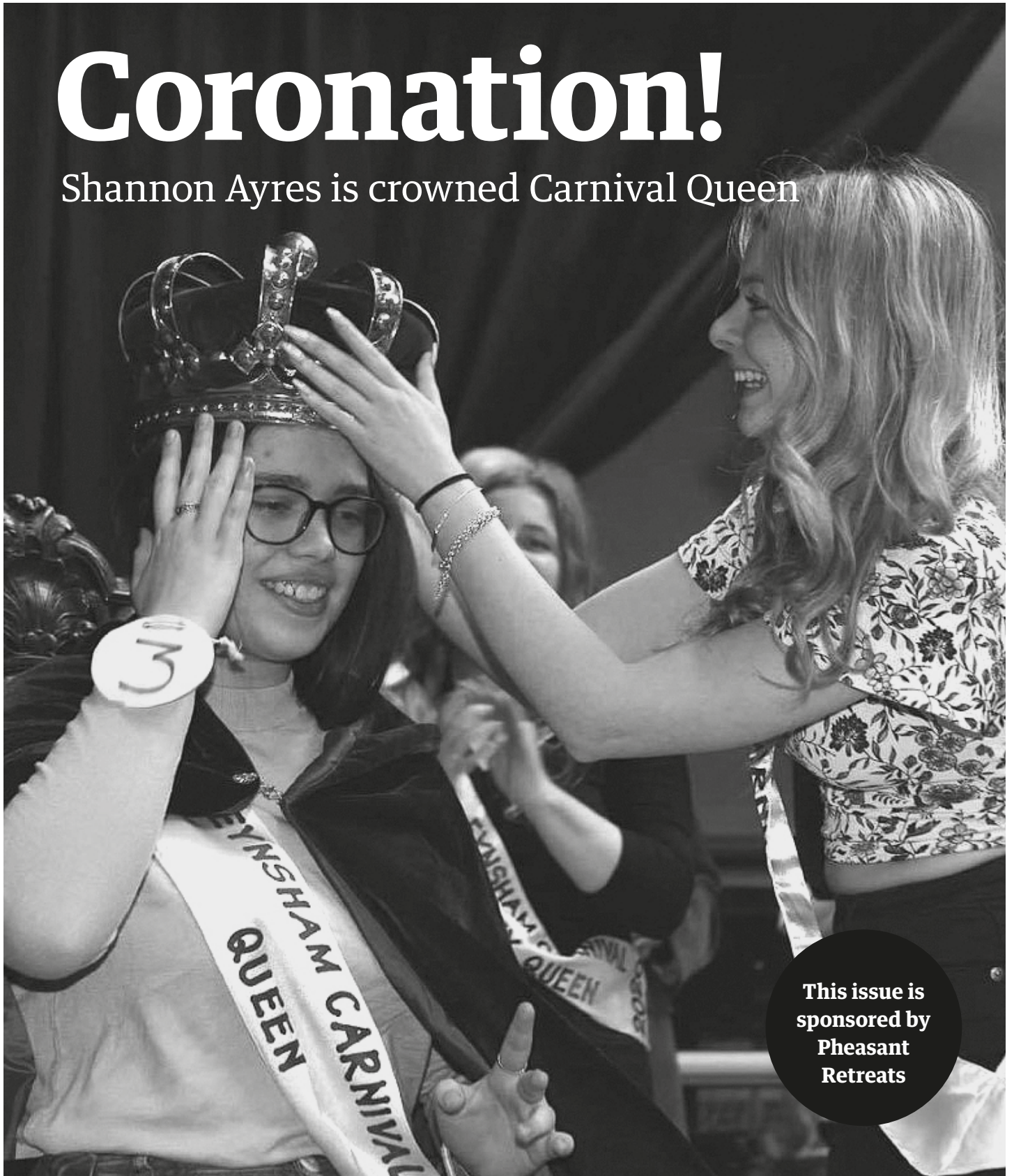




Eynsham News

Coronation!

Shannon Ayres is crowned Carnival Queen



This issue is
sponsored by
Pheasant
Retreats

Village Buzz



The Coronation

On Saturday 12 March, at the Carnival's Family Disco, Shannon Ayres was crowned as Eynsham's 75th carnival queen.

Nic Wilson is her deputy, and her attendants are Tilly Coyne, Molly Daly, Teagan Plumstead-Bint and Bryn Rowlands.

Congratulations to all, and we look forward to seeing you on 1 July for the 75th Eynsham Carnival!

Eynsham Pharmacy

Superintendent Pharmacist Akin Adeniran MRPhamS has news for pharmacy users:

"We have received NHS England approval for taking over Lloyds Pharmacy Eynsham with the remaining process to be finalised in April, after which we will operate as Eynsham Pharmacy.

"As with our existing pharmacy in nearby Kidlington, our primary emphasis is on our NHS Pharmaceutical Services, including ensuring that you get your NHS prescriptions quickly and easily, disposing of your unwanted medicines, Hospital Discharge Medicines Service and public health services (for example, seasonal flu jabs). We will always strive to have our pharmacist available and accessible.

"We are really excited about this opportunity to serve the community in the charming village of Eynsham."

Roads, roads, roads

Have you heard that the A40 widening is on hold while the project's costs are reassessed?

And the latest on the closure of Botley Rd is that it will be 'partly'

closed 11 April to the end of October this year, and closed completely March to October 2024.

Eynsham Foodbank

Bob Thiele writes...

After 3 years and over 6,000 deliveries some of the Foodbank team need a break! We are therefore looking to recruit drivers for delivering food parcels or to collect from the Oxford Food Hub. We would also love to welcome more packers to help fill the boxes! If you might be able to assist, please phone me on 07450 328530 for more details.

Eynsham Carnival

Eynsham Carnival committee is introducing a theme for our 75th year: "Hats off to Eynsham!"

An opportunity to express yourself and your love for our village by donning a hat on carnival day. Homemade, bought, or something you have in the cupboard from carnivals past, wear your hat or headpiece with pride on **Saturday 1 July 2023**.



our mystery judges, with photo opportunities and a mass "hats off" moment at the end of the day! We're also keen to hear your best recollections of carnival day over the years and would like to compile a few stories for the programme. Tell us about your most memorable year before 19 March: enquiries@eynshamcarnival.com

Despite an encouraging response to our open meeting in January we still need a bit more help; in particular someone to manage our social media and publicity ASAP. If this is you, please email us or pop us a FB/IG message!

Please send in items for our next Eynsham News before 7 May 2023

Early Years Education



Eynsham Community Primary School

Early Years Setting 2-4 Year Olds

- 2 year old funded and fee paying places available
- 3&4 year old funded places available
- Morning, afternoon and all day sessions
- Lunch club available

Spaces available now and from September including 2 year olds

Open Mornings

Friday 21st April 2023
9:30am

Wednesday 24th May 2023
9:30am

Please visit <https://www.eynsham.oxon.sch.uk/> for more information or Contact the main school office 01865 881294 office.2209@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk

Spot prizes will be given on the field by



Eynsham News, Your News

Eynsham News is a bi-monthly community newsletter, delivered free to every household in the village. It would not exist without input from all kinds of people in the village. You are always welcome to get in touch with your ideas, news, views and events by email to editor@eynshamnews.org.uk. If you don't have access to email, you can now write to us with good old-fashioned pen and paper. Just label your envelope 'Eynsham News' and

drop your contribution off at the library, either through the letterbox or to a member of the team who will kindly pass it on to us.

The deadline for material for our next edition is Sunday 7 May.

The sponsor for this issue of Eynsham News is Pheasant Retreats, a property business who have their local office at 42 Corn St, Witney, OX28 6BS. Their business area covers Witney, Eynsham, Carterton, Woodstock, the breadth of the Cotswolds and surrounding Oxfordshire towns and villages.



Director Lynda Woodcock says:

Pheasant Retreats is a small family run business and I am from Eynsham originally. Our aim is to always put our clients first.

Pheasant Retreats is now in its 6th year and is managed by myself and my team. We have the autonomy of a privately owned independent business to work with you to ensure all the right decisions are made and that you receive the best possible advice and service over and above what you would expect from any company. I should know this, as I was a private landlord for many years, and can speak with genuine experience and knowledge of the whole lettings market. Whether you are a prospective landlord, tenant or one of our many existing clients, myself and the team are always on hand to provide any advice and support. We are fully supported and backed up by the appropriate regulatory organisations: ARLA, NAEA, Propertymark and The Property Ombudsman Service.

We run everything from our office on Corn St, Witney, so you will know exactly what is going on with your property at any given time. Our Property Management Service is run on site, so we stay close to everything. We will always source additional quotes if required, and all of our contractors are tried and tested local tradesmen.



If you would like to find out what a 'pheasant experience' we can offer, please do not hesitate to contact us on **01993 772555** or email at enquiries@pheasantretreats.co.uk

Pheasant Retreats have their local office at 42 Corn St, Witney, OX28 6BS. Covering Witney, Eynsham, Carterton, Woodstock, the breadth of the Cotswolds and surrounding Oxfordshire towns and villages.



From around the village

Watch Those New Developments

*Martin Flatman
of Hazeldene writes...*

“The problem of new developments taking ages to be adopted by the County Council has reared its ugly head in Hazeldene.

“We have had to live for 10 years under the regime of Taylor Wimpey who built the site. This has meant that it was Taylor Wimpey who we had to persuade to fix the street lights and mow the verges, and it was they who were responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of the roads.

“To confuse us even more, other parts of our site (like the meadow and the woodland) were and still are our responsibility, for which we pay a fee to a management company.

“Struggling to find out who does what, we found out that Oxfordshire County Council was not prepared to adopt the site unless Taylor Wimpey brought it up to a certain standard; and Taylor Wimpey were clearly not keen on spending their money doing this! Negotiations dragged on and on, until much to our surprise we discovered recently that the adoption had taken place last summer—but no one had told us!

“Even more surprising, six months after this happened, an OCC sweeper lorry appeared and swept our roads! Well, we are happy now, but still a bit miffed that no-one told us what was happening and why.”

Solar Farm

*District Councillor
Dr Lidia Arciszewska asks
is it a climate crisis
saviour or countryside
encroaching monster?*

By now, everyone in the village must have heard about the so-called ‘Botley West Solar Farm’ (BWSF). Blenheim Estate/Merton College/PVPD are proposing to develop a

mega solar farm that if built would be the largest one in Europe. BWSF would have capacity to produce up to 840MW electricity, which could cover domestic needs of 330 thousand homes (when the sun is shining!). That is the whole of Oxfordshire and much more. A dedicated substation would be needed to handle such a huge amount of electricity and would be developed by the National Grid near Farmoor. Sounds like very good news, doesn't it? Could Botley Solar become our ‘Climate Crisis Saviour’?

The vast area of the proposed BWSF stretches from Botley, Cumnor and Farmoor, to Eynsham and Hanborough, then to Wootton, Tackley and Oxford Airport, Begbroke, Yarnton and Cassington. Three quarters of it would sit in the Oxford Green Belt. It would cover hills and valleys and surround villages and woods. The impact of this farm on the rolling landscape could not possibly be mitigated by hedges, as has been proposed. With the security fences surrounding each field and CCTV cameras, the BWSF will undoubtedly lead to the industrialization of much of the open countryside in this part of Oxfordshire.

Moreover, BWSF would remove 1400 hectares of productive agricultural land, something that should not be taken lightly at a time of increasing global food insecurity. The facility would also have a detrimental impact on local ecology and would restrict wild animal movements across the area. Is it worth it?

The proposed solar farm would supply 840000 MWH of electricity per year; the same amount of electricity could be produced by just 12 modern offshore wind turbines or by 24 onshore turbines. Nowadays, offshore wind farms are the fastest, easiest and cheapest way to produce power. Moreover, wind turbines have a 4 times lower carbon footprint during production and dismantling as compared to solar farms.

But the wind doesn't always blow! We do need to generate solar energy in Oxfordshire. But how best? There are plenty of brownfield sites such as

disused power stations and other industrial sites or airports. There is a great potential to cover domestic and industrial/commercial rooftops and large carparks with solar panels. Some small to medium poor arable value green fields are suitable to take solar panels. These should be carefully considered so as not to being intrusive visually, should be accepted by the local communities and should provide local benefit in return, as is the case with Southill Solar Farm near Charlbury. West Oxfordshire District council is currently developing a strategy on renewable energy generation and this strategy will be written into our currently developing Local Plan.

Developing a solar farm of the size of BWSF in open countryside, much of which is green belt, and immediately adjacent to the densely populated villages, carries the risk of community rejection. Indeed, Parish Councils, and hundreds of residents in the areas that would be directly affected by this project are opposing it vigorously, despite being strongly supportive of green energy generation.

Because of its enormous size, BWSF is a Nationally Strategic Infrastructure project, which will be considered by the Secretary of State. West Oxfordshire District Council will be a key consultee. The Council is undertaking an Environment Impact Assessment Study to determine potential benefits and harms of this project. Community voice is one of the key factors the Council will take into consideration. It is therefore essential for the communities to let the Council know their opinions on this project. The comments can be sent to the Cabinet and Council members including those who do not represent directly affected areas. The email addresses are available on WODC website or the postal address is: WODC Woodgreen Council Offices, Witney, OX21 1NB. Andrew Thompson is the officer in charge of the study.

Dr Lidia Arciszewska, District Councillor for Freeland and Hanborough Ward, Cabinet Member for Environment lidia.arciszewska@westoxon.gov.uk

Happy Easter

Easter faces stiff competition in the spring calendar. Valentines' Day, Shrove Tuesday, Mothers' Day... what's not to like about romance, pancakes and mum! But Easter? Once we've put aside the chocolate eggs and cuddly bunnies (fun, but not essential!), what is Easter all about?

'Good' Friday—a strange name for death by crucifixion!—is followed by Easter Sunday. This pair of events really is at the heart of the Christian message. Jesus, God's son, showed how deeply He loved us by voluntarily giving His life for us—

dealing with our mess for us, because we weren't capable of dealing with it ourselves. BUT, the sadness of Good Friday gives way to huge heavenly cheers and celebrations as Jesus comes back to life on Easter Sunday. Alive in the first century, still alive in the 21st century. And we are all invited to His Easter party—an invitation to a new life. Hot cross buns and a message of Easter hope—coming to a church near you!

Check out C. S. Lewis, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' for a great retelling of the Easter story.



Do You Love Trees?

As part of the growing work of the local Nature Recovery Network (NRN) there is a new team dedicated to trees; trees in our streets, gardens and landscape. The aim is to understand what trees we have (species, age, health, significance), to look after and protect them and also to make a good plan for the future.

The NRN would welcome your involvement, whatever your age or arboreal expertise, as there are lots of trees to survey (measure and photograph) and other tree related fun to be had.

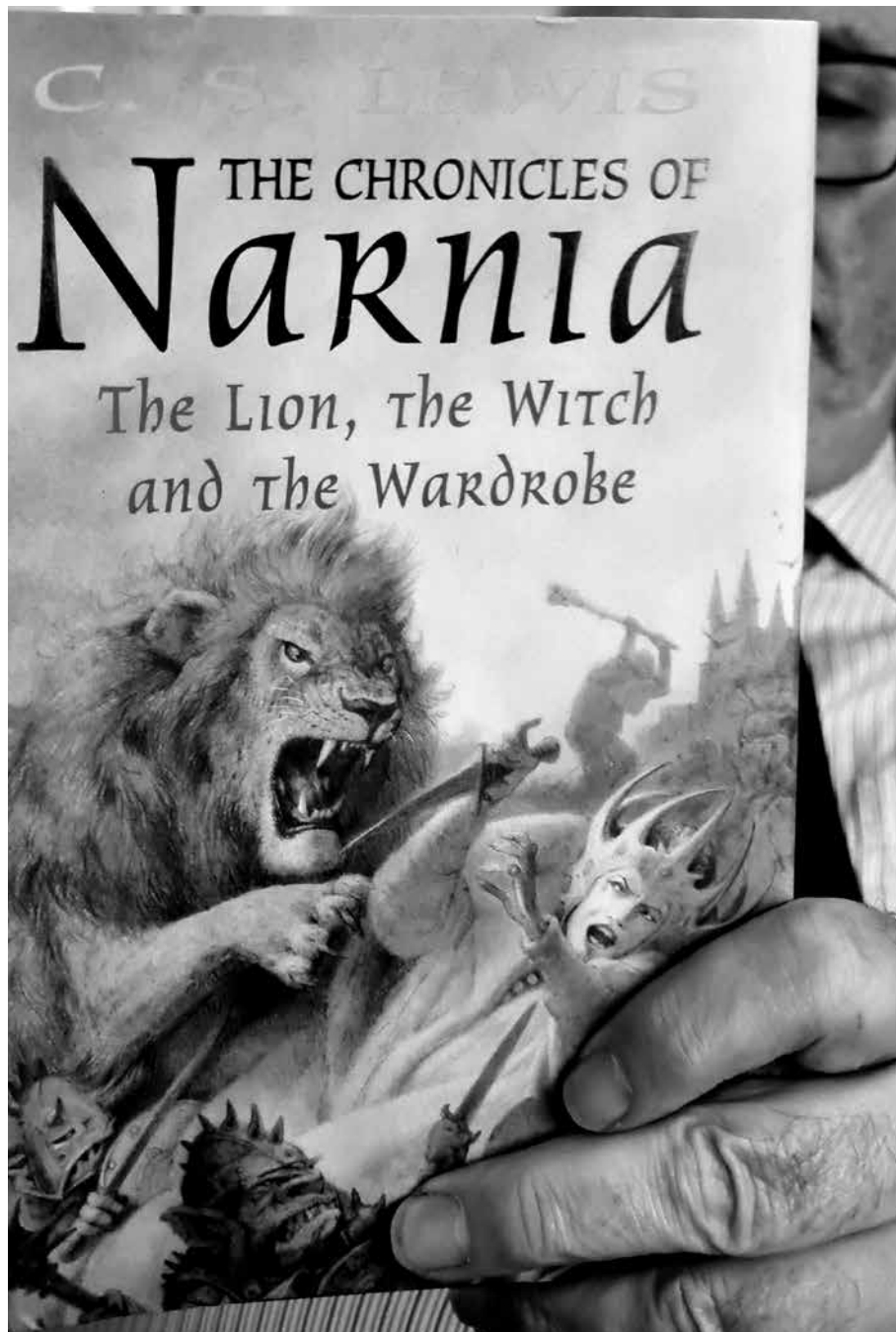
"I love this tree because..."

Win a bottle of champagne or fabulous box of chocolates by telling the NRN about your favourite Eynsham Tree. Responses by 30 April.

To enter the competition or join the tree group contact Alice: 01865 882218 email: alice@alicewalkerart.co.uk or go to: www.nature-recovery-network.org

Deliver Eynsham News

We need some more volunteers to help on our delivery team. It takes a couple of hours, once every two months. Please email editor@eynshamnews.org.uk and help us connect to our community.



New!

We've been inspired to hear how children in Eynsham are developing their skills and interests through the many diverse groups, classes and clubs on offer. We're hoping to feature a couple of groups in each issue of the Eynsham News to hear what they've been up to.

Jessie's Art Shed

Jessie writes...

During the school term we run weekly after school art lessons. We have different classes for different age groups, from 4 to 16. We focus on larger projects rather than doing something different weekly, with our main aim being to build the children's confidence within art whilst developing artistic skills through using different media and techniques. We now have close to 100 children weekly in both our Eynsham and Yarnton slots and we could not love doing it more!



Jessie's Art Shed



Jessie's Art Shed

One parent commented: My child has attended courses and lessons for a couple of years and always returns home happy, relaxed and full of praise for the staff and delighted with the creations she has made. Well done JAS!



Eynsham FC

**Eynsham Youth
Football Club**

Every Sunday morning at 10am Eynsham Youth Football Club is awash with families bringing their young players across the playing fields to football training. Players at under 5, 6 and 7s are coached by a dedicated group of fun coaches led by James, an FA qualified coach. The group has three principles: every player will have their own ball for as much of the session as possible, skills will be taught through games, and the games will have goals and be team based. The players have favourite games such as cat and mouse, sharks and islands and king/queen of the castle - everyone wants the chance to be the dirty rascal!

Each month the under 6 and under 7 age groups have the chance to play full length games in full sized goals, which is real high point for the players along with the loyal family supporters cheering from the side lines. Henry, a regular at training, reports how much he loves training because of the chance he gets to, "score goals and perform goal celebrations." Angela, a parent, reports, "James' coaching team are just wonderful! They encourage all the players so much, building their confidence and skills from whatever level they have started. They are always so positive and such good role models for the children. I am not surprised that there is always such a good turn out on the field, even during the winter sessions. We are so very lucky to have this club right in

the heart of our community.” To get your young footballer involved contact James on eynsham72@gmail.com to arrange a taster session.



A connection with nature

Climate Change Child's Play

Helena Nielsen shares her thoughts about talking to children about climate change and plastic pollution...

As parents we all want to protect our children from negative facts and anxiety, but as they venture out into the wider world this is more difficult for us to control. In the case of climate change, it is unavoidable.

How confident do you feel as a parent having difficult conversations with your child? You'll have already had the experience of reassuring them during the pandemic, getting the balance right between giving sufficient information to keep them safe while avoiding increasing their fears. Talking to small children about climate change necessitates a similar balancing act. Information about the nature of the changing climate needs to be age appropriate, and as parents we need to be prepared to respond to any worries a child may express about the images or information they see.

Climate change is too abstract a concept for younger children, so developing a love of, and connection with nature is a good way to start. When you go for a walk as a family, point out wild flowers or the buds on trees; if you have a garden, let them help you plant seeds, bulbs or vegetables. Let them choose what to

plant and possibly even allocate them their own small patch. If you don't have a garden, a window sill will do!

Younger children usually relate well to animals so encouraging an interest in wildlife is another easy way to help a child understand the importance of caring for the environment. For example, explaining the danger of plastic to animals helps young children understand the importance of not dropping litter.

Most children love listening to stories and there are several that introduce the topic in a gentle, positive manner. Here are three suggestions suitable for under-fives: *The Tale of the Whale* by Karen Swann & Padmacandra, *The Robber Raccoon* by Lou Kuenzler, and *Leaf* by Sandra Dieckmann.

Once your child starts school, climate change becomes part of the Key Stage 1 curriculum, so that might be the time to brush up on your own understanding of the difference between weather and climate, or the greenhouse effect and man-made causes. There are lots of simple explanations online and as your child gets older you could take the opportunity to learn together about the science and possible solutions.

The important point is to help your child see how their own actions, in however small a way, have an impact on the environment and the future of the planet. This needs to be done in a concrete way that makes sense to a child - turning off lights and putting on a sweater rather than the heating saves money, which can then be used to buy a video game or other treat. Walking and cycling is healthier and less polluting than using the car. NASA has a website with information, activities and games appropriate for primary school children: climatekids.nasa.gov

Climate change isn't just about facts, it also provokes a range of feelings including anxiety, powerlessness and denial. The more aware you are of your own personal feelings about it, the easier it will be to really listen to what your child has to say and address any worries they may have. A good starting point is to find out what your child already knows about climate change,

plastic or the relevant issue—it may be more than you think. Giving your child your full attention, encourage them to express any feelings they may have, and avoid offering an opinion or giving information unless they ask you to. Don't dismiss or minimise the feelings they express, and make it clear that they can always talk to you.

If your child asks questions, it's important to be honest and factual, but be positive by focusing on solutions such as growing bee-friendly plants or generating energy with off-shore wind turbines. Help your child identify ways that they can take action such as always turning off lights or putting waste in the right bin. Taking action as a family, whether in the home or the local community, can act as a motivator and help emphasise the message that they are not alone and that this is an issue that involves the whole community. Remember the sooner you start talking about these issues, the more normal it will seem when the reality of the climate emergency cannot be avoided.

Children at Easter

While we're all familiar with egg hunts, hot cross buns and Easter bonnets, for many families in Eynsham there's more to the holiday than a lamb roast and the Easter bunny! Stephen, 9 years old: "I find Easter really important. It reminds us that God has made our hearts clean and will forgive anyone who says sorry to him."

Yin, 11 years old: "For me Easter means hope and joy. To celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, we will go to church to worship God. In Hong Kong where we are from, there will be Easter egg hunts held at the beach which is really fun."

Annika, 8 years old: "In Germany we dye real eggs during Holy Week and then we have to find them on Easter Sunday. But we also hunt for chocolate eggs, of course. I like that Easter is a happy holiday, because we celebrate that Jesus is alive."

If you'd like to explore the meaning of Easter with your child, St. Leonard's Church will be hosting Easter crafts, activities, an egg hunt and café on Saturday 8 April, 10-12pm.



Eynsham's finest!

Many local organisations and businesses made it another successful Annual Parish Meeting

What a night it was! In early March, Eynsham Parish Council hosted the Annual Parish Meeting and were delighted to be joined by so many local people and organisations, as well as local businesses and institutions, for an interesting and sociable evening.

It was the second year of our new format and a more informal-style meeting. We started with a brief update from the Chair, Ross, and our Committee Chairs, before attendees could grab a free drink and circulate amid the displays and representatives from local groups and businesses.

Many Councillors were in attendance and managed to speak with many of you, answering questions and listening to concerns. It's invaluable for us to better understand what issues, projects and plans matter most to our community,

so thank you to everyone who took the time to join us.

Looking ahead

It wasn't just the conversations that help our work. As part of our own display, we shared a list of projects planned for FY23/24. We asked attendees to identify which they say as priorities and add anything they felt was missing.

The list includes creating a Youth Council to better engage with our younger demographic, running a 'Join Eynsham' event to bring together our local organisations, and refurbishing the Market Square cross. As we have a limited budget, it helps us to know what you feel should be our priorities.

If you were unable to attend the meeting but would like to have your say, please visit the website at www.Eynsham-pc.gov.uk for the full project list and instructions on how to get in touch.

Join our ranks

The local area faces a lot of new developments in addition to the other projects the council is planning, so our Councillors will have a busy year ahead of them. We still have vacancies for new Councillors and would greatly welcome some additional passionate people who can join our efforts to secure the best for Eynsham. Find out more about the role on our website and give us a call!



A Note from the Chair



A hot topic this month has been waste water treatment. Thames Water's capacity (or lack of) first surfaced in their responses to developer planning applications; the company indicated limited ability to deal with the new homes. More recently, we have received letters from distressed buyers who can't move in due to a lack of supply.

In discussions with WASP (Windrush Against Sewage Pollution) and the District Council's planning officers, we discovered that Eynsham's sewage is treated at the Cassington treatment works, which is running at close to full capacity. To support further development, this needs to be expanded—a very expensive project. Without this, there could be an impact on existing homes as well as new ones. It was indicated that new pipework connecting to our pumping station may be installed during the A40 bus lane.

Another ongoing issue is that Cassington treatment works regularly discharges untreated or poorly treated waste directly into the Thames (upstream of Wolvercote bathing area). This will likely increase as more homes are built.

We've asked to speak to Thames Water about their intentions and will update residents when we can. The Parish Council believes that planning approval for new homes should be conditional on clear expansion plans from Thames Water; no home should be sold/occupied until the new capacity is in place. Watch this space.

Dates for your Diary

18 April 7.30pm Full Council Meeting, 19 April 2pm District Council Cabinet Meeting*

9 May 7.30pm Annual Parish Council Meeting *West Oxfordshire District Council has been taking their Cabinet Meeting around district and will be in Eynsham in April.

From the Clerk's Desk



We're pleased to announce that the Eynsham Museum & Resource Centre now has a long-term home at the Bartholomew Room, previously the base for the Parish Council.

The Parish Council purchased the building in 1983 "for the people of Eynsham" (as it reads on the plaque outside the building). We relocated to the Village Hall when refurbishment work started on the Bartholomew Room and decided to remain there, as it provided easier access for those with mobility issues.

The Council felt it was important that the Bartholomew Room remained useful to and open for the enjoyment of the community. In February 2021, Expressions of Interest were invited for future use of the historic building once refurbished. Two years on, the historic space is now being used by the Eynsham Museum & Resource Centre.

Being able to contribute to the sustainability and wellbeing of the community is just one positive aspect of being a Parish Councillor. In the next financial year, the Council plans to support more community events, create a new Burial Ground and develop a 'Green Wheel' circular footpath for Eynsham.

If you'd like to be part of these activities, why not join us? An election for all 15 Council seats is approaching on 4 May. Find more details on our website or contact me on epc.clerk@eynsham-pc.gov.uk

Becoming a Councillor: Milly Chen



How did you hear about vacancies?
Cllr Carl (Rylett) is my neighbour and he persuaded me to join. He also helped me to settle in.

What did you expect?
Carl briefed me about the frequency and duration of the meetings, so I knew what to expect. He also suggested that I attend a meeting as a public participant to get a feel for it.

How easy was it to join?
It was very easy. After expressing my interest to join, the Clerk got in touch with information. In the next Council meeting, Councillors voted in favour and I joined!

What initially surprised you?
The meetings were very structured. We went through item by item on the agenda and tried to keep to the time. I was impressed by how much was covered.

What makes a good Councillor?
As we represent the community, we need to be open-minded and hear different perspectives. Being able to work collaboratively is also important.

What are the rewards?
There are no monetary rewards; all Councillors are volunteers. I joined because I wanted to make a positive impact on our community.

What's the most enjoyable activity?
Creating the new food forest garden for local school children has been really enjoyable.

We're recruiting! Find out more about becoming a Councillor on the website.

From around the village

Eynsham/Ensham

Whether it's how you say it or how you spell it, our village name is the talking point that keeps on giving as Nigel Pearce writes...

To continue the discussion of the village name, I can quote the Victorian poet Matthew Arnold. He was born in 1822, the eldest son of Dr Thomas Arnold, Headmaster of Rugby school, where the novel Tom Brown's Schooldays is set.

Matthew Arnold went to Oxford University, where he developed a strong attachment to the countryside around the city. His most famous poem is probably 'The Scholar Gypsy', which draws on that attachment, as does another poem, 'Thyrsis'. Arnold published this in 1866. It is an elegy in memory of his friend Arthur Hugh Clough, who died in Florence in 1861. The poem has the following lines:

*I know what white, what
purple fritillaries
The grassy harvest of the river-fields,
Above by Ensham, down by
Sandford, yields,
And what sedg'd brooks are
Thames's tributaries.*



Purple fritillaries

So there you have it: "Ensham" now, and Ensham then.

Library News

Jane Bruder writes...

Thank you to all who continue to support the library with your visits and attendance at events.

We have two events planned for the Easter holidays: Wednesday 5 April—Spring craft and story time afternoon 2-4pm and Saturday 15 April, 11am—Storytime with our local Police Community Support Officer. Helen

will read a new PC Bob story.

Age UK continue to provide IT support sessions in the library on Wednesday afternoons. Anyone who would like to book for this should call into the library or ring us on 880525 and we will pass your details to the Age UK team.

We are sorry that the return of the Open Plus service that provides customers with out of hours access is further delayed but we will give as much notice as possible of the relaunch date as soon as it has been finalised.

We continue to offer window display space to local groups and organisations. If you'd like to reserve a window, please call in to discuss available dates.

Eynsham's Primary Book Appeal

Katherine Crowe from Eynsham Primary PTA writes...

Thanks to the support of our wonderful parents and carers via the PTA, Eynsham Community Primary School now has a beautiful new library. We are carefully selecting new books and filling up the shelves using funds from our recent Book Fair and the PTA, but there are still lots of books we need to buy to ensure our children have a good range of reading materials to support their education.

We are appealing to the wider Eynsham community who may like to support local children by buying a book for Easter. We have created an Amazon wish list to make this really easy—all you have to do is scan the QR code or visit this link: amzn.eu/2dJp1lF, and you can choose a book (or books!) to have delivered directly to the school.

In these difficult times for parents, the availability of books in school is vital—literacy is so important for our children and a love of reading will stay with them forever, so if you'd like us to support us by buying a book for our library this Easter, we would be very grateful.



Have your say

To make it easier for people to take part in local democracy, the monthly meetings of West Oxfordshire District Council's Cabinet are being held in indifferent places across our area.

In April, they are coming to Eynsham and will be meeting on Wednesday 19 April, from 2-4pm, in St Leonard's Church Hall. If you would like to be there, no pre-booking is necessary, but if you would like to put a question to the cabinet members, you do need to have sent it in by 2pm on Friday 14 April; simply email your question to democratic.services@westoxon.gov.uk



Welsh climb

On 12 March, crew from Eynsham Fire Station took on a five-hour trek up Pen Y Fan in Wales.

Pen Y Fan is the highest peak in South Wales, and the crew completed it in full fireman's gear.

Their efforts were to raise money for The Fire Fighters Charity and Breast Cancer Now.

To donate, go to: www.peoplesfundraising.com/fundraising/firefighters-trek-penyfan

Salt Cross

Sarah Couch from GreenTEA shares her thoughts...

A sorry tale of not-so-zero carbon continues...BUT a chance to join us in leading the way with our local plan for zero emissions on 26 April. Come along and hear about our new Community Action Plan to reach Zero Carbon: the opportunities, how to get involved and the support available, at an open meeting on Wednesday 26 April in the Village Hall. Refreshments at 7pm, talk at 7.30pm.

Climate change, with the linked biodiversity crisis, is the most serious challenge we face. We hear a lot about reducing carbon emissions to 'net zero' by 2050 but we need to take radical action this decade if we are to keep a habitable planet. It can seem overwhelming.

You might have been one of the many who wrote so powerfully asking for the Planning Inspectorate to approve the energy-based net zero policy for Salt Cross—ensuring that the new 'exemplar' settlement had homes with the lowest energy use, were cheap to run and produced enough renewable energy for their needs over the year. Despite WODC's hard work, evidence and support, the Planning Inspectorate still finds the original zero carbon policy with its energy standards unsound.

We were more than disappointed, not least because other Planning Inspections recently approved similar net zero policies and a series of government reports have made it clear that we need to act faster. At the same time, years of work by our community on our path to a clean, green future is coming to its completion. As we stop using fossil fuels, we will need 2-3 times more electricity than we use at present, but we can limit that if we are smart and flexible: saving energy, changing the way we travel and heat our buildings and producing renewable energy in a way that is fair to people and to the planet we rely on. Put simply, if the garden village and other developments are not built to the highest energy standards, we will need to generate more clean energy elsewhere, such as more ground mount solar. Something really does

not add up here!

Luckily our team has been working undeterred on how we can lead the way to a clean, green future with zero carbon emissions. Our Community Action Plan was developed by the Low Carbon Hub and GreenTEA, with help from West Oxfordshire District Council and some of our Parish Councillors; it covers several local parishes. It is part of Project LEO (Local Energy Oxfordshire), a national innovation project. It is the first of its kind and will help other areas develop their own plans.



So come and learn more on 26 April. More information: Sarah Couch GreenTEA energy group: bit.ly/3JMjH6T, Cathy Ryan Low Carbon Hub: catherine.ryan@lowcarbonhub.org, 01865 246099. Video explainer: bit.ly/3ZZG7ff

Worried About Costs?

Are you worrying about how to manage the cost of living? Or do you know a neighbour or relative who lives in the Parishes of Eynsham or Freeland (Ancient Parish of Eynsham) who is struggling to make ends meet? Eynsham Consolidated Charity provides small-medium sized grants to local residents who are in need of financial help.

Under 25? Need help with Educational Costs? The Bartholomew Educational Foundation makes money grants to people living in the village of Eynsham who are under 25—for books, equipment, travel, etc.

Please apply to both funds in total confidence via the Clerk, Catherine Barton, by emailing eynshamcharities@gmail.com or by writing to the Trustees via the Clerk, 60 Dovehouse Close, Eynsham, OX29 4EX



A Museum for Eynsham

by Steve Parrinder

On 1 March the Parish Council granted Eynsham Museum and Heritage Centre a long lease on the Market Hall (alias the Bartholomew Room) in the centre of the village. On the first floor it is intended to create a permanent exhibition of Eynsham's long and distinguished history, whilst the ground floor will stage temporary exhibitions and will also be available to let out to other village groups. There is much to be done before we can open fully, particularly securing funding, acquiring display cabinets and setting up display boards. We would hope to be up and running by the autumn.

If you would like to support us you can do so by becoming a volunteer to help supervise our exhibitions on one or more of the days when we are open, either weekly or monthly for a couple of hours, and/or making a one off or regular donation enabling us to plan for a secure future. If you have any museum related skills, we would also be delighted to hear from you.

Contact us for more information: Email: eynsham.museum.hc@gmail.com. Post: As a listed building, the Bartholomew Room does not have a letterbox.

Our postal address therefore is EMHC, 7 Abbey Farm Barns, Station Road, Eynsham, OX29 4F. Tel: 01865 880976. Bookings of the ground floor room: Email lettings@eynshammuseum.org.uk

From around the village

Eynsham Country Market

Spring is in the air at Eynsham Country Market and we are looking forward to warmer Thursday mornings. We have had a busy time in March when we celebrated Mother's Day with a themed Thursday Market and a Saturday Market at Long Hanborough, both of which were very popular. This year we have also offered a series of delicious meal deals to order in advance and we continue to provide vegan and gluten free options with our cakes and bakes.

With Easter approaching we are planning to have special produce on Thursday 6 April in the Square from 9am until 10.30am—look for simnel cakes, Easter biscuits and hot cross buns. Our next Saturday market is on 29 April when we will bring out the bunting to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III with a coronation themed market from 9.30am until 12pm.



Country Market



Country Market

Our plant growers have also been very busy and we will have a special market to showcase their hard work on Saturday 27 May with our ever-popular plant sale. We will also have plenty of freshly baked cakes, biscuits and savouries and home-made crafts to buy as well.

Why not visit our webpage, eynshamcountrymarket.co.uk, or follow us on Facebook or Instagram

for more information on our upcoming events? You can also contact us via email at eynshamcountrymarket76@gmail.com



Waste bin in Conduit Lane—now open!

To Put It Politely

Eynsham News has been asked if we can help tackle the problem of dog fouling—i.e. dog poo—on our pavements and verges...but how can you do that in a village publication?

Here is what West Oxfordshire Council says about the problem: Dog fouling is when a person permits a dog in their charge to foul in a public place and fails to clean it away immediately after. Failure to clear up dog fouling on public land is classed as a criminal offence and anyone found failing in their duty can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice.

In practice, dog owners, please carry poo bags, use them and drop the bag in one of the many bins around the village—that's being a good neighbour.

See bit.ly/3Tqh6ay for more info.

Combe Mill

Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, Oxon OX29 8ET

'In Steam' events: Sun 16 April April's Theme will be 'Military Vehicles' supporting Combe Mill by the North Oxfordshire & Cotswold Military Vehicle Trust. If you have an interest in the Military this is the event for you.

Sun 21 May: Barn Engine & Horticultural—another exciting day not to be missed.

Combe Mill will be open 'In Steam'

with all machinery working, Tea Room open for refreshments. Browse our Mini Markets too. Dogs welcome.

Adults £9.00, Concessions £7.50 Children under 16 are now FREE with paying adult.

Combe Mill is also open every Wednesday from 22 March to the end of October with self-guided tours and Tea Room.

Adults £5.00, Concessions £4.00, Children under 16 free with paying adult. For more information on 'In Steam' events and open days, visit the website—combemill.org.



The Avenue and Café



Group gardening



The Produce Stall

Bridewell Events for 2023

Bridewell Gardens, The Walled Garden, Wilcote, OX7 3DT

Saturday 29 April—Plant Sale 10am to 1pm: plants for sale in Bridewell's vineyard (the walled garden will not be open during the plant sale)

Open Days 11am-4pm: Sunday 21 May, 18 June, 16 July, 10 September

Visit Bridewell's walled garden and organic vineyard. Learn about Bridewell's work, gardening and working with nature to support people who have experienced serious mental health issues.

Entrance: suggested donation £5.

FREELAND ORCHESTRA

Conductor - Wendy Marks

Clock Symphony (No. 101) - Haydn
Soirées Musicales - Britten

Saturday 20th May

7.30 pm

St Leonard's church, Eynsham

with WOW

(WEST OXFORDSHIRE WINDS)

Playing a variety of music including:
Elton John,
Ashokan Farewell,
Best Years of Your Life (from Shrek)

Tickets £5 on the door
Under 18s FREE

www.FreelandOrchestra.org
www.WestOxfordshireWinds.org



Is hand washing the answer?



Good Friday in the square—

10.00 a.m.

with hot cross buns afterwards

at St Leonard's

Please join us—whether you normally mark Good Friday or you just fancy hot cross buns—everyone is welcome!



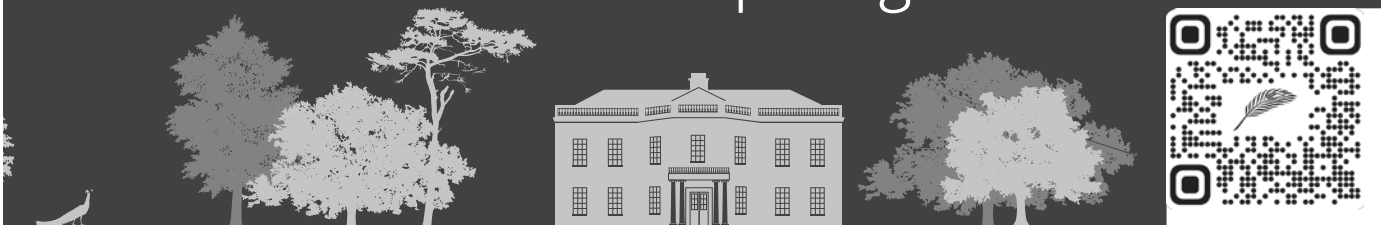
This event is run by the churches of Eynsham

Exceptional Breadth | Individual Focus



Open Morning - Saturday 20 May

cokethorpe.org



Events Preview

“Bunch of Amateurs”

The Bartholomew Player’s next performance will be of *A Bunch of Amateurs* by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman. Keen to boost his flagging career, fading Hollywood action hero Jefferson Steele arrives in England to play King Lear in Stratford—only to find that this is not the birthplace of the Bard, but a sleepy Suffolk village. This play is a heart-warming, hilariously dramatic twist of events.

Venue: Eynsham Village Hall, Back Lane, Eynsham, OX29 4QW Dates: Wed 17h, Thurs 18, Fri 19 and Sat 20 May 2023. Doors open: 7pm. Performance: 7.30pm. Tickets: £10.00 available: online from trybooking.co.uk/CCIR, in advance from Evenlode DIY in Eynsham, from bart.players@gmail.com, or on the door.

Eynsham Artweek

Artweek is back with a bang from 21-29 May. Many local artists are opening

their studios—**Jane Tomlinson, Paul Tomlinson in Freeland, Godfrey Phillips, Amanda Bonfiglioli, David Brown and Kevin Hintin, in Cassington, Alice Walker, Anne Gingell, Alison Berrett, Alison Holmans, Eric White, and Peter Shrimpton in Eynsham.** For times and places, search ‘Artweeks’ at Eynsham Online.

The Eynsham Arts Group will have a show in the Bartholomew Room on 21-22 and 26-29 May from 10am-4pm.

Walk for Muscular Dystrophy

Luke Davies’ father is organising a charity walk to raise awareness of muscular dystrophy. Luke says, “The walk is for MDUK and takes place on Saturday, 15 April at 10am. I am responsible for organising ‘leg 8’ of the walk—Swinford Bridge to Oxford and I am really keen to get as many people wearing the MDUK orange and walking (or kayaking/rowing!) the leg.

All the information for taking part can be found here: bit.ly/42kcRkV

Did you know...?

On Thursday 4 May, 7am-10pm, at the Village Hall, you can use your vote to elect one District Councillor for the Eynsham and Cassington Ward, but also for all 15 seats on Eynsham Parish Council.

This is the first election where voters will be required to show an accepted form of photographic ID to vote.

Also, Eynsham Square will be available for political canvassing on all Saturdays from the day when the list of nominated election candidates is published. No other bookings for The Square will be taken on those days.

We always welcome contributions to the Eynsham News, whether it’s just an idea, an article or a whole series and we’re always looking for more people to join our small team. We’d love to hear from you if you fancy doing some reporting or editing, or if writing isn’t your thing maybe you’re good with organising people and systems, you can give as much or as little time as you’d like.

Email: editor@eynshamnews.org.uk

Bartholomew Players present

A BUNCH OF AMATEURS

by Ian Hislop & Nick Newman

Wed 17th – Sat 20th May
7.30pm

Tickets available on the door or in advance from:
www.trybooking.co.uk/CCIR
Denise: 07721 744020
bart.players@gmail.com
Evenlode DIY

EYNESHAM VILLAGE HALL OX29 4QW
£10

Laugh-along feelgood theatre!

He's handled Hollywood....
But can he master the Bard?

AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS LTD

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Events Diary

See more at Eynsham Online

Busy Bees baby & toddler group

Every Friday in term, 9.30-11am

Baptist Church Hall

£2.50 per family, including drinks and snacks

Eynsham Acoustic Club

Monday 2 April, 8pm—Swan Hotel

Monday Night Live

Monday 3 April—Red Lion

Easter themed Outdoor Market

Thursday 6 April, 9-10.30am

Market Square

Eynsham History Group

Thursday 6 Apr, 7.30pm

St Leonard's Church Hall

John Richards will give an illustrated talk on the History of Music Hall

Closure of Botley Rd, Oxford

Tuesday 11 April

Eynsham Women's Institute

Tuesday 11 April, 7.30-9.30pm

Village Hall

Annual meeting and elections with Jackie Pile who will be talking about the 'History of ladies underwear'!

Eynsham Garden Club

Wednesday April 12, 7.30-9pm

Eynsham Village Hall

Butterflies in the garden by Val Bourne. All welcome—members free, non-members £3. Tea and coffee served at the end.

Eynsham Croquet Club Open Day

Saturday 15 April, 1pm

Eynsham Croquet Club, Cassington Rd

Please wear flat soles shoes to protect the courts

Village Litter Picking

16 April; 21 May; 18 June

Meet at the Baptist Church at 1.45pm

The Eynsham Society

Wednesday 19 April, 8pm

Village Hall

'Botley West Solar Farm'—a talk by Professor David Rogers

Meet the West Oxfordshire District Cabinet

Wednesday 19 April, 2pm

St Leonard's Church Hall

Eynsham residents welcome to attend without pre-booking. If you wish to ask a question at the meeting, notify democratic.services@westoxon.gov.uk by 2pm on Friday 14 April

Early Years Open Morning

Friday 21 April, 9-11am

Eynsham Community Primary School

Wholesome plan diet drop in session

Saturday 22 April, 3-5pm

Cherry Tree Café

Dix Pit closed for maintenance

Monday 24 April-Tuesday 25 April

Special Coronation Market

Saturday 29 April, 9.30am - 12.00 noon

Eynsham Market Square

The Coronation of King Charles III

Saturday 6 May

Copy Deadline for Eynsham News

Sunday 7 May

Garden Club Annual Plant Sale

Saturday 13 May, 9am-12 noon

Market Square

Freeland Orchestra and West Oxfordshire Winds

Saturday 20 May, 7.30pm

St Leonard's Church

£5 on the door

Eynsham Shirt Race and Carnival

Saturday 1 July

Eynsham Library

Opening Hours

Monday: 9.30am-1pm, 2-5pm

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 1-5pm

Thursday: 1-5pm

Friday: 1-7pm

Saturday: 9.30am-1pm

Sunday: Closed

Eynsham Churches

Eynsham Baptist Church

Lombard Street, Eynsham OX29 4HT

Main Sunday event at 10.30am

Website: eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk

Church Telephone Number:

Tel. 01865 882203

Church e-mail:

eynsham.baptists@gmail.com

To book the church Hall Tel:

07554012535

Email: rccarley@outlook.com

St Leonards CofE

On the Market Square

Main Sunday event at 10.30am

Website: stleonardseynsham.org.uk

Church Administrator: Louise Parker

Phone: 01865 883325, Email:

stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

The Church Hall can be booked

for events

St Peter's Roman Catholic Church

Abbey Street, Eynsham OX29 4HR

Sunday Mass at 10am

Website: stpeterseynsham.org.uk

Church Office: 01865 881613.

The 'Tolkien Room' is available for hire

01865 423655

Details of all events were correct at the time of going to press but may change. Please check with the organisers' social media before going. Send your events news for our April edition (about 70 words long) to editor@eynshamnews.org.uk before **Sunday 7 May**

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.

Local stories, snaps and snippets are always welcome—and corrections! Items submitted may or may not be included and edited.

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

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info@theburnsidepartnership.com
01865 987781

Eynsham Cellars

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01865 884405 / eynshamcellars.com

Evenlode DIY Eynsham's Tardis

29 High St., Eynsham OX29 4HE
01865 881392. Glass, timber, keys cut, tool sharpening, paint mixed, hardware, ironmongery, decorating materials, garden and pet supplies.

Greens Funeral Services

Established in 1866, Independent Funeral Directors. 01865 880837
mail@greensfunerals.co.uk

Grimebusters

Eynsham's local carpet, rug and upholstery cleaners. Specialists in low moisture carpet cleaning. Unbeatable results, most carpets dry within the hour. 01865 726983 / 01993 868924 / 07778 298312 grimebusters.co.uk

Beech Court Nursing Home

"A home from home" for your elderly relations. 37 Newland Street, Eynsham, OX29 4LB. 01865 883611

Pellmans LLP

Your local solicitors.
1 Abbey Street, Eynsham OX29 4TB
01865 884400 / pellmans.co.uk
Business, Employment, Property, Wills, Probate, Trusts, Tax, Powers of Attorney.

Rotary Club of Eynsham

is a friendly group who are determined to contribute to both local and international wellbeing. If you'd like to do more for your community, please come and join us.
Contact: tessajhammond@gmail.com

Top Power Wash Services

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Residential Property Rental & Block Management Services covering West Oxfordshire. Private landlords wanted. For a free, no obligation discussion on renting out your property, contact Robin anytime...VAT Free Fees
01993 700009 / www.letting.it

If you would like to advertise your business here, email Sarah at ads@eynshamnews.org.uk

Eynsham on Screen

by Joan Stonham
Eynsham Online is breaking out into a new project; a video series, 'Eynsham Shorts', unveiled in the last Eynsham News, is shaping up already. We're delighted to announce that an original 'short' is in the making—with masses of room for more!

'Eynsham Shorts' will be taking a sideways look at local activities and 'institutions'; and including young people in the production wherever we can. The Eynsham Online management team is looking at their longer-term potential to...

- **Explore** a range of current issues in a relatable way—and consequently...
- **Involve** newcomers, young people and older/isolated people more closely in the community
- **Help** to keep the local economy vibrant.

Questions, suggestions? Want to get involved? Have a word with Joan Stonham, email online@eynsham.org.uk, or use the Contact form at Eynsham Online.

The Last Word

Maureen Clapcott, who is 86, posted this letter to us, via Eynsham Library

With reference to your article regarding Eynsham's name. As you say, it had many forms over the centuries and I believe there is a tea towel for sale with many of them on. Whilst at Eynsham Board School in the 40s we did a 'History of Eynsham' with each pupil reciting a bit. One pronunciation that stuck in my mind was E-GON-ISHAM.

Re Richard Hall's issue with the terms 'posh' and 'incomers', I would say there are very few 'old Eynsham families' left. However, I am an incomer, only arriving in the summer of 1939. My father was a welshman who came for work in the then Pressed Steel works at Cowley. Men of that generation has much broader shoulders and managed to 'bear the slants' of the locals!

The war came a couple of months after we arrived and Eynsham's big change began. It was not possible then for ordinary folk to buy a house, most cottages were owned by a few people, the 'posh' people. By today's standards, very basic they were too; no bathrooms, outside toilets, some of which were buckets which were emptied by a little man with a horse and cart!

I cannot recognise the Eynsham of my youth, with cows running in the streets! There were no parked cars, nor wheelie bins. Would I like to go back to outside toilets and water, open fires and no central heating? Probably not, but oh the peace, and quiet, and freedom.