

# EASTERTON ECHOES

## EASTERTON, EASTCOTT AND EASTERTON SANDS

### ISSUE 44 JULY/AUGUST 2023

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

#### From the former chair of the Parish Council Chris Saunders

I wish to take this opportunity to reiterate that your Parish Council is made up of volunteers who offer their time and skills freely for the benefit of all who live in Easterton, including Eastcott and Easterton Sands.

After 18 years as a parish councillor, and 14 years as Chairman, I feel qualified to reflect on this sometimes-underrated sub-division of the local authority.

Just imagine what life might be like with no-one local to turn to when matters beyond your control go wrong: -

Perhaps highways, footpaths & byways issues.

Maintenance of common areas.

Planning issues both private & commercial.

Care of the environment.

Provision of allotments.

Provision of 2<sup>nd</sup> defibrillator & maintenance of both.

Flooding issues.

Perhaps Electric Vehicle charging points in the future?

Having monitored all the above your parish councillors, ably assisted by your parish clerk, have a legal duty to keep your contact details safe, accounting monthly on public funds spent on your behalf in line with an annual budget.

*All this without pay! So please be gentle with your Councillors – They can bruise easily unless rewarded with your kind support!*

I will close in stating that the Councillors as a team is what makes the Parish Council tick, and also to point out that, in my view, Easterton Parish Council is in safe hands, and I wish Councillors well in their search for a 7<sup>th</sup> Cllr. to bring the Council back up to full capacity.

With best wishes

Chris Saunders



#### ROAD CLOSURE - HIGH STREET, MARKET LAVINGTON 31st July - 4th AUGUST.

Diversion will be in operation. Works are for installing manhole chamber and associated works.

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS EASTERTON

Planning Appeal - **PL/2022/07348** - Malthouse Farm, Oak Lane, Easterton, Devizes SN10 4PD  
Holiday lets to replace barn

If you wish to lodge objections to Wiltshire Council please do so before AUGUST 10th - go to the Wiltshire Council planning portal using the above Reference and lodge your comments

#### THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IN THE VILLAGE HALL 18TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7:30PM

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

Email: [clerk@eastertonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@eastertonpc.org.uk) Mobile: **07437 857501**

**THE ST BARNABAS CHURCH LAY-BY IS NOT A RUBBISH TIP.**  
Which other people have to clear up. Please do not let this happen.  
Thank you from: Mike and Sue Allen



## **THE ST BARNABAS ORGAN IS RESTORED A BIG THANK YOU**



Last month I promised an update on the situation with the organ at St Barnabas. We were then very close to our target and with the confidence that we were going to achieve our aim, we had allowed the repair to proceed and the repair team had taken 'the workings' and begun the task of restoring them to good working order. We still had the Line Dancing evening to come and tickets were selling well so we felt safe in making an early start.

The line dancing evening was amazing – it was great fun (including for those of us with two left feet!) The evening included a raffle as well as 'sit out bingo' – (don't ask!) and in all we raised an incredible £700! We had enough to restore the organ and put money aside for maintenance work to keep it running well in the future.

Thank you so much to all the people who contributed and to the amazing team who organised the Line Dancing Evening. I originally thought I would give a list of names but quickly realised that a lot of people were involved, I would hate to make a list and miss some one off. So, I am just going to say that we owe a huge debt of thanks to all those people who picked the idea up, ran with it and produced such a lovely evening which, in so many ways enriched life in the village. Easterton strikes me as a little village which comes together and punches well above its weight when it needs to.

Once more a very heart felt **thankyou** to all those who helped, whether by contribution, organising the Line Dancing and to all those lovely people who came along and danced! **THANKYOU.**

Drawing by Gordon Somerville

## **ST BARNABAS CHURCH EASTERTON CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2023** **CHRISTMAS I HEAR YOU CRY AND SUMMER NOT YET OVER!**

Yes, we want to give you plenty of notice to start thinking about this years Christmas Tree Festival at St Barnabas Church Easterton, which we intend to hold over the weekend of 16th and 17th December.

Would you, your family, organisation or school be interested in taking part?

The theme this year is Children's Stories, choose your favourite and let your imagination run wild.

If you would like to be a part of the festival please contact June Wright at [June.wright@outlook.com](mailto:June.wright@outlook.com) to register your interest.

Further details will be supplied in the coming months.

Kind regards June Wright

Tel **01380 818794 / 07498493121**

## EASTERTON COUNTRY FÊTE AND FUN DOG SHOW BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 28th August 2023



The best **COUNTRY FÊTE** and **FUN DOG SHOW** to bring the community together to have a fun afternoon.  
All proceeds will support Easterton community projects.

Fantastic Prizes in The Prize Draw

Stalls will include Cakes and teas from the WI, The Nags Box will be there with their delicious food.  
Beer supplied by the Royal Oak - Cider supplied by Rutts Lane Cider - Live music from the EQUINOX band  
Vehicle display - Coconut shy - Storytelling for the youngsters - Fun and games

### **VOLUNTEERS WANTED TO HELP SETTING UP THE FÊTE:**

There are many opportunities to volunteer to help make it a 'barking good' success on the day - we will look forward to you joining us.

Please contact Nick Beard on Mob: [07552 040960](tel:07552040960)

### **DONATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR THE BOTTLE STALL**

We would appreciate donations of **in date** bottles, jars and/or tins for the Bottle Stall.

We shall be collecting throughout the village on **Friday 18th August** from 5.00 pm onwards.

If you require further details, please call **Jonathan or Victoria Turner** tel: [01380 699043](tel:01380699043).

Many thanks.

Email: [eastertonfete@gmail.com](mailto:eastertonfete@gmail.com) Website: [www.eastertonfete.com](http://www.eastertonfete.com) FB page: [@eastertoncountryfete](https://www.facebook.com/eastertoncountryfete)

## **GREAT NEWS FROM THE ROYAL OAK**

We have attached a picture of our award that is up in the bar at the moment.

The 5 star award along with our casked ales was given on the tidiness and cleanliness of our cellar, which is always maintained by Dave who looks after the beer and regularly cleans the lines so that we can offer a fantastic pint!

We are trying to sort out new glasses as that also helps in serving a good pint!

We are really proud to get this award and long may it continue 😊.

Thank you to everyone who supports us.

Kindest regards Nikki & Dave xx





## WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

### NICK BEARD



#### How long have you lived in Easterton?

Over 16 years, but for 15 of them I was commuting to Cardiff weekly.

#### What brought you to Easterton?

I met my partner, Judy Boyt.

#### How would you describe your life?

I have had a very interesting life from being a hill farmer in Welsh speaking North Wales, to being an Army reservist for 27 years with the privilege of serving with the Regular Army on four occasions and then supporting the tri-service reserves formally by running the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Wales for 19 years.

#### Where were you born?

In Guy's Hospital in London, Mum was a nurse and my father was a house surgeon.

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

I was at school in Surrey, agricultural college in Aberystwyth and then, at the ripe old age of 48, university at Harper Adams in Shropshire.

#### Family, tell us a bit about your family

Together with my late wife for 35 years, married for 30. We had two sons, one now deceased, and I have four grandchildren.

#### What is your greatest achievement?

Working with a team and making things happen.

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

I would like to have had a practical skill such as carpentry, plumbing or mechanical engineering.

Nick is the Coordinator of the Easterton Country Fête Committee

#### What is your favourite occupation/hobby?

I love outside work in the garden, although I am not a gardener.

#### Who, in history, do you admire the most and why?

Abraham Lincoln because he came from the poorest background you can imagine and rose to high office and, despite all the difficulties, his ability to manage people was supreme.

#### What is/was your favourite/most interesting job?

My most interesting job was running the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Wales in Cardiff where we were a service provider and I believe we were able to make a real difference.

#### Who/what is your favourite author/book?

I enjoy history, particularly military history, and there are numerous military authors, Anthony Beevor being one.

#### Do you have a favourite composer or music artist?

I enjoy all sorts of music but Fleetwood Mac is one of my favourites.

#### What's your favourite film/TV programme?

Morse and Endeavour

#### Is there a plant/flower that is a particular favourite and why?

Dahlias and gladioli because, apart from being a surgeon, my father was a brilliant gardener.

#### Do you have a favourite animal, domestic or otherwise?

I adore sheepdogs and we had many working sheepdogs on our hill farm in Wales. It never ceases to amaze me how intelligent and loving they are.

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

Christmas dinner

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

Antartica - as a schoolboy I had a fascination with Scott and Shackleton and their expeditions and this has never left me.

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

I took the decision to retire during lockdown and retired twelve months later, it helped me take the decision.

as told to Kate Dilnott-Cooper

## WILTSHIRE COUNCIL NEWS

### SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE DRAFT WILTSHIRE DESIGN GUIDE

We are asking for your views on a draft guide that, if formally adopted, will help to ensure that future developments in the county are consistently of a high-quality design.

The draft Wiltshire Design Guide has been structured around the '10 characteristics of good design', as described in the National Design Guide, and if adopted will be used as a supplementary planning document. A consultation is now under way and runs until Monday 31 July.

### POTHOLE REPORTS

Last week, from 3-9 July, we filled a total of 290 potholes and had 119 reported to us.

When we receive a pothole report, it is assessed by an engineer, and given a priority based on our defect criteria, as set out in our [Highways Safety Inspection Manual](#).

We aim to fix Priority 1 potholes by the end of the next day, while Priority 2 will be fixed within 14 days, Priority 3 in 28 days, Priority 4 in 60 days, and Priority 5 are referred to a manager for further consideration.

Please report any potholes on Wiltshire's roads to us using [MyWilts](#).

### SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2023

Calling all bookworms! Do you have a child aged between 4-11?

If so, get them involved in our Summer Reading Challenge, which starts tomorrow! The challenge is to read six books over eight weeks during the summer. There are rewards on offer, including various fun prizes throughout the challenge, and a medal and certificate on completion.

We are also no longer charging fines for the late return of children's books. Existing charges for children's books will also be removed.

[Click on this link summer reading challenge 2023](#)

### WiltshireByBus

The £2 bus fare promotion is running until 31 October, so why not hop on a bus and explore the beautiful villages and towns of Wiltshire.

Taking the bus not only helps to maintain bus routes in Wiltshire, but it also helps to reduce congestion and carbon emissions and improve air quality.

As the offer now runs all summer, there is plenty of time for you to take advantage and explore #WiltshireByBus and save money at the same time.

### WILTSHIRE COUNCIL CURRENTLY HAVE A NUMBER OF VACANCIES AVAILABLE:

[click on this link for full list of Council vacancies](#)

### SOLAR TOGETHER WILTSHIRE

Group buying for solar panels and battery storage

Register for free and without obligation on link below

[WiltshireSolarTogetherWiltshire](#)

The Solar Together scheme is open for applications in Wiltshire until 11 August 2023.

The scheme can help you to save on energy bills and generate your own electricity by getting solar panels, battery storage or electric vehicle charge points for your home or business, whilst also helping our ambition to reach net zero carbon emissions across the county.

**This group-buying scheme means households across our county can group together to buy solar panels at a discounted price. The more people that take part, the better the price you will get.**

It's free to register and you'll receive a personal recommendation for a provider and costs, with no obligation to go ahead and buy.

## WILTSHIRE COUNCIL NEWS contd.

In July Wiltshire Council considered the review of the Wiltshire Local Plan. The draft Plan sets out the vision and framework for housing, infrastructure and land for employment growth for the next 15 years. Once adopted, all planning applications will be determined against the Plan, making it the most important place- shaping document for Wiltshire

A number of important policies are included in the draft plan:

- *A target of 40% of all new housing on developments of 10 homes or more to be affordable. This is often reduced following viability discussions.*
- *Greater flexibility for rural exception sites to make it easier to provide affordable housing in villages where there is clearly identified local demand.*
- *New developments will have to meet zero carbon standards, including energy generation such as solar panels.*
- *20% biodiversity net gain for all new developments, compared to the 10% legal requirement.*
- *All new developments must also have to support cycling and walking connections.*

This Local Plan is about providing for a choice of high-quality designed housing, including affordable homes, in the most sustainable locations; maximising development on brownfield sites; supporting town centres; and providing high quality new public open spaces.

The proposed Local Plan is available on the Wiltshire Council website and the consultation will open later this year.

For more information go to planning/local plan : [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)

## ENVIRONMENT

### BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT 2023 IS HERE!

Runs between 14th July and 6th August. Can Butterfly Conservation count on you again to count all the butterflies that might see in a short period of time in your garden. If you want to help save butterflies and moths in the UK there are lots of ways to contribute.

Please look on the website for more information and how to record online all your sightings of these beautiful creatures:

[www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)

## ST BARNABAS CHURCH SERVICES

DATE	EVENT	WHERE	TIME
30th July	Benefice Service	West Lavington	10:30am
6th August	Benefice Service	St Barnabas, Easterton	10:30am
27th August	Communion	St Barnabas, Easterton	9:15am
3rd September	Benefice Communion	St Peters Church, Great Cheverell	

### **FIRST AID FOR EVERYONE UPDATE:**

The Parish Council is looking to instigate First Aid Training for everyone - they are hoping to offer dates in the near future.

The Wiltshire Air Ambulance offer 1-Day First Aid Training Course at their base in Semington

There is a cost of £75+VAT based on 10 people maximum for the day - but the monies do go towards the Air Ambulance costs.

If anyone is interested please contact the Parish Clerk Sarah-Jane Bullock  
email: [clerk@eastertonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@eastertonpc.org.uk)

PS Message from Editor: I am registering my interest to go as it is so worthwhile to know what to do safely especially as we live in a rural community.

### **Summer Fête at Furlong Close, Rowde. SN10 2TQ Saturday 12th August from 2.30 until 5.00.**

“ I write now following your very kind support two years ago when the home for disabled adults at Furlong Close in Rowde was under threat of closure. I am happy to say that it was saved and now, one year on, we will be having a Summer Fête there on Saturday 12th August from 2.30 until 5.00.

I know a number of people within the wider community have been wondering how things have been progressing and so I write now to ask if you would be kind enough to include mention of this event in your magazine?

It will include a Punch and Judy show, bouncy castle, BBQ, and many stalls and other refreshment options. We remain very grateful to you for your earlier support and hope this could be of interest.”  
Trish Gange “

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN WILTSHIRE**

**FURLONG CLOSE, ROWDE SUMMER FÊTE AUGUST 12th 2:30 - 5pm**

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

For more information see website: [www.fto.org.uk](http://www.fto.org.uk)

**EASTERTON COUNTRY FÊTE AND FUN DOG SHOW AUGUST 28TH**

**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY EASTERTON VILLAGE HALL AND FIELD.**

For more information see page 3 of this Echoes issue.

## CHANGE AGAIN ON HOW TO CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCILLORS

THE PARISH COUNCIL HAVE HAD TO CHANGE THE COUNCILLORS' EMAIL SYSTEM AGAIN BECAUSE OF LACK OF EMAIL STORAGE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLORS.

SO IF YOU WISH TO CONTACT ANY ONE OF THE PARISH COUNCILLORS

PLEASE MAKE CONTACT DIRECT TO OUR PARISH CLERK : [clerk@eastertonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@eastertonpc.org.uk)  
WHO WILL KINDLY FORWARD EMAILS ON TO THE APPROPRIATE COUNCILLOR



## 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/](http://www.communityfirst.org.uk/transport/link/)

### 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

Victoria Turner 07725 269718

[victoria@badgerswood.net](mailto:victoria@badgerswood.net)

## THE ECHOES IS YOUR NEWSLETTER AND NEEDS YOU AND YOUR NEWS

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