regarding Tar's Grave: As a child in Eynsham, I was always led to believe that Jack Tar was a highwayman and that he was hanged at the old cross roads in Ache (or Ache) Hill as we called it, as the road went straight across the bypass from Spareacre Lane to Ache Hill in those days. We were warned that if we danced around his grave at midnight he would rise up. Naturally, we never tried! – *Maureen Clapcott*

Can any Grants or Buckinghams help with stories of family gone but not forgotten from Eynsham? I am researching my family tree and my grandfather Walter 'Harry' Grant told of happy summers spent with an Aunt Rose and Cousin Queenie in Eynsham. Our branch of the family moved away in the early 20th century and now resides in Sutton Coldfield. My mother's memory is deteriorating but she lights up when I get her talking about her family and years gone by. I would be grateful for any help in my quest! – *Victoria Turley: 01213 785085 / vicky.turley@outlook.com*

Milly the Kitty (3): My most favourite thing is to squat on the fence and annoy next door's stupid dog. When he sees me, he goes absolutely bonkers, barking, snarling and jumping all over the place trying to reach me – while I pretend that I haven't noticed him. When his family run out to see what's wrong, I jump down into my garden and he gets into trouble for making so much noise! – *Lesley Francis*

Things to do this autumn

The October night sky: In contrast to our quiet village, the night sky can be dynamic and exciting! By using your unaided eyes or with binoculars, you can learn the stars and constellations, and follow them as they appear to revolve above us over the year against the background stars.



Here are the planets which are visible to us as points of light in the October sky.

Mars is visible all night long rising at sunset in the east and setting in west at sunrise. On 13 October it will reach opposition, when it is on the opposite side of the Earth to the Sun and on its closest approach to us.

Jupiter and *Saturn* can be seen together low in the southern sky – all month. On the evening of 22 October you will be able to see the conjunction, where the crescent Moon, Jupiter and Saturn appear to be in the same part of the sky. You can see 4 of Jupiter's moons with binoculars.

Venus rises before sunrise in the east. Do be careful using binoculars near the sunrise. It is very bright and low on the eastern horizon; this is often the cause of many UFO sightings!

The Moon: Youngsters are in for a treat this Halloween, as the full Moon becomes a 'Blue Moon' on 31 October. The term is given to the second full moon in a calendar month. This happens every 2–3 years but it will not happen again on Halloween until 2039. – *Matt Armitage, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society.*

Keep looking up! The Eynsham Observatory - eynshamobservatory.wordpress.com



Santa's tour under Covid: The Rotary Club of Eynsham is hoping to organise

a presence for Santa in the villages that we normally include in our Christmas tour. It may have to take a different form this year, for example a static presence at an agreed position in the area. Plans will be finalised at the last minute to meet prevailing Covid restrictions and posted at Eynsham Online. So if anyone plans a Christmas event at a suitable place where it might be useful for Santa to attend, do get in touch: info@eynshamrotary.org.uk



Thanks to Ian White for this reminder of our amazing skyline – now also an online jigsaw, suitable for all ages. Remember, you can change the number of pieces and the background colour!
jigex.com/kGKa

And many thanks to Catherine Baker and to Dennis Stukenbroeker for these seasonal haikus:

*back from the blond fields
a pocket of rattle-seed
to make a meadow*

*wild wind
takes the tree's
last leaves*

Can you unscramble these words to get 6 Eynsham street names – and find the odd one out? Thanks to Chris Baker for the challenge! Answers on page 4.

1. Wily Deodorant
2. Lunatic Node
3. Mr Eel Stilt
4. Revolt as Rascals Niggle
5. Ooh! Love Seduces
6. Cats Re-entered
7. Pardon Ole Josh

Notice board

Eynsham Parish Council Clerk Katherine Doughty: 07956 901622 / epc.clerk@eynsham-pc.gov.uk

St Leonard's Church of England Vicar Revd Duncan Fraser: 07810 324088 | church office: 01865 883324 / stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com | website stleonardseynsham.org.uk

Found near The Talbot: inflatable cushion from a 'Clever' AirPro inflatable canoe. If you mislaid it, text 07519 778320 to be reunited.

Your free newsletter

Sign up for online previews at eepurl.com/g8JfOT

Thanks again to the volunteers who deliver Eynsham News to every home in the parish. And to everyone who sends us news, notes and comments, photos, puzzles, stories and even the occasional rant!

Get in touch by email or pop a note through the letter box at 1 High Street (opposite the Co-op). Our next deadline is Wednesday 16 October. Any events at Eynsham Online will be included automatically :-)

Editor Joan Stonham: eynsham.news@gmail.com
Treasurer Sandy Hellig: sandy.hellig@gmail.com

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

Looking after one another

Eynsham Car Scheme urgently needs volunteer drivers to take patients with no other options to their health care appointments. Please call 07469 764174.

Eynsham Community Larder is regularly supporting 25 families and is anticipating even busier times ahead. The larder has benefited from collaboration with Oxford Foodbank over the past few months, but arrangements with some of Oxford's own food suppliers are now coming to an end, and it looks likely that we will now have to rely more heavily on local donations to meet need. If anyone has a surplus of fresh produce from their own allotment or garden Bob Thiele would love to hear from you on 07738 063083. To make a financial donation go to bit.ly/eynsham-CSF

 **E Y N S H A M** Stuck at Home? Lying Good Neighbour Network? As it can be difficult to get access to Covid tests in the area or at home at the moment, some of you will inevitably be having to self-isolate again (especially with all the back-to-school bugs flying around). Don't forget that the Eynsham Heroes Coronavirus Support Network – and your neighbourhood WhatsApp group – are still around and happy to help with whatever you need. Just say the word! Email eynshamhelp@gmail.com or call 07443 564516.

Local businesses in Eynsham

THIS SLOT WILL REACH 2,000 LOCAL HOMES

A three-line listing costs £120 per annum / £10 a month.
Enquiries to Emma: 07455 529887 / emma@oxdesigners.com

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McTimoney Chiropractor
Contact : 01865 882992 alan.chiro@gmail.com

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