

In This Issue

Regular Features

Bin Collections 3

Notes from St Nicholas . . 3

Parish Matters . . .2,3,4,5

Village Directory 8

News & Views

Council Elections. 1,2

Snowdrop Teas 3

Village Litter Pick 4

Eydon Ladies 4

First Wednesday 5

Eydon 200 Club 6

Soup Lunch 6

A Personal View. 7



Next Issue

Deadline for April newsletter
is 21st March 2025

Please email to:

evn@eydonparish.gov.uk

Parish Council Election 2025

A message to the Residents of Eydon from Keith Simmons - Parish Council Chairman.

On Thursday 1st May 2025 West Northamptonshire Council Unitary and Parish Council Elections are taking place. As far as Eydon is concerned, our Unitary Councillors and Parish Councillors end their elected term. This article is solely concerned with our Parish Council.

Eydon has seven positions for our Parish Council. This means that we need more than 7 people to stand for election to Eydon Parish Council for an actual election to take place in the Parish. 2 members of the current Council have decided to stand down from the Council, we already had one vacancy so it really is time for other residents to come forward and undertake this very important role.

Now is the time you can stand as a Parish Councillor to make a difference to our community in Eydon. Please give it real consideration and let us see democracy in action!

There is a full training programme to assist councillors to carry out the role.

What is the Parish Council?

The Parish Council is a democratically elected body established by legislation. It is the first tier of local government and has a range of statutory powers which may be carried out if voted on. The Parish Council has a statutory power to precept (tax) the local electors to finance activities following decisions made within the Council.

In Eydon, the Parish Council expects to spend around £30,000 in 2025/6 set out in a budget which shows how this tax payers money will be spent in the forthcoming fiscal year.

What does the Parish Council do?

The Parish Council is responsible for:-

- Village street lighting: their electricity supply and maintenance
- General village maintenance within the 30 mph signs
- Maintenance and management of the Burial Ground
- Maintenance of Bus Shelters in Lime Avenue and High Street
- Provision and maintenance of noticeboards in High Street and Lime Avenue
- Promotion of village activities by funding the monthly publication of the **Eydon Village News** and also the eydonparish.gov.uk web site, without any editorial control or responsibility for content.
- Appoints a Parish Paths Warden to keep an eye on all the footpaths and other rights of way around the village
- Organises public meetings and represents the public regarding significant developments when required.
- Carries out improvement projects within the Village, current ones are published on the web-site
- Comments on all planning applications relating to the village, making sure that all development is appropriate and in keeping with the village.

These are just some of the things that the Parish Council gets involved with. Do you have a particular project in mind? Join the Council and try to make it happen!

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The February meeting of Eydon Parish Council took place on Tuesday 11 February at 7.30pm in the Village hall.

The Councillors present were Kim Keeble, Howard Carter, Jonathan Walker, Luke Alexander, Roddy Owen-Smith and Chairman Keith Simmons along with Steve Fox the Clerk.

Five members of the public were in attendance, as was Councillor Alison Eastwood Unitary Council member.

During the meeting the amongst the items discussed were:

May Local Council Elections:

The Chairman advised the Council that all Parish Council seats were up for Election on 1 May 2025.

There are 7 places allocated under Government rules.

The Chairman advised that the quorum for a council meeting is 3 people. Should less than 3 people seek election it is likely that the running of Council affairs could be taken over by NCALC or possibly the merging of the Council with a neighbouring one. He will write an article for EVN encouraging people to stand for election.

Nominations for the election open on 14 March and close on 2 April. Each candidate

(Continued on page 3)

Election Timetable

If you decide to stand for election to the Parish Council you must submit your nomination papers by 4:00pm on 2 Wednesday April 2025.

Polling Day itself is Thursday 1 May 2025

Nomination process

A Prospective Candidate must have their Nomination Forms hand delivered to West Northants Council at Abbey Hill Daventry, The Forum Towcester or the Guild Hall Northampton. Any one can hand deliver the forms for you.

All Nomination Forms will be checked and validated at the point of submission, so you are advised to book a 15 mins appointment by contacting ReturningOfficer@westnorthants.gov.uk. The Candidate, Proposer and Seconder must all live within the Parish. You will need their Electoral Roll Numbers to complete the Form and these can be obtained by emailing Clerk@EydonParish.Gov.Uk.

Briefing

A briefing will take place on 9 April for those candidates that are in contested areas. The briefing will cover arrangements for the count, code of conduct and postal voting.

An email will be sent to all candidates of contested areas after 2 April with a link to the Teams event, this will be recorded and added to the Elections 2025 webpage.

Count

The parish counts will take place at Benham Sports Centre, Kings Park Road, Northampton NN3 6LL on Saturday 3 May 2025, further details will come out in the email you receive after close of

What Next?

If you are considering becoming a candidate for election you are very strongly recommended to contact the Parish Clerk or the elections team at South Northants Council to obtain information on what you need to do to be nominated. South Northants Council produces guidance on Election Procedures and it is imperative that these are followed or you may find you have disqualified yourself from candidacy.

If you want to know more about the duties do not hesitate to contact myself, the Clerk or any of the other current Parish Councillors whose details are available on the Parish website.

Please Contact:-

Mr Steve Fox
Clerk to Eydon Parish Council
Malt Kiln House
School Lane
Eydon
Northants
NN11 3PH
07861 993084
email: clerk@eydonparish.gov.uk

Electoral Services
West Northamptonshire Council
St Giles Square
The Guildhall
Northampton
NN1 1DE
T: 01327 322128 or 01327 322121
Email: electoralservices@westnorthants.gov.uk

Keith Simmons
Chairman Eydon Parish Council
01327 263014
keith.simmons@eydonparish.gov.uk

Notes from St Nicholas



SERVICES FOR MARCH 2025

Sunday 2nd March

10.00 Morning Prayer

Wednesday 5th March/Ash Wednesday

9.45 Holy Communion at Holy Cross, Byfield

19.00 Holy Communion at St Mary's
Woodford Halse

Sunday 9th March

9.30 Holy Communion

Sunday 16th March

10.30 Café Church

Sunday 23rd March

8.30 BCP communion at Holy Cross, Byfield

10.00 Benefice Holy Communion at St John
the Baptist, Boddington

Sunday 30th March

9.30 Mothering Sunday service

Please contact the Rector or a Churchwarden
if you need further information or have any
questions

Rector Rev Clare Glover
260204 revclare@outlook.com

Churchwardens

Sue Tresham
260503 sueeyates@aol.com

Gary Denby
264002 gjdenby@btinternet.com

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 2)

must have a Proposer and
Second, the Electoral Roll
number for each (available
from the Clerk) and hand
deliver their application to
WNC Offices. Process,
Timescale and Forms are
available on the Eydon Parish
Website in the Supporting
Documents section.

Cemetery Bin area

The Council discussed quotes
for the installation of the
Cemetery bin storage area
and agreed to progress the
works.

Village tap lectern

The Clerk advised that he was
still seeking more quotes for
installation of the Lectern
beside the High Street tap.

Scribe Accounting software

The Clerk reported he was
now logging all transactions
with the new software.

Village History Sign

The Clerk advised that work
was on going for the
development of a Village
Green History sign.

Defibrillator Training

It was agreed to investigate
using video training on how
to use the defibrillator. This
would be arranged during the
coming months in the Village
Hall.

(Continued on page 4)

SNOW DROP TEAS

The church was positively buzzing all afternoon. Lots of people
came – from Eydon, from the rest of the benefice and from
further afield to see our beautiful snowdrops and enjoy the
delicious teas

Lots of marmalade was sold and potted snowdrop plants were
very popular.

Altogether a lovely afternoon.

Many thanks to all who came and, particularly, to all who
helped make it such a good occasion.

Sue Tresham
Churchwarden



*If you want to buy home-made marmalade and
missed the sale on 16th, do call at Oriel House
where there are still stocks of both reduced sugar
and regular marmalade*

March Bin Collections



Tuesday 4th March

Blue and Green Bins



Tuesday 11th March

Black Bin



Tuesday 18th March

Blue and Green Bins



Tuesday 25th March

Black Bin

You will only receive garden waste collections if you pay for the service.

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 3)

Dog Waste Collection

The Clerk advised that the Dog Waste Collection contractor has advised of an outbreak of Flu amongst their staff and they apologised for the current service level.

Highways and Byways

The Clerk reported that WNC Highways had yet to confirm their surface dressing programme for 2025/6.

Road Closure

After the meeting the Clerk was advised that the Culworth Road after Voute Sales would be closed between 10-14 March for retread resurfacing.

Rights of Way

The Landowner Reported that the Moreton Pinkney Bridleway were in contact with Highways and were seeking contractors to clear the blockage.

Social Media Report.

The Chairman reported that he was exploring the appointment of an individual to manage the various social media aspects of council activity. ROS agreed to arrange a meeting with this person to discuss the necessary requirements.

Village Hall Centenary

The Council has received a costing document regarding these celebrations. It outlines a potential liability for the Council of just under £5,000. The Chairman asked Councillors to review the

(Continued on page 5)

When Eydon Ladies met on Wednesday 19th February at the Village Hall we were treated to an enthralling talk from Bob Foster all about the Mary Rose. We learned the history of this iconic warship, from her launch and sinking in July 1545 (sadly viewed by Henry VIII) to her recovery from the Solent in 1982, through to her restoration and current storage in a new museum in Portsmouth. The evening was accompanied by beautiful illustrations and the 16th century was brought to life with replica artefacts which we were able to examine. These included a comb, plate, gold coins, a 'pocketwatch' and a pepper mill. The original items (numbering 20,000) were very well preserved due to being buried in silt for centuries, with the only period longbows and the ship's bell being among those salvaged in the 60's and 70's. After this fascinating talk we chatted over a cup of tea/coffee reflecting on a very interesting evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by members and friends.



The next meeting of Eydon Ladies will be on Wednesday 19th March 2025 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Our speaker for the evening will be Colin Hill who will be relating tales of his life in the Metropolitan Police as well as telling us about his work as a Close Protection Officer for Royalty. The talk is entitled 'Dancing with Diana' which promises fascinating insights into life as a member of the Royal family. This event is again open to all – ladies, friends, partners, neighbours - with guests paying a fee of just £5 for the evening. We will also be holding a raffle and have time to socialize over a cuppa later in the evening.

We welcome all ladies (whether resident in Eydon or nearby) to our meetings which are held at the Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm (unless otherwise specified). The annual membership fee is £30 for 2025. Each meeting is a chance to meet new friends and catch up with local people in a relaxed atmosphere.

Ruth Kukla

Village Litter Pick

SATURDAY 15TH MARCH

Meeting at The Royal Oak at 10am

Pickers, gloves and sacks will be provided.

Please message Jonathan on 07747018414 or jonathan@doddsmanor.com if you can help.



FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB

Guide Dogs for the Blind

At The First Wednesday Club February meeting, we heard about the breeding and training of guide dogs for the blind.

Sarah Condry brought along two assistants to help illustrate her talk, Luna, and Zuki. Luna, who after giving birth to seven litters of pups, is now retired as a brood bitch, Zuki has yet to have her first litter.



Sarah explained that the breeding of the animals to become guide dogs is very strictly controlled. All guide dogs remain the property of Guide Dogs for the Blind, from the time they are born till they retire, either because they have been rejected as unsuitable for training, or they have begun to lose confidence in their work at about seven or eight years old.

The breeds that are usually used are German Shepherd, Labrador, or Retriever. A dog must have a calm nature, must not be interested in cats, or other distractions, and of course be utterly reliable. Only the best dogs are accepted for breeding, and improving the bloodline is considered very important, so unsuitable characteristics are over time bred out.

Welfare of the dogs is also a high priority, and all dogs are constantly monitored to make

sure they are in good health, and still up to the job. Guide Dogs for the Blind also try to match up a dog to a blind client so their personalities are in tune. A strong vigorous dog that enjoys long walks would not be suitable for a frail old lady who doesn't get out much. Whereas a dog that is quite happy to stroll along at a slow pace would be equally unsuitable to someone who likes to keep active.

Sarah left us in no doubt as to the benefits a blind person gains from having a dog, it not only gives them an independence not available otherwise, but also a friend and companion.

Sadly there are never enough dogs to help those who could benefit from having a dog. Partly because standards have to be high, and there are never enough dogs who are suitable, but to try and increase the number is not straightforward. First the number of high quality dogs who can be used for breeding has to increase, and this means finding people who have, not only the desire to help, but live within twenty miles of Leamington, where Guide Dogs for the Blind is based, but can also provide suitable and secure homes for breeding dogs. Then there must be enough volunteers to look after the puppies, from the time they are weaned till the time they start their training.

At the end of Sarah's presentation, we were left in no doubt of the value to the blind community that that Guide Dogs bring, and this was demonstrated by the value of the donations (£150.00) made by our members to a very worthy charity.

Tom Tresham

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 4)

document and provide any questions/comments to the Clerk by 23rd February. The Clerk would then forward these to the organisers who would then provide feedback for the next Council meeting on 11 March.

Moreton Road Triangle

It was reported that serious damage had been done to the grass verges on this area, it would be reviewed and discussed at the March Meeting.

Planning Matters

*2025/0013/LBC Manor
Farmhouse 5 The Green Eydon
NN11 3PQ*

The Council had no Objections to this proposal.

Oriel House-Solar Panels.

The Chairman advised the Council that the appeal seeking the Approval of Solar Panels had been rejected and he expected Enforcement action to commence if necessary.

**The next meeting will be held
at 19:30hrs on 11 March 2025
in the Village Hall**

The meeting closed at 20:52hrs.

**Keith Simmons
Parish Council Chairman**

Here are the results of the 2023/24 final draw held at the end of January.

Congratulations tall the winners:

Winning prizes:

1st prize: Keith Simmons
2nd prize: Andy Reynolds
3rd prize: Jim Beaty

Bonus Prizes

Richard Collins
John Wolfe
Woodie Noakes (Horse)
Lettice Wilkins (Dog)
Julie Knight

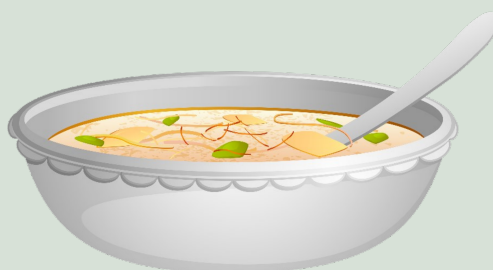
The new 200 club year started at the end of February and new participants are always welcome, please contact elaine.partridge2@btinternet.com for more details.

Thank you to everyone who has already joined or renewed for this year, the funds are welcomed by the Church and Village Hall plus you always have a chance to win a prize.

SOUP LUNCH

Saturday 8th March , 12pm -2pm

In Eydon Village Hall



Homemade Soups and a bread roll

Come and enjoy lunch and chat with your friends and neighbours

Tea and coffee available but you are welcome to bring your own drinks.

To book your place contact Lyn

01327 261164 lynandsimon@hotmail.co.uk

Proceeds to Katherine House and Cancer Research UK



A Personal View...

March 2025

I've done some crazy things in my time, and I'll relate one of them.

In a mad moment way back in August 1981, I went to a Sotheby's auction sale of "Veteran, Vintage and Special Interest Vehicles" held at The Royal Showground at the National Agricultural Centre, Kenilworth. This was held in mid-summer, so all those 44 years ago I like to think I was perhaps a bit touched by the sun.

Be that as it may when lot no. 13 arrived, I kept my hand up and successfully bid for the item. It was described in the catalogue as a "Circa 1840 Horse Drawn Manually-Operated Fire Pump."

I had viewed the item beforehand, and ascertained that the previous owner was the late Sir Leonard Lee who had owned Coventry-Climax engines. It was his engines that powered most of the fire pumps during the second world war. They were used by the Coventry fire brigade to successfully put out many of the incendiary fires started during the Coventry blitz. A romantic part of me may have thought that this auctioned fire engine was also used to supplement Lees's engines at that awful time. Anyway, my notes still show that £936.60 changed hands and the Fire Engine was mine!

I borrowed a flatbed trailer from Ces. Bird of Moreton Pinkney garage, and towed the 1 ton of wood, steel and zinc back to Eydon. It was deceptively heavy, due to the zinc-lined water tanks. My glamorous idea was to hitch my wife's two Hunters to the shafts and drive the combination around to various Shows and Events in the area. Not to mention, of course, having our own fire engine might help reduce our insurance premiums...

One look at the new addition, and the Hunters reared up in absolute horror. My wife flatly refused to have anything to do with the contraption. It became a mere plaything for the children, not to mention taking up valuable garage room.

Our Church in Eydon was in dire need of re-wiring. The old circuits and boards were all dangerous and much of the wiring rotten. As is normal and indeed applies nowadays, there were no funds forthcoming from any central church authority. The Village had to find all the funds to cover repair works. The choirmaster of the time was in real life an estate agent and professional auctioneer. Barrie Thompson gathered a collection of agricultural implements from local sources, to sell at a special auction which took place on May 3rd 1982. This was nearly a year after my Fire Engine purchase. I was leaned upon very heavily by my wife and others to enter the Fire Engine into the sale, to help raise the much-needed funds.

Barrie's persuasive sales effort generated interest not only in the local press, but apparently far and wide. On the day, telephone bids came in to the sale room in Eydon Village Hall. The

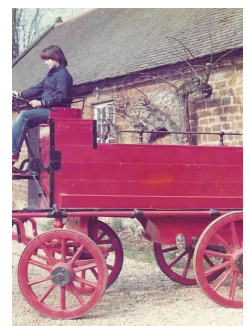
Fire Engine was knocked down at a winning hammer price of £1150.00, to a collector in Fife, Scotland.

The next hurdle was getting it there. Whilst it was up to the buyer to collect, he asked me if we could arrange delivery. I took my wife out for a nice meal, and at a suitable moment suggested she might like to deliver the Fire Engine herself. At least she would then be sure of it being well out of the way. A friend was recruited, and the two women set off with the Engine, once again loaded on Ces. Bird's trailer. My wife had an elderly Ford Cortina estate, with I seem to recall, a 1.6l engine. Anyway, the collective weight of the trailer and engine was considerably more than the towing guidelines.

The journey was not without incident. The chosen route missed out most motorways, and included going through the middle of Buxton. Apparently, there is a steep hill going out of Buxton, which the combination failed to ascend. The description of the two ladies stalled halfway up, seeking help to reverse the whole lot back down and getting other traffic to clear out of the way, still lingers in my memory. But they made it to Leven in Fife by sunset, where they were rewarded by a night in the new owner's castle after a chaotic kitchen supper.

Do I have a secret yearning for the Fire Engine? No, and I'm even more delighted that the Church was re-wired so well that even now nearly half a century later the wiring presents no problems. I wish the rest of the Church was as good. Parts of the roof are next to need urgent attention, and the Village has to foot the bill!

John Grindlay



CONTACTS AND LOCAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

Accommodation

B&B & Events

Crockwell Farm
info@crockwellfarm.co.uk
01327 361358

Rectory Barn

2 bed 2 bath
john@grindlay.org.uk
07836502756

The Vyne

2 bedrooms
imogenbutler@outlook.com
01327 264886

Malt Kiln House Annex

1 Bed, 1 Bath, Kitchenette, lounge
Off—street parking
www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/41056004
Tel: 07861 993084

Clubs & Societies

Eydon First Wednesday Club

Richard Forsyth
01327 264235
randjforsyth@gmail.com

Eydon Historical Research Group

Simon Evans
01327 261164

Eydon Ladies Group

Ruth Kukla
01327 264109
ruth.kukla@hotmail.com

Eydon Players

Matthew Tasker
07717 796665

Eydon Sports Field

Henrietta Nelson
nelsonhenrietta@gmail.com

Eydon Knits

Sue Lodge
01327 261535

Eydon Art Group

Lyn Evans
01327 261164

Eydon Village Hall

David Fitch-Peyton
01327 262383
07773 381745

Byfield Tennis Club

Jeremy Palmer
01327 264542

Medical

Byfield Medical Centre

01327 265841

Cropredy Surgery

01295 758372

Councils / Politicians

Councillor Alison Eastwood

07967 867726
alison.eastwood@westnorthants.gov.uk

Eydon Parish Council

Cllr Keith Simmons, Chairman
01327 263014

Cllr Jonathan Walker

Cllr Roddy Owen-Smith

Cllr Kim Keeble

Cllr Howard Carter

Contact via e-mail protocol:

firstname.surname@eydonparish.gov.uk

Parish Clerk - Steve Fox

clerk@eydonparish.gov.uk

West Northamptonshire Council

0300 126 7000
customerservice.snc@westnorthants.gov.uk

Crime / Police

Neighbourhood Watch

Currently vacant

Crimestoppers

0800 555111

Police

Emergency 999

Enquiries 101

Food & Drink

The Royal Oak

Gemma—07977 185 407
Nathan—07540 550 958
simpsonemma82@gmail.com

Oboe Fine Wine

David & Kim—01327 262383
sales@oboefinewine.co.uk

Harley Café

01327 260818

Media

Eydon Website

www.eydonparish.gov.uk

Eydon Village News

evn@eydonparish.gov.uk

St Nicholas Church

Churchwardens

Sue Tresham 01327 260503
Gary Denby 01327 264002

Bell Ringing, Tower Captain

Gary Denby 01327 264002

Tradesmen

Electricians

AJR Electrical Services
Andy Reynolds 07970 192858

Plumbers

L.J. Plumbing & Heating
Luke Johnson 07540 495667

Other Local Businesses

Belziadeth Jewellery & Art

Lizzie Coulter
01327 262609
www.justartandjewellery.co.uk

CarolAnn Photos

Carol Henson
01327 261201 / 07811 962970
www.carolannphotos.com

Foot Wise Podiatry

Gary Denby
01327 260899
footwisepod@btinternet.com

Hay for Horses or Ponies

Brian Habgood
01327 260620

Solid Fuel / Logs

Leadbeater Logs
Clancy Leadbeater
01295 760562