

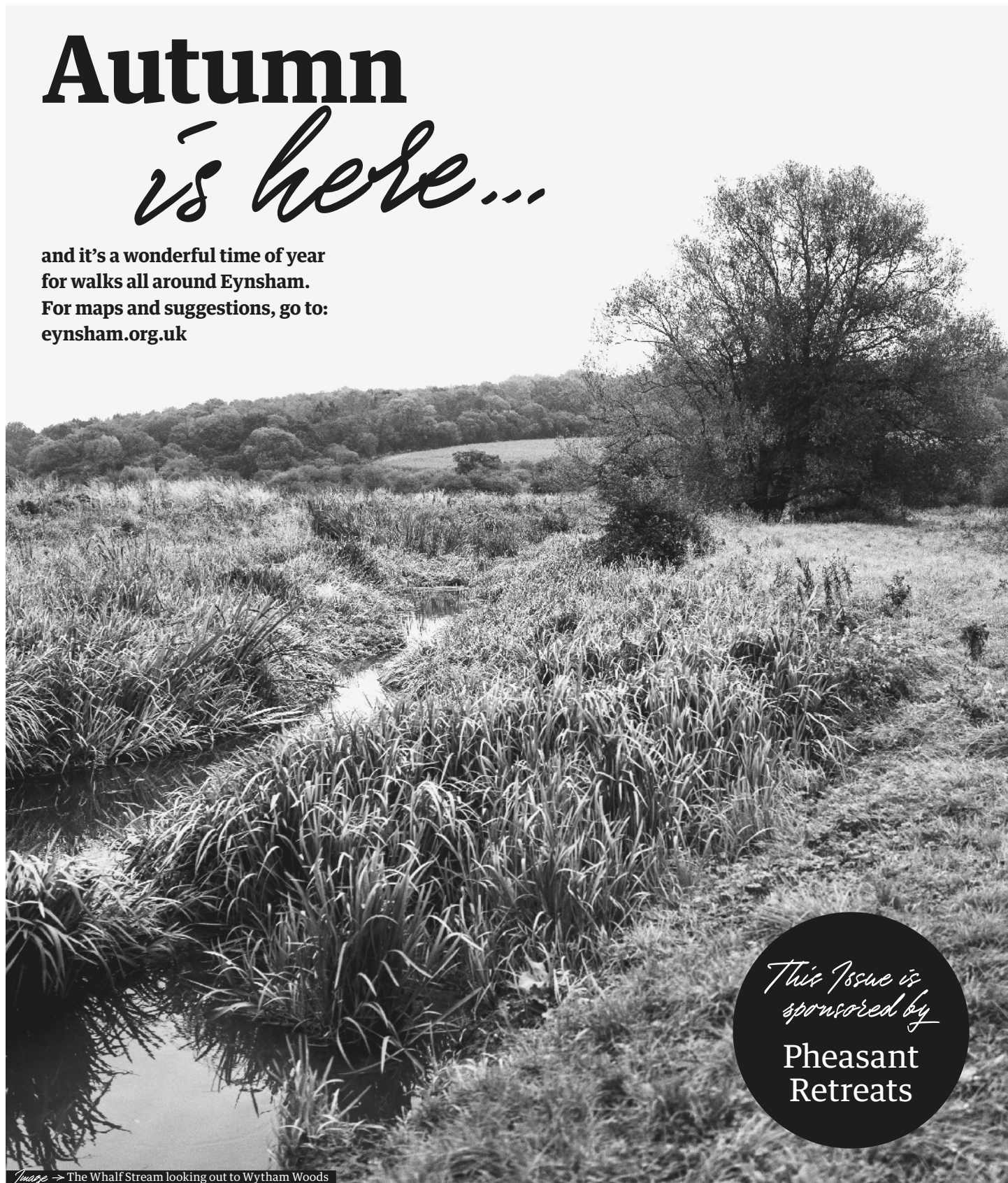


Eynsham

Autumn *is here...*

and it's a wonderful time of year
for walks all around Eynsham.

For maps and suggestions, go to:
eynsham.org.uk



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**Pheasant
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Village Buzz

Not exciting news?

While we were compiling Eynsham News, we understood that the excavations in Back Lane were set to continue until 7 December (2023, that is!).

On 12 September, as we were editing, the news came from the Parish Council that Thames Water has confirmed that there has been a further collapse on the sewer pipe (close to the Back Lane car park), which the contractor will start to repair soon. To allow for continuous use of our wastewater facilities, the over-pumping arrangement and road closure will need to remain in place, so residents will notice little immediate change in the road. Access to Back Lane car park is now via Spareacre Lane.

While the plan remains a replacement of the full sewer pipe, the method chosen will now have to change. This work is now underway and nearby residents should have received a letter from Thames Water, who have a 24-hour Customer Contact Centre on 0800 3169800. Residents can quote reference BB401725 if they encounter any difficulties.

Kindness

Kidlington resident Barbara Cook was in Eynsham when she had a nasty fall.

She says, "I would like to thank a man named John who came to my rescue. He was so kind and took me to Eynsham surgery.

John I am so grateful to you for all your help and care, you are a star."

Keeping you informed

Eynsham News exists as a platform to inform and inspire, keeping the community engaged and up to date with the life of our village.

We welcome content from various standpoints on issues that affect daily local and national life from groups lobbying for change, whether that is on a political or social issue.

For example; all the planning issues for the A40, for Salt Cross and for West

Eynsham, the fight to get a proper cycle path to Botley, the big Botley West solar project, climate change, and much more.

Below you will find a piece by our local elected County Councillor, Dan Levy—his aim is to help you be as informed as possible about important local events—and not necessarily to vote for his political party!

We have also been contacted by another local group called Robert Courts Watch (find them at robertcourtswatch.com if you are interested). We are not publishing their publicity but they say their aim is to hold our local MP to account regarding all the important issues on climate change.

In this issue, we're also covering stories from local climate activists to help us shine a light on important things.

From Dan Levy... Latest News

The new West Oxfordshire Local Plan is being drawn up. This is the document that sets planning policy and it is really important. We want development in the right place and protection against inappropriate development. The existing plan is out of date—for instance, it doesn't mention solar farms. The consultation is open until late October and we really want to hear from residents, businesses and organisations.

The best way to get involved is to go to www.westoxon.gov.uk/about-the-council/having-your-say/ consultations.

The A40 plans have been revised in the face of inflation and the unrealistic expectations of the previous administration. Phase 1 will link the new Park and Ride to Wolvercote with new bus lanes in each direction, with an improved bike lane on the south of the A40. Dualing from Barnard Gate will have to wait until finance is available. This was all predictable, and one of the reasons I have always said that the P&R should have been a railway station.

You can always get in touch with one of us. Dan Levy for County Council or WODC issues, Andy Goodwin and Carl Rylett for WODC.

Another 'hot potato'?

If you are taking an interest in the debate over the Botley West Solar Farm, you may like to know that the campaign against the plan has a new co-chairman, Alex Rogers, who can be contacted at stopbotleywest.com (There, we carefully didn't take sides!)

Bumper growth

From an Eynsham resident:

"It's great that we have so many gardens teeming with life in the village. However, sometimes plants get a bit over enthusiastic and owners struggle to keep up with them. This can leave plants and hedges 'pushing the boundaries' and blocking the paths and pavements.

"This can be very difficult for anyone with small children, or with a disability or mobility issue to pass safely. Next time you're out the front of your property, please have a quick look to see if your plants are prospering a little too much and might need a bit of taming!"



More wildflower meadows for nature and people

After years of negotiation, Long Mead Foundation has secured leases on the Neyotts, at Eynsham Lock, and on Changeable Furlongs (the fields beyond it) to recreate the wildflower meadows that existed here from Domesday until they were destroyed by industrial farming practices, development, or neglect in the 1970s.

Long Mead Foundation, supported by Nature Recovery Network (NRN)'s Plant Propagation Group and other NRN enthusiasts, will recreate new floodplain meadows for the benefit of wildlife and for the community as part of its Thames Valley Wildflower Meadow Restoration Project. Read more at www.nature-recovery-network.org/eynsham-new-wildflower-meadows

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From around
the village

Eynsham Village Show



All images by Helen Keen



It was another bumper celebration of village talents at the Eynsham Village Show in September. There were 364 entries from 88 hopeful entrants in classes ranging from beer to beadwork and photography to flower arranging.

There were entries from people of all ages with some new faces and some old rivalries reignited. The ever popular raffle featured prizes from Oxford Garden Centre, and Baptist Minister Zoltan Biro and his wife Marta were there to present the trophies to the most successful participants. Jamie Fisk swept the

board, winning the trophies for best onions, best basket of fruit & vegetables, best vegetable (for his shallots), and most points in the show. Edward Mills won the award for the best child's garden on a plate as well as most points overall in children's categories. A special mention must also go to the winner of the trophy for best craft entry, Mary Evans, who painstakingly created a most beautiful beaded bag.

As well as all the hardworking entrants, there is a dedicated team behind organising and setting up the show. Fay Taylor is supported by Claire, Stella and Julie, as well as a whole band of folks who help to set up the hall and tidy up afterwards. And not forgetting the mystery judges (who remain anonymous to avoid any bribes or brawls) tasked with choosing which child's creation is better than another and tasting every Victoria sponge, sausage roll and bottle of home brew!

Fay has been the chair of the Village Show committee for well over a decade, but this year was her last. She was rightly rewarded with a beautiful bunch of flowers and thanks from all. It's a hard act to follow, but there is now a vacancy for someone new to lead the team, willingly assisted by Fay who is happy to show someone the ropes. If you're into organising and want to get involved with one of the big dates in the village calendar then get in touch via the Village Show pages on Eynsham Online or call 07935 832 702.

Or if you think you've got a great jam recipe or can grow a beautiful marrow, then keep an eye out on Eynsham Online for next year's class list which will be out in the new year, with the show returning in September. Even if you don't enter, you can come along and be impressed by all your talented neighbours, and enjoy a bit of cake and a cup of tea—it's all just for fun (except maybe the men's only baking category...).

Eynsham Foodbank update

By Bob Thiele

Firstly, a big thank you to the many people who have supported the Eynsham Foodbank (FB) by giving food donations, money, and their time.



Without this community support we simply could not operate. Such support has enabled more than 7,500 food parcels to be delivered to over 200 households over the last three and a half years.

Whilst we started as a response to Covid-19, as that has eased, the financial pressures for many have increased. Currently, we support 40 households. We have seen 80% of our service users able to progress to no longer needing our support while others have required assistance more recently.

We have now integrated the FB into the Eynsham Good Neighbours Network which means we can more easily link people who have needs other than for a food parcel.

It is still the case that every £1 received goes solely on food purchases as all volunteers give of their time (and petrol!) without charge and Eynsham Baptist Church –which hosts the FB–has also made no charge for this.

Our running costs average £10 per food box so presently some £400 per week. Support by Standing Order of £700 per month greatly helps towards this and we have also received assistance from WODC (occasional grants), but we continue to need further support to maintain the present level of service.

If you would like to contribute to the FB running cost, details of our bank account are set out below. If you have any questions about the FB or need the service, please contact me on the number below.

Lastly, thanks again to the volunteers who give their time, and to those who have donated to the FB. The Eynsham community has been wonderful in how it has rallied to the needs of those who need some help and it is marvellous to be a part of such a village community.

Foodbank Bank a/c details:

Name: Eynsham Good Neighbours

Network. S/C 40-35-34

A/C No. 14162870

Bob Thiele 07450 328530

Worried About Costs?

Are you, or a neighbour or relative worrying about how to manage the cost of living? Eynsham Consolidated

Charity provides small-medium sized grants to local residents who need 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

Visit soon!

The Market Hall/Bartholomew Room - by Steve Parrinder

In March 2023, Eynsham Parish Council granted a 25-year internal repair lease on the Bartholomew Room to the Eynsham Museum and Heritage Centre, a registered charity since December 2021.

The upstairs space in the Bartholomew room currently has a temporary exhibition on 'Eynsham's Lost Railway,' a major feature of which is a working model of Eynsham station and its environs as it was in 1958. There is also a short video of the last passenger train to run on the line in 1962 which repeats every few minutes, a photographic display, and some artifacts loaned by local residents. The exhibition will last at least to the end of October and is open every Saturday and Sunday 11am to 4pm. The exhibition is free but donations to help meet costs are very welcome.

Ultimately, the upstairs room will house a permanent exhibition telling Eynsham's story from prehistory to the modern era.

The downstairs room, adjoining kitchen and disabled toilet are let out to other groups; the Country Market every Thursday morning and the Arts Group for exhibitions 4 or 5 times a year. The cost of hire depends on the nature of the hirer and whether they are local. The room is not suitable for parties. To apply, contact: lettings@eynshammuseum.org.uk

Keeping It Local

It's that 'back to school' time of the

year, so to get your cogs whirring, we've got a quiz to test your knowledge of all things Eynsham and the surrounding area (**answers on page 12!**). For more local quizzing, why not get down to one of the regular pub quizzes in the village? The White Hart has one on the first Wednesday of the month and the Red Lion's is on the third Monday of the month.

This quiz has been compiled by our advertising manager, Sarah.

1. Of all time, which player has played the most games for Oxford United Football Club?
2. Colin Dexter's Inspector Morse famously solved murders while drinking in local Oxford pubs. But which of these pubs does not feature in an episode of the tv show Morse?
 - a. The Old Bookbinders
 - b. The Turf Tavern
 - c. Freud
3. How many times has Oxford beaten Cambridge in the boat race?
 - a. 81
 - b. 25
 - c. 52
4. What occasion was marked by the first bun-throwing event in Abingdon-on-Thames?
5. In 2022 a blue plaque was unveiled in Eynsham. Who does it commemorate?
6. To the nearest hundred metres, how long is the Eynsham Shirt Race?
7. Which Oxford college has produced the most UK prime ministers?
8. Chipping Norton petrol head Jeremy Clarkson has opened a farm in the town. What is the name of the farm?
9. The 40th World Championships of which activity took place in Sandford on Thames on 28th May?
10. Which renowned English author, often referred to as the "Queen of Crime," spent her childhood in Torquay, Devon, but later resided in Oxfordshire, where she wrote many of her famous detective novels?

The copy deadline for Eynsham News 65 is Sunday 5 November.

Kids and Grownups



→ Antony at Cubs



→ Maranda at karate

Back in the swing

The autumn school term has seen many of the village activities for children getting underway again. We asked some local children which Eynsham clubs they've enjoyed getting back to and why:

Antony (8): "I go to OSTMA (Oxford Sport & Traditional Martial Arts) at the village hall twice a week. I like karate because it keeps me fit and I enjoy learning with Sensei Claire and Sensei Kieran.

"Cubs at the Scout Hall is fun because I get to hang out with my friends and learn life skills at the same time. We've covered some really interesting subjects and we've been camping."

Miranda (6): "I go to Beavers on Mondays and I've had fun growing plants, going on hikes and going camping, which was brilliant!

"I also go to Karate and I love doing my Pinan Nidan (Karate Kata) in front of everybody. Today I learnt the bowing ceremony which is how we say hello in the dojo. I also go to Rainbows on Fridays and I enjoy doing crafts there with my friends and playing games."

For Pre-schoolers

There is also a range of brilliant groups in the village for pre-school children; one which has certainly stood the test of time is Walkie Talkies. The group has entered a new season recently after having just said goodbye to a few long-standing and well-loved volunteers.

Rabea Meango writes...

"Walkie Talkies offer a friendly and safe environment for (grand)parents/carers and toddlers. We meet on Mondays (term-time), 10.00-11.30 am in St. Leonard's Church Hall. The sessions include free play with lots of different toys, songs, crafts, and sensory activities. There's a snack break for the little ones and coffee/tea and biscuits for the carers.

"Walkie Talkies is a perfect opportunity to meet other families in the village and make friends."

One mum says, "Walkie Talkies was a lifeline to me when I arrived in the village with a young child, it's such a welcoming space where my daughter and I made friends and were looked after for a morning each week. I've now had three children come through Walkie Talkies and all of them loved it."

Each session has a voluntary contribution of £1.50

Get Scouting

Scout leader, Ruth, writes:

1st Eynsham Scouts meet on Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm during term time.

Often found in the Scout Hall on Back Lane, we also try and get out and about as much as possible, especially in the warmer summer months, and have been very grateful for opportunities to meet at Peace Oak Allotments and at the Hogan's field,

where we can light fires, do pioneering (building structures out of logs tied together with ropes), and playing wide games.

We also like spending time away together learning new skills in the great outdoors. Last term Scouts from 1st Eynsham participated in a Lightweight Hike with an overnight stay at Youlbury Scout Activity Centre (Boars Hill), an Expedition Challenge, West Oxfordshire District Camp and a Summer Camp in the New Forest. Summer Camp was particularly fun with opportunities to light fires, build bridges, climb, hike, swim in the sea and take part in rifle shooting.

Our programme is built to enable all Scouts to achieve the nine Challenge Badges needed to gain the Chief Scouts Gold Award, and this term we're hoping that as much of this will be planned by our Scouts as possible via the YouShape badge, which enables Scouts to decide on their programme and activities. There will definitely be nights away on the County Patrol Camping Weekend, and hopefully other nights will be possible. If you are aged between 10.5 and 14 and would like to take part in the adventure that is Scouting please do get in touch. We have a waiting list but will always try to accommodate any young person who wants to join as long as we have sufficient volunteers to help run the programme.

1st Eynsham Scout Group are always in need of volunteers to help, this can be each week or on a more ad-hoc basis—and you don't even need to work or talk to children and young people as we need volunteers to look after tents, tow trailers, look after accounts, fundraise, order badges and uniforms etc...If you think you can offer even a small amount of time, please get in touch.

Parent Perspective

By Editor, Claire

A perspective shift can be a real game-changer. My husband reminded me recently that for parents of school-age children, and really anyone who has been through the British school system, September is one of two times in the year when there's a sense of a fresh start—a time to review,

assess, and make changes.

For children the change is inevitable, the first day of reception or senior school is a major life experience that can make a lasting memory, for better or worse. For young people of any age, the new school year can be daunting and yet exciting, the clean new exercise books, a different teacher, and new school shoes all speak to a new chapter. By the time September hits, with the change of season in the air, most parents are ready for the structure and routine of term-time, with the hope of regular bedtimes and quieter days. Teaching staff, hopefully well-rested, return to work with fresh vision for a new cohort of children.

Many families will have had the chance to get away or enjoy a change of pace over the summer. I often find that stepping out of my situation gives me the space to look at my life from a more measured point of view. Leaving home reminds me that not everyone thinks the same way as I and those in my community do. While everyone wants what's best for their children, I've observed as I've travelled around this summer that not only do accents shift between regions and nations, but aspirations, outlooks, and values do too. The opportunity to immerse myself in different cultures reminded me again how diverse the world is; I found that shift in perspective freeing and it has prompted me to alter my priorities for my own family.

While I'm so thankful for the 'good ground' of Eynsham and the kind, wonderful community that's shaping my children, I don't want my children to be pigeon-holed as I was, melding into the status quo and assuming that's the best way to be. I want to throw open their worldview and teach them that there's more to life than the immediacy of extra-curricular activities or doing well on a spelling test. As well as thriving where they are, I want my children to learn wider lessons; to see difference and engage with it kindly and confidently, to see injustice and feel the pain of it, and to learn that success doesn't necessarily equal academic glory or earning top-dollar in a high-flying career. Sometimes a shift in perspective is

the first thing one needs to make a change.

So, as we acclimatise to the autumn term and the opportunity it holds for change, I wonder if you did any soul-searching over the summer? As routines become established again this term, I'd love to encourage you not to slip back into the status quo, but to keep putting yourself in situations that throw open your horizons and give you fresh vision for yourself and your family.

Youth Football Teams 2023/24

This year, Eynsham AFC are expanding the primary age section of Eynsham Football Club.

Nationally youth football is exploding due to the recent successes of the men's and women's national teams getting to finals and semi-finals in major tournaments. This is a great time to be involved in grassroots football!

James Clark coaches the U7s team, but he's thrilled that Eynsham AFC can also offer sessions for U5s, U6s, and U8s this season. There's a welcome too for any parents who are willing to be involved in the training sessions. Please contact James via: eynsham72@gmail.com

Kids and grownups

If you would like to contribute to these 'younger' pages in Eynsham News, email: editor@eynshamnews.org.uk. Grandparents, teenagers, children, and parents, no experience necessary!

Happy villagers

People move to Eynsham for a variety of reasons; work, family, schools and village life among them.

Long-time resident, Sheila, moved here in 1951, when she was 11 years old. Her father came to manage the Board Hotel, which was a pub (and is now the Bay Leaf!). She attended what we know as the Bartholomew School. Back then it was called the Board School and was only the original buildings that front Witney Road.

In her teenage years Sheila met Doug. They married in 1961 and stayed in the village, where their two sons were born. Over the years they

occasionally toyed with the idea of moving away, perhaps by the sea, but the timing never seemed right. 72 years later Sheila is still here, very content, and with no plans to move to the seaside!

Sheila reflects that although the village has grown considerably, and is continuing to grow, new facilities have not necessarily kept pace, and parking is certainly an issue that didn't exist when she was a girl: "It's not the village I knew then—but it won't be, will it? People have to live somewhere, why not here?" She reckons it's too easy for people to worry about the little things and prefers to enjoy the positives of life in a busy village.

Philip and his wife, Ruth, moved to Eynsham 15 years ago, when the Hazeldene development was just at the planning stage. Star Close was still home to 'The Star', one of Eynsham's 13 pubs, where men often had their own tankards behind the bar and went to their local most evenings for a few pints.

Philip says, "After a career managing power stations around the country, and even in Pakistan, I settled here with Ruth in 2008. We had lived happily in Church Hanborough for a number of years, but for the 'long haul' the shops and facilities of Eynsham made it our village of choice."

Philip appreciates the many things village life offers him as he is now on his own (having lost Ruth three years ago). He has noticed that many of the long-standing clubs and organisations are made up of mainly retired people and that finding new members can be a challenge: "Younger people want to be involved in the community, but going to a meeting every week or fortnight doesn't appeal as it used to. We need to find ways of adapting to allow and encourage new growth and energy."





Green Happenings

An update on some of the changes happening in our shared green spaces.



Nature is entering its transition from summer into autumn, which seems a fitting moment to update you on the work being done to further enhance the lovely local green spaces we have in the Parish.

Play area upgrades

We are in the process of making critical upgrades to two of our local play areas. The Old Witney Road play area is having brand new equipment installed (with a grand re-opening planned for mid-October), while Dovehouse Close play area will shut for a week later in October for safety improvements. The two closures shouldn't overlap. We know closures

are always an inconvenience, but maintaining the safety of the play areas is an absolute priority.

Wharf Stream Way

The footpath at Wharf Stream Way has been re-routed slightly to allow for a change of use in one of the fields, which has been leased to the Long Mead Foundation. In collaboration with Eynsham's Nature Recovery Network, the Foundation will re-create a floodplain wildflower hay meadow in the field as part of the Thames Valley Wildflower Meadow Restoration Project. The Council has asked the landowners to make this part of the footpath into a Public

Right of Way, rather than a Permissive Footpath, as it currently is. The latter means the landowner may withdraw their permission for public access.

Footpaths

With the support of the County Council, we have improved the accessibility of one of our local footpaths, creating an easier route to the River Thames from Eynsham for those with wheelchair/mobility scooters. We hope this will be the first of many modifications that improve accessibility. Please contact us with any suggestions of footpaths in need of attention.

Grass cutting

We've been reviewing our approach to cutting the grass verges and other green spaces in the village, aware that some other local parishes have adopted an environmentally-friendly approach, letting grass grow longer rather than keeping all areas short and neat. Thanks to the residents who submitted their thoughts via email to help our discussions. Details of the grass cutting specification will be shared on the website.

Dates for your Diary

17 Oct, Full Council Meeting – 7.30pm

14 Nov, Full Council Meeting – 7.30pm

19 Dec, Full Council Meeting – 7.30pm

Meetings are open to the public and take place at Eynsham Village Hall, with remote access available via Microsoft Teams

A Note from the Chair



A lot has happened since my last column. The Village Hall is now being directly managed by the Parish Council. The outgoing committee, who have done a great job managing the building for the last 21 years, are continuing to help us with the transition—thank you! Two village hall employees, Dave and Steph, have become Parish Council staff and hall users will likely notice no difference in service. Once the initial transition is complete, we will focus on improvements and updates.

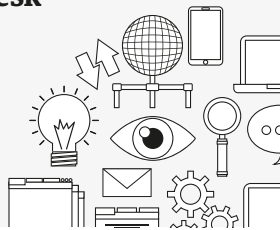
In another transition of power, the Playing Field Managers (managing the Oxford Road pitches) have handed over the baton to a new organisation, the charity Eynsham Parks. Again, this is a team that has worked diligently to keep football running smoothly in the village for many years. The Parish Council has become the trustee for the playing fields, which has been handed over to us by national organisation Fields in Trust. Most excitingly, we are hoping to have a women's football team playing on Eynsham pitches soon.

Lorries turning right from Mill Street to Acre End Street are an ongoing concern. Not only is the Jolly Sportsman taking a battering, but these manoeuvres are dangerous for pedestrians and other road users. We are working with the County Council's Highways Team on a solution, starting with improved signage.

Finally, the Parish Council would like to welcome Rachel Brown, who has joined as our new Responsible Financial Officer.

Ross Macken

From the Clerk's Desk



On behalf of the Council, 'thank you' to all of you who engage with us on local issues, whether that's through consultations, at events, emailing or calling us. It was lovely to see so many of you at our Carnival stand in July and hear about the things that matter to you.

There have been three recent consultations:

- 1. Old Witney Road Traffic Calming Scheme**—62% (24) of Old Witney Road residents voted in favour. Now, a formal consultation will be undertaken by Oxfordshire County Council, which will be open for the public to take part in. We'll let you know when it opens.
- 2. Stewardship of community assets in the development areas**—There were 123 votes in favour of a Community Land Trust followed by 101 votes for the Parish Council. We appreciate this was a complex subject to engage in and so are grateful for the 47 responses received.
- 3. Grass cutting**—We have recently been seeking opinions from residents on how they prefer to have grass in their areas maintained. In the 36 responses received at the time of writing, it's clear that this is an important issue for some residents. We'll consider all responses when the Council meet to discuss and the decision made will be shared via our usual channels.

Meet our new Vice Chair: Cllr. Sue Brown



When did you join the Council?

I joined in 2011. I am really interested in what happens in my community and thought this would be a good way to get more involved.

What has most surprised you since you became a Councillor?

Becoming, quite recently, Vice Chair! It isn't something I ever intended, but decided to volunteer when the previous Vice Chair left. I have lots to learn but feel supported by our excellent Chair, Clerk and Officers.

What's the biggest misconception about the Parish Council?

That it is only for retired people and that every decision about Eynsham is made by the Parish Council.

What's your favourite community activity?

It has to be the Carnival. I was born in the village and have rarely missed the event.

What is your profession?

I work for Oxfordshire County Council in Early Years Education. It's a very busy time at the moment, following the announcement of the expansion of free childcare in this year's spring budget.

How do you like to spend your spare time?

I am a season ticket holder for Oxford United and go to matches with my daughter Lucy. I also enjoy walking and listening to true crime podcasts, often at the same time.

Contact Cllr Sue directly via sue.brown@eynsham-pc.gov.uk.

Events Preview

Last chance

You can still see the 'Eynsham's Lost Railway' exhibition during October.

It's open Saturdays and Sundays, 11am-4 pm, upstairs in the Bartholomew Room in the Square.

Centenary celebrations

The Royal British Legion in Eynsham are celebrating their centenary on Wednesday 14 October.

Special events include a party at Eynsham Social and Sports Club, on Wednesday 14 October from 4-6pm. This is open to anyone in the village, with particular emphasis on veterans and anyone currently serving in HM Forces.

For more information contact the organiser, Mrs Lynn Harris: lynn.j.harris@btinternet.com, 07970465245, 01865 883760 RBL members will also be meeting at The White Hart on 18 October Contact Mr Ginge Ayres: ginge1@netvigator.com

Hall for hire

Our local primary school have an Assembly Hall and Sports Hall, available for hire, either for primary children's birthday parties or group sports/activities and clubs.

For further details, please contact Lisa Podbery, School Manager: schoolmanager@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk or telephone 01865 881294.

Enjoy singing? Join your village choir

Everyone is welcome at Eynsham Community Choir, whether you've been singing for years, or you just love singing around the house.

No need to read music, no need to audition. Just come along and have fun singing a variety of music with like-minded folk, guided by experienced choir leader, Emily Marshall.

Term runs until 14 December, with a half-term break on 19 October. Time: 7.30pm-9.20pm (but come at 7.15pm for tea and biscuits).

Place: Eynsham Baptist Church Hall, Lombard St, OX29 4HT
Cost: £50 per term (13 sessions), first session free.
More info: emilyschoirs.co.uk, or ring Emily on 07969 522 368

Bartholomew Players present: "Silver Lining"

Silver Lining is a hilarious comedy by Sandi Toksvig.

Gareth Hammond and Denise Santilli will be co-directing this production and say: "We are particularly pleased to welcome four actors making their debut with the Bartholomew Players, all of whom have shown real talent in reading/auditioning. The script is fast-paced, sharp and funny with lots of laugh-out-loud moments which will delight the audience. Beware, however, the script does contain some language and material which may offend—you have been warned!"

Venue: Eynsham Village Hall, Back Lane, Eynsham, OX29 4QW
Dates: Wed 29 and Thurs 30 Nov, Friday 1 and Saturday 2 December
Doors open: 7.00pm,

Performance: 7.30pm

Price: £12.00 (no concessions)

Available: online from:

trybooking.co.uk/CPES; in advance from Denise Santilli, 07721 744020; bart.players@gmail.com; Evenlode DIY in Eynsham; or on the door.

Spooky Specials at the Oxford Bus Museum

By Mark Watson

We tell the story of public transport in Oxfordshire and are open from 10.30-16.30 on Wednesdays and Sundays next to the Long Hanborough railway station. We have parking for 15 cars, plus the railway car park is free on Sundays.

During the October half term on Wednesday 25 and Sunday 29 October, the museum will have a spooky feel to it when some of the buses, coaches, Morris Motors Cars, vans, and historic cycles will be decorated with a Halloween theme. There will even be some spooky heritage bus rides running at 12.15, 13.00 and 14.45.

If you're feeling fit, you could do a 4.5 mile walk here on footpaths from Eynsham to Church Hanborough and



through Pinsley Wood. Or you could take the First and Last Mile Bus which stops just outside the station.

For full details of our exhibitions and special event days, have a look at our website: oxfordbusmuseum.org. Admission fees are £8 for adults, £5 for children over 5, plus there are concessions and family discounts. Our team of volunteers look forward to seeing you soon.

Combe Mill 15 October 'In Steam'

Woodcraft + Autumn Market.

This will be a great event with all woodworking tools as used 'back in the day'. Invited are demonstrations of wood carving, Elizabethan historic bowl turning, pole lathe turning, spoon carving, green woodworking and a shave horse demonstration. To accompany the event will be an Autumn Market.

Combe Mill is a late 19th Century Restored Water Mill on the Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode. Volunteers will be on hand with lots of interesting information. Come along and see the Blacksmiths in the forge where you might just be able to make a poker. The tearoom will be open, BBQ, gift shop and tombola. Adults £9.00, seniors £7.50, accompanied children FREE; open 10.30am to 5.00pm. Dogs on leads welcome.

Also open every Wednesday until the end of October for self-guided tours. Adults £5.00 seniors £4.00 and accompanied children FREE.

Events Diary

See more at Eynsham Online

Eynsham Acoustic Club

1 Oct 8-10.30pm, at The Swan Hotel

Eynsham History Group

5 October 7.30-9pm at St Leonard's Church Hall. Martin Buckland will speak on "The Berks and Wilts Canal: Past, Present and Future."

Bird ID walk

Sat 7 Oct, 9am

Join Nature Recovery Network's Basic Bird Identification walk with local bird experts Allen Stevens and Sally Taylor and learn to identify our birds and their songs. Sign up at: nature-recovery-network.org/events/56/

Eynsham Women's Institute (WI)

10 Oct 7-9.30pm at Village Hall

Note earlier start time of 7.00 p.m. Harvest supper and auction. Please bring plate, bowl, cutlery and drink of your choice. Food will be provided. Please bring something to be auctioned for our WI funds if you can. No competition this month.

Garden Club

Wed 11 Oct, 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The topic is 'Digging deeper; a look at the science of plants' by Paul Williams. There will also be the cover photo judging for the 2024 programme, so bring along your favourite garden photo.

Apple Day and Green Festival

Sat 14 Oct, 2-4.30pm, at the

Peace Oak orchard

Entrance through Cobbetts Close

Parking on road.

RBL Eynsham Branch Centenary Party

14 Oct, 4-6pm at Eynsham Social

& Sports Club

Eynsham Society Members' Meeting

18 Oct, 8-9.30pm at the Village Hall

One World Week Sale

Sat 21 Oct, 10am-12 in the Square

Autumn Plantathon

Sun 22 Oct, 2pm Sports Pavilion

Come and plant out the wildflowers that so many of us have been sowing, potting on and nurturing since last Autumn. Please register at: nature-recovery-network.org/events/101 It helps to know how many plants to bring. NB the meeting place may change.

Charity Film Night, run by Eynsham Rotary Club

Sat 28 Oct. The Duke, a comedy starring Helen Mirren and Jim Broadbent More details will appear soon at Eynsham Online

Eynsham Repair Café

Sat 11 Nov, 2-4pm Village Hall

Armistice Day—Silence in the Square

Sun 12 Nov, 10.30am

Eynsham War Memorial

Regular events

Bump to One

Mondays from 10.30am to midday in St Leonard's church. For mums-to-be, and mums with kids up to age 1

Walkie Talkies

Mondays 10-11.30am (Term time),

St Leonards Church Hall

Local playgroup led by volunteers from St Leonard's Church, who provide support to parents and young children. Suitable for 0-4's. Only £1.50 donation per family!

Warm Welcome Wednesday

from 10.30am to midday,

St Leonard's Church

A place for company and conversation, everyone welcome

Busy Bees baby & toddler group

Every Friday in term, 9.30-11am,

Baptist Church Hall

£2.50 per family, including drinks and snacks

'Eynsham's Lost Railway' exhibition

Saturdays/Sundays in Oct, 11am-4pm,

Upper Bartholomew Room in the Square

Copy Deadline for Eynsham News 65 Sunday 5 November

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 December edition (about 70 words long) to editor@eynshamnews.org.uk before **Sunday 5 November 2023**

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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This newsletter is 100% recyclable in your normal recycling bin. It is printed on Carbon Capture paper which contributes to the Woodland Trust's tree planting programme.



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Anyone for croquet?

The Croquet Club have had a busy summer with regular playing days, internal leagues, competitions, and other local groups invited to have a Croquet Experience led by club members. From Oxford, the club welcomed The Nifty Fifties & Sassy Sixties, as well as the Eynsham Roadrunners and Witney Rotary.

Warm and Safe

Oxfordshire residents are being encouraged to take up the offer of a free electric blanket check, part of Oxfordshire County Council's programme to ensure everyone is safe, as well as warm, this winter.

To book, call 01865 8959 99 or email duty.officer@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Eynsham Day Centre

The Monday Day Centre is back up and running after the summer break in August! Stuart and Daniela ran a drop-in service at the Jolly Sportsman during this time providing a delicious lunch and a chance to stay in touch.

You may wish to consider joining (or volunteering your help). Sessions are £10 and you're guaranteed a fun and busy day (from 10.00-14.30) with craft sessions, games, exercise classes (voluntary!), a two-course lunch, and afternoon entertainment. Potential new members get a free taster day.

More volunteers are needed—contact Sue Malin (07810 721755) for details of membership or volunteering.

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

Quiz Answers:
1. Ron Atkinson (560) 2. C-Frend 3. A-81
4. The Coronation of King George III
5. Aelfric—an abbot from 1005-1010
6. 1408m (7 furlongs)—points for 1308-1508
7. Christ Church (13) 8. Diddly Squat Farm
9. Pooh Sticks 10. Agatha Christie

Classified Ads

Advertise your business here,
email: ads@eynshamnews.org.uk

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[07832699798](tel:07832699798) / Alan.chiro@gmail.com
chiropractorcraft.co.uk

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[01865 987781](tel:01865987781)

Eynsham Cellars

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[01865 884405](tel:01865884405) / eynshamcellars.com

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Greens Funeral Services

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mail@greensfunerals.co.uk

Grimebusters

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Pellmans LLP

Your local solicitors.
1 Abbey Street, Eynsham OX29 4TB
[01865 884400](tel:01865884400) / 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

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