

EASTERTON ECHOES

EASTERTON, EASTCOTT AND EASTERTON SANDS

ISSUE 42 MAY/JUNE 2023

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TREE WORK and TEMPORARY LIGHTS IN HIGH STREET in EASTERTON

There will temporary lights from the **5/06/2023 to 8/06/2023 at 27 High Street Easterton, The Grange**, in order for tree preservation work to be carried out by **Conservation Contractors Ltd.**

The Contractors would be grateful that the residents close and opposite to the property refrain from parking on the main road during these dates mainly between the hours of 8.00am and 5.00pm so that they do not impede the traffic lights.

Dan Butler Arboricultural manager and Tree Inspector www.conservation-contractors.co.uk
Mob: **07881 788399** Tel: **01380 726739** Email: dan@conservation-contractors.co.uk
End Farm, Marston, Devizes, Wilts, SN10 5SR

PLEASE NOTE If anyone is struggling to find a space for their car please feel free to contact **Cllr Anthony Snook** on Tel: **07831 116136** as there is space in The Clay near the horse paddock with the walnut trees in.

THE CORONATION PICNIC EVENT AT THE VILLAGE HALL

The summer months are coming up quickly after a busy May with the 3 bank holidays and The Coronation. The Picnic event was a success with over 200 people braving the weather and joining the festivities. The band Equinox was great to keep everyone in good cheer. When the rain cleared enough to allow the games to be held outside. Lots of adults wanted to test their power in the Tug of War!

There was plentiful supply of cakes kindly donated by many great bakers and generous cups of tea to cheer everyone up on a wet but great day of celebrations.

The 'Mop fair' board had quite a few volunteers offering their help to those that needed help.

Steve and Helen Hardman have taken a wonderful photographic record on the day of many participants - these will be made into an artwork to be placed in the Village Hall and also copies will be sent to the Market Lavington Museum for their records of Coronation events held in the surrounding villages.

Ultimately there was a small profit from the day which was sent to The Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

The Royal Oak Pub organised a great cake bake off, it was won by Joanna Pullen's amazing Victoria Sponge. The great duo of Dave and Nikki very kindly gave the contest proceeds to local charities.

The Parish Council Annual meeting was held on May at the village Hall where Debs Handforth gave a practical demonstration about Plant to Plate - compost, how to pot on and future care of plants to grow your own food.



THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IN THE VILLAGE HALL WILL BE ON 19TH JUNE 2023 STARTS AT 7:30 PM

For any further information or if you would like to attend please contact the Parish Clerk.

Email: clerk@eastertonpc.org.uk Mobile: **07437 857501**

Message from Cllr Dominic Muns Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons

I support five parish councils and try to make myself available at every monthly meeting, and throughout the month to answer emails, telephone calls and make site visits. As the foundation of local governance, our parish councillors do a fantastic job and I support them fully at every opportunity.

The issue I hear most about from residents is speeding. Every village I cover has a speeding issue to varying degrees. Whether it is 90mph+ on Spin Hill in Market Lavington, or habitual 40mph+ speeds through The Cheverells, West Lavington or Easterton, the impact is the same, added danger for other road users, pedestrians and horse riders. I have a “direct line” to our Police & Crime Commissioner as well as the Roads Policing unit at Wiltshire Police which means I can call on them for speed enforcement where we need it. This, together with my work as Chair of the Local Highways & Footpaths Improvement Group, means I can support our community in tackling speeding and other Highways related problems.

Planning is always an interesting topic to get involved with. Most projects that are considered are straightforward – small extensions, listed building consent, tree work etc. Occasionally we have large and contentious projects, and I am never afraid to fight when a proposal negatively impacts our community. Hedges House in West Lavington is a good example of such an application on which I refused to backdown, instead taking it to the Eastern Area Planning Committee and winning a refusal. There is always the right for an applicant to appeal to the Government’s Planning Inspectorate, however, the cost of this (and the risk of losing at appeal) should not see us give up at the first stage.

You may have seen me on ITV recently alongside Victoria Park residents and our MP Danny Kruger. The residents in Victoria Park have put up with failed street lighting, dangerous pavements and a village green that became a building site years ago. The problem lies with the fact that the entire estate, which sits alongside HMP Erlestoke, is owned by the Ministry of Justice. I work closely with our Wiltshire MPs on various matters, and I am pleased to have their personal support when needed, Victoria Park being a great example.

Those of you following the Black Dog Crossroads project will know that I asked both our Cabinet Member for Highways, and a representative from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner to accompany me on a site visit to the junction to demonstrate the dangers first-hand. Thankfully my perseverance in attempting to reduce speed on the A360 through the junction resulted in our campaign group gaining two important allies. In June I have a follow-up meeting with the Corporate Director for Place, who sits at the top of the Highways chain to progress things.

Over the last year I have also championed significant improvements to Market Lavington’s road infrastructure, formulated plans for waiting restrictions across West Lavington, given my support for Lavington School’s Post-16 education offering, and dealt with Wiltshire Police on numerous acts of vandalism and criminal damage. I have also helped individual residents with social housing issues and supported youth focused projects across the area - and that’s without even touching on the work I do with the Education & Skills portfolio across the whole of Wiltshire.

You may contact me about this or any other matter by email:

dominic.muns@wiltshire.gov.uk or by phone on **07585 394 178**

Cllr Dominic Muns

Portfolio Holder for Education

OBITUARY

It is with great sadness to report the passing of Easterton resident Gordon Blagborough. He was a gentleman through and through and a great supporter of the village and all activities. All our sympathies and condolences go to Anne and their family. He will be greatly missed on the golf course, as will his smile, kindness and generosity.

Anne and Gordon moved here in 1986 to Canfield to take a new direction after his retirement from BOAC as a pilot. He had an interest in training Point to Point racehorses and Canfield was a perfect location. He and Anne met in Nairobi when she too was working for BOAC.

Below is Gordon's own words as written in a previous Easterton Echoes

"I left school at 15 with not a single exam! I joined an engineering firm and became an apprentice for the grand sum of 18s 6d per week (just under £1), most of which I gave to my mother. At 17, with the permission of my parents, I walked into the recruiting office in Leeds and joined the RAF. I completed my initial training at Jurby on the Isle of Man and then went on to Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) where I flew Tiger Moths and Havaards to name a couple of aircraft. I went to Valley, on Anglesey, for jet training and was posted to Germany. I then went on to become a training instructor. Following seven years' service (and many exams!) with the RAF, I applied to join British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) and joined in 1958. Primarily, I flew the Britannia 312, known as the "Whispering Giant". "

ST BARNABAS CHURCH SERVICES

NEWS ON THE REPAIR OF THE ORGAN

The Table Sale on Saturday 20th May was a great success so – a big thank you to both buyers and sellers. The 'Organ Appeal' was topped up by **£309.80**, taking us ever closer to our target. Thank you again, hopefully we will have 'proper' organ music again in the near future.

please if you would like to send in a donation contact **Sue Allen**, at 57 High St, Easterton. Tel: **01380 813603**

DATE	EVENT	WHERE	TIME
28th May	Communion Service	St Barnabas	9:30am
4th June	Benefice Service	Little Cheverell	10:30am
11th june	United Service, St Mary's Church and the united Reformed Church	St Barnabas church	10:30am
25th June	Communion Service	St Barnabas church	9:15am

ALLOTMENTS IN EASTERTON

The Parish Council is getting ready to finalise plans, permissions and begin to set out the area for allotments in the near future. We are just working on creating a safer access to the area and infrastructure.

If you would like an allotment please contact either

Richard Brooks cllr.R.Brooks@eastertonpc.org.uk

or Judy Boyt cllr.J.Boyt@eastertonpc.org.uk

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL NEWS

NEW KERBSIDE RECYCLING SERVICE FROM MONDAY 5TH JUNE 2023

COLLECTING SMALL RECHARGEABLE ELECTRICAL

Place any of the following in a carrier bag, alongside your blue lidded recycling bin NOT in the bin.

MP3 PLAYERS
ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSHES
SHAVERS/TRIMMERS-
ALL VAPES AND E-CIGARETTES
SMART WATCHES
MOBILE PHONES
DIGITAL CAMERAS
CHARGING DEVICES/POWER BANKS
WIRELESS EARPHONES.

WHY THESE ITEMS?

Many rechargeable items contain lithium-ion batteries. These can cause fires if not disposed of properly. Unwanted electrical items contain valuable materials including gold, copper, steel and aluminium. these materials can be recovered, re-processed into new products and become valuable commodities to the UK economy.

Please ensure that you remove any personal information or data from such devices listed above. The council cannot accept liability for the security of data or personal information

Recycling Batteries update

In the first 15 months of this collection 15 tonnes of your used batteries were collected for recycling. please continue to place these batteries in a transparent plastic bag and place on top of the blue lidded bin, do not mix these batteries with the rechargeable items

Textiles and shredded paper will no longer be collected from the kerbside.

Successfully recycling textiles has become increasingly difficult - so please take good quality clothing to the charity shops or textile banks but the poor quality textiles not suitable for resale or reuse should be put in the General waste bin for energy recovery.

Shredded paper will not be collected in recycling bins instead please use it as compost or take it to a household recycling centre. Otherwise please put it in the general waste bins for energy recovery. Shredded paper should not be put in your garden waste bin as it is unsuitable for the large scale composting process.

Disposal of useable or unusable paint

Leftover useable household paint at least half full can be brought to the recycling centres. You can also take away donated paint for free.

Unusable liquid paint should be hardened before taking it to recycling centre for disposal. Remove the lid and allow paint to dry completely, or mix paint with soil, pet litter, sawdust or sand.

Donating reusable items

You can now donate good quality reusable items at all recycling centre to support local charities and good causes. Items such as furniture, bric a brac or Bicycles.

Household Recycling Centres changes

PLEASE SORT IT BEFORE YOU BRING IT

A third of items put into general rubbish skips could have been recycled.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

BEN MYERSCOUGH



How long have you lived in Easterton?

Since December 2011

What brought you to Easterton?

We wanted to build a house and we saw an advert for a building plot on Oak Lane.

How would you describe your life?

Hectic, very hectic!

Where were you born?

In Devizes Hospital

Education, where did you go to school/college/university?

Wansdyke, then Appleford, Warminster, Lackham College and Seale-Hayne Agricultural College

Family, tell us a bit about your family

My wife Lorna and I have been together for just over 20 years and married for 15 years. We have a daughter Enid who is 14 next month and Thomas is nine. My parents live in Rowde and I have three elder sisters who have nagged me since the day I was born.

What is your greatest achievement?

Avoiding being murdered by my wife on a daily basis!

If you could acquire any talent, what would it be?

A photographic memory

Ben is a member of the Easterton Parish Council

Who, in history, do you admire the most?

Nelson Mandela

What is/was your favourite/most interesting job or funniest moment at work?

My current one as a chartered surveyor which involves anything from looking at £150m properties to negotiating with a bee man over six jars of honey and numerous shenanigans with tenants in estate cottages.

What is your favourite occupation/hobby?

Cycling, walking my dog, running and an occasional game of hockey.

Who/what is your favourite author/book?

Lee Child

What's your favourite film/TV programme?

The Green Mile and Monarch of the Glen

Is there a plant/flower that is a particular favourite?

My wife loves roses and sweet peas

Do you have a favourite animal, domestic or otherwise?

My dog, an English Springer Spaniel

If you could eat only one thing for the rest of your days, what would it be?

Smoked salmon with scrambled eggs and/or cream cheese

Is there a place in the world that you would like to visit?

Too many to list - New Zealand, India, South America, Africe

Has the pandemic changed or impacted you over the last few years?

Massively, I have moved from being entirely office based to working from home at least one day a week which is a great improvement. I am now spending much more time with the children and seeing more of their sporting activities.

as told to Kate Dilnott-Cooper

HEDGEHOG STREET CAMPAIGN AND HEDGEHOG SURVEYS MADE EASY IN EASTERTON, EASTCOTT AND EASTERTON SANDS

Judy Boyt would like volunteers and householders to set up a group to start the Easterton Parish Hedgehog Street Campaign and surveys.

This will be a great village project to get everyone especially the youngsters to be involved. The aim is to find out how many hedgehogs we have in the parish and to engage the village into considering wildlife and the impact of any development. (This would also lead to spin-off surveys into other species too)

- Doing a Hedgehog (HH) survey has a wider value.
- If you can highlight the value of the land for hedgehogs, then you can lobby for better consideration of Hedgehogs, including provision of: **commuting routes** (i.e. a connected hedgerow network), **permeable fences/walls** (which would otherwise block their movements and block access to foraging grounds), and **better provision of nesting habitat**. It would also push for better consideration during any works on site, e.g. to prevent injury/killing when doing ground works

I would like to ask people to get involved by hosting surveys in their gardens using the Hedgehog footprint tunnels to detect hedgehog activity and perhaps set up a camera trap to see what is happening in your garden and area. Please if there are any volunteers who would like to get things started let me know. I will have access to several hedgehog tunnels later this summer otherwise look on the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) website (details below) on how to make one. These surveys can be done between now and October, so there is plenty of time.

Sadly, the iconic hedgehog is now recognised as the most popular wild animal in Britain BUT they are also in severe decline by between 30 – 75% since 2000 nationally and particularly in rural areas. This rate is unsustainable, and although the hedgehog is currently a widespread and common species in the UK, their future is increasingly uncertain.

Hedgehogs consume a wide range of invertebrate prey and are thus indicators of a healthy natural environment. The effect of the loss of a mammal that was formally so abundant on our ecosystem is difficult to predict, but unlikely to be positive.

Hedgehogs can be difficult to detect, being nocturnal and inconspicuous. But with the new technique of Hedgehog Tunnels we can discover when hedgehogs are absent, as well as present in an area. Go to www.ptes.org and look for section on **Guidance for detecting hedgehogs in your garden**

Hedgehogs can thrive in densely built up areas alongside people – so it is more important than ever to know where they are, and to consider them with our land management and future developments.

Please contact if you would like to help with this project in Easterton area :

Judy Boyt tel: **01380 818719** email: cllr.J.Boyt@eastertonpc.org.uk

For more information on what to do and how to get more involved on a national level look on the following website:

[Hedgehogs - People's Trust for Endangered Species \(ptes.org\)](http://www.ptes.org)

[The British Hedgehog Preservation Society \(BHPS\)](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk)

www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

www.hedgehogstreet.org

(They coordinate hedgehog conservation work across the UK.)

HEDGEHOG STREET CAMPAIGN AND HEDGEHOG SURVEYS MADE EASY CONT'D

HELP YOUR HEDGEHOGS as they are prone to getting tangled and trapped - Polystyrene/plastic cups, plastic, and elastic bands are all common offenders. Replace netting with a rigid structure or use a thick cordage and keep taut. Sports and garden netting should be tied up or stored inside when not in use.

HEDGEHOGS REALLY BENEFIT FROM EXTRA FOOD, using it as a supplement to their natural diet. Meaty cat or dog food and hedgehog food are all suitable. Water can also be scarce at certain times of the year and is the only thing you should give them to drink. (NOT milk!)

TRACKING TUNNELS ARE SIMPLE, PLASTIC TRIANGULAR TUNNELS.

The tunnels are usually constructed from light, commercially available plastic (e.g. Correx™). They contain a removable tracking plate that contains two 'ink' strips, an area for bait and two sheets of paper to record the footprints of the target. Both the front and back feet have 5 toes, the front feet are wider and they look like little hands while the back feet are slimmer and longer.

Either make your own tracking tunnel www.ptes.org or buy from www.wildcareshop.com/tracking-tunnel-1.html



ACCESS TO WIDE RANGE OF GARDENS REQUIRED BY FORAGING HEDGEHOGS

Hedgehogs roam between 1-2km each night during their active season. It's therefore critical that they can access a wide range of gardens.

13 x 13cm (5 x 5") holes in walls or fences will let hedgehogs through but be too small for most pets.

If you've made a hole in your garden wall or fence please visit www.hedgehogstreet.org to put it on our map.

MAKE YOUR PONDS SAFE

Hedgehogs are adept swimmers but can't climb out of steep-sided ponds or pools - they will drown. Use a pile of stones, a piece of wood or some chicken wire to create a simple ramp for them to climb out of the water.

CREATE A WILD CORNER IN YOUR GARDEN

Let plants go mad in a corner of your garden and don't cut them back in winter as hedgehogs might nest in there. Hedgehogs make excellent pest control feeding on slugs, beetles and caterpillars on your organic veg patch. They also like fallen fruit from cherry trees.

HEDGEHOG HOMES AND BEDDING

This will range from a natural log pile, a simple space under a shed. They will also cosy up amongst shrubs and grasses. They like bedding of leaves, and grasses to use in their breeding and hibernation nests.

STOP USING CHEMICALS ON LAWNS AND GARDENS that kill slugs, Snails, invertebrates etc as this is food for hedgehogs.

BECOME A HEDGEHOG CHAMPION REGISTER ON www.hedgehogstreet.org

Buy Hedgehog Highway signs made from recycled plastic at either:

www.ptes.org/shop

or

www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/shop



EASTERTON COUNTRY FÊTE BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 28th August 2023

We, the Fête team are delighted to announce that the **Country Fête** and **Dog Show** will be going ahead this year. We are actively organising this year's event, to bring the community together to have a fun afternoon out for all and raise money for local causes.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED:

We urgently need a volunteer to organise and run the raffle and help procure the prizes

There will be many other opportunities to volunteer to help make it a roaring success on the day - We will look forward to hearing from you to join us.

Please contact Nick on Mob: 07552 040960

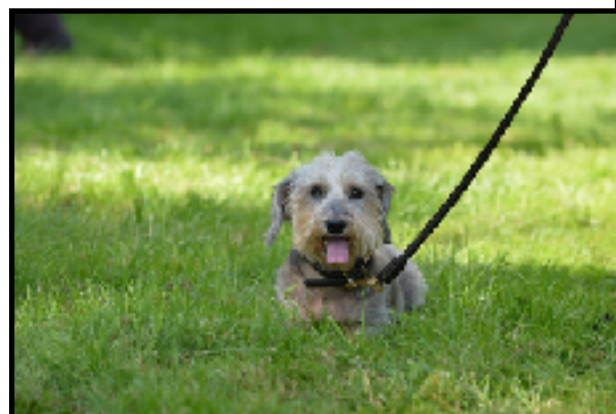
Do contact us at any time

Email: eastertonfete@gmail.com

Website: www.eastertonfete.com

or on Facebook page [@eastertoncountryfete](https://www.facebook.com/eastertoncountryfete)

Thank you for your continuing support in keeping a fantastic village tradition alive.



LINK GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

ANYONE NEEDING A LIFT TO SURGERY, HOSPITAL, SHOPPING OR JUST A HELPING HAND

Please contact the Link Coordinator: Tel: 01380 812755

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS/HELPERS NEEDED

Please if you have time and can volunteer contact: www.communityfirst.org.uk/transport/link/

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Village Hall Hiring Rates. Like all other businesses, the Village Hall is feeling the effects of inflation, particularly the cost of gas for heating.

Hence **NEW HIRING CHARGES** Per Hour (from 1st September 2023)

	Parish Function	Easterton Residents	Non Residents	Commercial and youth Parties (12 - 25)
Main Hall	£6	£8	£9	£13
Garden Room	£4	£7	£8	£13
Both rooms	£9	£13	£15	£25

FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN WILTSHIRE

INTERNATIONAL STREET FESTIVAL SATURDAY 27TH - SUNDAY 28TH MAY

Live music, street theatre, food and drink etc. Venue: The Big Green and Devizes Market Place

For more information see website: www.docadevizes.org.uk

DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL 1ST - 17TH JUNE 2023

see website for more information: www.devizesartsfestival.org.uk

FULLTONE MUSIC FESTIVAL 2023 SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST on The Green, Devizes

For more information see website: www.fto.org.uk

SALISBURY INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL 5TH MAY - 26TH SEPTEMBER 2023

For more information see Website: www.wiltshirecreative.co.uk

DOGS AND LIVESTOCK

It is a sad time for the farming couple the Crossman's who live Nr Pewsey. They lost two cows in calf when a loose black dog entered the safe space of an enclosed shed on private land and caused a stampede resulting in one cow suffering a broken leg and the other her hip!

Basically that resulted in '4' animals being taken down - 2 cows and there unborn calves and a massive financial loss to the farm.

Please take care and keep your dogs under control especially near livestock.

PARISH COUNCILLORS EMAIL ADDRESSES:

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The Market Magazine.

If you are in need a plumber, builder, craftsman, retailer look on this brilliant magazine that comes out monthly. Just click on the website below and up will come all information on all different trades that are available in this area of Wiltshire.

www.themarketonline.co.uk

COMMUNITY POLICING Community Support Officer

Paula Yarranton 6015
Police Community
Support Officer

Devizes Police Station,
New Park Street,
Devizes. Wiltshire. SN10
1DZ

Mob: **07471 029670**
Tel: **101 ext. 774**
39814

Easterton Parish Council Community Support

The Volunteer Programme is here to help anyone. Please contact either of us below for help

Cllr Anthony Snook **07831 116136** Cllr.A.Snook@eastertonpc.org.uk

Victoria Turner **07725 269718** victoria@badgerswood.net

THE ECHOES IS YOUR NEWSLETTER AND NEEDS YOU AND YOUR NEWS

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