

EASTERTON ECHOES

EASTCOTT AND EASTERTON SANDS

ELECTRONIC ISSUE 8

JULY 7TH 2020

“There are no strangers living here, only friends that you have yet to meet.”

CHAIRMAN’S MESSAGE:

I write these words from my “cocoon”. I am over 70 years old but even without any serious medical condition we of a certain age are advised to observe “social distancing” to minimise the risk of getting the dreaded Covid-19 virus.

I prefer to think of it as “physical” rather than “social” distancing. Confinement can be a terrible place to be. It can be a deeply lonely place, where we keep revisiting and reliving past, unpleasant experiences. On the other hand, confinement can be a springboard for an awareness that invites us to be more fully human. We can get in touch with our heart’s moods. *We can look outwards and see the goodness of so many wonderful people all around us.*

Stay safe.

Chris Saunders

PS.

Although there is some easing of the lockdown situation I would like to remind people to still abide by any new regulations in order to keep yourselves safe and your friends and neighbours.

The village still does operate a volunteer help system which will be kept running in order to still help those that are self isolating or need help in other ways (see page 8 for contact details). We must at this point say a big thank you again to those volunteers and friends for all their help and contributions to help the community.

We are hoping to open the village Playground but have to still assess the safety and practical aspects of opening to the public and when we do there will be guidance and advice notices attached to the gate for safe use of the playground for both you and other users. We will notify via boomCast as soon as it is open.

The Royal Oak Pub is reopening but under strict covid guidelines in order to keep you and others safe. Please see their website for details and guidance on going to the Pub and enjoying that longed for pint!

www.theroyaloakateasterton.co.uk

Now the good news, the Village has a new fresh website where you will find all the information you might need. There is access to the archives of the Easterton Echoes, the Parish Council past meetings and financial records, history of the village, Church and village Hall contact details, local facilities and amenities.

You will also find contact details (and pictures) of your Parish councillors.

To see the new website please click on link below:

www.eastertonpc.org.uk

NEXT PARISH VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING July 20th 2020 at 19:30 hrs

Any member of the public wishing to participate please call the Parish Clerk by 12 noon on 20th July.

Tel: **07979 866387** or email clerk.easterton.pc@gmail.com

Please note you will need access to a laptop/desktop computer, iPad or smart phone. Full instructions will be given and no software or cost is involved. Alternatively questions may be submitted to the Clerk by email or via phone. **ALL WELCOME**

LINK SCHEMES URGENT APPEAL for VOLUNTEERS

Link Schemes are voluntary groups which offer a transport and good neighbour service to local people who are in need, perhaps because they are elderly, disabled, single parents, or perhaps temporarily in need because of illness.

These essential services provide a safety net for those unable to access services in other ways. Link Schemes operate as small, independent charitable organisations and are all volunteers using their own private vehicles. (Insurance and DBS checks are carried out). Due to Covid 19, the Link schemes have found themselves suffering from a high level of inactive volunteers because of age and or vulnerability.

We desperately need your support in promoting our recruitment drive to find new volunteers across Wiltshire to keep this service going in these times.

Make a difference in your community

Photo Credit: drawingrooms@icloud.com

COMMUNITY FIRST

LINK
GOOD NEIGHBOUR VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED!

Your local Link Scheme needs you:
Demand for our service is growing and we urgently need new volunteers to support the service

YOUR MILEAGE PAID

If you could spare some time, or for more information please contact us: 01380 722 241

Email: linkproject@communityfirst.org.uk

Volunteers Spotlight

THE FLOOD WARDEN in the village is Cllr Bob Bulson who looks after the free flowing of the stream/ brook running from Eastcott through to Easterton Manor at the end of the village. His remit includes monitoring the telemetry equipment in Eastcott and keeping the Screen clear, situated just past the Manor. You will see him walking the stream once a week, clearing the rubbish from the verges bordering the stream and making sure the screen is kept clear. this is vital to ensure the village doesn't have a flood problem. The Warden would like to point out that the house owners who live alongside the stream, have a legal responsibility to maintain the free flowing state of the stream at their boundary, to quote: - *they have a duty to pass the water down the stream unhindered.*

In event of an emergency such as flooding, the Flood Committee and Parish Council maintain a flood plan and have a list of volunteers to help in case of need and of course the Parish Council can put an emergency notice out via the dedicated village electronic system boomCast.

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL UPDATES

COVID-19 Regional testing sites

To book a NHS test click on link below:

[nhs covid19 testing](#)

If you don't have internet access and wish to book Phone 119

For GOV.UK essential worker test portal click on link:

www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-essential-workers

Government guidance update – shielding programme

The government has updated its [guidance](#) for people who are shielding, taking into account that COVID-19 infection rates have decreased significantly over the last few weeks. This guidance remains advisory.

From Friday 6 July:

- People who are shielding no longer need to observe social distancing with other members of their household.
- People who are shielding will be able to meet outdoors in groups of up to six people they do not live with, while maintaining social distancing.
- People who are shielding can create a 'support bubble' with one other household. All those in a support bubble will be able to spend time together inside each other's homes, including overnight, without needing to socially distance.

From Saturday 1 August, the government is advising people to adopt strict social distancing rather than full shielding measures. Strict social distancing means people may wish to go out to more places and see more people but they should

take particular care to minimise contact with others outside of their household or support bubble.

From 1 August:

- Those shielding can visit shops, places of worship and outdoor spaces.
- People shielding will be able to return to work if they cannot work at home as long as the business is COVID-safe.
- Children who are clinically extremely vulnerable can return to their education settings if they are eligible and in line with their peers.

More detailed guidance will be provided as the changes in advice come into effect on 6 July and 1 August.

Those in receipt of central government provided food boxes and medicine deliveries will continue to receive this support until the end of July if required. Anyone requiring this assistance should [register online](#) or call 0800 028 8327 before 17 July.

Wiltshire Council joins Countryside Climate Network to help tackle climate change

Wiltshire Council has become a founder member of a newly-launched network to promote the voice of the countryside in climate change discussions.

The Countryside Climate Network aims to ensure that the voice of rural knowledge and experience on climate action is listened to in Westminster, and asks that rural councils are an active participant in transforming the national economy into one that saves, rather than harms, our environment.

To find out more about the Countryside Climate Network, please see: www.uk100.org.

TAKE YOUR LITTER HOME AND PICK UP THE DOG POO



It has been noted that there is still litter being dropped or thrown into the hedges. Please take your litter home or put it in the nearest rubbish bin.

DOG POO !

There is still an amount of dog poo not being picked up, please take a suitable bag and pick it up and dispose of it in the nearest dog poo bin in the village or take it home and dispose of it safely.

THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR FLY-TIPPING.

You can be prosecuted if your waste is illegally fly-tipped. Only give your waste to authorised persons who have a waste carriers licence.

www.environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers

or call the **Environment Agency** Tel: **03708 506506**.

Fly Tipping is causing harm to both the environment and to wildlife with unknown harmful substances and materials that can leach into watercourses or be consumed by animals, the latter in some cases being poisoned. Beware, of waste collectors cold calling or especially advertising on the social media.

For help in disposing of your rubbish, to report a problem or download the My Wiltshire App see Wiltshire Council website: www.wiltshire.gov.uk

POLICE WARNING ABOUT FAKE EMAILS AND CYBER CRIME

Coronavirus elated scams

www.actionfraud.police.uk/COVID-19

How to shop online safely

www.actionfraud.police.uk/shoponlinesafely

How to update your devices

www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/securing-your-devices

The majority of reports of scams are related to online shopping scams. Face masks, sanitisers and other products have never arrived.

- Ticket frauds, romance fraud, advance fee fraud and rental fraud.
- Beware fake adverts of pets for sale where victims are asked for a deposit for the animal that in fact, does not exist.
- Don't click on links or attachments in suspicious emails or texts. Never respond to unsolicited messages and calls that ask for your personal or financial details.
- Carry out research first if you are considering purchasing from a company or person you don't know. Ask a friend or family member for advice before purchase.
- Remember to look at reviews for the site or seller to see what other experiences and issues people have had with that company.
- If go ahead with purchase then use a credit card if you have one as most major credit card providers insure online purchases.

For more information locally Click on the link [Wiltshire Police cybercrime and scams](#)

St Barnabas Primary School Holiday Camps.

The school are holding these exciting holiday camps for children aged 4 - 13 yrs.

27 July - 21 August

Our Holiday Camp at St Barnabas Primary School is a great new venue for us with a big playing field and playground. Situated not far outside Devizes, St Barnabas Primary School provides a bright new opportunity for PH Camps and for children to try a wide range of sports, arts & crafts, extreme and adventure activities throughout the school holidays.

The cost is £90 and you can book online using the bookings site below:

<https://phsports.childcare-online-booking.co.uk>

St Barnabas Primary School Camps will offer loads of fun and enjoyable activities run by PH Camps staff all throughout the week. These activities range from Art Blast, different sports and PH Camp Games. Our new and improved day plan aims to provide every child with a fun-filled, action packed week. This will give them the opportunity to try out everything we have to offer.

Week Day Activities

On our Holiday Camps, we offer Art blast as an activity. Within this, we will be putting your child's creative side to the test. Some of the activities include face masks, wall art and human-size creations plus more exciting projects. The Art Blast week plan will provide 1 big art project for the week. Your children will be asked to spend time each day creating the big project so that come Friday its ready to show off to the parents. Also, alongside the Big Project, we offer smaller creations that your children can take home and show off. So why not give Art Blast a try and show us what cool, crazy and creative ideas you've got hiding away.

Sports Activities

We offer a range of different sports such as football, Tag-Rugby, Netball, volleyball, cricket and tennis but we also have rounders and table tennis for your child's enjoyment. Furthermore we offer Alternative sports such as indo-boarding, skate-boarding plus Mountain boarding. In addition our qualified coaches will aim to provide the best quality delivery of all sports. Because we aim to give the best entertainment throughout the day so your children want to come back. So why not come down and try out something new?

PH Camp Games

We provide games such as Camp games, Challenging Games and Discovery games and they suitable for all ages to play and fun for all ages too. These games are amazing for children to get to know each more if you are new to PH Camps and the children always playing different games during the day and could play them all day.

So why not come down and try out something new?

Times: 8.00am – 5.30pm. Extras: Breakfast Club: 8.00am – 9.00pm. Extra Club: 3.00pm – 5.30pm.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The Playground

The Parish Council are looking to open the Playground in the very near future but we first have to make sure that the equipment is fit for purpose, give everything a good clean, assess the social distancing areas and put up important guidance information for using the playground safely for yourselves and for others.

Please bring your own sanitiser to use on your hands before and after using the playground.

Stay safe and respect other users of the playground and maintain a 2m distance between yourself and others and if the play area is busy please wait or come back another time.

This is for all your safety and well being.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH NEWS

Opening the church is certainly more complex than closing it! Closing just meant some notices and locking the door. However, the risk assessment is now done, the seating arranged, sanitising equipment bought and put out, notices and directions up so everyone can see what to do and we are ready to open up, albeit on a limited basis.

The church will be open for individual private prayers on Sunday 9 - 12.00 am and 1.00 - 4.00pm. You will find instructions on the wall and door before going into the church, please follow these carefully.

Although the zoom services continue at 10.00am every Sunday and everyone is welcome to join in, the first open day at the church will be Wednesday, 15th July, not quite the same as a service but better than at present.

Eventually we will have services again, but until then, stay safe.

For any enquiries please contact:

The Rev. Marion Harrison **01380 816963** or Pat Morrison **01380 812357**

Email: lavingtonrector@gmail.com or lavingtonchurch@gmail.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Easterton Country Fête

This fantastic annual village event usually held in the Village Hall field, is still in the events calendar August 31st August 2020.

Please contact via email if you wish to have a stand there or for more information.

Email: eastertonfete@gmail.com

Website: www.eastertonfete.com

Market Lavington Virtual Vintage Meet Family Fun Weekend

Is now going virtual on the 11th and 12th July at 18:00 hrs

www.facebook.com/events/4062876070421009



THE WHARF THEATRE, DEVIZES.

www.wharftheatre.co.uk

SOS - OUR THEATRE IS UNDER FINANCIAL THREAT

West End Producer, Sonia Friedman, says 70 per cent of our performing arts companies will be out of business before the end of this year. More than 1,000 theatres around the country will be insolvent and might shut down for good.

The Wharf Theatre, a renovated warehouse, situated on the canal in Devizes has been attracting audience members, volunteers and creatives from all over Wiltshire and west Hampshire for over 40 years. The community venue, with capacity for 96 people, offers an array of community and professional productions ranging from musicals, plays, talks, youth productions, schools shows, comedians and concerts. The theatre hosts around 26 productions a year attracting more than 4000 visitors. The Wharf is supported by a team of over 80 volunteers, 200 members and has been registered as an asset of community value by Wiltshire Council. However, they are looking to the local community to support the theatre by donating much-needed money. A Just Giving fundraising campaign is being launched click on link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/wharftheatre>

Mr Beech added, "We cannot see our beautiful little community theatre close due to this pandemic. We are seeking funding to support and enable the theatre to survive past this, meaning we can open our doors once more as a venue for people to explore theatre.

To make a personal donation and follow our social media page or email : info@wharftheatre.co.uk

Have you heard of the Men's Shed?

Men's Sheds (or Sheds) are similar to garden sheds – a place to pursue practical interests at leisure, to practice skills and enjoy making and mending. The difference is that garden sheds and their activities are often solitary in nature while Men's Sheds are the opposite. They are about social connections and friendship building, sharing skills and knowledge, and of course a lot of laughter, spaces for men to connect, converse and create. They help reduce loneliness and isolation, but most importantly, they're fun.

Anecdote : if you put 12 men in a room and ask them to talk about themselves, six will leave and six will try to find the corners of the room.

However , if you put a lawnmower in a room and ask the 12 men to fix it, after 2 hours the 12 men will know each other very well, their ailments , how many children they have and how they make their tea. They may also have fixed the lawnmower!

97% of shedders said they made new friends
96% of those exported a reduction in loneliness
89% felt a reduction in depression
And 75% reported a reduction in anxiety.
Hence the start of The Mens Shed.

By the way, women are invited to become A Shedder too.

The Devizes Shed is now running with a completed workshop and a good range of hand tools available. With the valued support of the Screwfix Foundation we have recently been able to purchase some very much needed power tools. The Shed now meets every Tuesday morning from 10:00 to 13:00 and on the first Thursday of the month for the same hours. It is located in a small brick barn within the grounds of Needham House. Victoria Road, Devizes SN10 1FA
If anyone wants more information concerning joining us, please contact our Membership Secretary, Jenny Macey. Tel: 01380 723239 or email: jennifer.macey@btinternet.com website: www.menssheds.org.uk

AND NOW FOR JULY'S GARDENERS TIPS

Now we are into July those who are not feeding or have not fed your plants now is a good time to start. Most composts will contain enough feed for about six weeks, however after this period then supplementary feeding should be done.

- "What do I use"? I hear you cry!
- Well, all feeds are good and will help prolong your plants and flowers, but my favourite is Tomato Feed.
- "What is so great about Tomato Feed" I hear you shout!
- Well it is geared towards fruiting and flowering. Some of the others are great all round feeds but Tomato feed is specific in its targets. Fruits and Flowers.
- Also another bonus - it is cheap as chips. (Potatoes can be fed with it too)
- You can also feed your bushes and non-flowering plants as it will keep them strong and set them up nicely for Autumn and Winter, it makes the plant harder that other feeds, which helps to fend off pests and disease.

Another job that is on the Horizon is trimming your Buxus, yes trimming your box is not a euphemism but a real job. Make sure you follow the rules my friend Alex uses to make sure they stay fit and heathy:

- Cut them on a cloudy day and not when it is very sunny or going to be hot
- Make sure your cutting implements are clean and sharp
- Make sure they have been watered a few days before and are not struggling for water
- Give them a good feed after cutting them and make sure them have moisture to recover
- Give them a spray of fungicide to protect them from Box Blight
- Although spraying with a fungicide will not cure Box Blight it will act as a preventative and help the Buxus to recover
- Most pests and diseases attack the plant when it is stressed. Like after it has been cutback.
- Failing that come to the nursery and we will sell you some more. 😊

One last thing is enjoy the garden, once your box has been trimmed you can sit back and enjoy the space and time.

Email: tony@superiorplants.co.uk

Tel: **01380 813210** or Mob: **07969 661847**

Website: www.superiorplants.co.uk

STOP PRESS

The new Village Website is launched online so please take a look and see what it offers to the community.

www.eastertonpc.org.uk

EASTERTON PARISH COUNCIL CORONAVIRUS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Parish Council are maintaining this Community Support for the time being while we are uncertain as to how the Pandemic situation will develop in the future.

So please if you need help with essential shopping, collecting medicines or errands?

Please contact any of us on list below for help so that we can action our available army of volunteers.

BE SAFE, BE ISOLATED BUT DON'T BE ALONE, PLEASE CALL US FOR HELP AND SUPPORT, DON'T WAIT.

VOLUNTEER CONTACT	Tel: No:	Address
Councillor Victoria Turner	01380 699043 07725 269718	victoria@badgerswood.net
Councillor Anthony Snook	07831 116136	anthonysnook@tiscali.co.uk
Councillor Judy Boyt	01380 818719 07860 242836	judy@judyboyt.com
Community Volunteer Briony Clarke	07976 798196	briony@padesk.com

Note from editors: If you have a story to tell or would like to contribute to this newsletter, features on local personalities, compile a crossword or a puzzle please let us know. Contact either: Judy's email: judy@judyboyt.com or Anthony's email: anthonysnook@tiscali.co.uk